

Baptist Herald

● ● ● NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE



**December
15
1955**

Navajo Indians Portray the Christmas Story

**Christmas Is Good News
Christmas In Many Lands
Famous Christmas Journeys**

Christmas Poems That Shine Brightly

Selected Poems for Your Christmas Blessing and Enjoyment

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER By GRACE NOLL CROWELL

The road to ancient Bethlehem
Leads out too endlessly,
But at my window I can kneel,
Dear Lord, to worship thee.
I see through the bright silver mist
Of starlight down my street
The startled shepherds moving out
On eager hurrying feet,
To fall before thee, blessed Lord.
I see the wise men ride
High on their rocking beasts to come
And worship at thy side.
I cannot join the throngs tonight
To journey to thy stall,
But Lord, dear Lord, I bring my gifts:
My love, my life, my all.

I AM AT BETHLEHEM

No frankincense and myrrh have I
to lay before his feet;
No costly gems or diamonds rare
with which my Lord to greet.

But I can lay this human heart, though
stained, alas, with sin,
Before his throne, the manger-crib,
and kneel at Bethlehem.

I need not cross the desert sand to
find that quiet street
Where Christ is wrapped in swaddling
clothes, that I my Lord may greet:

For he, my Lord, has come to me and
knocked upon my door
And gained an entrance to my heart,
and lo! What need I more?

—Oliver Everette.

CHRISTMAS EVE REVERIE

By TRUMAN HOLLIS WOODWARD
It is not snow that makes a Christmas
Day
(The fields in ancient Bethlehem were
bare);
It is not festive garments red and gay,
(Rude swaddling clothes enwrap the
Christ Child there).

The stockings hang before a fire nigh
dead
(No fireside his, but borrowed manger
stall);
The children, shepherded, are safe
in bed
(A cruel king, to slay one child, slew
all).

A rattle for the baby tops the tree
(Gold, frankincense, and myrrh, How
odd!)

We give in terms of happy infancy.
(They gave as though the Gift were
meant for God!)

—Sunday School Times.

DIVINE MYSTERY

Somehow God weaves the strangest
thing

Into a pattern fair;
He took an angel song, a star,
A Hebrew peasant pair,
Some shepherds on Judean hills
And unknown Wise Men three,
A stable cold and dark and damp
A manger 'neath an inn—
And now

A weary world kneels hopefully
Before the Babe of Bethlehem.

—James Allen Kestle.

THE UNSPEAKABLE GIFT

O, if thou knewest the Gift of God;
Precious, unspeakable Gift!
All wrapped in that bundle in swad-
dling bands,
And laid in a manger by loving hands:
If thou knewest—I say— thou wouldst
ask and receive
The Gift of eternal life.

In him all the fulness of God resides.
The fulness of grace and truth.
The treasures of wisdom and knowl-
edge, too,
Are hidden in him. If you only knew—
You would ask and receive,
The unsearchable riches of Christ.

—Ida May Aldrich.

THERE'S A STAR

There's a star that shines so brightly,
There's a song so sweet to hear,
There's a baby in a manger,
And the shepherds drawing near;
There's a mother-love so tender,
There's rejoicing in the sky,
For the men a Savior cometh,
And redemption draweth nigh.

There's a promise that was given
In the ages long ago,
That the Lord should come from glory
To redeem the earth from woe.
There are hearts that long have waited,
Hoping yet the Lord to see;
There's a world that now in bondage
Through his coming shall be free.

There are wise men that have
journeyed
From the East to see the King;
There are gifts of gold and incense
Which unto the Lord they bring.
And today, from hearts rejoicing,
We will bring our gifts of love
Unto him who reigns forever
In the earth and heaven above.

THE SHINING OF THE STARS By ANNIE JOHNSON FLINT

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

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

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

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

Editorial

Famous Christmas Journeys

CHRISTMAS JOYS do not primarily come to us; we must go in search of them. In other words, Christmas is not so much a time of waiting to see what we are going to get, but it is a happy season of sharing the greatest blessings of life with others and of witnessing to others of the Christ-joy within us! Christmas ought to find us making another spiritual pilgrimage to the Bethlehem manger as a symbol of our journeys to those in need.

The shepherds on the Judean hills heard the message of the angels and believed the revelation of God. For they came with haste to Bethlehem to see "this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known" to them (Luke 2:15). As they wandered about following their trip to the manger, they made known abroad the saying about the Child so that all they that heard it wondered at those things.

The trip of the shepherds to the Bethlehem manger certainly belongs to the annals of famous Christmas journeys. Their Christmas was an experience of amazing revelation and matchless tidings, which they believed with sincere wonder and fervor. Wherever they went, they glorified and praised God for all the things they had heard and seen. Their Christmas journey left a glow in their lives that nothing could put out.

Even more amazing was the long journey of the Wise Men from the East. The question which they asked showed the diligent search of their hearts. They had seen his star in the east, and had come to worship him. The spirit that prompted them to go forth to Jerusalem was sincere, since they were prepared to offer their gifts to the Christ-child. They were not only eager to find the child, but the objective of their long journey was to worship him and to show their homage to him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

The best Christmas joys come to us only as we go in search of them. That means that we must seek diligently to learn more of the glorious truths of God's revelation in Christ as the Savior of the world. That implies going with the Master on the highways and byways of life to witness for him. That calls for a ministry to others in need, sharing our blessings with them. Christmas is far more than a festivity of revelling in the things we have received and that delight us. It is an adventure of going forth in Jesus' Name to make known the things that we have seen and received through faith in Christ.

Blessed are those who go forth on this search after the Christ-child! They will be like "the other wise man" who will find many opportunities of service along the way and will discover to their inexpressible joy that on these journeys of service they have really found the Christ! Their eyes will be opened to see and understand the revelation of the Christmas star and thus to "rejoice with exceeding great joy."

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A Blessed, Joyous Christmas!

This is the ardent wish to every "Baptist Herald" subscriber and reader from

the Business Manager, Rev. E. J. Baumgartner,
the Editor, Rev. M. L. Leuschner, and
the Roger Williams Press personnel.

May the spiritual glow of this Christmas brighten every day of 1956!

Christmas Is Good News

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David

a Savior, which is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11)



—Photograph by Harold M. Lambert.

The Shepherds of the Judaeen Hills

By REV. RICHARD LAWRENZ of North Freedom, Wisconsin

WE ARE AGAIN in the midst of a very busy Christmas season. Last year, in the city of Chicago, the Christmas season was launched with the annual pilgrimage of Santa Claus. He was greeted by over 400,000 people as he paraded down the loop.

Just what is the meaning of Christmas? Is it buying and exchanging presents, sending Christmas cards, doing a good deed, and having a good time with relatives and friends? Perhaps, in answer to this question, it might be helpful to look at the account in Luke 2:8-20 to see what the first Christmas meant to the shepherds.

THE SHEPHERDS' OBEDIENCE

The message given to the shepherds by the angel of the Lord was that in the city of David, a Savior, Jesus Christ was born that day. Notice the message was not about One who was to be a Savior, but One who was BORN a Savior. This news was to bring joy to all people. The babe, wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger, was to be a sign unto them. The multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, made the appearance of the angel to the shepherds even more convincing and awe inspiring.

After the heavenly messengers had withdrawn and the hymn of praise had ceased, the shepherds with their flocks suddenly found themselves alone. It is here that we cannot help but admire the firm OBEDIENCE of the shepherds to the angelic message. There seemed to be no doubts, hesitations or misgivings in their minds. There is nothing

to indicate that they questioned the message they had heard. Neither were they taken up unduly with the angels and the lofty strains they heard. They did not reason or debate among themselves as to who would keep the wolves from the flocks while they went on their God-appointed mission to Bethlehem.

Rather, they were committing their sheep to God. Neither did they say, "Let us see if this thing is really so!" Instead, they were determined to go to Bethlehem immediately and see the TRUTH which had come to pass, which the LORD made known to them. They realized the supernaturalness of it all. They had a revelation from the Lord.

Because of this divine inner compulsion, they actually hurried to Bethlehem. Oh, the joy of obedience, for we find that they were rewarded in Bethlehem for their faithfulness to the angelic message. Yes, they were the FIRST of all mankind, outside of Mary and Joseph, to see actually the SAVIOR OF THE WORLD.

The shepherds were so filled with

The Wise Men of the East

By REV. DAVID ZIMMERMAN of Cathay, North Dakota

IT HAS BEEN stated that three significant and striking incidents marked the birth and infancy of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. There was, first, the midnight appearance of the angelic host to the shepherds on the plains of Bethlehem, and their visit to the vil-

lages in which the great birth that night had occurred. Secondly, there was the presentation of Jesus, as the first born, in the temple, and the testimony there given to him in the prophetic utterance of Simeon and Anna. Thirdly, we must note the visit of the

unspeakable joy over their new discovery, that they could not help but spread the good tidings abroad which they had heard and now had seen. Undoubtedly, they were witnesses of the glorious things which had come to pass in the fields, in the stable, and probably in the temple where some would bring the best of their flocks for a sacrifice. At any rate, they were the FIRST evangelists to give forth the good news of the Savior's birth.

As the shepherds returned to their places of duty, they could not help but glorify and praise God for what they had both heard and seen. Perhaps, with Simeon of old, they too, at one time, were waiting for the consolation of Israel. Their cup was now filled to overflowing for they had seen the SAVIOR OF THE WORLD.

Can we not learn much from these shepherds in this Christmas season? Let us, with the shepherds, glorify and praise God and ever make known the following truth: "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift . . . for he shall save his people from their sins . . . for ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich."

lage in which the great birth that night had occurred. Secondly, there was the presentation of Jesus, as the first born, in the temple, and the testimony there given to him in the prophetic utterance of Simeon and Anna. Thirdly, we must note the visit of the

Wise Men from the east and the worship and offerings which they presented to the new-born Savior and King.

Each of these had its special significance. In each a supernatural attestation of the greatness of the event was given. Woven together, they form the wreath of heavenly glory hung by the divine hand around the infancy of the Son of God.

GUIDED BY GOD'S STAR

The Wise Men or magi formed a tribe, priestly in office and princely in rank. They were the depositories of nearly all the knowledge existing in the country where they lived. According to them all illustrious births below were indicated by certain peculiar conjunctions of the stars above. They saw through the mists and clouds and beheld the stars. They were able to say: "We have seen his star in the east."

We read: "And, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy." They were men of influence, power, learning, dignity, honor, and prestige. They were in royal service and King Herod recognized them as such and honored them. They brought costly presents to Bethlehem.

Christ was promised as the Savior of all nations and proofs of his descent into this world, to fulfill his high mission, were given to the Jew and the Gentile. The magi, as well as the shepherds, were brought by divine directions to pay their homage to him. Those sages were in a mean between the angels and the shepherds, from among whom, in all ranks of intelligent creatures, God gave some to be witnesses of his Son.

They were wise men, men of wide outlook, men with keen and discerning eyes. They were students of the stars, and found the "Lord of lords, and the King of kings," because they were willing to be led by a star. The wise man is always a Christian. He alone has peace of mind and joy of soul.

They were men of keen perception. They, like experienced mariners, steered by the stars. When the outlook is bad, try the uplook! Too frequently it is true today, "Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not. Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed" (Isaiah 6:9-10).

STANDING BY GOD'S PROMISES

They were men of purpose. They were "standing by a purpose true, heeding God's command." They dared to have a purpose firm and they dared

to make it known. Their purpose was to find the Christ and to worship him. "And fell down, and worshiped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh." Gold, paying him tribute as a King; frankincense, as God, for they honored God with the smoke of incense; and myrrh, as a Man who should die, for myrrh was used in embalming dead bodies!

They were men of persistence. Their journey resulted in toil, labor, hardship, and expense.

"Hard was the way to Bethlehem, So far it seemed, so far; By flowerless vales and arid slopes And barren heights that bar; With ne'er an omen for a guide Until they saw the star."

—Clinton Scollard.

An old colored preacher was asked to define "Christian perseverance." He answered: "It means, firstly, to take

hold; secondly, to hold on; thirdly and lastly, to nebbber leave go."

The stars are still shining. The future is as bright as the promises of God. The beginnings of Christianity were frail and lowly. A few rustic shepherds, three wise men. Some claim one was from Asia, one from Europe, and one from Africa. A few unlearned disciples! A world weltering in hideous hate and horror. The One who was born in a stable, worshiped by the wise men and died on the Cross, will ultimately win and triumph and the good will outweigh, outshine, and outlive the evil!

"The star that rose at Bethlehem Has never set. It glows for them Who seek its light. 'Tis leading yet.

They saw the star—and they alone— Who longed for it. For men like them

The star that shone on Bethlehem Will never set."

—Rev. Ralph V. Gilbert.

Unto You a Savior Is Born

By REV. WILLY R. MULLER of Carbon, Alberta

"Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord" (LUKE 2:11).

THE COMING of Jesus Christ affects different peoples in different ways. This is due, partly to circumstances in which they find themselves, but mostly to what they do with him. Because the Savior brings hope, spiritual health, and healing for the world's great hurt—sin, all men not only have a right to become acquainted with him, but ought to be challenged with his redeeming love. Those deeply conscious of their sin and need for redemption will want to hear of his saving power, while those who have once heard and accepted him will want to share him with all they meet.

ALL MEN NEED CHRIST

To all peoples everywhere, who are confronted with this Savior, there will be a new and different consciousness of themselves. They will see themselves in a different light from what they have ever seen themselves before. If he has come as a Savior, immediately the question arises as to the "what" and "wherefrom." In the light of his glorious person and sacrifice we see what we really are—sinners in need of salvation. In the same light and at the same time we also see what we can become by being the recipients of his redemptive work.

In viewing the mass of humanity, we see on the horizon other men who are underprivileged, bound by caste and society to live lives void of the opportunity to become what they were meant to be. When they hear and accept the life-line

message, "Unto you is born a Savior," they have their eyes opened to the fact that men are actually equal. Before this Redeemer "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Human distinctions fall away and perhaps for the first time the consciousness dawns that "with God there is no respect of persons."

They also realize that to as many as receive him, power is given to become the sons of God. Here men realize that they are lifted far above the lines of human discrimination and are born into a fellowship where they are called "brother." Their human slavery may continue but they have gained an equality with all believers in Christ.

A NEW LEASE ON LIFE

Looking into the back alleys of this world, we see the many who have made shipwreck of their lives. They have been overwhelmed by the power of sin in their lives. To them the message, "Unto you is born a Savior," means that they can have a new lease on life. They are given an opportunity to lift up heart and head, throw back their shoulders and try again. By being born again, they literally become new creatures—new nature, renewed mind, renewed will, renewed affections, renewed strength. By being brought into living contact with their great God and Savior and into the fellowship of a new community, the church, they have at their disposal the unlimited resources of God to make a real success of their lives and to be kept in this new and living way.

In the dark places of this world we meet a mass of humanity who have

(Continued on Page 13)



—Photograph by Harold M. Lambert

One of the most beautiful Christmas customs is the hanging of the Christmas wreath on the front door or under the porch light with its message, "Joy to the world, the Lord is come!"

Christmas in Many Lands

A colorful account of the rich Christmas traditions which have grown up through the centuries since our Savior was born

By MRS. HOLLIS W. BARBER of Oak Park, Ill.

WHEREVER IN THE WORLD the name of Christ is known, the mention of the word, Christmas, brings a sparkle to the eye and a warm feeling to the heart. The birthday of a baby is a happy event, no matter where, but the birthday of the Christ-child is an occasion which draws Christians everywhere into a deeper sense of fellowship, strengthening the bonds which tie them together.

How do the countries of the world celebrate this happy Christian holiday? There are countless Christmas customs and traditions, religious, and secular. Even in our own country Christmas celebrations vary from one section to another. In the south firecrackers are a part of Christmas festivities, though they are not generally used elsewhere. So it is not strange that customs differ in other countries, too.

This article is in no sense an attempt to give a comprehensive view of Christmas throughout the world. Its purpose is rather to convey some idea of the customs, both secular and religious, of a few countries, and thus to give just a hint of the rich traditions which have grown up through the centuries since our Savior was born.

CHRISTMAS IN ENGLAND

Since both Canada and the United States were founded largely by the English, many American traditions go back to England, and a great many of our Christmas carols, as well as the custom of caroling, are English in origin. These carols were originally sung outside the gates of the medieval castles by "waits," an old English word meaning "watchman." These waits

sang to the accompaniment of harps and fiddles, and after their caroling might be rewarded with food and drink by the lord of the castle.

Another custom of English medieval times was the bringing in of that prime delicacy, the boar's head. On Christmas day a procession of servants would march into the feudal banquet hall bearing before them on a huge platter a boar's head, garlanded with flowers and rosemary. This was set before the lord and lady of the castle as the first course of a long Christmas feast in which all, from highest to lowest, joined. There is even a song, in Latin, (Caput Apri Defero—The Boar's Head I Bring) surviving to this day about this gala occasion. At present this custom of the boar's head has almost disappeared. It survives in modified form only on a few large estates and in one or two of the large hotels of London.

The day for giving gifts in England, particularly to delivery boys, servants, and postmen, is the day after Christmas and is called Boxing Day. The name has no reference to the sport, but to the fact that gifts come in boxes.

Religious services are much as they are in this country and include many of the ancient English carols with which we are becoming more and more familiar, thanks to radio and television. One of the more popular of these goes back several centuries: **God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen**. Contrary to popular notion the word **merry** belongs not with the **gentlemen** but with the verb **rest**. Its meaning is "God keep you happy, gentlemen."

Of course, in eastern Canada and to same extent in the United States, French influence is strong. In France, as in many other European countries, Christmas itself is a day of religious celebration beginning with a midnight church service.

In the provinces it is the custom for the men of the family to go into the forest with his sons a day or so before Christmas in search of a Yule log. When a suitable one has been found, it is dragged home through the snowy woods, and on Christmas eve it is solemnly lighted by the head of the house. It burns all through the evening, and in many of the humbler homes it cooks the meal which will be enjoyed by members of the family upon their return from midnight services at the church.

French families do not generally have a Christmas tree, but it would be hard to find a French household without a creche—or manger scene—for young and old to enjoy. French children, like the Dutch, fill their wooden sabots with hay for St. Nicholas' horse and hope that St. Nicholas himself will leave them a gift on Christmas morning.

MEXICAN CUSTOMS

Our neighboring country Mexico has many interesting customs which, as elsewhere, vary from one part of the country to another. In many Mexican country towns the custom of **Las Posadas** is celebrated by groups of friends. These friends celebrate for nine nights before Christmas with religious processions in which the figures of Mary and Joseph are carried about

through the streets. All participants in a procession carry lighted tapers and sing a religious chant as they go. For eight nights (December 16-23) the members of a procession try to find shelter in someone's home, symbolic of Mary and Joseph trying to find a place to stay in Bethlehem. But no one will take them in.

Finally, on the ninth evening (Christmas Eve) a home is found which will admit the procession. The owners have been well prepared, of course. Their patio is fragrant with flowers (perhaps poinsettias, which came to the United States from Mexico) and bright with candles, and the hosts themselves have set out a feast. Once the procession has entered the home, a religious ceremony is conducted about the straw-filled manger of the Babe. After that the solemn part of the celebration is over and the rest of the evening is devoted to singing and dancing and eating.

Mexican children have a favorite game, originally Indian, which is played particularly at Christmas time. It centers about a **piñata** which is usually a figure of some sort of animal, bird, or even a person. The piñata is fundamentally a clay jar covered with crepe paper or papier maché to form the desired figure. Within the jar, however, are hidden all sorts of goodies and trinkets dear to children. The piñata is hung from the ceiling, or perhaps from a tree branch outside, and one of the youngsters is blindfolded and given a stick with which to strike and break the piñata. If he is not successful, someone else is given a chance. Once the piñata is broken the goodies scatter in all directions and the children scramble wildly to get their share.

SWEDEN'S QUEEN OF LIGHTS

Turning to Europe again, we find that perhaps the country to begin its Christmas celebration earliest is Sweden. December 13th is St. Lucia's Day and honors St. Lucia, the Queen of Lights. This day is also the signal for the beginning of the Christmas celebration which continues with gathering momentum until January 13th—one whole month. On the morning of December 13th one of the daughters of the household rises earlier than usual and dresses all in white, putting a crown of lighted candles on her head. Thus attired she goes from one bedroom to another waking the members of the family with a song and serving them steaming coffee and small cakes from the tray which she carries.

Other Swedish customs are more like our own. Christmas trees are part of the celebration and Swedish families gather round the tree on Christmas Eve to exchange gifts. Sometimes visitors come bringing gifts, but instead of ringing the door bell and



Some people think that the Christmas tree began in Germany with Martin Luther who was inspired by the sight of myriads of stars on a clear winter's night to bring an ever-green into the house and to adorn it with shining candles for his children to enjoy.

waiting for admission they ring or knock loudly once, then drop the gifts before the door and run away leaving the family to guess the identity of the donors. This custom is called **Julklapp**. Another Christmas eve tradition is eating a delicious rice pudding cooked with milk and raisins and one lone almond. The lucky one who finds the almond in his pudding will be the first to marry!

But Christmas Eve gaiety must not last too long for the traditional Christmas church service in Sweden is at five o'clock in the morning. Through the winter morning darkness the families ride to church, often by sleigh, to be present for the traditional opening hymn, **All Hail to Thee, O Blessed Morn.**

SLAVIC COUNTRIES

Perhaps the customs which seem strangest to us are some of the Slavic ones. The Slavic people represent many countries and indeed many faiths. In Jugoslavia, for example, many of the natives are Mohammedan. They, of course, do not concern us, but many other natives are Orthodox as well as Roman Catholic and Protestant. It is easy to see how strange customs could develop out of this mixture. Some of these customs are so ancient that they are actually pagan in origin, predating the Christian era, but through the centuries they have become fused with the Christian tradition.

Such is the custom of the Serbian father who with his eldest son goes out to the forest on Christmas Eve and fells a young oak tree. Together

the two take the tree home, often adorned with an apple or an orange, or perhaps with a ribbon of the Serbian colors: red, blue, and white. This Christmas oak has a special name: **badnjak**. As father and son approach their home they are greeted by the housewife who stands in the doorway with a sieve full of flour made from various grains. As the head of the house comes in, his wife throws a handful or two of this flour over him and on the **badnjak** to insure an abundant harvest and prosperity in the coming year. The **badnjak** is then placed on an open hearth where it burns all the night.

The traditional Christmas meal, lamb or mutton, is prepared by roasting the whole animal on a spit out-of-doors. When it is ready to eat, a great shout arises from all the hungry anxiously waiting to consume it. The roast is brought into the house and the feasting begins.

On Christmas morning the first person to enter a Serbian home becomes the honor guest of the family for the whole day. As he enters, the host throws grain on him and the guest returns the compliment, each thus wishing the other prosperity. This guest, called the **polazajnik**, is made the center of the festivities, and in return sometime during the day he takes an iron poker and beats on the still burning **Badnjak** making good wishes for his host and family for the coming year.

Slavic customs include children, too. Polish schoolboys used to accompany



In almost every French household there is a creche—or manger scene—for all to enjoy.

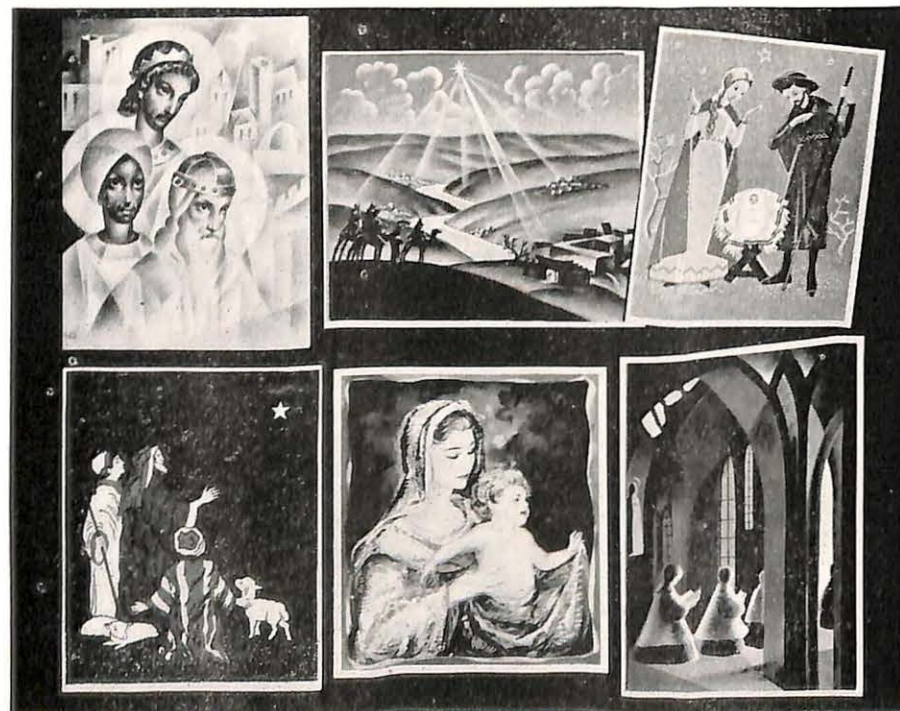
their village priest from house to house singing carols on Christmas morning. And Bohemian boys, dressed like the three wise men, carried a Jeslicky or miniature manger through the streets with them as they sang their lovely Czechoslovakian carols.

CHRISTMAS IN GERMANY

No sketch of Christmas customs could conclude without mentioning the celebrations of Germany and Austria. Most people think of Germany as the land in which the strange custom of bringing a tree into the house at Christmas time originated. Some say it began with Martin Luther who was inspired by the sight of myriads of stars on a clear winter's night

to bring an evergreen into the house and adorn it with shining candles for his children to enjoy. Some think the custom owes its origin to the old legend that on Christmas Eve all the trees in the forest bloom in honor of Christ's birth. To many Christians the lighted Christmas tree symbolizes Jesus, the Light of the World. Whatever the origin, the custom of the Christmas tree is one that has long been observed by most of the northern European countries as well as our own.

In Germany most families still light their trees with candles and hang the boughs with shiny red apples, nuts and silver tinsel. Germans maintain that no other Christmas trees smell as



One of the lovely Christmas customs is the sending of Yuletide cards to one another. A new trend of the past few years can be seen in the religious Christmas cards, pictured above, with their emphasis on the Bible story of the Savior's birth and the revelation of God's love in the Christ-child.

fragrant as theirs, and who can say that they are wrong? The scent of evergreen intensified by burning candles and mingled with the aroma of ripe apples is surely one of the pleasantest in the world!

In the North, the Germans, like the Swedes, have a **Yulklapp**. The gift left at the door is usually meant as a joke, and though it may appear in a large package, it often turns out that the package is really a series of smaller boxes one within the other, each one well wrapped, with the gift in the last and smallest. Thus the unwrapping is a great part of the fun of the Yulklapp.

AUSTRIAN ALPS

One of the most colorful of the German customs is practiced in the Alpine country of Austria and Bavaria. On Christmas Eve the people of the mountains are preparing to descend to the church in the valley for the midnight service. This is a special occasion! The children, dancing with excitement, are scrubbed and dressed in their best. The women have the house spiced and span. Christmas **Kuchen** and **Pfeffer-nüsse** fill the cupboards and the goose is stuffed and ready to roast. And now the men get out their shotguns for the **schieszen**. Their number is increased by some of the villagers from the valley who go up the mountain-side, shotguns over their shoulders, to join their mountain brothers.

About an hour before midnight the valley begins to resound with echoes. Men up in the hills are shooting their guns to show that Christmas is beginning. Other men on opposite hills answer with their guns, and hills and valleys alike resound with the echoing shots. After a while the noise dies away and in its place watchers in the valley below begin to see processions of lights moving slowly down the hill-sides. From all directions they come—the men, with their guns now silent, marching down to mountain paths, each with a torch or a lantern to light his way. As the men are coming down the organist in the village church commences to play some of the beautiful Christmas music. People begin to assemble, and just as the last torches reach the church it is time for the midnight service to start.

From such an Austrian village came that best beloved of all Christmas hymns, **Silent Night, Holy Night**.

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin, mother and Child,
Holy Infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

And so, though customs may vary from one place to another, it is still the same great and holy event which brings Christians everywhere together: the birth of Jesus, our Savior.

A Chaplain at a "Nike" Missile Battery

The story of one of our North American Baptist chaplains in the U.S. Armed Forces

By CHAPLAIN LESLIE P. ALBUS
of Fort Monroe, Virginia

ON MAY 12, 1955 my overseas tour of duty was over. Together with Phyllis and Jerry we checked out of our "home" in Germany and departed for the United States. Our return trip was very pleasant as we traveled on the "S.S. America." On Sunday, May 22, I had the opportunity to conduct the worship services in the first class lounge of this ship. Upon arrival we spent some time at Arnprior, Ontario; Carrington, N. Dak., and Trenton, Illinois.

I reported to my new station, which is the 56th AAA Missile Battalion, Fort Monroe, Va., in July. The Missile Battalion offered a problem in its basic organization to the chaplain in that it is four or five distinct units at as many locations. Chaplains assigned to such units from other types of units find it necessary to reorganize their programs in order to fit the new situation. These separate units are organized as batteries of Anti-Aircraft Artillery. In our case the artillery involved is the "Nike" guided missile.

GOOD PUBLIC RELATIONS

One of the primary aims of the missile battery in its immediate vicinity is good public relations with the surrounding community. This, insofar as the religious relations are concerned, is the responsibility of the chaplain. He must know the civilian churches and their pastors near all of his sites. He must encourage attendance at civilian churches of the men of his command. He must also know when this is appropriate.

In the case of the 56th AAA Missile Battalion, two batteries are being served totally by civilian churches as far as Sunday services are concerned. The other two, because of their location, are served by the chaplain. This transition to the civilian community can come only after a

total knowledge of the whole situation is evaluated.

Things to be considered are: nearness of local churches, time of services, and the willingness of local pastors to accept service men and their families. Transportation is provided when necessary and shifts must sometimes be changed to allow all the personnel wishing to attend a chance to do so. If a church has two morning services or a morning and an evening service, it makes the problem comparatively easy. Week day services are attended when the service men are free.

Local residents and pastors have welcomed the men on such sites to services and have integrated them into the church program. The chap-

lain will be present for a Sunday noon meal with the batteries, at which he does not have Sunday services, once every six weeks.

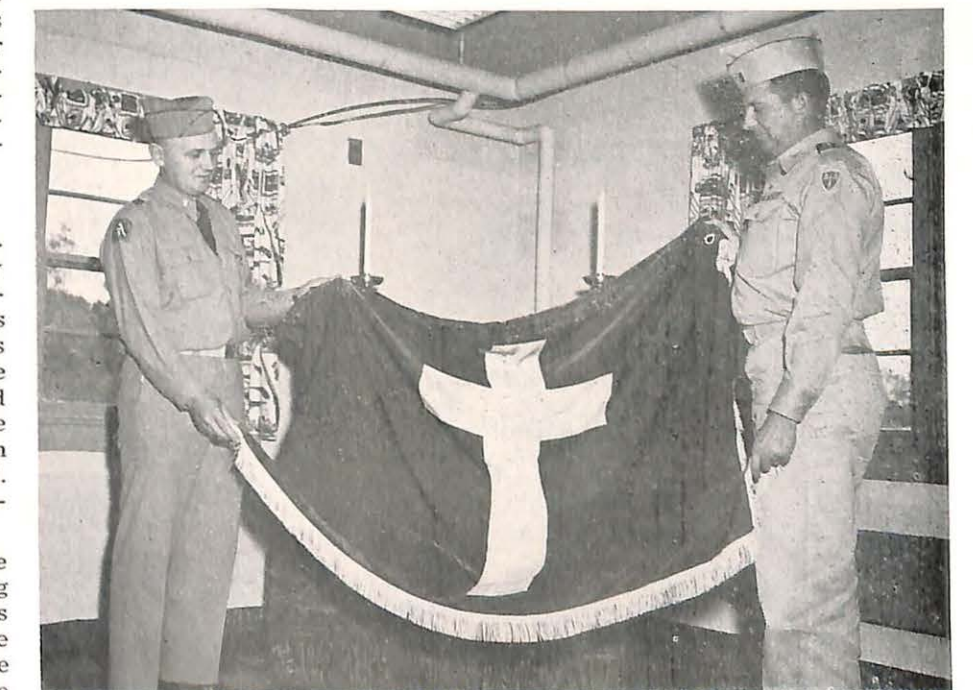
SERVICES AT THE BATTERIES

In the other two batteries, where the distances are too great or the area isolated, the chaplain conducts the services in the battery area. These two areas have at least one Sunday service every Sunday. I have always managed to cover all the batteries, even when four batteries had services. At the present time there is a possibility that one of these will ultimately be tied into a civilian service as the people in the area have been requesting the service men to join their group.

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Chaplain and Mrs. Leslie P. Albus at the sessions of the Eastern Conference held in Buffalo, New York



—U.S. Army Photograph
Chaplain Leslie P. Albus (left) presents the Chaplain's Attendance flag to 1st Lieutenant Edmund Wells, a battery commander, at Fort Monroe, Virginia.

Centennial Jubilee in New York City

The memorable story of the centennial program of the Second German Baptist Church in the Hell's Kitchen Area of New York, N. Y.

By MRS. MARIA A. FROMMELT, Church Clerk

"HITHERTO hath the Lord helped us!" It is the precious privilege of God's children to set up such "Ebenizers." A hundred years of loving guidance by the Most High God calls for joyful proclamation of this fact. The keynote of the centennial festival of the Second German Baptist Church, New York, N. Y., bore this rapturous delight in his grace.

On Thursday, Sept. 29, many friends came from far and near to share an evening of fellowship with us. On the flower bedecked platform 17 ministers from different neighboring churches were seated, prepared to extend greetings and congratulations. First, we heard from Dr. Stanley B. Hazzard, secretary of the New York City Baptist Society, and Dr. William Lippard, son of Rev. W. A. Lipphardt, successful pastor of this church for eleven

age of 59 in 1878. His successors were: Rev. H. Trumpp and Rev. H. Gubelmann, father of Prof. J. S. Gubelmann. They worked together from 1868, Trumpp to 1870, and Gubelmann only to 1869. Both served several mission-stations in different parts of New York.

Following their resignation Rev. H. Schneider served from 1870 to 1875; then Rev. D. Nathan, 1876, giving the church's members numerous heart-aches, according to records; Rev. W. Paul, 1877 to 1879, and Rev. F. Heisig, 1880 to 1886. In 1886 a new day dawned for the church. This is the year when Rev. Walter Rauschenbusch became pastor.

Rauschenbusch's translations of many beautiful Gospel songs into the German language has made his name famous. His zeal for the Kingdom of God made him visit the poor from

1895, Miss Hannah Ritzmann from Omaha, Neb., rendered the church an invaluable service as missionary up to 1920. She is now known as Mrs. Hannah Ritzmann-Lipphardt, and lives at the Home for the Aged, Portland, Oregon. After Mr. Lipphardt, the pastorate was held by Rev. Fred Busch from 1923 to 1926, and Rev. H. F. Hoops from 1926 to 1931. Then follow two years during which the church was without a pastor.

In 1933, Rev. Rudolph G. Schade took over. The church had lost many of its old members through death and change of residence. Mr. Schade and the late deacon Ferdinand Krinke did a praiseworthy job to keep the shrunken flock together. Our current pastor, Rev. John Schmidt, came to us in June, 1947. He is doing an excellent work among the new immigrants from Europe in ministering to their needs.

Friday, Sept. 4, was set apart to greet "old timers" of the bygone days. Dr. Rudolph Schade and Rev. Walter C. Damrau from Philadelphia, Pa., a son of this church, brought back memories of long ago. Many a dear name came back to life. Rev. John Schmidt called on older and former members to share some of their past experiences with us. All in all they produced a lively picture of the activities in their time. Miss Ruth Hoeft and Elka Labus recited meaningful poems.

Sunday, October 2, was most impressive of all. The Lord gave us beautiful sunshine, and blessed us in every way. Dr. Norma Johann presided over the Sunday School program. Our former Sunday School superintendent, Mr. Gustave Goecke, spoke and Dr. Frank Woyke from Forest Park, Ill., preached at the morning service. His text was taken from Matt. 16:16-18.

The afternoon service was conducted by the Woman's Missionary Society. Miss Minna Witzel, president, presented a well prepared program. The older ladies, 80 years and over, received a special honor by being decorated with a corsage. They just beamed with joy! As is the custom every month, ladies having a birthday during the coming month were congratulated by Mrs. John Schmidt and presented with a Bible verse card. Again Dr. Frank Woyke spoke, this time in German on John 12:21.

The evening service, held in German, was well attended. Many dear friends, also from New Jersey, joined our last meeting of the centennial. Mr.

(Continued on Page 12)



The present Woman's Missionary Society of the Second German Baptist Church, New York, N. Y. Miss Minna Witzel is president of the Society.

years. In succession 14 other presentations of greeting from the other pastors were brought. Dr. Rudolph G. Schade of Elmhurst, Ill., former pastor of this church for 13 years, closed the meeting with his address.

Many impressive and outstanding events were recalled. Special mention was made of Rev. Charles Gayer, founder and first pastor of this church. He was a hero of faith, using the sword of the Spirit mightily. His passionate love for the Gospel made him gather German and French immigrants (for he was at home with the French language) around the Word of God. Thus started the history of our church in 1855.

Mr. Gayer, in the church's service from 1855 to 1867, left the pulpit in order to work as a missionary exclusively. He passed on at the early

door to door, urging them to come to church. Under his direction our membership increased from 143 to almost 300. The Sunday School was visited by more than 400 children, and had to be conducted in two different sessions.

This drastic increase of members resulted in the building of a new church. It came to pass that in 1899 our present church was built under the direction of Rev. Walter Rauschenbusch. He left this church in 1897 to take over a professorship at the Rochester Theological Seminary. His successors were: Rev. G. Fetzer, 1897 to 1901; Rev. Frank Kaiser, 1902 to 1905; Rev. E. Umbach, 1905 to 1910.

In 1910, Rev. W. A. Lipphardt started a most blessed period of service which ended in 1921. He led the church through the many difficulties of the First World War. Starting in

Centenary Celebration in the Ozarks

The historic Pin Oak Creek Baptist Church, Mt. Sterling, Missouri, celebrates its 100th anniversary and calls it "A Century of Experienced Grace"

By MISS RICKA LEIMKUEHLER of Mt. Sterling, Missouri

THE PIN OAK CREEK Baptist Church of Mt. Sterling, Mo., observed gala days from September 16 to 18 on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the church. The chairman for these festivities was our pastor, Rev. Olland Ford Cole. A large number of members, former members and friends of the congregation came from far and near to help us celebrate this special occasion.

Two former pastors, Rev. Arthur A. Voigt of Anamoose, N. Dak., and Rev. John Kemnitz of Baltimore, Md. (only ones of former living pastors), had a special part in the Centennial Program. Ministers as descendants of former members and pastors of neighboring churches also gave brief talks. Dr. Frank H. Woyke, executive secretary of the North American Baptist churches, brought the centennial sermon on Sunday morning at the worship hour.

Sunday afternoon was spent mostly in reminiscences, greetings in person and letters that were read as well as testimonies by members and friends of the church. It was a time of spiritual elation. Dr. Woyke closed the afternoon session by briefly expressing his appreciation to hear the testimonies of former members who have gone out from this church to other parts of the country, serving the Lord in various churches in which they are now active. All of this showed evidence of the importance of "the country church" such as the Pin Oak Creek Baptist Church of Mt. Sterling.

Rev. Henry Leimkuehler of Marshall, Mo., a descendant of the church's congregation, preached the closing sermon on Sunday evening. The entire congregation was asked to join hands during the closing song, "Blessed Be the Tie That Binds," before the benediction.

Soon after Rev. August Rauschenbusch arrived in New York City in 1846 from Germany, he accepted an appointment with the American Tract Society in New York City. This put him into a wide range of traveling, mostly on horseback. Besides being a "peddler" of books, he preached wherever people were willing to assemble and listen to God's Word. He carried on missionary work in the East and in Canada, but he felt an urge to go to Missouri to help in the spiritual needs there. He had friends who already lived in that state of whom a few were evangelical ministers.



Rev. Olland F. Cole, pastor of the Pin Oak Creek Baptist Church.

calls, Rauschenbusch accepted the call to become Professor of Theology in our Baptist Seminary in Rochester, New York. He used Acts 20:31-32 for his farewell sermon.

The following 14 pastors have served the church during these hundred years: Rev. August Rauschenbusch, 1855-1858; Rev. Andreas A. Hoffmann, 1858-1890 and 1892-1894; Rev. Johann Jacob Baasener, 1890--1892; Rev. Eckhard Umbach, 1894-1900; Rev. John Miller, 1900-1907; Rev. Andrew Hoffmann, Jr., 1908-1919; Rev. Alfred E. Vogt, 1920-1927; Rev. John L. Hartwick, 1927-1929; Rev. C. C. Barton (Mt. Sterling Branch), 1929-1932; Rev. J. S. Arvin (Third Creek Branch), 1929-1940; Rev. A. R. Cole, 1933-1936; Rev. John Kemnitz, 1936-1941; Rev. Arthur A. Voigt, 1947-1953; and Rev. Olland Ford Cole, 1954—.

A centennial booklet, entitled "A Century of Experienced Grace," was prepared by Ricka Leimkuehler for the anniversary occasion. It is available for \$1.00 by addressing Rev. Olland F. Cole, Mt. Sterling, Missouri. On Saturday afternoon a tour was taken to the historical places in the neighborhood such as the old home of Rev. August Rauschenbusch while he lived in Gasconade County as well as the site of the first log cabin church and the site of the second building on Pin Oak Creek.



The Pin Oak Creek Baptist Church, Mt. Sterling, Missouri, founded by the Rev. August Rauschenbusch, which recently celebrated its Centenary Jubilee.



Vignettes of Church History

By DONALD G. DAVIS, Ph.D.

22. EARLY CHRISTIANITY AND PHILOSOPHY

As the Christian good news spread through Europe, but especially through Greece, the near East, and North Africa, it came into contact with philosophy, and the reactions ranged between two extremes. Tertullian, who died about the year 225 A.D., earnestly believed and taught that Christianity is a "divine foolishness," so far above men's wisdom that no philosophical system of man could serve to support or explain it. God's ways are not man's ways. He would seem to have been following the Apostle Paul in this respect.

Christian leaders like Clement of Alexandria, who died about 215, and Origen, who died about 251, took the opposite course and sought to explain and systematize Christianity in terms of Greek philosophy. Both men were leaders of the catechetical school in Alexandria, the famous old Greek city in eastern Egypt, and for many years the name of Alexandria was synonymous with the spiritualizing, or allegorizing, method of interpreting Scripture.

Origen taught that Scripture, for all practical purposes, every Scripture, has three different meanings, and these he developed from an analogy of man—body, soul, and spirit. The

humble, untaught, simple Christian without difficulty understands the literal, historical meaning of a given passage, the body of the Word of God. The more mature Christian looks beyond the literal sense and is instructed by the moral or ethical meaning of the passage, the soul of the Word. The spiritual man goes beyond both interpretations and sees the allegorical or spiritual meaning of the passage, the spirit. The latter might bear little relationship to the literal words.

No one doubts that many Bible passages teach lessons and typical truth, and every earnest minister will make use of all three. The developing Church, however, within a few centuries to become the Roman Catholic Church, adopted Origen's allegorizing method of treating Scripture, and by the spiritualizing process found proof for doctrines and practices which the literal words of the Bible could never be made to support.

Believers should remember that God's Word is to be taken in its normal sense unless there are indications in the context that the truth taught is spiritual or allegorical. When Jesus says, "I am the vine and ye are the branches," we definitely have spiritual truth, not to be taken literally. (Cairns, 119-122; Newman, I, 257-265, 280-287; Walker, 67-70, 76-83).

CHAPLAIN ALBUS

(Continued from Page 9)

Near this site (which I now cover on Sunday) is a church in the process of reorganization. The people there are very anxious to integrate into this program the men and families of the unit there. We encourage participation in such ventures, even though it does not show in the reports.

As many of the service men have found quarters in the community, the church has helped them to become members of the community. Personal visitation to pastors and others in the community by the chaplain was necessary to ascertain these facts. The chaplain remains responsible for all other duties regarding his command, even though the civilian church provides the worship service.

He covers the batteries on a weekly schedule, making sure that each battery receives at least one visit per week. On these visits, which are announced beforehand, he is available to all men for counselling and guid-

ance. Commanding officers have welcomed these visits and cooperation is very good.

I am also on call either at my office or through the Sergeant Major at all times. It is impossible in this situation to have the chaplain's assistant cover the chaplain's office at all times. The chaplain's assistant is also his driver and in this program an average distance of between 200 and 400 miles is covered weekly, keeping the assistant on the road rather than in the office. Clerical work is done in between periods on the road. If a man encounters a difficulty after the chaplain has left the battery area, a call to Battalion Headquarters will cause the chaplain to return immediately.

CHARACTER GUIDANCE PROGRAM

The Character Guidance Program is integrated into the visiting schedule so that the Chaplain gives the lecture on his visiting day. One is given in the radar control area and one is given in the launcher area, so that maximum participation will be achieved.

1956 LAYMEN'S CONFERENCE

Make your plans now to attend the wonderful North American Baptist Laymen's Conference for the entire family at the colorful American Baptist Assembly grounds, Green Lake, Wis., from July 28 to August 4, 1956. We shall have the best facilities at the John Clarke Lodge, Roger Williams Inn and surrounding buildings available to us. It will be our best and most exciting conference at Green Lake! Rates and information about the inspirational program will appear in the January 13, 1956 issue of the "Baptist Herald" and in leaflets to be distributed in January 1956. But save the dates for yourself and your family for a GRAND VACATION!

There are times when, because of a tactical mission, services and lectures must be cancelled. These are usually rescheduled on the spot for later in the same day if possible. If that is not possible the rescheduling is for a later date.

Hospital and guardhouse visits are made on a weekly basis, except in cases of the seriously ill and request calls in the hospital or request calls at the guardhouse. As the chaplain of this battalion is also the group chaplain, an effort will be made to try these policies on a group wide basis.

In case of necessary absence of the chaplain due to leave, TDY, etc., the Post Chaplain of Fort Monroe, Va., and chaplains from Langley Air Force Base cover for the chaplain. These chaplains are very cooperative, as most of them are. We realize in the Army that the increase of Christianity is a great cooperative effort in which everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord must do his part—plus a little more.

CENTENNIAL, NEW YORK

(Continued from Page 10)

Martin Litty, our choir conductor, gave much of his time to prepare his singers for this occasion. It was a delight to listen to such good old songs as, "How Beautiful Is Zion!" The final sermon was delivered by Dr. R. G. Schade on the theme, "Hold On to Thy Inheritance." The Guitar Choir, under the able direction of Miss Frieda Riedel, also rendered a selection.

An interesting booklet, printed by our Roger Williams Press, Cleveland, Ohio, has been compiled by one of our deacons, Mr. Walter Nicolai, and is still available for \$1.00. Write to Rev. John Schmidt, 53-16A 66th St., Maspeth, L. I., New York, for your copy.

CHRISTMAS AND MISSIONS

By RALPH T. NORDLUND

Christ left his home in glory,
His riches and his throne,
To bring to earth the story
Of grace for all his own.

He sailed the seas of heaven,
Debarked on Christmas Day.
At port no room was given
Save a humble bed of hay!

He was God's missionary
To evangelize the earth;
And now his church makes merry
And celebrates his birth.

'Tis fitting and in season
To hail his birth anew;
But more in line with reason
His mission work to do.

UNTO YOU A SAVIOR IS BORN

(Continued from Page 5)

never whispered a word of thanksgiving. They simply have no homes; they do not have enough to eat; they do not have the means with which to clothe themselves. They do not seem to find any just cause for real thanksgiving because they see no justification for their suffering when so many have more than they can use. Although redemption to them may not mean physical alleviation or deliverance from the moral whirlpool, it will, however, make them people of heart-felt, genuine, continuous thanksgiving. Although they may be hungry, they now have "the living bread which is come down from heaven."

And so we could go on. What the message, "Unto you a Savior is born," will mean to the people of the world will depend upon two things: 1) whether they ever hear this message, and 2) whether they appropriate the Savior and his saving power. As we examine our own life and see what this message means to us who believe, may we put forth every effort and enthusiasm to make known this Savior in his saving power to all peoples everywhere.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Rev. Aaron Buhler
314 Townsend Street
Lansing 23, Michigan

Rev. Bernard R. Fritzke
West Fargo, North Dakota

Rev. Eduard Hornbacher
11545—93rd Street
Edmonton, Alta., Canada

Rev. G. P. Schroeder
308 W. Forrest Avenue
Lodi, California



Immanuel, the Lord With Us!

By REV. H. PALFENIER, Denominational Evangelist

Immanuel! the Lord with us!
This was the prophet's strain,
The angels, joined in chorus,
Sound forth the glad refrain!
The shepherds glad, yet trembling,
Hear it with hearts aflame;
Their steps in faith are wending
To Christ in Bethlehem.

Make known to all the people,
Sing now with sacred mirth
Glad tidings of the Gospel
Proclaim the Savior's birth.
The night of fear is ended
The true light has appeared;
Give thanks on knee now bended
To Christ the Lord, adored.

The Christ of Incarnation,
The Word of God made flesh,
Sing it with adoration,
Sing it with joyousness.
He came to bring us gladness,
He came to bring us life!
He conquered sin and sadness,
He bids us cease our strife.

Awake my soul from slumbers,
Shake off thy lethargy,
Join in with countless numbers,
Make known the Jubilee!
Spread forth the gold of praises
Bring him the frankincense
Of faithful loyal service
And love that never ends.

Rev. H. Palfenier, Evangelist

ENGAGEMENTS:

The Lord willing, we shall begin the new year of evangelism in the deep South at Mowata, La., January 8-20. From there we shall go to Vernon, British Columbia, January 29-February 10. May the Lord bless these meetings to the salvation of souls.

WE THANK GOD:

It is at the close of a service when the people are filing past to shake hands with us. A little girl of about ten years of age walks up to us, looks straight into our eyes and says:

"You're the nicest man I ever saw." How we thank the Lord for the trust and love of children, and what a joy it is to minister to them and lead them to the Lord!

PRAYER REQUEST:

Pray that the year which lies at our very doorsteps may be one in which the Lord shall pour out his Spirit in an abundant measure upon your evangelists and our churches so that heaven-born revivals will break out and many may be swept into the Kingdom of God!

We...the Women

By MRS. THOMAS D. LUTZ of Aberdeen, South Dakota, President

SEASON'S GREETING!

May the Christmas grace of giving glory to God in the highest, the inner peace granted at Bethlehem, and the Christ-child's good will toward our fellow-men be and remain with you always!

The Woman's Missionary Executive Committee.

GOD'S UNSPEAKABLE GIFT

"Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift" (2 COR. 9:15).

When we gather on Christmas Eve to begin our Christmas observance, Christmas Day will have almost ended in Bethlehem. The hush of midnight will have drawn its silent curtains over the little town with its seven thousand inhabitants and the many visitors will have gone to their rooms for the night. Yet we shall be just beginning. But should it not be so . . . Christmas ending, yet always beginning . . . Christmas everywhere, Christmas for every one.

Before this busy, blessed day of the Savior's birth will draw to a close, let us remind ourselves of the glorious gift with which God would enrich every one of us. It is the most blessed and precious gift that you and I can receive.

GOD'S CHRISTMAS GIFT

Among the most valuable paintings in all the art galleries of the world is Raphael's glorification of the Christ-child and his mother. Five million dollars could not purchase this picture, we are told. If you believe and accept God's Christmas gift and have Christ imprinted in the fibers of your heart, you have a blessing that makes five million dollars seem paltry.

Above the sparkle of the Christmas lights, the fragrance of the Christmas greens, the brightness of the colors, the echo of the carols, the heaped gifts, there must be, if this day is to bring its blessings to you and your home, the Christ-directed faith, that Christmas-centered joy, that Christ-focused confidence which makes us join in that eight-word yet all-comprehensive Christmas hymn intoned by the Apostle Paul, "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift."

Let us picture Christmas! Everything stands ready! All the makings for a merry Christmas! The tree is trimmed with beauty! The stockings are hung with hope! And the hearts are filled with faith! Everything is planned! Why? Because the plans



Above the Christmas packages and gifts, there must be that Christ-directed faith that makes us say, "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift."

are made for giving and not getting! God's unspeakable Gift, Jesus Christ, prompts this.

We, the Women, have remembered the shut-ins in the vicinity, the orphans in the orphanage, the old people in the Old People's Homes, and the missionaries on the mission fields. Why? Because of this unspeakable Gift. Christ said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of one of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

THE WORLD'S HOLIDAY

Let us picture a Christmas of another type in this world of ours. Liquor parties, speeding cars, suggestive greeting cards and blatant commercialism are fast becoming symbols of celebration of one or our holiest days of the year, the anniversary of the birth of Christ. What is happening to this "holiday" which, of course, was once called "holy day"? Take the Christmas card for an example. Many send cards that are arty, folksy, humorous, and even suggestive. They are illustrated with pictures of cocktail parties, ships, dogs, and airplanes, with no Christmas meaning whatsoever.

In any American city, starting even before Thanksgiving, store windows are jammed with every materialistic luxury that can be bought. Santa Claus prompts greedy recitations of the bikes, games and toys children want. But the manger is tucked away

in the churches and must be deliberately sought out.

Arise, Christian women! Make sure that you will have no part in the last picture mentioned. We have a work to do, a responsibility to make "God's Unspeakable Gift" known. This gift of God is granted to every one of us. Christmas does not offer joy to a few. It cries, "Joy to the Whole Wide World." We stand before that supreme and saving truth, the holy of holies of our Christian faith, the blessed assurance that "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." He came to "save freely." The gift of salvation is not a matter of speculation. It is something that we can know, an absolute and final truth. "In him we live and move and have our being." It is triumphant!

One cannot bring out or express the blessing, the fulness, the glory, the riches, the value of this "Unspeakable Gift." No sacred oratorio, not even the unforgettable strains of Handel's Messiah, and its climax in the stirring "Hallelujah Chorus" can be classed with the Angel Chorus reechoing over the Judean hills, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

HIS ETERNAL BLESSING

Christ, our Christmas Gift, is unspeakable because of his everlasting triumph and eternal blessing. We will give Christ first place in our hearts! We will put Christ into our Christmas!

All other gifts decay and perish. All other love, even the most deep-rooted devotion that binds husband and wife, parents and children, will one day fade into the eternal love for Christ. Caesar Augustus ruled the world when Christ was born in Bethlehem. Today only a few statues, some crumbling columns of broken temples, remain as the tottering evidence of his departed glory. The helpless Babe in the manger, crowded out of the inn, hunted by Herod, exiled from his homeland, towers above the wrecks of time.

The Christ-child changed our calendar, our race, our world because he changed the hearts and lives of millions as he displaced fear with confidence, despair with hope, doubt with trust, punishment with pardon, terror with peace, hell with heaven, and death with eternal life. All are rich blessings of "God's Unspeakable Gift, Christ, the Lord." May this holiday season be filled with this "Unspeakable Gift" in our hearts forever and ever!

* * *

NOTICE

We are getting many inquiries about the 1955 Packet. It went on sale June 1955 and is still available. Write Woman's Union, 7308 Madison St., Forest Park, Ill. English Packet, \$1.50; German \$1.00.



By REV. G. K. Zimmerman, General Secretary

INTRODUCING MISS DONNA MAE RABENHORST

THE COMMISSIONED Baptist Youth Fellowship and the Sunday School Union are happy to introduce Miss Donna Mae Rabenhorst to our people. She has been employed as stenographer and office secretary in Forest Park, Ill., since August 9th. Donna Mae was formerly employed by a law office in Watertown, Wis., for a period of three years. Her secretarial training and experience have already proven very helpful in the work she faithfully and efficiently does at our office.

Donna Mae had been very active in her home church, the First Baptist Church of Watertown, Wis., where she sang in the choir, taught a Sunday School class and also participated in the activities of the young people. Since coming to Forest Park, she has also assumed responsibilities in the choir, Sunday School and Young Adult Fellowship of the Forest Park Baptist Church. While residing in Wisconsin, she served as an officer in the CBYF of Wisconsin and also of the former CBYF and SS Union of the Northwestern Conference.

Donna Mae was born and raised in a Christian family. She attended the Johnson Creek High School located near Watertown, Wisconsin.

The Commissioned Baptist Youth Fellowship and the Sunday School Union share the secretarial help of Donna Mae. We are grateful that the Lord led her to accept this position in our work for the Cause of Christ's Kingdom. The former secretary of these two departments, Miss Betty Wiese, was recently united in marriage with Rev. David Draewell, Director of Christian Education at the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Detroit, Michigan.

We would like for you to hear Miss Rabenhorst's personal Christian testimony:

"Living for Jesus a life that is true; striving to please him in all that I do." That is my prayer!

"Nine years ago, I accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as my personal Savior. Following my decision I was baptized and became a member of the First Baptist Church of Watertown, Wisconsin. My conversion did not come about through any one particular incident. My Christian parents, the Christian home which they had built, the daily family devotions which my family shared together, my Sunday School teachers and my pastor, all led to my acceptance of Jesus Christ.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

"... His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace." In this Christmas season may the Christ of Christmas become a reality to you as Counsellor—your advisor, Mighty God—your strength, Everlasting Father—never changing, and Prince of Peace—allowing the peace of God to reign in your life.

Your Sunday School Union,
Ruth Bathauer,
Children's Worker,
G. K. Zimmerman,
Sunday School Sec'y

"To me, my Savior is most precious. He is a Friend who never fails. When all others have failed, he has always been most near. He is a Friend, whom I can depend on and I have placed my trust in him that whatever is his will for my life, I will be willing to accept. He has always been nearest when I have needed him most. He is a Friend who never grows weary, One who is always ready to hear my prayer. Truly he is a Friend in need and a Friend indeed!



Miss Donna Mae Rabenhorst

"He is my Savior! I know in my heart that I am his and he is mine. 'He saves, he keeps, he satisfies.' I have experienced these precious promises which my wonderful Lord has given to me. He is a risen Savior and I know some day shall see him face to face.

"My new work has been a real challenge to me. Truly, I can say that there is joy in serving Jesus, every moment, every hour of each day."

WHAT'S HAPPENING

(Continued from Page 17)

coming year are as follows: president, Bill Telkamp, Grace Church; 1st vice-president, Paul Meister, Foster Avenue Church; 2nd vice-president, Bob Anderson, Forest Park Church; secretary, Eleanor Schreiber, Forest Park Church; treasurer, Ruben Pelzer, Foster Avenue Church. After the meeting supper was served.

● The heavenly summons came for Dr. O. E. Krueger of Rochester, N. Y., on Wednesday, Nov. 16. He had been suffering from a malignant disease for some time, and had been removed to the hospital about two weeks before he died. Dr. Krueger was one of our most prominent denominational leaders, having served as pastor in the United States and Australia; General Conference moderator (1934-1944); Seminary professor (1935-1947); voluminous contributor to our publications, "Baptist Herald" and "Der Sendbote"; and a dear friend in Christ to our entire denominational constituency. The memorial service was held on Saturday, Nov. 19, with Rev. Arthur R. Weisser in charge. Memorial tributes to Brother Krueger will be published in the next issue of the "Baptist Herald."

● The Trinity Baptist Church of Portland, Ore., had the privilege of having Rev. Robert Schreiber of Lodi, Calif., as guest speaker for its Spiritual Crusade of two weeks which was held in October. His timely messages were of spiritual uplift to the members and also proved instrumental in bringing several to a decision for Christ as their Lord and Savior. Since then several more have responded to the invitation for salvation so that the church expects to have a large group for baptism in the near future. Rev. John Wobig, pastor, reported: "We thank Brother Schreiber for his coming and for the services that he rendered." Trinity was also host to a Workers' Conference with Rev. G. K. Zimmerman, Rev. L. Bienert, and Miss Ruth Bathauer as the speakers. The Oregon Association and Oregon League of North American Baptists also convened at the church recently.



Sunday School Lessons

A LESSON PLAN

Date: December 25, 1955

Theme: SONGS OF THE SAVIOR'S BIRTH

SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:32-33, 46-50; 2:29-32.

PURPOSE: To set forth the message of the songs of our Savior's birth.

GETTING STARTED: Nothing can more graphically set forth the results of Christ's coming into the world than the fact that his birth was accompanied by a spontaneous bursting forth of song. Even heaven itself was all athrill with the prospect of his coming, and in that awesome moment when in a lowly stable there came forth from a humble maiden One who was none other than the Eternal Son of God, no power in heaven or earth could have silenced upon the lips of angels the song of praise and exaltation that simply had to burst forth from their adoring hearts. Christ's birth! What a blessed evangel! Heaven's hosts in praise triumphant! Earth's midnight shattered with a song! And today?—Yes, even yet today, whenever Christ is born anew in a heart that opens its portals to receive him, his birth brings songs to the life transformed by his coming; for such was the purpose of his appearing—to take away our burdens and leave us with a song.

I. SONGS OF EXALTATION.

The songs of our Savior's birth proclaim him to be none other than—

1. The Son of God (1:32a, 35).
2. The Savior of the world (1:31; 2:11a, 30);
3. The Lord of all (1:32b-33; 2:11b).

II. SONGS OF REDEEMING LOVE.

They set forth the truth—

1. That God has taken note of man's great need and has reached down in love and mercy to redeem and help him (1:48-55);
2. That Christ is the one who can save men from their sins and their lost estate and restore them to God's favor and to true life again (Lk. 1:31; Matt. 1:21);
3. That through Christ men can become brothers again and learn to live together in peace (1:79b; 2:14).

III. SONGS OF ASSURANCE.

The songs of our Savior's birth bring us the assurance—

1. That God is ever with us and in Christ came down to dwell among men and to help us in our every need (Lk. 1:78-79; Matt. 1:23);

2. That Jesus is indeed the Savior of the world and that, therefore, our hearts may abide in peace and assurance and that even death can be faced with never a fear or doubt (Lk. 2:29-30).

IV. SONGS OF PROMISE

These songs set before us an assured and glorious future, for they proclaim—

1. That Christ is King and that the Kingdom is his (1:32);
2. That he shall come to establish his Kingdom and that of that Kingdom there will be no end (1:33).

Applying the Lesson:

1. Is belief in the virgin birth of our Lord essential to our faith? Why?
2. How would you explain the Incarnation to one who is not a Christian, and what is its significance for Christian thought and life?

A LESSON PLAN

Date: January 1, 1956

Theme: THE PERIL OF HYPOCRISY

SCRIPTURE: Lk. 11:14-12:3, 54-59.

PURPOSE: To set forth the causes, effects and cure for hypocrisy.

GETTING STARTED: Hypocrisy is derived from a Greek word meaning to act on the stage. The actress portraying Peter on the stage is not really Peter Pan; she only pretends to be. Thus a hypocrite is one who pretends to be what he is not. He's putting on a good front and spiritually and morally is acting a part in order to deceive people and impress them with his goodness.

I. THE CAUSES OF HYPOCRISY.

Men become insincere, hypocrites, in their religion because—

1. They want to impress people in order to win their acclaim (11:43);
2. They hope to win favor with God; so they try to impress him with their

good deeds, thinking that thereby they will be able to make up for their spiritual and moral lack (11:38, 42);

3. They have never honestly faced the sin and corruption that is within them and, thus, try to fool themselves and others by wearing an artificial coat of goodness and piety (11:39, 44);

4. They are unwilling to repent and be converted and try to make up for their lack of genuine spiritual life with strict adherence to the language and forms of religion (11:39, 42, 46-47).

II. THE EFFECTS OF HYPOCRISY.

1. It blinds men spiritually, so that—
 - (a) They cannot differentiate between the things that are of God and those that are not (11:14-22);
 - (b) They are incapable of perceiving who Christ really is and what the true nature and purpose of his coming was, no matter how many proofs are given them, and thus become impervious to the call and claims of Christ (11:29-32);
 - (c) The whole of life becomes distorted, because their sense of judgment and value is darkened by false motives and standards (11:34-35);
 - (d) They become lost in religious trifles and can never perceive the things that are true and important (11:37-40).
2. It makes it impossible for men ever to know the peace and joy and victory that Christ is able to give to those who truly receive him (11:24-26).
3. It actually makes of us enemies of Christ; for we dishonor Christ with our insincerity and turn men away from him (11:23, 52).
4. It makes out of religion a hollow sham that brings no real satisfaction and will finally be uncovered to leave us naked and without excuse in the eyes of God and man (11:44; 12:2).

2. It makes it impossible for men ever to know the peace and joy and victory that Christ is able to give to those who truly receive him (11:24-26).

3. It actually makes of us enemies of Christ; for we dishonor Christ with our insincerity and turn men away from him (11:23, 52).

4. It makes out of religion a hollow sham that brings no real satisfaction and will finally be uncovered to leave us naked and without excuse in the eyes of God and man (11:44; 12:2).

III. THE ANTIDOTE FOR HYPOCRISY.

There is only one antidote, and that is genuine conversion experience (11:35-36); for this experience will make us realize—

1. That all our vaunted goodness is nothing more than "filthy rags," that we are lost sinners and have nothing whatever to boast of;
2. That in ourselves we are nothing but that Christ is all, and that it is only in him that we are anything at all and possess any righteousness.

EDITORS

The editor of this page for 1955 has been Rev. Berthold Jacksteit, pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church, Anaheim, Calif. These lesson explanations have been interesting and helpful to many of our readers.

Beginning with the Jan. 13, 1956, issue the editor of the Sunday School page will be Rev. Bruno Schreiber of Forest Park, Illinois, who is active in teaching several Sunday School classes in the Forest Park Baptist Church.

What's Happening

● The First Baptist Church of Bison, S. Dak., has called Rev. Oliver K. Ringering of Shattuck, Okla., pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church since 1950. He has replied favorably to the call and announced that he will begin his pastorate in the Bison church shortly after the beginning of 1956, succeeding Rev. David Littke, now residing in Billings, Montana.

● Rev. and Mrs. G. Ben Lawrence, missionaries in the British Cameroons, Africa, have reported the birth of a son, Kurt Allen, on Nov. 11th. Mrs. Lawrence is at present with relatives in Portland, Ore., where her son was born. Mr. Lawrence is studying at London University in London, England, at the present time, preparing himself for more effective service in the Cameroons. This is their third child.

● The choir of the Grace Baptist Church, Chicago, Ill., filled a professional engagement at the Hinsdale Sanitarium Hospital, Hinsdale, Ill., on Saturday evening, Nov. 12. Edward Jordan was the guest soloist. Mr. Herman Siumund served as master of ceremonies at the program. Miss Glee Mack is the organist of the church. The "Martin Luther" film will be shown at the Grace Church of Chicago at the Watchnight Service as reported by Rev. William L. Schoeffel, pastor.

● The recognition service for the newly organized Temple Baptist Church of Medicine Hat, Alta., Canada, was held on Wednesday evening, Oct. 12, after a duly called council meeting of North American Baptist delegates had been held in the afternoon. The church, located on Seventh Street, S.W., is being served at present by Rev. R. Milbrandt as interim pastor. It is the second North American Baptist Church in the city of Medicine Hat. A detailed report appears elsewhere.

● Rev. O. F. Bistor of Holliston, Mass., was called to his heavenly home in October. He was in his 88th year, having observed his 87th birthday in July. He served a number of North American Baptist Churches in his active years. The memorial service was held at the Rock Hill Baptist Church of Boston, Mass., with Rev. A. Theodore Ekholm, pastor, in charge. His favorite poem by Sir Robertson Nicoll, "I Will Not Doubt" and his selected hymns, "Peace, Perfect Peace" and "Face to Face" were used. His wife is still living with her daughter, Alma Bistor, at Holliston, Mass.

● Mrs. Otto R. Schroeder of Anaheim, Calif., passed away on Oct. 10, a few days before her 80th birthday. She had been an invalid for many years, but she was always a blessing to many because of her faith in Christ and her quiet, winsome witness. She was the mother of Mrs. Walter W. Grosser of Oak Park, Ill., former president of the Woman's Missionary Union, of Mrs. Herbert Stabbert, Mrs. Frederick Berger, and Mr. Walter Schroeder. The beautiful tribute prepared by her pastor, Rev. B. Jacksteit of Anaheim's Bethel Baptist Church, appears on page 23 of this issue.

● Mrs. Emil Kolashefsky, formerly of Madison, S. Dak., and still a member of the West Center Street Baptist Church of that city, is now residing with a son, Walter, and his family, at Brighton, Colo., 20 miles northwest of Denver. She and her late husband were very prominent in the activities of the Madison Church and the South Dakota Association. On Sunday, Nov. 13, she worshiped at the Baptist Church of LaSalle, Colo., on the occasion of a visit by Dr. M. L. Leuschner, editor, to the church. Cards or letters to her can be addressed: 706 Fulton Avenue, Brighton, Colorado.

● Dr. Laura Zirbes of Columbus, Ohio, daughter of the late Rev. and Mrs. W. J. Zirbes of Brooklyn, N. Y., one of the nation's outstanding authorities on elementary education, spoke at the opening meeting of the Dayton Association for Childhood Education in Dayton, Ohio, on Oct. 26. She discussed the topic, "This We Believe About Children." Dr. Zirbes retired in 1954 after 26 years as a member of the faculty of Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, where she was professor of education. In 1948 Pres-

WEEK OF PRAYER

Program material for the observance of Week of Prayer from January 2 to 6, 1956, has been prepared by Rev. John Wobig, pastor of the Trinity Baptist Church, Portland, Ore., and vice-moderator of the General Conference, and has been sent in mimeographed form to all North American Baptist pastors. It is available both in English and in German for use in all of our churches. We trust that many churches will remember to observe this week with its theme of "Intercessory Prayers."

ident Truman conferred on her the award of the Woman's National Press Club for achievement in education.

● The September 1955 issue of "The Palimpsest," published by the State Historical Society of Iowa, features the story of "The Baptists of Iowa." Several interesting pages are devoted to North American Baptist churches in the Northwestern Conference, especially Iowa, besides a picture of the Aplington Baptist Church. This material was prepared some years ago by the Rev. C. Fred Lehr of Aplington, Iowa, for Dr. Frederick I. Kuhns, historian and author of this fine article. Copies of the issue of "The Palimpsest" can be secured at 15 cents each by addressing: State Historical Society of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa.

● On Sunday afternoon, Oct. 16, Rev. Earl Silver, pastor of the Forestburg Baptist Church, Forestburg, Alta., Canada, baptized two adults and four teenagers on confession of their faith in Christ. The service was held in the Calvary Baptist Church of Wetaskiwin. Rev. H. Schumacher, pastor of the church, shared in this service, baptizing six converts from his church. Rev. Fred Schimke of the Bethany Baptist Church, Camrose, brought a challenging message and Mrs. Earl Silver sang a solo. These six converts were received and given the hand of fellowship in the Forestburg church at the communion service on Sunday, Nov. 6th.

● Dr. Albert Kaiser of Rochester, N. Y., the only son of the late professor and Mrs. Lewis Kaiser, died of a heart attack on Nov. 1st at 67 years of age. Since 1945 he was Rochester's health officer and for the past ten years devoted his medical knowledge and skills to the general public's interest. He was the recipient of many honors in his lifetime, serving as personal physician to the late George Eastman on his African safaris, having a medal, the Albert David Kaiser medal, named after him that is given by the Rochester Academy of Medicine as its highest award, and formulating New York's state Salk polio vaccine administration policy. The memorial service was held on Nov. 4 at the First Baptist Church of Rochester. The city's newspaper featured several illustrated articles at great length about his life.

● The Chicago Area CBY Fellowship met on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 23rd, for a singspiration and annual election of officers at the Foster Avenue Baptist Church in Chicago. There were approximately 60 present at the meeting. The program included special music by Rev. and Mrs. Fred Sonnenberg, Doris Schuster, Luanne Fuchs, and the devotional message brought by Toni Fieni from Wheaton College Graduate School. The officers for the

(Continued on Page 15)

Dedication Program, Center Line, Mich.

Report from the First Baptist Church of Center Line, Michigan

By MRS. MURYAL BRAUN

THE HEARTS of God's children, at the First Baptist Church of Center Line, Mich., are overflowing with praise to God for the blessings he has showered upon us during our recent building program.

The first building on our property was built for us in 1943 by the Burns Avenue Baptist Church of Detroit of which our church was a mission church. That chapel, seating 120 people, soon became too small for the congregation, so the basement of our present auditorium was added in 1949.

BUILDING PROGRAM

Since the addition was completed, God has continued to bless, and in July of 1954 we felt led of the Lord to begin work on the upper structure of our building. Under the faithful and efficient leadership of our building

With grateful hearts, we came together on Dedication Sunday, September 11th, to set apart our new auditorium for the purpose of bringing glory to God in this community. Rev. S. Houboldt, pastor of the church from 1944 to 1953, preached a very appropriate message in the morning worship service on the topic, "To What Purpose This Building?" Our church choir and male quartet provided the music for the morning and evening services.

DEDICATION SERVICES

Our formal dedication service followed at 3:00 P.M. Rev. R. Farnsworth, a former pastor of the church in its early days, gave the invocation. The congregation joined in singing the hymn, "How Firm A Foundation," after which Psalm 84 was read by Rev.

the original property, including the chapel, with a ten-year gift mortgage, so that we are now a completely autonomous Baptist church.

We truly praise the Lord for the love and encouragement which we have received from the mother church, and we felt it a great privilege to have their pastor, Dr. Dale Ihrle, with us that afternoon to bring the dedication message. Preaching from Philippians 1:20, he stirred our hearts with the challenge for greater boldness in our Christian living, teaching, preaching, and witnessing.

The congregation then participated in the dedication response and was led in the dedication prayer by Rev. O. Patzia of the Conner Avenue Baptist Church of Detroit. After the hymn, "Great Is Thy Faithfulness," the benediction was pronounced by Dr. Ihrle.

GOD'S CONTINUED BLESSING

For our closing service of the day, Rev. R. Schilke, our general missionary secretary, challenged us to be faithful to God's calling in taking the Gospel to those still without Christ in our own community as well as in the foreign fields. It was a great day with many blessings and challenges for the future. We are trusting the Lord for his continued blessing and guidance, and praying that we may soon be able to add more Sunday School accommodations for the glory of God and the praise of his Son.

SPECIAL REPORT

A Delightful and Eventful Visit to the Forest Baptist Church, Winburne, Pennsylvania

On September 18 Mr. Calvin Hartman and I of Buffalo, N. Y., attended services in the Forest Church in Winburne, Pa., where the Rev. George Zinz is the pastor. While there, we found out that it was his 15th anniversary as pastor of the church and were invited to stay and celebrate the occasion with them.

Brother Zinz' morning sermon was about "Christians, the Bride of Christ." He and his gracious wife were presented with a lovely floral piece in honor of the occasion by the Sunday School. After the evening service the entire membership participated in a surprise party for Mr. and Mrs. Zinz in their new Sunday School room.

Mrs. Dorothy Lindner and her mother, Mrs. Schmidt, sang a duet, "God Leads His Dear Children Along" accompanied by Mrs. Bertha Braun on the piano. A poem entitled, "Thy Labor Is Not In Vain," was read by Mrs. Bertha Braun. Mr. Zinz and his wife
(Continued on Page 23)

Our Denomination in ACTION

Southwestern Conference

Salem Church, Gotebo, Okla., Replaces Parsonage Which Was Destroyed By Fire

On October 18th Mrs. B. F. Taylor, our family and I moved into the new church parsonage for the Salem Baptist Church, Gotebo, Oklahoma. To replace the one which was destroyed by fire, the church bought an old house and moved it on a foundation next to where the old one had stood. The house was completely remodeled by the church members and the downstairs completely repainted and repapered by the church women.

Later the church plans to refinish the upstairs and to complete a few items on the main floor that had to be left unfinished for the time being. Our entire church, the pastor and his family wish to thank all who faithfully prayed and sent love gifts. May God richly bless each one!

B. F. Taylor, Pastor.

Sessions of the Oklahoma Association at the Ebenezer Baptist Church of Shattuck

The Oklahoma Association met at the Ebenezer Baptist Church of Shattuck, Okla., from October 4 to 6. The theme, "Now Is the Time," as found in Romans 13:11, was effectively carried out throughout all the messages and services. Prof. Herbert Hiller was the guest speaker. An added feature for many of those attending was a German service conducted by Prof. Hiller on Wednesday afternoon.

Youth Night was Wednesday evening with young people from the various churches taking part in the program. The film, "God of the Atom," was shown immediately following this service. The Oklahoma Woman's Missionary Union was in charge of the Thursday evening service.

All who attended went to their churches having received rich blessings and encouraged to do more for our Lord in the coming year.

Mrs. Leon Bill, Reporter.

Sessions of the Kansas Association at the Ebenezer Baptist Church Near Elmo

"I will therefore that men pray everywhere" (1 Tim. 2:8) was the theme that made the Kansas Association one of the most blessed in recent years. We were guests at the Ebenezer Church near Elmo, Kans., from October 17 to 19. The host pastor, Rev. Norman Berkan, and his people made us very welcome, housing and feeding us with genuine hospitality.

The program, centering on prayer, brought a spiritual challenge to us all. Rev. Richard Schilke, our general missionary secretary, spoke on "The Secret of Effectual Prayer" and "When We Pray for Missions." Rev. J. R. Kruegel of the Mt. Zion Church spoke on, "When I Shut the Door—Private Prayer." Rev. E. C. Strauss of Ellinwood spoke on, "When Our Family Prays" and Rev. Fred Knalson of Marion, "When Our Church Prays."

Prayer was not only the theme but the practice. Each morning and afternoon session was begun with a prayer meeting. We divided into two or three groups to give more people an opportunity to take part in prayer. These periods were led by Rev. L. B. Hinz of the Strassburg Church, by Mr. Bill Berger, pastor at Dighton, and by Rev. H. W. Gieseke of Lorraine.

A goal of \$1000 was set for the Kansas Sunday Schools to raise for the San Luis Valley mission in Colorado. The officers for the coming year are as follows: moderator, Rev. H. J. Wilcke, Stafford; vice-moderator, Mr. Ernest Hildebrand, Stafford; secretary, Rev. J. R. Kruegel, Mt. Zion; treasurer, Mr. Russell Scheufler, Bison.

J. R. Kruegel, Reporter.

Central Conference

Humboldt Park Baptist Church of Chicago, Illinois, Welcomes Rev. and Mrs. M. Vanderbeck

The long looked and prayed for hour had come, the hour when Dr. M. Vanderbeck was to be welcomed as the pastor of the Humboldt Park Baptist Church, Chicago, Illinois. Plans had been made to welcome the new pastor on Thursday evening, October 6th. Though it was raining, the members of the church gathered together with many friends from the churches of the Chicago area.

Mr. Ephraim Schulz was in charge of the evening. The organ prelude was given by Miss Jeanette Sprik, a student from the Moody Bible Institute. The call to worship was sounded, after which Rev. Rubin Kern, pastor of the Forest Park Baptist Church, read the Scripture. Rev. Wm. Schoeffel of the Grace Baptist Church led in prayer. The Foster Avenue Baptist Church was present with its splendid Male Chorus, which rendered several selections that were really appreciated by the audience. Rev. J. C. Gunst, promotional secretary of the denomination, was present to welcome the new pastor and his wife. Rev. Henry Schroeder welcomed the pastor to the great metropolis. The audience responded to a real welcome for Mrs. M. Vanderbeck.

The Faith Note Trio, consisting of Miss Marilyn Weis, Miss Jeanne Oyer,

and Miss Beverly Akens, rendered two selections. Greetings were brought from the churches of the Chicago area by Rev. H. P. Schroeder, East Side Church; Rev. Joe Sonnenberg, Foster Avenue Church; Rev. Wm. L. Schoeffel, Grace Church; Rev. Fred Sonnenberg, Ogden Park Church; Rev. Ruben Kern, Forest Park Church.

A few appropriate remarks were given by Mr. Ephraim Schulz, representing the church, after which Dr. Edgar Boss, long-time friend of the pastor, brought the message of the evening. After a profitable time together in this way, Dr. M. Vanderbeck brought the closing remarks and pronounced the benediction.

Mr. E. Schulz, Reporter.

Northern Conference

Annual Song Festival for Southern Alberta Churches at Zion Church of Drumheller

The southern section of the Alberta Baptist Association held its annual song festival on Sunday, October 16, with the Zion Baptist Church of Drumheller, Alta., as the host church. The Sunday School period was under the direction of the local superintendent, Mr. Reinhold Ziegler. In addition to several speakers bringing their comments on the Sunday School lesson, the Berg trio sang two very fitting numbers.

The morning service was likewise in the Zion Church with the local pastor, Rev. Wm. Effa, in charge. Ministers from the neighboring churches participated in the service, as did also the choir of the local church. The message of the morning was brought in German by Rev. H. Schatz, the Northern Conference missionary. After the benediction, pronounced by Rev. A. Kujath, everyone was invited to a delicious lunch in the church basement.

The afternoon service was the highlight of the day. This service was held in the Carbon Baptist Church which was filled to overflowing. The churches participating in the festival were Bridgeland, Calgary; East Olds; Trochu; Zion and Carbon churches. The mass choir, totalling about 140 singers, was under the direction of Dr. K. H. Neufeld who had spent the previous week in concentrated rehearsal with them.

In addition to each choir rendering two numbers, the large congregation was treated to special numbers by a stringed trio composed of Mrs. Lois Macdonald, Miss Glenda Goodfellow, and Dr. K. H. Neufeld (the two ladies are members of the Calgary Philharmonic). Rev. Fred Pahl and Rev. A. Kujath shared the honors and brought brief but challenging messages to those present.

It was a day well spent. Many times we heard the comments of those present where they spoke of the blessing they received and the praise ignited in their own hearts.

W. R. Muller, Reporter.



The new worshipful sanctuary of the First Baptist Church, Center Line, Michigan, which was dedicated on Sunday, September 11, 1955.

chairman, Mr. John Sonnenberg, and with the cooperation of many of our members who donated their time and labor, the work steadily progressed and it was our privilege to worship the Lord in our new sanctuary for the first time on Palm Sunday of this year.

It was also a great privilege for us to witness the first baptismal service ever held in our own church, on June 26th of this year. We rejoice with the eleven candidates who were thus obedient to their Lord. (Most of these candidates had made their request for baptism during our evangelistic meetings with Rev. P. G. Neumann of Costa Mesa, Calif., in April.)

Roland S. DeRenzo, pastor of the Ambassador Baptist Church of Detroit. The male chorus of the Grosse Pointe Baptist Church favored us with two inspirational anthems.

Greetings were read from the Macomb County Chamber of Commerce and greetings were extended in person by the pastors of our churches in the Detroit area, former pastors of our own church, and neighboring church pastors, as well as from our conference headquarters through Rev. Richard Schilke. Following the greetings, Mr. Ed Russell, trustee chairman of the Grosse Pointe Church, thrilled us with the presentation of a deed for

Recognition Service for the Temple Baptist Church of Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada

On Wednesday, October 12, an ordination council convened at the Baptist Church, Medicine Hat, Alta., Canada, for the purpose of recognizing the same as a North American Baptist church. It is located on Seventh Street, Southwest.

Rev. R. Milbrandt opened the meeting with the reading of Acts 4:32-37. Rev. W. Reimche led in the opening prayer. Rev. H. Schatz was appointed as temporary chairman and Rev. W. R. Muller as temporary secretary. The chairman then called for the reading of the letter stating the object for which the council was convened.

The credentials of delegates were then called for, and the following churches were represented: Calvary Church, Glidden; Burstall; Hilda; Grace Church, Medicine Hat; Bethany Church, Lethbridge; First Baptist Church, Carbon; Temple Church, Medicine Hat. Rev. H. Waltereit was ac-

interim pastor of the church. Greetings were brought by Rev. O. A. Ertis on behalf of the Alberta Saskatchewan Central Baptist Association, and Rev. R. Kanwischer on behalf of the mother church and the Northern Conference. Rev. D. Gibson, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Medicine Hat, offered the dedicatory prayer. Rev. H. J. Waltereit brought the message of the evening. Temple Baptist Church is the second N.A.B. church in Medicine Hat.

Willy R. Muller, Secretary.

Dakota Conference

Harvest and Mission Festival by the Ebenezer and Immanuel Churches, Wessington Springs, South Dakota

The Ebenezer and Immanuel Baptist Churches of Wessington Springs, S. Dak., held their annual Harvest and

Ebenezer Baptist Church, Lehr, N. Dak., Dedicates Its \$40,290 Edifice to God's Glory

Sunday, Oct. 16th, was the day for which all of us at the Ebenezer Baptist Church of Lehr, N. Dak., had been waiting! This was the Day of Dedication for our new church building. The Sunday morning service was as usual except the Sunday School hour which was entirely in the hands of Sunday School scholars. Our superintendent, Mr. Ed. Aman, led in opening devotions. Several music selections were rendered, a Bible story was told and a flannelgraph story illustrated by Mrs. Esther Breikreuz. Rev. George A. Lang, president of our Sioux Falls Seminary and guest speaker for the day, preached a very inspiring sermon to a large and appreciative group.

The official dedication service took place at 2:30 P.M. Hundreds came to attend the service but all could not be accommodated and as a result had to occupy chairs in the lower auditorium and listened to the festivities by means of the public address system. The preliminaries included greetings from friends and former pastors as read by the church clerk, Mr. John Kranzler.

Rev. H. J. Waltereit, a former pastor, was in attendance. The pastors of the neighboring churches conveyed greetings and congratulations on behalf of their congregations. In closing Mr. Ted Miller, chairman of the building committee, gave a financial report and also expressed his thanks for the cooperative group of men with whom he was privileged to work. The dedication prayer was beautified by strains on the new electric Hammond Organ, played by Mr. Byron Hochhalter of Bismarck, North Dakota.

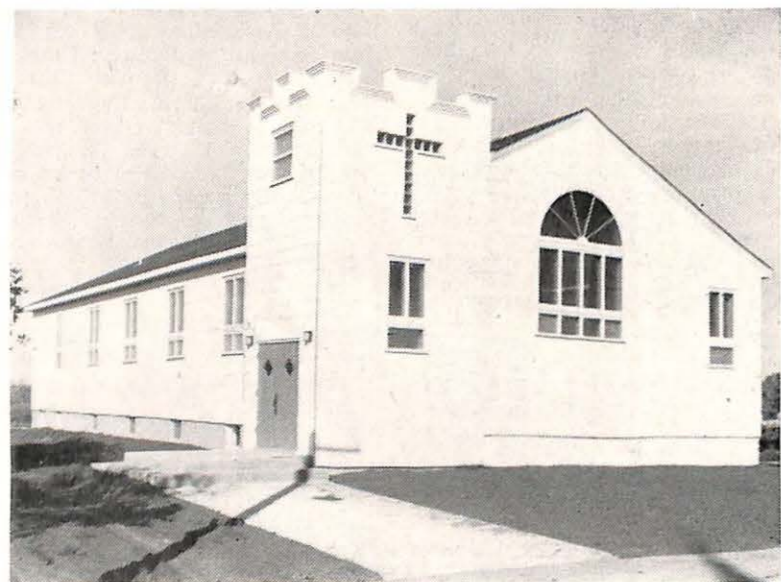
Our pastor, Rev. George Breikreuz, spoke words of welcome. Rev. David Zimmerman of Cathay, N. Dak., read Scripture, and the dedicatory prayer was offered by Rev. H. J. Waltereit. The choir sang a number at this time as well as the two other services. Rev. George Lang then brought a fitting sermon.

The evening service was again very well attended at which musical numbers were brought by the choir, men's quartet and the CBY trio of girls. Dr. Lang spoke and thus brought to a close a glorious day which will long be remembered. The ladies and friends of the church served dinner and supper in the church's dining room to approximately 800 people.

All new pews, piano and pulpit furniture were purchased as memorials or otherwise as well as a spacious and completely modern kitchen, public address system, furnished nursery and an electric organ which was installed for this special day and which we also hope to purchase. The overall cost of the building project amounted to \$40,290 (including all above mentioned articles). The offering for the day was almost \$4500.

We praise God for his wonderful mercy to us during the anxious days of building.

Mrs. John Kranzler, Reporter.



The new \$40,000 edifice of the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Lehr, North Dakota, that was dedicated to God's glory on Sunday, October 16th.

cepted by the council representing the Mission Committee. Rev. H. Schatz was accepted as a general worker of the denomination.

The council then permanently organized by electing Rev. H. Waltereit as chairman and Rev. W. Muller as secretary. Rev. R. Milbrandt, spokesman for the Temple Baptist Church, was then called upon to give the official views of the church as to doctrine, the attitude of said church towards our North American Baptist denomination, and the purpose for organization with its relationship towards Grace Baptist Church.

After a series of questions the council withdrew for private consultation. The council gave careful consideration to the information received and upon this unanimously passed a motion to give Temple Baptist recognition at a public service that same evening.

The recognition service was under the chairmanship of Rev. R. Milbrandt,

Mission Festival on Sunday, Oct. 9, at the Ebenezer Church in the country. The auditorium was well filled for the morning worship service which was in charge of our pastor, Rev. Elton Kirstein. Prof. Hugo Lueck of Sioux Falls, S. Dak., as guest speaker, brought the message on "A Grateful Heart."

The afternoon session was in charge of the Senior CBY with Prof. Lueck speaking on, "The Baptist Movement in Europe." The Woman's Missionary Society led the evening program. A film, showing work in Japan, taken by Rev. Walter Sukut was presented with Professor Lueck bringing the message, "Doing the Will of God."

Music during the day featured a vocal solo, duet, trio, and quartet numbers. All the money received in offerings went for missionary work. Dinner and supper were served in the church dining parlor by the Woman's Missionary Society.

Mrs. Fred Weber, Reporter.

Farewell Reception for Rev. and Mrs. Otto Fiesel and Family at Sidney, Montana

On Sunday afternoon, Oct. 9, the members of the First Baptist Church of Sidney, Mont., held a farewell reception for Rev. and Mrs. Otto Fiesel and family, who closed their services with us on that day. After the morning worship, there was a fellowship dinner in the church parlors, which was enjoyed by all.

At 2:30 P.M. the farewell service began with Irvin Fay, Sunday School superintendent, in charge. The various officers of the church spoke as follows: Irvin Fay for the church and Sunday School; Mrs. Irma Parten for the Woman's Missionary Society; and Miss Vera Knels for the CBY. Musical numbers were presented by the choir, by Dolores Gaum and by Sharon Fay.

A gift of an electric clock was presented to Mr. and Mrs. Fiesel in appreciation for the work that had been faithfully done. Brother Fiesel gave a short talk concerning the eleven years they had been with us here.

Mrs. Frances Radin, Reporter.

Great Joy in Bismarck, N. Dak., Over Evangelistic Services With Rev. G. G. Rauser

The congregation of the Bismarck Baptist Church, Bismarck, N. Dak., can truly say: "The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad." Rev. G. G. Rauser of Lodi, Calif., was the evangelist during our revival meetings, October 12-26. Large crowds came to hear him, and it was worth-while for he knew how to attract them. His Biblical messages, which were clearly and forcefully delivered, evoked deep gratitude in the hearts of God's children. Children and grown-ups alike were thrilled by his object lessons, each one demonstrating an infallible Bible truth.

Thirty-two persons accepted the Lord as their Savior. Eleven others have declared their intention of joining the church by either letter or confession. Many others have rededicated their lives. The Holy Spirit was moving mightily in our midst. We thanked the Lord again and again for his messenger to us.

We are also grateful for the excellent cooperation and contributions on the part of our people. They have not failed the Lord. They were there and they brought others along. Our choir, under the capable direction of Rev. B. W. Krentz, sang every night. Special musical numbers were brought besides by talented young people. Our retired, yet never tired, ministers helped others in dealing with seekers. We had a soul-winning team, a transportation committee, a flower committee, a music committee, and hostesses for little children. Our ushers did a magnificent job.

Above all, many prayers have ascended for weeks before our meetings started. In spite of all these facts, we can only bow in deep humility for the "showers of blessings" received.

John E. Grygo, Pastor.



Converts baptized by Rev. Adam Huber and received into the Faith Baptist Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Front row (left to right): Violet Wiebe, Joy Ernest, Douglas Johnson, David Wick, Steven Brachlow, Thomas Zoet, and Rev. Adam Huber, pastor.

Back row: Mrs. Ernest, Mrs. Bottomley, Gail Ernest, Roland Laskowski, Harold Hoff, and Richard Sowig.

Baptist Church, Washburn, North Dakota, Holds Reception for Rev. and Mrs. Otto Fiesel

The congregation of the Washburn Baptist Church, Washburn, N. Dak., held a welcome reception for their pastor, Rev. Otto Fiesel, his wife and daughters, Myrna and Marilyn. Corsages were presented to Mrs. Fiesel and daughters.

Rev. E. Broeckel of Bismarck, N. Dak., was the speaker of the evening. He spoke on the topic, "The Lord, His Church, and the Purpose of the Ministry." The text was taken from Matt. 16:13 to 16 and Eph. 4:12. Special musical numbers were a solo by Mrs. Edwin Birkholz, a duet by Darlene and Carol Grueneich, and a trio by Mrs. Fiesel, Myrna and Marilyn.

The pastor and family were welcomed by branches of the church. Speaking in behalf of the church was Orrin Enockson; Sunday School, Benjie Grueneich; Woman's Missionary Society, Mrs. Edward Grueneich; CBYF Orin Reiser; and Junior Church, three little girls sang a welcome song. Mr. Fiesel and family responded with words of appreciation, testimony and a solo by Mrs. Fiesel. At the close of this service they were extended the hand of fellowship and added to our membership. An enjoyable time of fellowship followed in the church dining hall and refreshments were served.

Rev. Otto Fiesel and family have already endeared themselves into our hearts since their coming here on October 12th. He began his ministry with us on Sunday, October 16th. We are looking forward to and pray that God may grant him a blessed and fruitful ministry here to the honor and glory of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Mrs. Orrin Enockson, Clerk.

A THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

A Christian life is not an imitation but a reproduction of the life of Christ.

—Henry Van Dyke.

Northwestern Conference

Baptismal Service, Harvest Festival and Student Night at Minneapolis' Faith Baptist Church

We of the Faith Baptist Church of Minneapolis, Minn., witnessed a beautiful baptismal service on Sunday, October 2. Our pastor, Rev. A. Huber, brought a challenging baptismal message after which twelve candidates were baptized upon confession of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior. Following the baptismal service, the hand of fellowship was extended to the twelve persons and we then observed the Lord's Supper with them.

Sunday evening, October 16, at our Harvest and Mission Festival, the platform was decorated with beautiful fall leaves, fruits and vegetables that our Lord had so bountifully provided for us. The program was in charge of the Sunday School with the boys and girls bringing the message in the form of recitations, playlets, and music. The children brought canned goods for thanksgiving baskets for the less fortunate.

Student night was held at our church on Sunday night, October 23. A special invitation was extended to the students of our denomination from many states of our Union that are attending the schools in the Twin Cities. An inspiring message was brought by Rev. L. Bienert, general secretary of the CBY Fellowship. A time of fellowship for the students and our young people was held after the service.

Leona Duemke, Reporter.

Midwest German Young People Hold Rally at Zion Baptist Church, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever." This word from Hebrews 13:8, which had been the theme for the great Baptist World Congress in London, England, this summer, was also chosen as theme for a



—Photo by Heinz Reinhardt

German young people from North American Baptist churches in Wisconsin, Michigan and the city of Chicago at their Youth Rally held at the Zion Church, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

two days' gathering of young people at the German Zion Baptist Church in Milwaukee, Wis., on October 8 and 9.

The Zion Church was a fine host to the approximately 80 young people who had come from different places in Wisconsin, from Chicago, and even as far as Benton Harbor and Detroit, Michigan, to have fellowship with one another, to share experiences and problems and to study the Word of God in their native German tongue. Rev. John Goetze from Kitchener, Ont., served as guest speaker in a most effective way and in a very fine spirit.

While Saturday afternoon was spent with discussions, Bible study and singing, the young people joined with the rest of the church membership for the Sunday services. Following Sunday School, held by the pastor of the Zion Church, Rev. Ernst Sakowski, a challenging message was delivered by Rev. John Goetze. His words were directed mainly to the young people requesting them to ascertain the will of God in their lives. An interesting program was presented to the church by the young people on Sunday afternoon.

All the guests were agreed about having had a most wonderful and blessed time.

Ilse Fuhrmann, Reporter.

Enthusiastic Meeting of the Wisconsin CBY Youth Rally at North Freedom, Wisconsin

The Wisconsin Commissioned Baptist Youth Fellowship met for its Fall Rally at the North Freedom Baptist

Church, North Freedom Wis., on October 22 and 23. Using the theme, "Strive to Win," and the song, "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus," our lives were strengthened anew as the young people were challenged to "Strive to Win" by "Turning Their Eyes Upon Jesus."

Our Rally opened on Saturday morning with two classes. The theme used was "This I Believe." Rev. Rudolph Woyke of Milwaukee taught the Intermediate group and Rev. Edgar Klatt of Kenosha taught the Seniors. Our business meeting was held during the afternoon under the capable leadership of our president, Melvin Behr. As our project for the coming year we have undertaken part support of the new staff units at the Bansa Hospital in the Cameroons.

Election of officers was held with the results as follows: president, Melvin Behr, Kenosha; vice-president, Richard Rabenhorst, Watertown; secretary, June Lee Way, Racine; treasurer, Donna Mae Rabenhorst, Watertown; dean, Rev. Wilmer Quiring, Milwaukee. The Camp Committee for the following year is made up as follows: Camp Director, Rev. G. Wesley Blackburn, Pound; Camp President, Myron Dudek, Racine; Camp Registrar, Rev. Jothan Benke, Watertown. Following the business meeting we enjoyed a tour to Devils Lake and the Wisconsin Dells.

The Saturday evening meeting began with a singspiration led by Rev. Jothan Benke, followed by the installation of officers led by Rev. Herman Palfenier. We were indeed very hap-

py to have Dr. M. L. Leuschner with us who brought us news from the Cameroons on our newly adopted Mission Project and also showed us a film on the Bansa Hospital and the Baptist World Congress in London.

The Sunday morning message was brought by Dr. Leuschner on the theme, "God's Riches for Our Abundance." The closing meeting was held Sunday afternoon with Dr. Leuschner speaking on "Strive to Win." Truly the hearts of the young people were touched by these stirring messages and we can say the lives of all were enriched spiritually.

The attendance at the Rally was the largest with 110 delegates from the visiting churches. The Temple Baptist Church of Milwaukee had the largest representation and was awarded the attendance plaque. We pray that the Lord will bless our young people in their respective churches and that the Lord will use each one of us for the furtherance of his work in our communities.

Donna Mae Rabenhorst, Reporter.

Pacific Conference

Stafford Baptist Church of Sherwood, Oregon, Experiences a Quiet, Gracious, Genuine Revival

"I just want to say how happy I am that some of my 'fallow ground' has been broken up." This was the general testimony of our dear people in the Stafford Baptist Church, Sherwood, Ore., during the last part of a quiet, gracious and, we trust, genuine revival. The joy the Lord gives has no bitterness in it. How wonderful it is to stand by and see the Lord working, calling the wanderer home, making the crooked straight, removing bitterness and coldness from many hearts!

Rev. Harry J. Wildeson, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Gladstone, Ore., served as our evangelist during our meetings from Oct. 16-30. The Lord answered our prayers abundantly, and we are anticipating a continuance of this work of the Spirit in the salvation of many souls whom the Lord has laid heavily upon our hearts.

We hope that this report of the Lord's working in our midst will encourage fellow-pilgrims whose lives (like ours) seem filled with Sloughs of Despond, Bypath Meadows, Giant Despairs, Doubting Castles; Look Up! God is faithful. It was necessary for him to lead us through the Valley of Humiliation before we caught sight of the mountain top experiences, but we praise him for every trial and trust that he will give us grace to walk in the valley again. Success is built on failure! The Highway of Holiness is reached by the lowly paths of failure, disappointment and humble, unceasing prayer. Brethren, pray for us as the Lord lays it upon your heart!

Ervin A. Gerlitz, Pastor.

(Other reports from the Pacific Conference appear on page 24. Editor.)

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.)

MRS. MARTHA HEIN of Killaloe, Ontario.

Mrs. Martha Hein of Killaloe, Ontario, was born in Lyndock Township, Ontario, on July 2, 1876. She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kuehl. Early in her life she trusted Jesus Christ as her personal Savior and was baptized at the age of 14 when she joined the Lyndock Baptist Church. She departed to be with the Lord on October 30, 1955, at the age of 79 years, 3 months and 28 days.

On February 24, 1898, she was joined in marriage to John Hein, who passed on one year ago. Their marriage was blessed with 11 children, one of whom died in infancy. Those living are: Fred of Killaloe; John of Spanish; Evelyn (Mrs. Wray Smith) of Nipissing Jct.; Dan of Windsor; Herb of Callander; Tessie (Mrs. Walter Kuehl); Anna (Mrs. George Kuehl); Isabel (Mrs. Reuben Kuehl), all of Killaloe; Jerry of Kitchener; and George of Toronto.

In 1919 she, with her family, moved to Killaloe where she made her home until her death. Besides her children, she leaves one sister and two brothers: Minnie of Kinburn, Ontario; Jack of Lyndock; and Robert of Killaloe. There are also 33 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, and a host of friends who mourn her passing.

The pastor spoke to the relatives and friends at the funeral service on the text, "For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body" (Phil. 3:20, 21).

Killaloe, Ontario
LAWRENCE W. GEORGE, Pastor.

MR. ALBERT H. CLOAD of Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. Albert H. Cload of Chicago, Ill., was born on February 23, 1900 and passed away on Wednesday morning, November 2nd. He died in his home after a long and serious illness. All that was humanly possible was done for him. He received the most faithful care on the part of his wife and family, yet it was God's will to take him out of this life into a world where sickness and suffering shall be no more. He was a life-long member of the East Side Baptist Church in Chicago, serving in time past on the board of trustees and as financial secretary.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth; and four children, two sons and two daughters: Robert and Albert Jr., of Chicago, Ill.; Mrs. Vernon Wolf of Crown Point, Ind.; and Mrs. Rudy Gast of Chicago, Ill.; and six grandchildren. A brother, Fred Cload of Bellwood, Ill., and a sister, Mrs. Gertrude Warman of River Grove, Ill., also mourn his untimely death.

The memorial service was held in the East Side Baptist Church on Saturday, November 5th. The very large attendance and the many floral and memorial gifts proved that he was highly esteemed by all who knew him. We sought comfort in the words: "My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts" (Isa. 55:8-9). Interment was in Cedar Park Cemetery, Chicago, Ill. May God grant unto all a glad and eternal reunion in heaven.

East Side Baptist Church,
Chicago, Illinois
HENRY R. SCHROEDER, Pastor.

MR. RUDOLPH GRUNWALD of Leduc, Alberta.

Mr. Rudolph Grunwald of Leduc, Alberta, was born in Rovna, Russia, on March 19, 1887. As a firm believer in Christ, he was baptized by Rev. F. A. Mueller in

1906, and received into the fellowship of the First Baptist Church, Leduc, Alta. Here he faithfully served his Lord in the capacity of church treasurer for several years, as a member of the Church Committee, as well as being active in the Sunday School.

He entered holy matrimony with Miss Minnie Hein on Dec. 2, 1914, who shared the joys and sorrows of life with him for almost 41 years. This union was blessed with six children, the first three of whom died in infancy. God blessed him with a friendly disposition, which also accounted for the many friends he had. He loved to be in the House of the Lord to have fellowship with God's children. He attended the services, even the last Sunday before he died. Now he beholds HIM in whom he believed.

While at work in their new home, which they intended to occupy in the near future, he suffered a stroke, from which he never rallied again. The Lord called his servant to be with himself at the age of 68 years, 7 months and one day.

His loss is mourned by his dear wife, Minnie Grunwald; two daughters: Mrs. Helen Jeske and Mrs. Philis Brown, both of Edmonton; one son, Elmer, of Leduc, Alta.; five sisters: Mrs. Pauline Bisset, Seattle, Wash.; Mrs. Louise Mellon, Edmonton, Alta.; Mrs. Mathilda Brickman, Forestburg, Alta.; Mrs. Lydia Roth, Camrose, Alta.; Mrs. Alvina Coburn, Calgary, Alta.; and a host of relatives, friends and his beloved church. May God's comforting presence and sustaining favor rest upon all who mourn his passing. The undersigned and Rev. E. P. Wahl spoke words of comfort in German and English, respectively, and the Revs. T. Haire and H. Pfeifer led in prayer and Scripture reading.

First Baptist Church,
Leduc, Alberta, Canada
J. C. KRAENZLER, Pastor.

MR. HENRY MILLER of Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Mr. Henry Miller of Aberdeen, S. Dak., was born on February 20, 1895 near Ashley, N. Dak., and passed away at the Miller Hospital of St. Paul, Minn., on Friday, October 21, 1955 at the age of 60 years, 8 months, and one day. In February of 1908 he experienced the new birth in Christ in the Berlin Baptist Church under the ministry of Rev. H. G. Bens.

He became a member of that church, but when he moved to Ashley he transferred his membership so that he could be active in the church near his home. When he retired from the farm and came to Aberdeen, S. Dak., to make his home he became a member of the First Baptist Church of this city, but after the Calvary Baptist Church was organized he transferred his membership to the church in which he could feel at home. Here he remained as a loyal and faithful member until his sudden death.

On December 23, he was united in marriage to Miss Freda Fischer in the Ashley Baptist Church. On June 28, 1954 his wife passed away and went to be with her Lord. Three children were born to bring joy into the home.

Brother Miller had been in ill health for the past ten months during which he often suffered great pains. He had been under the doctor's care during this time and two weeks before his death he entered the Miller Hospital in St. Paul for surgery and treatment from which he was making progress toward recovery when suddenly he developed a severe pain in his chest. His physician ordered X-rays at once and while he was being taken to the X-ray room he suddenly passed away.

His death leaves to mourn one son, Harvey, at home; one daughter, Mrs. Florence Saylor of Vellego, Calif.; four grandchildren; two brothers: Gottlieb and John A., of Lodi, Calif.; two sisters: Mrs. Lydia Schaeffer of Alberta, Canada, and Mrs. Selma Reich of British Columbia; and many other relatives and friends. The funeral services were conducted in the First Baptist Church where many came to pay their last respects to the earthly remains of our departed brother.

Calvary Baptist Church,
Aberdeen, South Dakota
THOMAS D. LUTZ, Pastor.

MRS. OTTO R. SCHROEDER of Anaheim, California.

Every now and then God permits all of his "billows and waves" to sweep over one of his beloved children, that such an afflicted one might become to all the rest of us "an example of suffering affliction, and of patience." Such an one was Mrs. Otto Robert Schroeder, nee Lydia Kruse, of Anaheim, Calif., who in the providence of God was called upon to bear much suffering, but who by his grace not only endured that suffering patiently, but used and transformed it into a life of great sweetness, faith and strength. Born in Kankakee, Ill., on October 10, 1875, Mrs. Schroeder early gave her life to Christ and was baptized on April 15, 1888 by Rev. A. Vogel. On May 21, 1898 she was joined in marriage with Rev. Otto Robert Schroeder, who preceded her in death a year ago. Just five days before her 80th birthday, she went to her heavenly rest on October 5, 1955.

Through the years, Mrs. Schroeder served as a minister's wife in six of our churches. Despite her ill health, she was a faithful helpmate and a wise counselor to her loving husband, who cared for her and was her nurse as long as his health permitted. The last church in which they served was the Bethel Baptist Church of Anaheim, Calif., where Mrs. Schroeder was a member until the time of her death.

Mrs. Schroeder was blessed of the Lord with a family of six children. Two of these preceded their mother in death during their infancy. Four of them remained to rally close around their mother during her many years of illness and to give themselves lovingly and unstintingly to her care. They are Mr. Walter Schroeder of Ontario, Calif.; Mrs. Walter Grosser of Oak Park, Ill.; Mrs. Frederick Berger of Los Angeles, Calif.; and Mrs. Herbert Stabbert of Anaheim, Calif. Following in the footsteps of their parents, all of them are active in the Lord's work. In addition, Mrs. Schroeder is survived by one sister, Mrs. F. C. Krueger of Kingman, Arizona; six grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

No more fitting testimony to the faith and courage Mrs. Schroeder manifested through the years could be given than these lines from a poem entitled, "My Heavenly Home," which she wrote a few years ago:

"My Savior dear awaits me there,
His face I soon shall see,
And all the longings of my heart
In him fulfilled will be.
O heavenly home, home of my soul,
Of all my homes the best!
While countless ages onward roll,
I'll find in thee my rest."

That rest is now hers. Her longings are fulfilled. And we who remain behind praise God for the love that keeps his saints going through the years and gives them entrance at last into their heavenly home.

Bethel Baptist Church,
Anaheim, California
BERTHOLD JACKSTEIT, Pastor.

VISIT TO WINBURNE, PA.

(Continued from Page 18)

were then presented with a beautiful all-chrome Dormeyer mixer with all attachments as a remembrance of his past service to them and to the Lord. Refreshments were then served and a joyous Christian time was had by all.

In the past 15 years this little church has been growing physically and spiritually. They have added two Sunday School rooms, chimes that can be heard over the countryside, and remodeled the building inside and out. They have been host to four conferences and held their first "homecoming service" in 1954. May God continue to bless the work of Brother Zinz in this little community!

Mrs. Betty Hartman, Reporter.

Pacific Northwest Association at Tacoma, Wash., Considers "Baptists, Their Message and Mission"

With the thought-provoking theme, "Baptists—Their Message and Mission," the Pacific Northwest Association convened at the Calvary Baptist Church of Tacoma, Wash., from October 19 to 23. Opening with the stirring singing of "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" and being greeted graciously by Rev. Robert Hess, pastor of the host church, we launched into the theme of the association by hearing a stimulating and refreshing message by Rev. F. Klein on, "What Baptists Believe About Salvation."

During the ensuing sessions the pastors of the churches delivered their messages or papers covering such subjects as Heritage, the Bible, Religious Liberty, Church Government, Baptism, Communion, Holy Spirit, and the Last Things.

Our two guest speakers both contributed to our over-all theme bringing splendid messages on their assignments. Rev. J. C. Gunst, our new promotional secretary, exuberantly gave his impressions of the recent Baptist World Congress held in London, England. His message, including slides of London and of his European trip, indicated what "Baptists are doing in Europe Today." Rev. Howard Roth spoke very informatively at the Women's Missionary Program. (See separate report.)

Officers for the coming year are: Rev. C. Remple, moderator; Mr. H. Schmautz, vice-moderator; Mr. H. Schmunk, secretary; Mr. A. Krueger, treasurer; Rev. O. Meth, member of Pacific Conference Mission Committee; Rev. R. Hess, alternate; Rev. F.

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Klein, representative to Pacific Conference Nominating Committee; Rev. R. Hess, alternate.

Saturday evening found the young people and Sunday School workers banqueting, singing, responding to roll call, transacting business, and listening to a short devotional talk by Rev. Howard Roth in the basement of the First Baptist Church. "Dare to be Different," the message by Mr. Gunst on Sunday afternoon climaxed the young people's program.

Meditation remarks on 1 Corinthians 13, enjoyable music rendered by various groups, delicious food served by the Tacoma folk, and "rain-free" weather provided by our God, all these additions to the afore-mentioned program resulted in making this Association an enjoyable occasion.

Rev. W. Dingfield, Reporter.

Woman's Missionary Union Sessions at the Pacific Northwest Association in Tacoma, Wash.

The "spotlight" was focused on the Woman's Missionary Union of the Pacific Northwest Association held at

the Calvary Church of Tacoma on Friday, October 21. Highlighting the full evening's program was the informative message brought by our missionary, Rev. Howard Roth, home on furlough from the Cameroons. In his message which gave a complete picture of what we are doing in the Cameroons he stressed the importance of training the natives to take over the work of the Lord. They must teach, train, evangelize, and hold their own meetings.

After the song service which was led by Mrs. S. Remple of Missoula, Mrs. F. Stabbert, president of the local society, spoke effective words of greeting. Mrs. J. Broeder of Paul, Idaho, our president, responded, followed by the reading of Scripture by Mrs. C. Schlimmer of Odessa, and prayer by Mrs. W. Dingfield of Startup.

The remainder of the evening program consisted of the welcome to the new minister's wife, Mrs. W. Dingfield; a memorial service for two members led by Mrs. P. Krueger of Colfax; responses by the various societies; and the installation of new officers conducted by Rev. R. Hess of Tacoma.

Previous to the enjoyable evening service, the women had their business meeting in the afternoon with Mrs. J. Broeder, presiding. The devotional thoughts were brought by Mrs. Howard Roth from John 21:15-17. Regular business followed with the newly elected officers being: Mrs. C. Remple, president, and Mrs. W. Dingfield, secretary-treasurer. The evening missionary offering, amounting to \$102.66, and the annual dues totaling \$51.50 will be sent for Church Extension, the Spanish-American Mission in Colorado and the General Missions.

Mrs. W. Dingfield, Secretary.

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