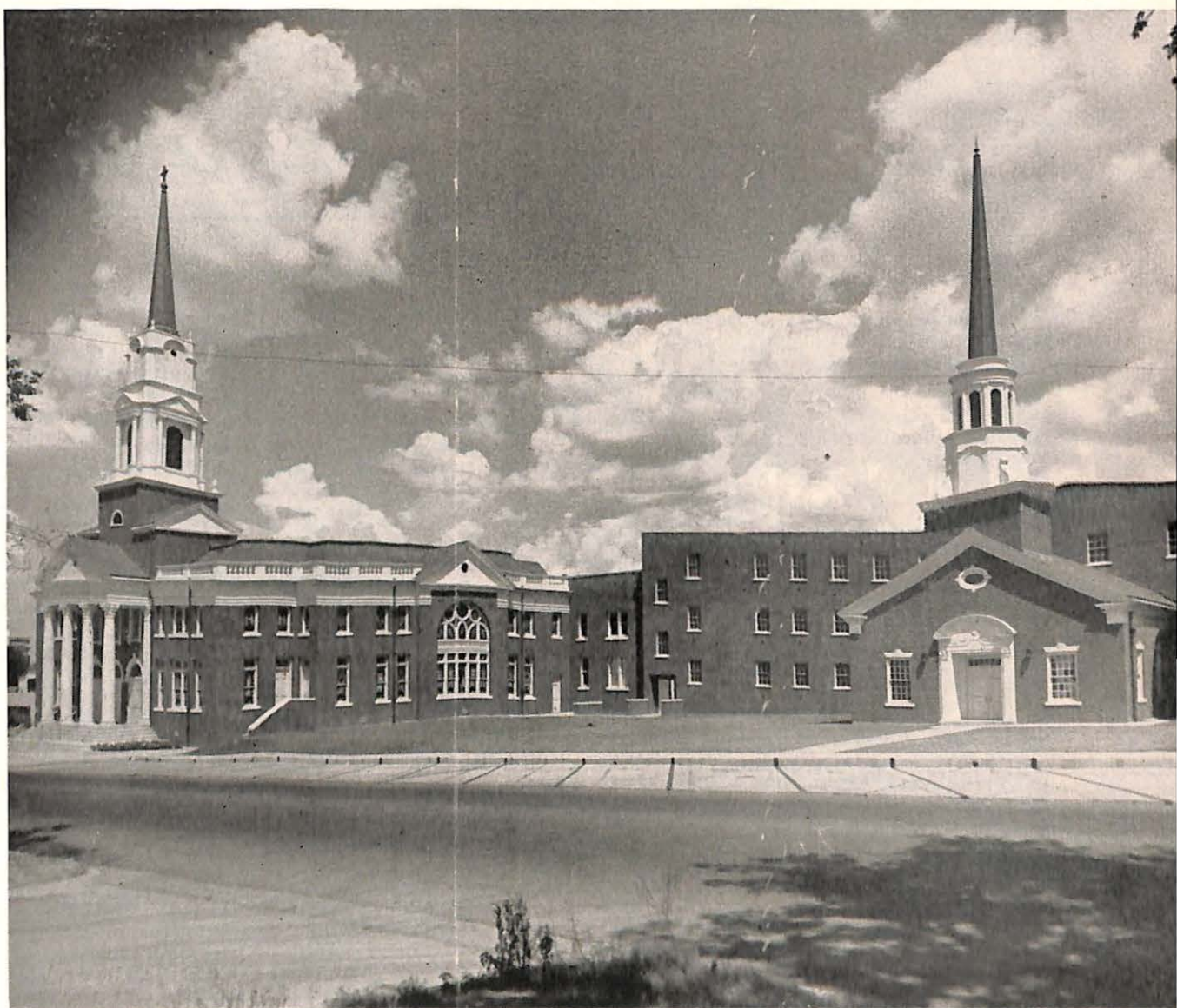


Baptist Herald

• • • NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE



**May
19
1955**

Columbus Avenue Baptist Church, Waco, Texas

**The Holy Spirit
Impressions of Africa
Southern Conference Churches**

March of Events

● Progress towards Lutheran unity in America was made at a series of meetings in Chicago, Ill., devoted to that purpose. At one of the meetings, representatives of four Lutheran bodies planning merger tentatively approved a major portion of the first draft of a proposed constitution for a new Church of more than 1,800,000 members. Involved in the merger plan are the Evangelical Lutheran Church, American Lutheran Church, United Evangelical Lutheran Church, and Lutheran Free Church.

● Missionary broadcasters from all parts of the world meet June 16-19 at the World Conference on Missionary Radio in Chicago, Ill., at Moody Bible Institute. The Conference is designed to help coordinate missionary efforts in an all-out offensive around the world. On exhibit will be startling new technical developments—new weapons for the missionaries—making possible the evangelization of the world in this generation. The problems of government relations in these crisis days, programing, equipment, personnel, etc., will be freely discussed in panels and workshops. World-renowned speakers, up-to-the-minute films and the best in radio music will be featured.

● Church construction activity, hitting a pace of nearly two million dollars a day during what normally is the slow season for building operations, set a new record for the month of February in the United States, the Departments of Labor and Commerce reported. A total of \$53,000,000 worth of construction was undertaken by churches in February, compared with \$41,000,000 in the same month a year ago. For the first two months of this year religious building activity was 30 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of 1954. Construction by non-public schools and colleges, most of which are church-affiliated, also set a new mark in February with \$39,000,000 worth of new buildings put in place.

● In the recent election in Japan, 15 Christians were among the 476 persons named to the lower house of the Diet. This proportion is about ten times that of Christians in the population. Among the 15 are some prominent in national life: J. Kawakami, a lifelong Christian who is head of the Right Socialist party; Mr. Kitamura, finance minister in the Ashida cabinet who is head of the Christian publishing society and bookstore and a zealous elder in one of the Kyodan churches; and Mr. Sasamori, former minister of state, who under the new government will

have an important office in relation to public morality. Of the 1,020 candidates in the contest for seats in the lower house, 23 were Christians. This figure does not include certain marginal Christians like the new prime minister himself. Mr. Hatoyama was baptized by a Universalist many years ago, but has long had no close connection with any church.

● At training conferences held in April in five widely separated sections of the country, a band of 99 young student ministers have launched into an intensive study of the United States National Parks. Intent on preparing themselves for one of the world's most unusual ministries, they

Baptist Briefs

● Japanese Baptists have adopted goals for evangelism for 1955, which include sending missionaries and pastors into the capital cities of three new prefectures (states)—Aomori, Niigata, and Matsue. Of the 46 national prefectures, 27 have already been entered by Baptist missions.

● Seventy-five singers from 33 Baptist churches in the Atlanta, Ga., Association will make a 30-day tour of Europe, singing at the Golden Jubilee Congress in London and at Baptist mission stations on the continent. The group includes eleven choir directors and organists, and 26 soloists.

● A multi-million dollar TV and radio program to reach 65,000,000 unchurched Americans is being launched by the Southern Baptist Convention. The Baptist Hour, heard over 400 stations, was heard in New York, Cleveland, Chicago, San Francisco, and Denver beginning March 20.

● An invitation from the All Soviet Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists, signed by its chairman, Yakov I. Zhidkov and its general secretary, Alexander Karev, to visit the Baptist churches of the U.S.S.R. has been received by Dr. Arnold T. Ohrn, General Secretary of the Baptist World Alliance; Dr. V. Carney Hargroves, president of the American Baptist Convention; Dr. Theodore F. Adams, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Richmond, Virginia; and Dr. J. H. Jackson, president of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A. Inc.

are soaking up all the information they can on how to give spiritual guidance to some 200,000 summertime visitors to the National Parks. From a small-scale beginning four years ago, the program has grown to include 21 National Parks and Monuments from Big Bend, Texas, to Mt. McKinley, Alaska. The remainder are in the western states. Designed as a service to Park visitors of all communions, the students themselves represent a total of 17 Protestant denominations. They come from 23 theological seminaries and 52 colleges in 32 states and the District of Columbia. Since its founding as a National Council program, some three years ago, the National Parks ministry has served thousands of summertime visitors through worship services and personal counseling. Observers have noted that it has also been instrumental in reviving the interest of many hundreds of non-church goers in their home town churches.

● Dr. Arnold T. Ohrn represented the Baptist World Alliance at special ceremonies March 28 at the German Diplomatic Mission in Washington, D. C., when three church and welfare organizations were given tokens of the gratitude of the German people for the aid received in the years following 1945. Dr. Georg Federer, Charge d'Affairs ad interim of the Mission, presented the Alliance with two candleabra and several drawings, the works of contemporary German artists. "Through these gifts grateful Germans are seeking to reach every one of the unknown benefactors in thirty nations, asking them to accept these tokens as a sign of a heartfelt and permanent gratitude from one human being to another," the citation read.

● The first Baptist church to be established in Africa was founded in Sierra Leone in 1792, according to an account in the February 17 "Baptist Times" by the Rev. F. C. Morton. Ex-slaves repatriated from England by the St. George's Bay Company and from Nova Scotia in a similar colonizing scheme built a Baptist church entirely with their own resources and on their own initiative. In 1794 Freetown was destroyed by invaders, but the town was rebuilt and the Baptist Missionary Society sent two missionaries to establish a mission in the interior. This mission had to be abandoned but the Freetown church survived and in 1853 had two mission churches. Now Sierra Leonean Baptists have appealed for help to the British Baptists.

(Continued on Page 7)

Editorial

What the Spirit Saith to the Churches

THE HOLY SPIRIT is the ever present, motivating, empowering Person of the Triune God in the life of the Christian believer. He should be more real as an authoritative Master to us than Jesus was to his disciples when he walked this earth. This truth was given classical expression by John Owen in his book, "The Holy Spirit." "The disciples were no longer to know Jesus after the flesh following his resurrection, for though it was a great privilege to know him, yet it was a much greater to enjoy him in the dispensation of the Spirit."

This recognition of the Holy Spirit's ministry makes it exceedingly important to hear what the Spirit saith to the churches. It makes the theme of the General Conference to be held in Waco, Texas, from June 6 to 12, sound like a spiritual summons of the first magnitude. God wants to speak to us through the prepared program. He wants the glory of his truth to break through into our minds and churches.

If you will study the letters to the churches of Asia Minor (Revelation 2-3) you will see that "What the Spirit Saith to the Churches" can be summed up in these words: "Remember your first love to Christ!" The church at Ephesus had left its first love. The church in Sardis had a name that testified of life but it was spiritually dead. The church of the Laodiceans did not know that they were spiritually wretched and miserable and poor. "Be zealous, therefore, and repent" was the call of the Spirit!

Our General Conference program presents this concern to our churches. We must recapture the fervor of the New Testament Church, the glow of an "all-out" love for Christ, the beauty of purified and spiritually refined lives. From the opening keynote message of the moderator to the stirring evangelistic summons and through to the call to dedication at the youth meetings, we shall be made keenly aware of "What the Spirit Saith to the Churches."

As you reread these messages to the angels of the churches, you will have your ears opened to this repeated emphasis: Consider God's open doors! The church at Philadelphia had an open door before it that God alone could open and that no man could shut. To the faithful ones at Thyatira the promise was announced to give them power over the nations. It is picturesquely expressed in these words that the Spirit will give such "the morning star" (Rev. 2:28). They will take the Gospel upon open highways to the nations of the world.

The General Conference at Waco, Texas, will stir and inspire many hearts with its summons to missionary advance. The story of God's wonders in our missionary outreach during recent years will be depicted in messages, exhibits and song. But opportunities still beckon to us. We are only beginning the Church Extension projects. We as North American Baptists facing these open doors must heed "What the Spirit Saith to the Churches." "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith to the churches."

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Holy Spirit, Faithful Guide

*
"Holy Spirit, all divine,
Dwell within this heart of mine;
Cast down ev'ry idol throne,
Reign supreme—and reign alone"



The worshipful sanctuary of the Faith Baptist Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota, looking toward the pulpit and illuminated cross over the choir loft. Rev. Adam Huber is pastor of the church

Who Is the Holy Spirit?

By REV. W. W. KNAUF of Elk Grove, California

TO THE BULK of humanity the Holy Spirit is merely a myth, or a spiritual influence, or an unknown something. These facts make an answer to our topic-question exceedingly important. The ignorance concerning the Holy Spirit in both Christian and non-Christian circles is almost tragic. How can we account for the fact that, almost 2000 years after the descent of the Holy Spirit, people are in such darkness concerning him?

There is no doubt that failure to preach about him, on the one hand, and failure to believe him, on the other, are the main reasons for this prevailing ignorance today.

Since I am to confine my message to the nature and personality of the Holy Spirit, I shall endeavor with the aid of the Spirit of God to make these facets of the third Person in the Trinity shine forth in all of their divine splendor.

THE SPIRIT IS A PERSON

In the above paragraph, we have already made a concession which we consider of fundamental importance, namely, that the Holy Spirit is a Person. When we speak of the third Person of the Trinity, we merely have in mind the order in which the Holy Spirit is mentioned in the New Testament in conjunction with the Father and the Son.

The fact that the Holy Spirit is a Person is denied by many. Since "a spirit has no flesh and bones," no features whereby to identify or be-

hold him, it is easy for a sceptical mind to entertain unscriptural opinions for him. But a faith which concedes that the Holy Spirit is an influence only is doing him gross injustice and robs the Spirit of God of that which is inherently his.

The Holy Spirit is a person nevertheless and his personality is expressly declared in John 14:16-17; 16:13-15 and elsewhere in the Bible, where Christ uses the pronoun "HE" when speaking of the Holy Spirit. Christians should guard against using the pronoun "it" when speaking of him.

His personality is revealed perhaps

Filled With the Holy Spirit

By REV. H. J. WALTEREIT, McDermot Avenue Baptist Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba

JESUS SAID of himself that he had come so that his people might have life abundantly. It is not the will of God that our Christian lives should be partial or weak or sickly. The abundant life which Jesus came to bring will always be marked by being Spirit-filled!

What a priceless gift is abounding health! We place a premium on healthy bodies and do our best to attain them, even to the extent of making sacrifices toward that end. In the spiritual realm it is equally important that we learn the secret of health and strength. An overflowing spiritual life is necessary if we are to accomplish anything positive and worthwhile.

even more profoundly by his works. For God's Word informs us concerning him that he knows, searches the hearts, convicts, guides, reproves, redeems, sanctifies. These and many other acts assure us that they are not workings of an impersonal force but a Person.

HE IS GOD!

There can be no mistaking but that all the glory of the Godhead is equally shared by the Holy Spirit. Nowhere in Scripture is there any kind of insinuation that he does not hold equal status with the Father and the Son. Thus such Scriptural designations as "The Spirit of the Lord," "The Spirit of Jesus Christ," "Spirit of God"

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We are admonished in Ephesians 5:18 to be "filled with the Spirit." This fulness has two functions, a general and a special one. Its general function is to fit us for all the normal activities of life. Life is not made up of high hours, but normal activities. It is the function of the Spirit's fulness to enable Christians to live their ordinary lives fully and gloriously.

Too often we think only in terms of enthusiastic gatherings of God's people, of the mountain top experiences. But life for the most part must be spent in the valleys where tasks are to be carried out, and where we become weary. Our Christian standing does not free us from the ordinary experiences of mankind, but by being

Spirit-filled we are enabled to pass through them all with quiet hearts and an abounding life that will make all the days glorious.

Outstanding hours also come, and it is the joy of the Spirit-filled life to be prepared for these. Special tasks and emergencies call for special power, and this power is given to those who live the full life of the Spirit. The Spirit knows no weariness, no surprises. Under his leadership we shall be prepared for all of life.

The Spirit-filled life is also the life of Christlike conduct, naturally so, since both Jesus and the Spirit are God. The measure of our likeness to Christ will be the measure of the Spirit's fulness.

Paul, in Ephesians 5:18-21, mentions four marks of the Spirit-filled life. The first has to do with our speech. Perhaps there is no single place where we need more the Spirit's power than in the control of the tongue. The second mark is a song in the heart, regardless of outward conditions, such as Paul and Silas showed in jail at Philippi. How sad it is that the world sees professing Christians just as much overcome with the sorrows of life, just as much troubled by its difficulties, as impatient under its testing hours as those who make no such profession.

YIELDED TO THE SPIRIT

The third mark is "giving thanks always for all things." "Always" is a big word. "In all things" makes it still more impressive. It allows no times or conditions, no experiences or circumstances, no sorrows or disasters to shadow the gratitude of the heart. The ever-thankful life is the happy life. The fourth mark, "submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of Christ," pictures Spirit-filled Christians without any trace left of self-seeking, being willing to serve and not anxious to rule. What a glorious thing it would be if it would become the constant mark of our church life!

The Spirit-filled life is the life of thrill and enthusiasm. It is in our natures to want thrills. Here is the finest that can come to a human heart, one that leaves no sting behind. Have you ever led a soul to Christ, comforted the broken-hearted, or strengthened the faith of someone who was ready to give up? Those are just some of the thrills of the service of Christ.

To be filled with the Spirit does not mean to be peculiar, no more than Christ was peculiar, "the man among men." But it does mean to have drudgery changed to delight, pain to rejoicing, sorrow to hope, weakness to strength, fear to courage, defeat to victory. It also means we must open all the doors of our lives. There can be no rooms reserved for other things or other leaders. The Spirit must have full sway!

The Experience of the Holy Spirit

By REV. ALVIN WETTER of Victor, Iowa

SINCE THE DAY when God came down to dwell amongst his people Israel (Ex. 25:8), he has been dwelling among men. About 4 or 5 B.C. he came to tabernacle with men in the person of Jesus. Since Pentecost he has been dwelling with us in the person of the Holy Spirit. But not only does he tabernacle with us today, but if we are Christians, he tabernacles in us (1 Cor. 6:19).

The indwelling Spirit is God's gift to believers. This is stated positively in John 7:37-39. "He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spoke he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive.)" This fact is stated negatively in Romans 8:9. "Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his."

Notice, "Spirit" does not just refer to a disposition, as we sometimes say, "He sure has a good spirit (disposition)." "Spirit" is capitalized. It refers to a Person, the third member of the Trinity. There is no such thing in this generation of being a Christian without being indwelt by the Spirit!

WHY THE SPIRIT IS GIVEN

"And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts" (Gal. 4:6). We do not receive the Spirit because we became perfect in our walk or diligent in prayer (although we should be). We receive the Spirit simply because we are God's sons through faith. Union with Christ, sonship of God, and the indwelling of the Spirit are three inseparable blessings we receive when we place our faith in Christ. "This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?" (Gal. 3:2.)

How good must we be to receive the Spirit? Recall what the Word says to

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT

(Continued from Page 4)

abound, completely identifying the Holy Spirit with the Godhead.

If this be so, then he also shares in the divine attributes of God by virtue of which he is eternal, omnip-

WHAT THE SPIRIT SAITH TO THE CHURCHES

Theme for the
31st General Conference
June 6-12, 1955

Waco, Texas

Pray for God's blessing upon
the Conference sessions!

the Christians at Corinth. "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you?" (1 Cor. 6:19.) Recall that the Corinthians were not what we would call "good Christians." 1 Corinthians 3:1-3 describes them as carnal (fleshly). The Moffatt translation describes them as "behaving like ordinary man."

In 1 Cor. 5:1-2 we even have a more severe description of them. Paul tells Corinth to get cleaned up, not in order to receive, but because they already have received the Spirit. Not only is God looking down and observing our unpleasing conduct, but God (in the Spirit) is actually going with us in our bodies to every place we go. Think back, Christian friend, where have you been taking the indwelling Spirit?

LENGTH OF THE SPIRIT'S STAY

Jesus said, "And he (the Father) shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever" (John 14:16). In the Old Testament the Spirit sometimes left after having dwelt for a time in the person (1 Sam. 16:14; Ps. 51:11). But since Pentecost God has been much more gracious to us. Not all Christians are in a position to be used of the Spirit, for not all are clean vessels. But every Christian can be used of the Spirit, because he is already present in us.

Paul found certain disciples of John at Ephesus. He asked, "Did ye receive the Holy Spirit when ye believed?" They replied, "Nay, we did not so much as hear whether the Holy Spirit was given" (Acts 19:1-7). Paul's suspicions were soon confirmed. These disciples had been baptized with John's baptism of repentance. They had not been baptized in believing faith on Jesus. But when they believed on Jesus, they received the Spirit. Have you received the Holy Spirit? You have, if you have believed on Jesus!

otent, omnipresent, omniscient. Since we accept God's testimony as infallible truth, we most surely believe that the Holy Spirit is a real Person, a divine Person, the very God and has co-existed with God the Father and God the Son from eternity. Even though he was active in the creative works of God, he was not fully recognized until Pentecost when he came as the Comforter to make his abode in the hearts of believers.

May we not fail to recognize him in his divine excellency and glory! If we believe that the Holy Spirit is the greatest unused power in the world, we who believe want all there is of him. If we have eyes for the exquisite beauty of his Person, we become impressed that he wants to use us. May we yield ourselves to him for sweet and blessed communion!

Impressions of Africa

The First Article for the "Baptist Herald" by **DR. KENNETH JONES**, Medical Missionary at the New Hope Settlement in the Cameroons



Motorboy Shadrach at the New Hope Settlement in the Cameroons with a brass Fouban mask as photographed by Missionary Laura E. Reddig

"WHAT'S THAT, Daddy?" piped Barry as he momentarily stopped running his toy lorry along the hearth in the pleasant warmth of the open fire and cocked his head slightly toward the window.

"Why I don't hear anything," said daddy. "O, you mean that? Just a cricket chirping, I think." In the fresh open mind of childhood, the world is a continual sequence of exciting new discoveries.

PRIMITIVE CUSTOMS

Since arriving in Africa, we too have found a childlike fascination in the newness of everything. New scenery and climate, new ways of living, new people and customs, and new medical experiences have cascaded about us like the slim waterfalls that growl down the cragged Bamenda hills to tumble into the fast moving stream and disappear in the misty green valley beyond. The modern, red-roofed buildings of New Hope Settlement snuggle insignificantly at the foot of those majestic hills and contrast sharply with the neighboring mud-walled, grass-thatched huts to seem symbolic of the hiatus between the steady, age-old African way of living and thinking and the new ideas, ambitions and enterprises that have suddenly disrupted them.

We feel that we have traveled not only across the sea but also back through time into the pre-history of our race when we watch one of the native women primitively tilling her farm with a stubby, bent-handled spade or grinding and pounding grain while she squats on the earthen floor of the one roomed house which her own hands have shaped from that same red earth. As her bare feet pad silently along the winding trails, her graceful form almost hidden by the tall grass and a huge head load shading the patient infant bobbing on her back, she could be, except for her ebony skin, the reincarnation of one

of the inhabitants of the crumbling, centuries-old cliff dwellings of the American Southwest or of some ancient, long forgotten village in England or Europe.

There is an Old Testament quality in the careful regulation by ceremony and law of all activity from the proper behavior of each individual in respect to others to the proper day and method of planting yams. This is felt also in the authority of the family patriarch, the zeal to carry on the family name, the planned marriages and the not infrequent polygamy which fit into the pattern of African society, the basis of which is the closely knit family unit. In some tribes the parallel with Israel even extends to ritual circumcision on the eighth day.

CHRIST, THE "BRIDGE"

Even among those who have never heard the Gospel, there is, I understand, an almost universal concept of one high God, great but unapproachable. What a good starting point for telling them of the Lord Jesus Christ who is the "Bridge" that brings us into close family-like relationship with God! And Africans should not find it too difficult to understand the Father's

DR. KENNETH JONES

After attending the dedication services for the new buildings at the New Hope Settlement last fall, Dr. Jones went to the Uzuakoli Leprosy Research Center in Nigeria for important studies on the treatment of lepers. He returned to his family and to his post as medical missionary at the New Hope Settlement at Mbingo about April 1st. We hope that this fine descriptive article from his pen will be the first of many to come from Dr. Jones!

EDITOR.

love, for they greatly love their own children and give them the best care they know how—unless their normal emotions are unfortunately overruled by some fear or scruple.

We have been impressed by the good behavior of African children and have yet to see a small child harshly disciplined in public. Their quietness in church puts our own children to shame and the stoic, unflinching attitude of most of them to medical examination and even to penicillin injections is amazing.

MISERY AND FEAR

One night we were called to the hospital to find there a lovely little girl, desperately ill. Her head was thrown back, back arched, and teeth clenched. Tetanus! For an hour we worked in the shadowy lamp light trying to get the necessary large dose of anti-toxin into her delicate veins. Her misery, fear and the many needle punctures brought forth only a whisper to her father in her native tongue, "I do hope you don't do this to me again." Next morning her dark skinned, little body was still rigid but she seemed to be holding her own until a forcible convulsion ended her life.

The black man's scepticism of the white man's motives has great humbling value. He finds it difficult to believe that we are not here to our own advantage. The carpenters asked us why it took so long to get a doctor to come and avail himself of the fine opportunities at this new hospital and to live in this fine house they had built.

But the black man's appreciation can be humbling, too. Although our efforts had failed on the little girl with tetanus, her father told me in halting English that he had no words to explain his gratitude for the help we had given. I have seen more children die in my first three months in Africa than in as many years at home. Their tenuous hold on life must add to the tenderness their parents have

toward them. As one father told us, "The pekings for this country they no go be with we for long."

LEPROSY RESEARCH CENTER

Since January 1955 I have been at the Uzuakoli Leprosy Research Center in Nigeria. This morning as patients were being given their weekly medical checkup, a cluster of laughing youngsters rolicked outside the window and one by one disappeared with a shout of recognition as their names were called. For a brief moment their glistening faces, now mock-solemn, reappeared before us and then their ill suppressed energy broke forth again as they skipped and bounded like antelopes out of the opposite doorway. How pleasant it is to watch these well-developed, undeformed children—some with the lean muscular look of adolescence and others with their chubby baby curves augmented by the milk and meat fed them here—something they rarely get in their own homes.

But there are some who have not received modern treatment early enough in their disease and they limp by on swollen, toeless feet with gnarled, clumsy hands and dimming vision. Leprosy in adults can be terrible enough; in children it can tear the heart. We hope our leprosy work in the Cameroons will soon result in children crippled by this disease becoming rare and at last ceasing to be.

NEW HOPE SETTLEMENT

The many activities to be initiated and the problems to be solved in order thus to control leprosy could be overwhelming. The right people must be found to staff the hospital, surgery, and clinic; the welfare, rehabilitation, and therapy departments; the school and the self-support program. But God is good, and through your prayers and ours HE will provide us with both the solutions to our problems and the right men to work them out.

I used to think of the need chiefly in terms of buildings and equipment. Now I am persuaded that our greater need is for consecrated Christian men and women. Otherwise our efforts will fail not only spiritually but medically as well.

Before I came to Nigeria, a considerable number of non-leprosy patients came to New Hope Settlement needing surgical and hospital care. Never did one of them agree to going to the government hospital relatively nearby, for although they admitted that the doctor there was good, they claimed that they would not be given proper nursing care nor even their medicines unless they paid exorbitant bribes. "We will surely die there," they cried as they set off on the long journey to Bansa Hospital whose Christian staff assured their getting adequate care.

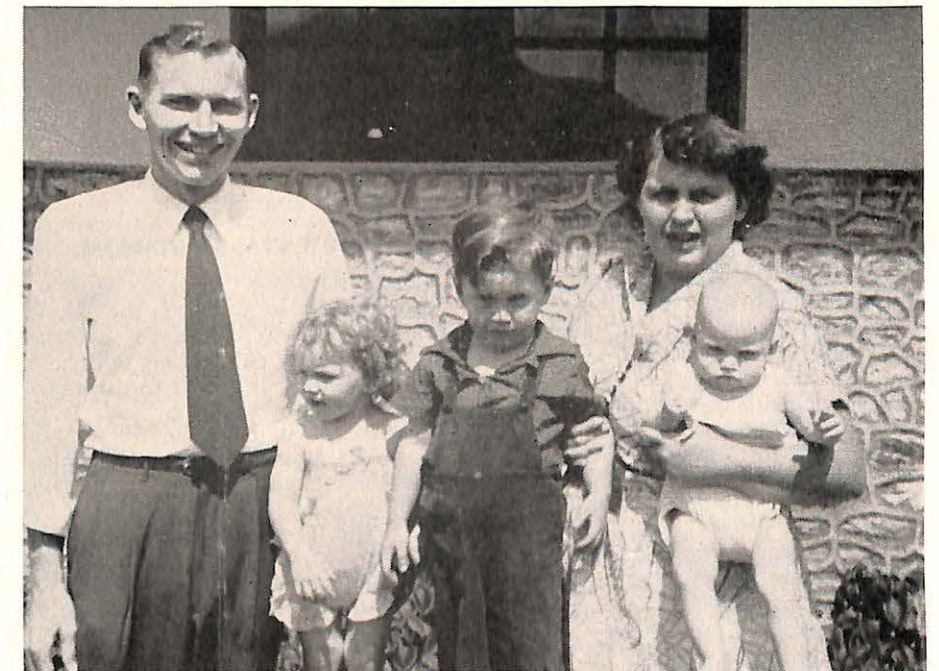
Valuable as it may be in teaching the people their responsibility toward their own sick, the increasing government support of the mission hospitals in Nigeria results in a dual allegiance and, because of the infiltration of personnel without a born-again experience, a compromised witness defeating the original purpose of bringing spiritual healing as well as physical. Many of these workers are second generation, nominal Christians or have been trained in mission schools but their essentially pagan outlook is only sugar-coated with civilized manners.

But there are bright spots as well, for God is able to do far more than we ask or expect. The African has

proclaim no new truth but they are alive. They come from his heart and reveal the real contact that he makes with God.

Our own Samuel Mobanka, a lad who has just completed a leprosy training course, came to New Hope Settlement against the opposition of his entire village. He enters this work only because God has worked in his heart. This faith he has in Christ is also opposed by his Moslem father who recently informed Sam that the girl intended for him has refused to be his wife unless he leaves leprosy work.

This is our need: Spirit-filled men! Pray that all our mission's work might be productive toward this end.



Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Jones and their family in front of their new home at the New Hope Settlement for leprosy patients

many excellent qualities by nature, and the most wonderful thing to see on this continent is the beautiful life than can result when he is regenerated by the Spirit of God.

RADIANT CHRISTIANS

We gathered one evening for a Bible Study at the house of John Nwosu, an ex-patient employed at Uzuakoli since his discharge, and a person could sense that his was a home of much prayer. A loveliness about all that he does and a radiance that comes over his face when he speaks give evidence, not only that he is a Christian but that he is filled with the Holy Spirit. Hearing him talk and pray at morning devotions has been a blessing and an inspiration. John's words

A THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"When a person is a Christian, even his cat knows it."

—William James.

BAPTIST BRIEFS

(Continued from Page 2)

● **Dr. Joel Sorensen**, youth secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, has announced that he has accepted the call of the First Baptist Church of Stockholm, Sweden, to become its pastor, effective October 1, 1955. Although this will be Dr. Sorensen's first pastorate, he is no stranger to the work of the pastor. His father, Rev. Berndt Sorensen, was minister of another Baptist Church in Stockholm, Kungsholmen, for more than 25 years. Joel united with the church in 1926 at the age of eleven years. For several years Joel Sorensen was a member of the City Council of Stockholm. In 1940 he became secretary of the Baptist youth work in Sweden, and in 1950 secretary of youth work for the Baptist World Alliance. He is also the author of several books.

Our Southern Conference Churches

By DR. MARTIN L. LEUSCHNER, Editor of English Publications

THE SOUTHERN Conference is far from the least of our nine conferences in our North American Baptist fellowship. Its greatness cannot be found in statistics. In spite of the fact that the Southern Conference churches are overshadowed by the immensity of the Southern Baptist Convention, they continue to shine by themselves as bright lights and glowing witnesses. Every visitor to the General Conference in Waco, Texas, from June 6 to 12, 1955 will become personally acquainted with the unique spiritual contagion that makes the Southern Conference "great in the sight of God!"

NOT THE LEAST!

The Southern Conference of only twelve churches and 1184 members is smallest in statistics for our nine Conferences. But it stretches over the vast territory of three states from Elberta, Ala., in the east (a few miles from Florida) to Henrietta, Texas, in the south, a distance of more than 800 miles. It comprises an amazing fairyland of natural beauty from the Gulf of Mexico, the azaleas of Mobile and the renowned Bellingrath Gardens near Elberta, Ala., to the orange and grapefruit groves and blossoming bougainvillea of the Rio Grande Valley of Donna, Texas, the rich fruitful rice fields of Mowata, La., and nearby the historical bayou country of Evangeline fame and legend in southern Louisiana. Our churches are in the heart of the bluebonnet glory, for these gorgeous, sweet scented, state flowers grow in greatest profusion around Kyle and Waco, Texas.

These churches of the Southern Conference have made great contributions to the work of God's Kingdom. They have sent far more than their share of young men to our Seminary for the Christian ministry. In addition, Dr. H. C. Gleiss, former Baptist secretary and leader, was a product of these churches. Dr. Charles W. Koller, president of the Northern Baptist Seminary, Chicago, Ill., comes from the Central Church of Waco, Texas. Miss Margaret Kittlitz, Cameroons missionary nurse, is a daughter of the same church. Others, too numerous to mention by name, also come from this same Conference area.

GREENVINE, TEXAS

Do not be misled into thinking that these churches of the Southern Conference are young upstarts. They had their beginning a few years after the Republic of Texas was founded and not too many years after the last shots

had been fired at the Alamo in San Antonio. In 1861, almost a century ago, a group of people founded the Greenville Baptist Church near Burton, Texas. This church is 75 miles away from Independence, where Baylor College was started and where the first state capitol was built. It is in the heart of cotton and corn farms with lots of land given over to the raising of cattle. Some of the finest watermelons of Texas ripen here, and Indian blanket flowers in season vie with the bluebonnets for gorgeous beauty. The pastor of this church of 82 members is Rev. Frank Armbruster. Southern Conference people are proud of this mother church which is still vigorous and radiant in her witness for Christ!

MOWATA, LOUISIANA

From here we can easily cross over into Louisiana to visit the Mowata Baptist Church of Branch, Louisiana. A new church edifice was built a few years ago that is worth the trouble of traveling many miles to see. It is a very small congregation of 46 members, but literally tens of thousands of dollars have gone forth from these members and friends to send the Gospel to the far places of the world. You will be intrigued by the rice fields, low flat country, moss-covered live oak trees in the Evangeline country, the bayous and old historical shrines of this area. You will want to hear more from the pastor, Rev. Alex Sootzmann, about his wonderful consecrated people of God in his grand little church.

ELBERTA, ALABAMA

It will take a full day to travel to Elberta, Ala., to visit our church. But the view of the snow white sand along the Gulf of Mexico and the taste of the delicious shrimp dinners that are served in this area will soon convince you that it's been worth-while. This is a paradise for pecan trees and the home of Foley's cough syrup. This church of ours celebrated its 25th anniversary in February 1955 when it was reminded by its pastor, Rev. Philip Potzner, of God's wonderful guidance since the first baptismal service in 1930 when Rev. Gustav Schmidt of Baltimore, Md., baptized 25 converts in the waters of the nearby Gulf of Mexico.

Down in the Rio Grande Valley, only a few miles across the river into Mexico, is the Central Valley Baptist Church of Donna, Texas. It is the center of intensive missionary work among the Mexicans, and our mission-

aries, Rev. and Mrs. Raymond Castro, are serving in this area. The pastor, the Rev. Oliver L. Whitson, is also on the teaching staff of the Rio Grande Bible School at Edinburg, Texas. The small church of 45 members is on fire for the Lord, and its spiritual witness burns brightly in this Rio Grande paradise of natural beauty and semi-tropical vegetation.

KYLE, TEXAS

Only a few miles from Austin, the state capital of Texas, is our fine Immanuel Church of Kyle, Texas. It's a rural church out in the country, but it has a beautiful building, melodious pipe organ, modern conveniences and a congregation that would bring joy and pride to any pastor's heart anywhere! Several old colonial houses still stand nearby as an interesting reminder that this is an old church founded in 1886. Rev. Eldon Schroeder is leading this church of 82 members to new heights of service for Christ. Not too far away, on the road to San Antonio, is our Elm Creek Baptist Church with its student pastor, Mr. Edward Schmeltekopf.

GATESVILLE AND CRAWFORD

Another church, the Bethel Baptist Church of Gatesville, Texas, was also founded in 1886. It has had to struggle against many adversities, such as crop failures and the change of residence of some of its families. But the congregation of 102, with Rev. Edwin Kraemer as pastor, is still going forward. A visit to the church building with its historical associations and with its friendly congregation is always a delightful adventure.

You really know that you are on hallowed ground as you approach the Canaan Baptist Church near Crawford, Texas. In 1890 the pioneers in this area were so captivated by this lovely rolling country with its prospects of good crops that they called it the "Land of Canaan." Through the years the Baptist people have made it a spiritual Canaan with a worshipful church, new social hall, fine parsonage, well kept "God's acre" and a ministry that is still youthfully vigorous. Rev. Joe Alexander is the present pastor.

As you approach Waco, you will want to see the Cottonwood Baptist Church near Lorena, Texas. This imposing church building out in the open country will catch your eye. At one time it was our largest church in the Southern Conference. Its 154 mem-

(Continued on Page 24)

Baptist Churches of Waco, Texas

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By MR. ERNEST H. STEINDAM,
Deacon, Chairman of the Church
Council and President of the Men's
Brotherhood, Central Baptist
Church, Waco, Texas



Seventh and James Baptist Church of Waco, Texas, with Waco Hall, meeting place of the 31st General Conference in the background. The new auditorium of the 7th and James Church is not shown

BACK in 1851 there lived a famous blacksmith by the name of Noah T. Byars. He located his blacksmith shop in the small village known as Waco-on-the-Brazos in Texas. Not only was he a famous blacksmith, but he was also an outstanding Baptist who saw great possibilities in making Waco a Baptist center in the big state of Texas.

On May 31st of that same year, Byars together with four other Baptists, at a log meetinghouse, organized the First Baptist Church. As the years went by, other settlers came to the "hub city" of Texas and made First Church their home church. The greatest event in the church's history was the coming of young B. H. Carroll to its pastorate on January 1, 1871.

He carried out the wonderful services which Noah Byars had started and before long he had established ten missions in every direction of the city. Some of our leading churches today are the outgrowth of those missions. One, in which we are greatly interested, is now the Central Baptist Church of our own North American Baptist denomination. The First Baptist Church now occupies an entire city block.

25 BAPTIST CHURCHES

At the present time there are 25 Baptist churches in the city of Waco and 64 in the Waco Baptist Association. This does not include the Negro Baptist churches of which there are quite a few. The Seventh and James Baptist Church, which serves a large number of Baylor students and which is located directly across from Waco Hall where our Conference sessions will be held, is completing its new sanctuary with a seating capacity of two thousand. This building is modern in every respect, is air-conditioned and will cost \$400,000.

Another outstanding Baptist church is the Columbus Avenue Church located near the heart of Waco, not far

from the business district. (See front cover picture.) They have recently finished a new auditorium, education building and chapel and are now building another education building to take care of their ever growing Sunday School. When the work is completed this church will be outstanding as one of the most beautiful church plants, not to be surpassed anywhere. The building cost is over a million dollars.

There are many other modern Baptist churches in our fair city which space does not permit to mention. But there is one which we can't pass by and that is our own Central Baptist Church. It is located in southwest Waco about a mile from Baylor University. We cannot boast of being a large church, but since Waco is known as the "city with a soul" we want our church to be known as the "friendly church with a soul." Our policy is that no one comes in our church doors without being greeted with a friendly handshake from several of our faithful ushers and deacons. We have a membership of about 200 and our outlay in building and grounds is estimated at \$100,000.

In the early days Waco was known as an Indian village, but with the coming of great men and outstanding Baptists Waco at the present time ranks seventh in population among the cities in Texas with its 116,000 residents. Among these you will find about 25,000 Baptists. This does not include our suburban Baptist churches, many of which have recently projected building programs.

HILLCREST MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Another outstanding Baptist institution in Waco is our Hillcrest Memorial Hospital. Back in 1916 the Waco Baptist Association named a special committee to work out details for a hospital site, whereupon Dr. J. J. Dean, an outstanding Baptist phy-

sician, donated land on the highest hill in the northwest residential district which originally was a part of his farm land. In May 1920 the hospital opened its doors for service and the institution was named Central Texas Baptist Sanitarium. The first unit had a capacity for only 65 patients.

As the years went by, the facilities of the institution have been greatly expanded. The ownership of the hospital was transferred to the Baptist General Convention of Texas and the name was changed to Hillcrest Memorial Hospital. In 1952 a new five-story wing costing one million dollars was added. Other parts of the hospital were modernized and beautifully furnished. It now ranks as high as any institution of its kind in the South. With all of this friendly Baptist atmosphere, we say to our North American Baptists, "Welcome to Waco!" Not only do we welcome those in nearby states but all good North American Baptists from every state in the Union and from Canada.

At the Baptist Ministers' Fellowship meeting of the Waco District our coming Conference was given their full support and confidence. A committee of several pastors was appointed to see that Waco Baptist church pulpits are supplied with North American Baptist ministers on the Sunday of the Conference (June 12).

WELCOME TO WACO!

Of course, we cannot write an article on Baptists of Waco without mentioning Baylor University where our Conference activities will be held. We invite you to come and see for yourself, and we know you will have to say that it is the greatest Baptist institution of learning in the world. We shall be seeing you June 6 to 12 at the 31st General Conference at Waco, Texas, where "the finest group of Baptists in all the world" will be assembled.



The Central Baptist Church of Waco, Texas, which will serve as host to the 31st General Conference to be held in the fair Southern city of Waco, from June 6 to 12, 1955

Central Baptist Church, Waco, Texas

The Story of the Host Church for the 31st General Conference
by MR. MILTON LIPPERT

IT WAS sixty-five years ago in 1890 that Dr. Rufus C. Burlison, president of Baylor University, called a small group to order for the organization of the Central Baptist Church of Waco, Texas, then called the First German Baptist Church. Of those present on that early day, only August Schweisinger remains with us today. Although he is over 90 years of age, he is still faithful in attendance of our services, health permitting.

Rev. Joseph Gronde served as the first pastor of the church for about two years. The years following were difficult for the small flock, which was often pastorless and had to depend upon visiting pastors and the leaders within its own group to break the Bread of Life to the needy church.

With the coming of Rev. G. A. Waldvogel in 1912, the church took on new life. The membership reached a new high of 49 and the B.Y.P.U. and Wednesday night prayer services became inspiring meetings for the group. Rev. Lorenz Hoeffner served the church as pastor from 1915 to 1921, during which time Mr. Charles W. Koller, son of the church and ministerial student at Baylor University, assisted him. Next, Rev. G. Hege served as pastor for three fruitful years. Rev. C. C. Gossen served as interim pastor during the summer of 1925 and endeared himself to the people through his singing and preaching.

FOURTEEN YEAR PASTORATE

In the fall of 1925 Rev. A. Becker became pastor and served the church for 14 years in a noble and fruitful ministry. Under his example and leadership, the church became self-supporting in 1928. Beginning in the fall of 1939, Rev. Raburn Floyd served as interim pastor for about one year, fol-

lowed in 1940 by Rev. Peter Pfeiffer who served the church for three years of spiritual growth and advancement in every department.

It was becoming more and more evident that the church could not fulfill its purpose with the old facilities and in the old location. It was in an old part of town toward which business and industry were gradually creeping, while the new and growing communities were several miles away. To Rev. Roy Seibel, who became our pastor in February 1944, fell the task of leading the church in its decision to relocate. Such decisions are usually difficult to make, and this one was no exception.

Through guidance by the pastor and other farsighted folk of the church, and after much seeking of divine leading, the momentous decision was made to leave the little hemmed-in church on the corner and to move out to the open spaces where a new community was just in the making. Here a full city block was purchased and building soon began. The construction of a lovely brick parsonage was followed by the building of the church structure itself of matching brick. A pavilion was built in which two Sunday School classes and the CBY meet. Other improvements on our spacious grounds consist of a soft ball field, tennis and volley ball courts, children's playground and equipment, barbeque pit and picnic tables.

\$100,000 CHURCH PLANT

Although the value of our present plant is estimated at more than \$100,000, actual expenditure was only about \$60,000. This saving was effected through the purchase of a large army barrack which supplied much of the lumber, and through the help

of our members, almost all of whom have contributed labor in one way or another. Men often worked on the construction of the church building during vacation time, on Saturdays or after regular working hours. Mr. Erich Arnold and Mr. Charles Marstaller, Sr., worked full-time as supervising carpenters. Men, women and children gathered at the church grounds one Saturday and sodded nearly a quarter acre of lawn grass. On another Saturday the men met to plant more than 30 shade trees.

Dedication Day for our new building was February 12, 1950, with a church membership at that time of 158. Although the church and parsonage were the first buildings constructed in this area, they are now completely surrounded by newly built homes. Even mighty Baylor Stadium has since been built, beginning only one block from the church grounds.

Through Rev. Roy Seibel's sound thinking and farsighted planning, the ordeal of moving had been completed and the way opened for new church growth. We felt his loss keenly, however, when he left this work after having served so well. It seemed God had another man prepared for us without too much waiting, and into this field of work came our present pastor, Rev. Louis R. Johnson, in 1952.

COME AND VISIT US!

Mr. Johnson has built well on the foundation that was laid, and our church membership has grown in numbers and we believe in spiritual depth also through his leadership. Our present membership is 204. Texas does have its share of wealthy oil men, but none are to be found in our church. Our people are ordinary

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As I See It!

A review of highlights and decisive decisions of General Conferences since 1913
by one of our elderly faithful pastors

By REV. CHARLES F. ZUMMACH
of Peoria, Illinois



A study of the map showing the mission supported churches at the General Conference exhibit in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, in 1949
Left to right: Rev. R. Schilke, Rev. E. Mittelstedt, Rev. Roy Seibel and Rev. George Hensel

IN A FEW WEEKS the delegates of the North American Baptist fellowship will gather for their triennial conference in Waco, Texas. This will be the first time that the General Conference has met so far south. Many problems will have to be faced. While this article is not intended to be a detailed history of our past, it might be well to take a look backwards and see how our denomination has faced and dealt with some of the problems that confronted them during the past half a century.

The first that comes to my mind is the problem of what to do about our young people and our Sunday Schools. This question had troubled us for years and various attempts had been made to solve it. In 1913 the General Conference met in Madison, S. Dak., and Rev. Wm. Kuhn was elected as young people's secretary. Of course, there was opposition, the chief one being that his election was merely a steppingstone to his elevation as general secretary. This also happened in 1916 with the death of the general secretary, Rev. G. A. Schulte, and Brother Kuhn was asked to continue until a new secretary could be elected.

MANY ACUTE PROBLEMS

In 1916 the General Conference met in Detroit, Michigan. For years the problem of our aged pastors had become more acute. True, we had "Die Kasse für altersschwache Prediger," but it was felt by many that our denomination owed more to its faithful servants than a beggarly pittance. So in Detroit the Pension Fund for ministers became a reality. Prime mover in this was Mr. J. C. Andresen of Brooklyn, N. Y., who not alone sponsored it, but also made the first large contribution to put it into effect.

In the same year the removal of the Children's Home confronted us, and it was decided to move from Louis-

ville, Ky., to St. Joseph, Michigan. The new building was dedicated in 1919, free of debt, at a cost in excess of \$27,000.

That same year 1919, the General Conference met in Chicago, Illinois. The terrible war was over. Germany had been defeated, but Europe was in shambles and sunk in poverty. The call for relief and help was urgent.

How best to care for our brethren in the faith presented a tremendous challenge. It was proposed to raise a "Million Dollars" for this and other missionary purposes. Who will ever forget the wave of enthusiasm that this proposal engendered! For a denomination, numbering less than 30,000 members, scattered in about 250 churches, many of them small, this seemed a prodigious task. We not only faced it, but in 1922 at St. Paul, Minn., we were able to report that we had exceeded our goal.

With the increasing development of our work in the west, the question of moving our headquarters to a more central location had to be faced and met. The result was the decision to move our headquarters to Forest Park, Ill., and elect the late Wm. Grosser as our General Conference treasurer.

In 1922 we met in St. Paul, Minnesota. The increased task of our missionary work in southeastern Europe confronted us among other problems which had to be met. It was voted to send Rev. Wm. Kuhn on an inspection trip to Europe, which resulted in that Rev. Carl Fuellbrandt became the director of our Danubian work.

In order to help the thousands of impoverished immigrants to America, we inaugurated our Immigration Service, which enabled thousands of impoverished immigrants from Europe to come to America and establish new homes. Most of them settled in

western Canada. This immigration service was one of the outstanding achievements of our denomination.

This Conference also marked the beginning of our "Unified Budget System," although we did not as yet dare call it that. We called it our Missionary and Benevolent Offering. But it marked a step in advance.

In 1925 we met in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Since the sale of our Publication House business had proved a mistake, we again launched out into constructing our own new publication building. Since our Seminary building in Rochester, N. Y., required extensive repairs and was proving itself inadequate, we voiced our confidence in the future of our Seminary by authorizing the expenditure of \$50,000 for an addition to the building.

THE GREAT DEPRESSION

In 1931 we, with the rest of the country, faced a financial crisis: The "depression" had spread its gloom and despair upon the whole world. Retrenchments were the order of the day. Although it meant sacrifice all along the line, not a single project was dropped. How much courage and faith it took to go ahead, taking up again our Cameroons projects and enlarging our southeastern European missionary projects, only those who went through it can know.

In 1934 we faced the problem of reorganizing our denominational system. The Finance Committee, although it had served well, was proving itself inadequate to meet our ever growing tasks. Some better system needed to be devised to integrate the various branches of our work.

While thinking about this problem, a solution seemed to come to me. I sent a copy of the idea to "Der Sendbote" and it was published shortly before the Conference. It proposed the

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Vignettes of Church History

By DONALD G. DAVIS, Ph.D.

11. THE APOSTOLIC FATHERS IGNATIUS AND POLYCARP

IGNATIUS, bishop of the church in Antioch (Syria), was arrested by the imperial authorities and sent to Rome where he was killed by wild beasts in the arena under the Emperor Trajan about the year 110 A.D. The seven letters which he wrote to various churches on the way to Rome have come down to us in several forms, long and short.

The authentic short epistles lay great stress upon faithfulness to Christ in persecution and the importance of obedience to bishops. The bishop is the single overseer or pastor of one church, in which several elders serve with him. The bishop would appear to be one of the elders given leadership of the church. In the New Testament the same man was known as a pastor, elder (presbyter) and bishop.

Ignatius warned the churches against the heresies of his day, especially Gnosticism, the teaching that the physical or material is evil as over against the good of the spiritual. Paul

had written against Gnostic tendencies in his letter to the Colossians, and in Ignatius' day they were growing stronger.

Polycarp was bishop of the church in Smyrna (Asia Minor) for many years until his martyrdom by burning there in 155. His disciple Irenaeus (d. about 200) wrote that Polycarp often spoke of his early association with the Apostle John and others who had seen Jesus.

His letter to the Philippians, an answer to one received from them, was written shortly after the death of Ignatius and mentions his letters. It contains little more than general exhortations framed in a mosaic of quotations from New Testament writers. Elders and deacons administer the local church and should be obeyed.

As Polycarp was about to be burned, he was urged to deny Christ and live. His reply rings down through the centuries: "Eighty and six years have I served him, and he never did me any injury: how then can I blaspheme my King and my Savior?" (Newman, I, 222-228, 231-233.)

We Await You at Waco!

By MR. R. E. ENGELBRECHT of Waco, Texas, Chairman of the Local Arrangements Committee for the General Conference

BY THIS TIME most of you have completed your packing and some of you are on your way to Texas to attend the General Conference to be held in Waco, Texas, from June 6 to 12 and to see for yourself the things that Texans have boasted of for some time.

Last October Mr. Arthur Schwerin, chairman of the General Conference Arrangements Committee, along with Dr. Frank Woyke, executive secretary, came to Waco to help set up the following committees that are to make local plans and arrangements: Reservations Committee; Food Committee, Finance Committee, Decorating Committee, Publicity Committee, Properties Committee, Young People's Committee, Ushers Committee, Ladies' Tea Committee and Local Music Committee. These committees consist not only of our local church family but are composed of members of the Southern Conference churches as well, and they have been working since last October and are now busy with last minute details.

Advance reservations show that this Conference will be well attended, and



Mr. Raymond E. Engelbrecht of the Central Baptist Church, Waco, Texas, who is general chairman of the local Executive and Arrangements Committee for the General Conference at Waco.

SEMINARY CATALOGUE

The new 1955 catalogue of the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, S. Dak., is now available for distribution among interested friends. If you have not received a copy and desire to have one, write to Dr. George A. Lang, president, 1605 S. Euclid Avenue, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The catalogue presents the story and objectives of our Seminary, the calendar of the school year, the curriculum and requirements of the Seminary, and names and home towns of the students. It is also well illustrated. EDITOR.

that many will come as a family group. In view of this fact nursery facilities will be offered free of charge for your children up through 3 years of age for all sessions. For those children above this age and including 12 years of age, special services and organized recreation will be provided during the daytime sessions.

All arrangements for the various luncheons, breakfast and Conference banquet have been completed by the Foods Committee. The Picnic on Saturday will be off to a good start with a "Southern Fried Chicken" box lunch. All types of recreation are being arranged for those who wish to participate.

The decorating committee and the committee for the Ladies' Tea are planning elaborate decorations, in spite of the late freeze that practically wiped out our General Conference flower gardens. The Property and Exhibit Committee has been busy with those items that might be prepared in advance, and the Ushers Committee is ready to welcome and assist you in any way they can.

A SPIRITUAL FEAST

The mass choir under the direction of Mrs. Louis Johnson has been rehearsing for several months, and is ready to sing to the glory of God and to add to the Conference program. (See front cover, May 5 issue, "Baptist Herald.")

We are not anticipating unusually hot weather at this time of the season, but we suggest that you wear light weight summer clothes to be as comfortable as possible.

Although these have been busy days for our Southern Conference people, we are happy that we have had the privilege of serving in this way. We are looking forward to renewing old acquaintances and to greet many new friends. Our prayer is that you will have a safe journey and that these General Conference days may truly be a spiritual feast for all who shall attend.



The Foyer of Meditation in the Armstrong-Browning Library, Waco, Texas, showing the Cloister of Clapsed Hands flanked by two of the room's eight Red Levanto monolithic marble columns

ENGAGEMENTS

- Rev. J. C. Gunst
May 22 (Sunday)—Grace Baptist Church, Gackle, North Dakota.
- Dr. M. L. Leuschner
May 22 (Sunday)—McDermot Ave. Baptist Church, Winnipeg, Man.
- Miss Ruth Bathauer, Children's Worker
May 23-28—Vacation Bible School, Elberta, Alabama.
- May 29-31—Texas churches.

CONFERENCES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

- May 19-22—Central Conference at Forest Park Baptist Church, Forest Park, Illinois. Dr. George A. Lang, Rev. R. Schilke and Miss Laura E. Reddig.
- May 27-30—Northwestern Conference at Aplington Baptist Church, Aplington, Iowa. Miss Laura E. Reddig and Dr. M. L. Leuschner.
- May 29—Pentecost Festival at Emmanuel Church, Marion, Kansas. Dr. Ralph E. Powell.
- June 1-2—Pacific Conference at Bethel Church, Anaheim, California.

Rev. Daniel Fuchs, Evangelist

ENGAGEMENTS:

- May 15-27—Berlin Baptist Church, Fredonia, North Dakota. Rev. V. Prendinger, Pastor.
- June 19-July 1—Burstall, Sask., Canada. Rev. H. A. Pohl, Pastor.

WE THANK GOD:

When God's people work and witness together in love, the power of the devil is broken, the Name of Je-

Strolling Around Baylor's Campus

By DR. M. L. LEUSCHNER, Editor of the "Baptist Herald"

EVERY VISITOR to the General Conference at Waco, Texas, from June 6 to 12 MUST spend some of his time of that week at the Armstrong-Browning Library building across the street from Waco Hall. In fact, a single stroll to this place will thrill you sufficiently to make it a pilgrimage and to return often to its marble halls.

This \$1,000,000 building houses the most complete collection of books, original manuscripts, memorabilia and portraits of Robert Browning, the Christian poet, to be found anywhere in the world. This vast collection in the library, brought together by the late Dr. C. Joseph Armstrong, is valued conservatively between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000. The stained glass windows, portraying many of Robert Browning's poems in superbly blending colors, are worthy of profound and repeated study.

But the climax of breathtaking beauty awaits you as you enter the Foyer of Meditation, which has as its primary purpose to invite thinking on lofty intellectual and high spiritual objectives. It will be used as a Prayer Room throughout the General Conference days. This two-story room with its gilded ceiling dome and tall leaded windows sparkling with gold and amber glass lifts one's thoughts toward God! With its arched openings

of St. Clair marble, its painted wall decorations and its cool marble floor and beautifully panelled walls, it invites meditation on the things of God.

Perhaps its symbolism can be found in the tiny Cloister of Clapsed Hands, located between the two arched entrances to the room. Raised a few marble steps above the main floor level and flanked by two of the room's eight Red Levanto monolithic marble columns, the Cloister presents the original cast of the "Clapsed Hands" of the Brownings (Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett Browning) done by Harriet Hosmer. A picture of the two painted by John Carroll hangs over the "Clapsed Hands." On the flanking walls of this space are inscribed two selections of poetry, one from Browning's Sonnets.

This is much more than a shrine, dedicated to a great literary genius, to which a galaxy of literary and musical celebrities has made a beaten path since the building was dedicated in 1951. It is a place for meditation and prayer dedicated by the donors of the Foyer "with the hope that many students and others may find inspiration here for a life of outstanding service to God." It is a hallowed hall in which you will quietly catch a new vision with Browning that "a thing of beauty lives forever" and that with God as your partner "the best is yet to be!"



THE STORY OF JESUS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS. By Deane Korfker. Zondervan Publishing House. \$1.95.

Small children will love this beautifully bound and well prepared book on "The Story of Jesus." Its many illustrations will fascinate the youngsters. Adults will welcome the approach of the author because of her faithfulness to the Scriptures and her

effective way of making the Gospel claims real to the children. It's a book that belongs in every home with growing children, for it will help to make the New Testament and the story of Jesus more real and precious to them.

STORIES FROM OTHER LANDS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS. Edited by Al Bryant. Zondervan Publishing House. 189 pages. \$2.50.

These stories are your ticket to a 'round the world trip to meet children in Alaska, France, Africa, Mexico, South America, Korea, Japan and lots of other places. The book is dedicated to the ministry of making the Gospel understandable and meaningful to children. You will learn that the children of other lands are Christians and that they love the same Lord Jesus. The 37 stories in this book have been ably compiled by the editor-in-chief of the "Christian Digest." It's a delightful story book which can also be used for missionary programs. It can

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We...the Women

By MRS. WALTER W. GROSSER, President

INTRODUCTION

The following promised and completed program is the women's share in the General Conference program at Waco, Texas, June 6-12, 1955. This is for those of you unable to attend as well as for the many who are planning to be there.

The hostesses for the women's share of work in the south include all of the women's societies. The chairmen, appointed from Waco to facilitate greater convenience in planning, want the women to know that all of the societies are contributing money and time for the flowers for the General Conference and for the tea refreshments. They have collected well over \$300 from the women's societies. Our thanks to all!

The program chairman, Mrs. Walter A. Hill, has had most of the advance planning to do, with Mrs. Albert E. Reddig assisting with the work on the pageant.

Your officers, editors and committee chairmen have all had a big share in the work of the past triennium. In the following programs the work of three years will come to a climactic fruition. We hope to see you there.

PROGRAMS

Executive Board Luncheon Meeting at Waco

Tuesday, June 7, "Rose Room," Student Union Building.

The Executive Board will meet immediately after the morning sessions of the General Conference on June 7 with the nine conference presidents. We hope as many conference presidents as possible will be at Waco. They are: Mrs. Herber J. Freeman, Mrs. Rubin Kern, Mrs. Arthur J. Fischer, Mrs. George Hartman, Mrs. J. C. Kraenzler, Mrs. Frank Veninga, Mrs. Fred E. Klein, Mrs. J. J. Lippert, and Mrs. Oliver K. Ringer. Cards for definite replies will be mailed shortly.

W. M. U. PRAYER SESSIONS

Arrangements for two special prayer sessions for the Woman's Missionary Union are being planned by Mrs. J. J. Lippert, president of the Southern Conference Woman's Union. They are to be held on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons (June 8 and 9), from 5 to 5:30 P.M. in the General Conference Prayer Room—the Foyer of Meditation in the Armstrong-Browning Memorial Building.

WOMAN'S UNION LUNCHEON

Thursday, Afternoon, June 9, 1 P.M.

Place: Student Union Lounge, Baylor University Campus.

President Presiding

Invocation: Mrs. Harry Geis, Okeene, Oklahoma.

Song Service: Mrs. Walter A. Hill, Kyle, Texas, leader. Mrs. Charles Marstaller, Jr., Waco, Texas, pianist.

Devotions: "The Spirit at Work for Our Good." Romans 8:28. Miss Margaret Kittlitz.

Report: "Women's Work in the Cameroons, Africa." Mrs. S. Donald Ganstrom, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Business, Reports, and Election of Officers.

Mrs. Charles Marstaller, Jr., Chairman of Committee on Luncheon Arrangements.

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION PROGRAM

Friday afternoon, June 10

Place: Waco Hall

Time: 2:30-4:15 P.M.

Presiding: Mrs. Walter W. Grosser, Oak Park, Illinois.

Organ Prelude: Mrs. Henry O. Kohrs, Burlington, Iowa.

Worship in Song: Mrs. Adam Huber, Minneapolis, Minn., leader.

Prayer: Mrs. Emanuel Wolff, Burlington, Iowa, Secretary of the W.M.U.

Greetings: President of Woman's Missionary Union, Mrs. Walter W. Grosser, President of Southern Conference W.M.U., Mrs. J. J. Lippert, Waco, Texas. Executive Secretary of Texas W.M.U. (Southern Baptists), Miss Eula Mae Henderson, Dallas, Texas.

Musical Number: Southern Conference Women's Chorus, Mrs. Louis R. Johnson, director.

Installation of Officers for 1955-1958: Dr. Frank H. Woyke, Executive Secretary, General Conference.

Memorial Service: Mrs. Peter Pfeiffer, Erie, Pennsylvania.

Missionary Pageant: "The Macedonian Call," Mrs. Albert E. Reddig, Author. Mrs. Walter A. Hill, Program chairman.

Hymn by the Congregation: "So Send I You." (Dr. Herman von Berge.)

Missionary Address: "His Spirit Hath Sent Me." Miss Laura E. Reddig, Bamenda New Hope Settlement, Cameroons, Africa.

Missionary Offering.

Theme Song: "Christ for the Whole Wide World."

Benediction: Rev. Richard Schilke, General Missionary Secretary.

MISSIONARY RECEPTION AND TEA

(Immediately following the afternoon meeting, June 10, 4:30 P.M.)

Place: Students' Union Lounge, Baylor University Campus

Hostesses are the presidents and members of the Women's Missionary Societies of the Southern Conference.

Mrs. Ernest Steindam, General Chairman. Everyone is invited!

* * *

Be sure to visit the Woman's Missionary Union display at Waco Hall.

* * *

"THE MACEDONIAN CALL"

In finding characters for the pageant, Mrs. Albert E. Reddig spent much time and effort in trying to secure two representatives from every Conference, excepting the Southern where women have been put to work on so many other projects.

The following will take part:

Soloist: Mrs. Donald Patet, Randolph, Minnesota.

Readers: Miss Martha M. Leypoldt, Anaheim, California. Miss Mary H. Leypoldt, Forest Park, Illinois.

African Women: Mrs. J. G. Benke, Watertown, Wisconsin. Mrs. John Wobig, Portland, Oregon.

Japanese Women: Miss Jeanne Nulte, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Manuel Wolff, Gackle, North Dakota.

Canadian Indian Women: Mrs. J. C. Kraenzler, Leduc, Alberta, Canada. Mrs. Alfred Weisser, Parkston, South Dakota.

Spanish - American and Mexican Women: Mrs. Fred Knalson, Marion, Kansas. Mrs. Arthur Weisser, Rochester, N. Y.

American Women: Mrs. Alfred Biblheimer, Ashley, N. Dak., and Mrs. Harm Sherman, Aplington, Iowa.

Austrian Women: Mrs. R. Schilke, Oak Park, Ill., and Mrs. J. C. Gunst, Forest Park, Illinois.

SPICE OF LIFE

"You look depressed, my friend. What are you thinking of?"

"My future."

"What makes your future look so hopeless?"

"My past."

"I'm not going back," said the little boy as he came in from school.

"And why not?" asked his mother.

"Well," replied the boy, "I can't read, I can't write, and they won't let me talk—so what's the use?"

A little boy, caught in mischief, was asked by his mother: "How do you expect to get into heaven?"

He thought a minute, and then said: "Well, I'll just run in and out and keep slamming the door till they say, 'For goodness sake, come in or stay out,' then I'll go in."



By REV. J. C. GUNST, General Secretary

ALL ABOUT THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Never before in the history of the Christian church has the Sunday School received as much attention as in our day. Why is the Sunday School so popular these days? Have the churches awakened to the fact that the Sunday School is a vital part of the church? Has the church come to realize that the Sunday School is the teaching agency of the church? Does the church finally realize that as many as 85 per cent of the members received into the churches come out of the Sunday School?

It is gratifying to note that officers and workers in the Sunday School are agreed that great spiritual good is achieved and a worthy educational potential is possible through the Sunday School. Millions of such workers are giving themselves sacrificially for the service of leadership and teaching in the thousands of Sunday Schools.

Members of the North American Baptist General Conference, if they wish to see progress comparable to other denominations, must do much more in the Sunday Schools in the immediate days ahead. In every denomination rapid progress is evident in all of the Sunday School activities.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTIONS

Sunday School Conventions are being held in every part of the country, both on a state-wide and nation-wide basis. For several years the Conference Union has promoted the idea of Christian Workers' Conferences for all local conferences and regional areas or on a state-wide basis. In several areas where churches have given their support these conferences have proven to be most successful. This is the time when every leader and worker in the regional and local conference, together with the leaders of the national organizations, must put forth every effort to have an annual Sunday School Convention of our own in every conference.

Such a Sunday School Convention must affect every local Sunday School. Every church should make every effort to have all officers, teachers and prospective Sunday School workers attend the convention in their area. The Conference Union Executive Committee and especially the general secretary are working toward the possibility of holding a Sunday School Convention in every local conference during this conference year.

Since the triennial General Conference is being held early in June this year, it is hoped that the majority of our Sunday School superintendents and all of the local conference Sunday

School leaders will be able to attend. Important decisions affecting the entire Sunday School program for the future will have to be made at this General Conference.

Reports of the achievements to date will be presented. Plans for a program of work affecting expansion of Sunday School activities in every local conference are to be presented. Every Christian worker who is interested and has concern for the Sunday School progress will want to have a part in this Conference program.

SUMMER PLANS

The summer months are already upon us. Sunday Schools take no holidays. Only individuals and family groups take vacations. Sunday School work during the summer months presents a greater challenge to the leaders and the teachers than any other time of the year. These workers must see to it that the Sunday School does not suffer in leadership or in sufficient teachers on the staff, even though the attendance may fluctuate during that time. Sunday School workers ought to encourage scholars when on vacation to attend Sunday School in the area of their vacation spot. School leaders must supply these vacationers with cards which the teacher of the school being visited can sign. The scholar ought to return the signed card to the regular teacher of the Sunday School at home. The ministry of the Sunday School is important enough to be constantly in touch with those enrolled.

This is also the time to plan the fall and winter Sunday School activities. The month of August is already too late to set up the Sunday School calendar of dates for the fall and winter months ahead. The committees responsible for the Sunday School cal-

A GOLDEN ILLUSTRATION

One day when Martin Luther was greatly discouraged he stood and fed a little robin at the window-sill. After the meal was over, the bird flew up into a tree nearby and there sang a beautiful song of thanksgiving. Then, tucking its head under its wing, it went to sleep. Luther was greatly encouraged by the incident. A God who would care for a bird would care for him. If that bird could sing his Master's praises, why should he not do the same?—F. H. Wight.

endar and program beginning September 1st must be appointed and organized no later than June 1st of that year. Their program must be ready to be presented to the local Christian Workers' Conference and to have the approval of the Committee on Education not later than August 1st.

RELIGIOUS CENSUS

Where a neighborhood religious census is planned for the coming year, the committee in charge must be organized and have the program of procedure well publicized. Literature needed must be on hand and the procedure must have the approval by Committee on Education and Sunday School officers. Such a program procedure has to be ready to be put into action by August 15th. All members of the church must be informed about a plan for a religious census at least a month in advance. Wherever it is possible and practical, as many people in the community as possible ought to be informed about such a program.

Early in the month of August the Committee on Evangelism (every Sunday School should have such a committee) has its program planned and ready for action. The canvass workers need to be trained for this important task. All decisions reached by this committee on procedure of such a program must be cleared with the church's Committee on Education. The church must be well informed and very much aware of the program of evangelism when it is ready to be launched. Ask the entire church constituency to support prayerfully this program.

The program for the local Christian Workers' Conference must also be planned early and ready to be put into action. The leaders who are to participate in these monthly meetings ought to have their assignments early. Likewise it is important that the teachers all have tentative plans for their materials to be used in their teaching ministry. The teachers have the Christian Workers' Conference program for the year well in advance so that they can plan their activities accordingly. Every worker in the Sunday School is well aware, and has a clear picture, of what lies ahead for the approaching year before any of the workers take time out for their summer vacation.

Christian workers who have been in leadership for some time have experienced that God will honor concerted efforts for a well planned program. Workers in the Sunday School will welcome it. Such advance planning and prayerfully arranged programs are an evidence of an ever growing Sunday School and more effective teaching of the Word of God. The end result of all this should be more souls won for Christ and his cause. It also should mean a better educated Christian church membership.



Sunday School Lessons

A LESSON PLAN

Date: May 29, 1955

Theme: **RESOURCES FOR LIFE'S
CRISES**

SCRIPTURE: 2 Chronicles 32:1-8, 32-33.

PURPOSE: To help us recognize and put to use the resources that are ours for every time of crisis.

GETTING STARTED: Psychologists tell us that most of us make use of only a very small portion of the physical and mental resources that lie latent within us. There isn't a one of us who couldn't do more and go higher if we but made use of the powers that are ours. In fact, haven't we all discovered at times when some sudden crisis made unprecedented demands upon our minds and bodies how truly great these resources within us are? What sets such narrow limits to our lives is not that we are lacking in resources but that we fail to make use of them!

And so it is with the spiritual resources that are ours. According to the promises of God, they are unlimited; yet we continually limit them, simply because we do not use them! The life of Hezekiah, therefore, is a challenge to us: first, to recognize the tremendous spiritual resources that are ours; and, second, to make use of these resources to the fullest!

Developing the Theme:

I. THE CRISES GOD PERMITS TO COME TO US.

1. Crises occasioned by the evil world in which we live (2 Chron. 32:1).

Like Hezekiah, we are continually confronted by Assyrians that threaten to destroy us; for such is the nature of our world.

2. Crises occasioned by our human frailty (2 Chron. 32:24).

Like Hezekiah, we have to face the crises of sickness, distress, and all the other testings that come because we are frail and imperfect.

3. Crises occasioned by temptation (Isa. 39:1-8).

Even a man as great as Hezekiah was not free from temptation, and the tempter was continually after him, even as he is after us (Eph. 6:11).

II. THE RESOURCES GOD HAS PUT AT OUR DISPOSAL.

1. A faithful, consecrated, godly life (2 Chron. 32:1a).

When an individual, or a nation, has lived a life that pleases God, that fact

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is a great steadying power in a time of crisis.

2. Physical preparedness and strength (2 Chron. 32:2-5).

This is true of individuals and nations.

3. Standing unitedly with like-minded people (2 Chron. 32:6b).

Always we gain strength from one another when we stand together.

4. Faith in God and his ability and willingness to help (2 Chron. 32:7-8).

Such faith cannot but inspire courage and confidence.

5. Prayer (2 Chron. 32:24; Is. 37:4b; 38:2).

6. The help and advice of great spiritual leaders (Is. 37:2).

Hezekiah leaned on Isaiah. So we, too, can find strength and guidance from consecrated men of God.

Applying the Lesson

What lessons can the leaders of our nation today draw from the life and works of King Hezekiah?

A LESSON PLAN

Date: June 5, 1955

Theme: **FRUITS OF REPENTANCE**

SCRIPTURE: 2 Chronicles 33:9-20.

PURPOSE: To show the way that can lead men out of the bondage of sin and set them free.

GETTING STARTED: In the life of Manasseh there is enacted the tragedy that has been repeated all too often in the history of the Faith—the tragedy of the son of a godly father turning away from the faith of his father, ending up a captive of sin, and leading others astray with his apostasy. The key to that tragedy is to be found in the name Manasseh itself; for it means "one who forgets." Such a one was Manasseh—and all the count-

The editor of these Sunday School Lessons is Rev. Berthold Jacksteit, pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church, Anaheim, California.

less sons and daughters who have followed in his footsteps. He forgot! His father's faith, his father's morality—all the things that made his father a source of inspiration and blessing to others. And he ended up in chains and a curse instead of a blessing to his people. By the grace of God, Manasseh found his way back again. But multitudes of straying sons and daughters never do. And of all the tragedies in the long history of the Faith, that is the most tragic.

Developing the Theme:

I. THE WAY INTO BONDAGE.

1. Note the steps along that way—
a) Manasseh began by ignoring his father's faith (2 Chron. 44:1-2); b) then he rejected his father's high standards and re-established the very evils his father had removed (v. 3a); c) he worshiped gods of his own choosing (v. 3b); d) he debauched himself with the immoral and vile living that the worship of these false gods inspired (v. 3b); e) he lost all sense of spiritual values and desecrated everything that was holy (vv. 4-5); f) he degraded and destroyed the life of his children (v. 6a); g) he fell prey to the worst kinds of superstition and nonsense (v. 6b); h) he led his people down the road to degradation and ruin (v. 9); i) he and his people became so hardened that they no longer would listen to the voice of God (v. 10); j) he ended up a man in bondage (v. 11).

2. The way of sin is the way that always leads into bondage.

II. THE WAY OUT OF BONDAGE.

1. It begins with repentance. Repentance involves: a) a recognition of our hopeless and lost condition (v. 12a); b) a turning to God in humble contrition, in which there is sincere sorrow for sin and honest confession of it (v. 12b); c) a prayer for help and forgiveness (v. 13a); accepting the forgiving grace of God (v. 13b); e) turning away from sin and all false gods to the one true God (v. 13c).

2. It continues with the bringing forth of the fruits of repentance.

These are the fruits: a) we block out of our lives everything that might enslave or cause us to stumble and fall (v. 14a); b) we surround ourselves with Christian friends and helpers (v. 14b); c) we remove from our lives all things that would tempt us to put God in second place (v. 15); d) we devote our lives to the service of God (v. 16); e) we bear glad testimony to what the Lord has done for us (vv. 18-19).

What's Happening

● On Thursday evening, April 7, at a pre-Easter service, Rev. G. K. Zimmerman of the Temple Baptist Church, Milwaukee, Wis., baptized 17 persons on their confession of their faith in Christ. They were received into the church's fellowship on Easter Sunday morning, April 10. Rev. George Hensel, retired minister who is a member of the church, led the responsive reading. Mr. Zimmerman preached on the Easter topic, "The Day of Victory."

● On Easter Sunday evening, April 10, Rev. Rubin Kern of the Forest Park Baptist Church, Forest Park, Ill., baptized seven persons on confession of their faith in Christ. At the Easter sunrise service attended by 55 young people, Mr. Hans Penner of Elk Grove, Calif., a student at the Northern Baptist Seminary of Chicago, spoke on "Christ of the Twentieth Century." Mr. Dave Draewell, Youth Director of the Forest Park Church, was in charge of the sunrise service.

● On Good Friday evening, April 8, the choir of the Central Baptist Church, Edmonton, Alta., presented the Easter cantata, "Memories of Easter Morn." On Sunday morning, April 3, Rev. Henry Pfeifer of the church conducted a service of dedication for 14 infants and their parents. Rev. E. W. Klatt of the Christian Training Institute faculty participated in the impressive program. Professor Herbert Hiller of Sioux Falls, S. Dak., brought the Easter message on April 10. Rev. George Henderson, Camerons missionary, was the guest preacher at the evening service. A baptismal service was held on Sunday evening, April 17.

● The Grace Church of Chicago, Ill., held an Easter sunrise service sponsored by the young people on April 10. Mr. Herman Siemund, General Conference photographer and a former speaker at the program. Mr. Arnold Egler of New York City, a student at the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago, Rev. William L. Schoeffel, pastor, preached on the theme, "Life Begins at Easter," at the worship service on Easter Sunday, April 10. Special music was rendered by the 40 voices of the Carollers directed by Mrs. Florence Schoeffel and the Senior Choir directed by Miss Glee Maeck.

● On Palm Sunday, April 3, Rev. A. Husmann, pastor of the Immanuel Church, New York, N. Y., baptized eight persons on confession of their faith in Christ and received these and

four others by letter on Easter Sunday morning, April 10. On Easter Sunday evening the young people presented the pageant, "The Lord is Risen Indeed," with introductory words by Elsie Stahl. A violin solo was rendered by Hannes Czarnetzki, and the Youth Chorus of the church sang "He Lives." On April 17 the young people presented the illustrated lecture in slides, "Our Mission Work Among the Indians."

● On Sunday afternoon, March 20, the Ogden Park Baptist Church, Chicago, Ill., held a reception for its new pastor, Mr. Fred Sonnenberg, and his family. Sister churches of the Chicago area also participated in the program. Mr. O. Horn presided over the meeting. Rev. Joe Sonnenberg of Chicago's Foster Ave. Church, a brother of Fred Sonnenberg, brought the message. Representatives of various organizations of the church and of sister churches, besides Dr. Frank H. Woyke for the North American Baptist Churches, welcomed the Sonnenbergs, to which Mr. Fred Sonnenberg responded. He has succeeded Rev. John E. Grygo, now of Bismarck, N. Dak., in the Ogden Park Church.

● On Sunday evening, April 3, the Baptist Woman's Missionary Society of Washburn, N. Dak., observed its 40th anniversary with an appropriate program. A historical review of the organization was given, and a memorial service was held. Rev. J. Matz of Bismarck, N. Dak., brought an encouraging message. Seven members were honored for holding membership in the society for 30 or more years. Two of them have been members for 38 years. The society was organized on April 2, 1915 when ten ladies and the pastor at that time, Rev. E. Broeckel, met for the first meeting. There are 33 members at the present time, and over the 40 years there have been 102 different members, as reported by Mrs. Orrin Enockson, secretary.

● On Palm Sunday evening, April 3, the choirs of the Emmanuel Baptist Church of Marion, Kans., and of the nearby Strassburg Baptist Church joined four other Protestant church choirs of Marion in presenting the cantata, "The Resurrection Story" by Carrie B. Adams, at the Marion Municipal Auditorium. There were about 100 voices in the combined choir. Both the Emmanuel and Strassburg choirs were represented by special solo parts. Rev. Fred Knalson of Marion offered the invocation and Rev. Leonard Hinz of the Strassburg church the

CHILDREN'S DAY, 1955

Children's Day falls on Sunday, June 12, 1955. That is also the closing Sunday of the General Conference in Waco, Texas. Some churches will probably postpone their Sunday School observance of Children's Day to June 19, 1955.

The programs and recitation material in English and German were sent to all Sunday School superintendents late in April. The program features the song, "Tell Others of Jesus" by Dr. H. von Berge and Mr. Reuben Windisch. The story of our new Baptist Church at Geneva, Neb., is also featured. The offerings are designated for the Chapel Building Fund of the denomination. An interesting picture of two boys playing checkers appears on the front cover.

If you have not received the material or programs or if you desire more copies of the same, send your request immediately to Rev. E. J. Baumgartner, 3734 Payne Ave., Cleveland 14, Ohio, and your request will receive prompt attention.

offertory prayer. The Senior CBY groups from both churches held a united Easter sunrise service at the lake near Marion on April 10, followed by a breakfast.

● On Saturday evening, May 14, the commencement banquet of the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, S. Dak., was held at the First Baptist Church. Mr. Walter W. Grosser of Oak Park, Ill., General Conference moderator, was the speaker. The baccalaureate service on Sunday morning, May 15, was held in the Seminary chapel. Rev. E. Fenske of the class of 1926, pastor at Herreid, S. Dak., was the baccalaureate speaker. The commencement address was brought on Sunday afternoon, May 15, at the impressive exercises held in the sanctuary of the First Baptist Church. Rev. Rubin Kern of Forest Park, Ill., was the commencement speaker. A class of 14 students received their degrees. Dr. George A. Lang, president, also addressed the graduating class.

● A Sunday School contest over six weeks was recently concluded at the Emmanuel Baptist Church, Marion, Kansas. The Sunday School was divided into two groups called the "Reds" and the "Blues." Mr. Ted Longhofer and Mr. Leslie Broadstreet served as the captains. In a number of instances a 20 per cent increase was noted over last year, and on one Sunday only two persons failed to bring
(Continued on Page 23)

Our Denomination in ACTION

Central Conference

Ten Persons Baptized and Received Into East Side Baptist Church, Chicago, Illinois

We of the East Side Baptist Church of Chicago, Ill., were privileged to have baptismal services on Palm Sunday and on Easter Sunday evening. On Palm Sunday, April 3, four adults were baptized: a man and his wife and their grown son, and the husband of a wife who had come into the church a few years ago. On Easter Sunday evening, April 10, six Sunday School scholars followed the Lord in baptism.

They are a promising group of young people and we have great hopes for all of them. Their spiritual growth shows that the Sunday School teachers are doing a fine piece of work. Besides these, we received the mother of one of the girls who was baptized. She came by letter from another church here in Chicago. All of the organizations of the church are quite active in their own way.

Henry R. Schroeder, Pastor.

Dakota Conference

Ordination of Rev. Ben Lantt by the Baptist Church, Mercer, North Dakota

On Thursday afternoon, March 17, an ordination council met at the Mercer Baptist Church of Mercer, N. Dak., for the purpose of ordaining the pastor of the church, Mr. Ben Lantt. Delegates from Underwood, Turtle Lake, the Rosenfeld church and McClusky were present. Also the pastors from Carrington and Beulah along with the pastors of the above mentioned churches attended.

After a clear-cut and scholarly rendition of the ordination paper by the candidate, the council adjourned for secret deliberation. The testimony and doctrinal views of Mr. Lantt were considered satisfactory and the council recommended him to the church for ordination.

The ordination service took place that same evening. Rev. H. Schauer of Turtle Lake led the song service and read the minutes of the afternoon sessions. Rev. Carl Weisser of Carrington, moderator of the day's sessions and also conference Mission Secretary, was in charge of the evening service. Rev. R. Grenz of Underwood led in the Scripture reading and prayer. The male chorus of the local church presented two numbers along with a vocal solo from one of the church and a solo from Mr. Lantt com-

posed the special music of the evening. Rev. Ernest Lantt of Beulah, nephew of Ben Lantt, delivered the ordination sermon. Mr. Weisser brought the charge to the candidate and Rev. A. Voigt of Rosenfeld the charge to the church. The ordination prayer was expressed by Rev. D. Klein of McClusky, a former pastor of the candidate. Rev. Ben Lantt then dismissed the service with the benediction.

The occasion was a spiritual highlight for both the church and pastor and for all in attendance.

H. Schauer, Reporter.

Officers and Teachers Elected at Annual Business Meeting at McLaughlin, South Dakota

Recently we of the Baptist Church, McLaughlin, S. Dak., held our annual business meeting with election of officers. Mr. R. E. Hale was reelected church clerk and Mr. J. J. Schweigert for a three-year term on the board of deacons. Mr. A. K. Bertsch is chairman of this board. Argo Brockel will serve on the board of trustees for a three-year term. Mr. E. B. Glaser is chairman. Mrs. J. J. Schweigert is the church treasurer.

Our Publications Agent is Reuben Fritz. The ushers are Reuben Schlenker and Art Hetterley with Argo Brockel and Richard Glaser the assistants. Mrs. A. K. Bertsch and Mrs. B. R. Fritzke were reelected pianist and assistant. Mrs. C. E. Aldinger is reporter.

The Sunday School superintendent is Leo Friez and the vice-superintendent, R. E. Hale. Mrs. A. K. Bertsch was reelected as recording secretary. Gladys Rott was elected as finance secretary. The Sunday School treasurer is Mrs. Art Moser.

The Junior CBY leaders are Mrs. Delford Strobel and Mrs. R. E. Hale. Sunday School pianist and assistant are Mrs. Art Hetterley and Mrs. B. R. Fritzke. The teachers for the Sunday School classes with their assistants are: J. J. Schweigert and A. K. Bertsch, Mrs. B. R. Fritzke and Reuben Friez, Rev. B. R. Fritzke and Mrs. Reuben Friez, Mrs. R. E. Hale and Mrs. Art Hetterley, Mrs. Delford Strobel and Mrs. C. E. Aldinger, Mrs. Art Moser and Mrs. Jake Moser, Mrs. A. K. Bertsch and Darlene Schott. A new ruling was adopted by the Sunday School to the effect that the assistant teachers will be given the opportunity to teach once a month.

We have established a Building Fund which is growing steadily. We have designated the first Sunday in every other month as Building Fund Sunday. Since we are in dire need of Sunday School class room space, we may be able to do something about it in the very near future, the Lord willing.

Mrs. C. E. Aldinger, Reporter.

Ground Breaking Exercises for New Edifice of the Ebenezer Church, Lehr, North Dakota

On Sunday evening, March 13, the members of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Ebenezer Church, Lehr, N. Dak., held their annual program. Mrs. John Kranzler, vice-president, was in charge. A group song and a ladies' trio were the special numbers in song. The secretary, Mrs. Jacob Schopp, Jr., gave a combined treasurer-secretary's report, showing an income for the past twelve months of \$864.93. A dialog on "Building the Church" was rendered by twelve women. They used imaginary bricks, each one labeled peace, faith, hope, joy, etc., materials that are very essential in building a church structure. An offering was taken for the building fund.

Before closing Rev. George Breikreuz gave an opportunity, for all who wished, to do a little reminiscing since this was the last meeting in the old church building. Early on Monday morning, March 14, the contracted party plus about 15 of our own men were present with hammers, chisels and all the necessary destructive instruments, and with an average of about twelve men every day all signs of a church had been removed in exactly five days.

Sunday, March 27, was a momentous occasion for all the members and the faithful friends of the Ebenezer Baptist Church. It could have been an even more joyous time for all, except for the sudden illness of Rev. G. Breikreuz, our pastor, who was unable to take part in the activities. Dr. George A. Lang of Sioux Falls, S. Dak., was in charge of the ground breaking exercises. Rev. V. Prendinger of Fredonia read Nehemiah 2 and also led in prayer. Dr. George A. Lang spoke very fittingly on the words, "Let us rise up and build."

Mr. Jacob Kessler gave a brief history of the church, naming all the pastors who had served this congregation up to the present time. John Kranzler reported on the newly planned edifice as to size, approximate number and position of all rooms, etc. Special music was furnished by a mixed quartet of Mrs. Ruedow Ulmer (Delores Ehman), Mrs. John Kranzler, Henry Kranzler and John Kranzler. Then shovels of dirt were unearthed by all visiting pastors, Rev. L. O. Wahl, Wishek; Rev. V. Prendinger, Fredonia; Rev. A. Bibelheimer, Ashley; and Dr. George A. Lang. Members of the church followed in like fashion and at the same time pledged sums of money. The services closed with the song, "The Church's One Foundation," and prayer by Mr. Bibelheimer.

The excavation had begun, but due to frozen ground the work was postponed for a few days. The congregation, in the meantime, is holding Sunday morning and evening services in the American Legion Hall.

Mrs. John Kranzler, Reporter.

Pacific Conference

Dedication of New Educational Unit Building by Bethel Baptist Church, Anaheim, California

Sunday, March 27, marked an important achievement in the building program of the Bethel Baptist Church of Anaheim, Calif. On property bought about 18 months ago, our Educational Unit now stands, completed and dedicated to the Christian education of its youth. It is an accomplishment of which our congregation is justly proud.

It is a two-story building, modest in appearance, but larger than it looks. As one enters it for a casual inspection and looks down the long red-tiled corridor, one is at once favorably impressed. As one continues to view the many small and large classrooms, grouped as they are around central assembly rooms, all of them light and airy, fully equipped, one is sure that this is no ordinary Sunday School building. One cannot escape the conclusion that a lot of capable planning went into the construction of this building.

Classrooms and equipment are provided for all age groups from infants to college-age students. All rooms including interior rooms have ample daylight, made possible by a large lightwell in the center of the building, the bottom of which serves as a patio on the ground floor. All rooms have plastered walls, acoustical ceilings, composition tile floors, and forced air heating. Furniture and equipment are ample. Some of it is novel and unusual, as for instance, specially designed baby cribs, and a unit, consisting of refrigerator, stove and sink, which is installed in the nursery.

The dedication program started with open house from 2:30 to 5:00 P.M. Friends from Costa Mesa and our several churches in the Los Angeles area and our own city and church took this opportunity to tour the building. The teachers in their departments stood in the receiving line. At the end of the tour, a table, set on the upper floor veranda, laden with cookies and punch awaited each guest. It brought favorable comments and good wishes from individuals and local officials, civic and religious.

From 5:00 to 6:00 P.M. we met in the church for the dedication service. Among those voicing their felicitations to the large assemblage were the mayor of Anaheim, president of the Association of Christian Churches, president of the Ministerial Union, both of Anaheim, the architect, the contractor, and by letter various churches of the denomination in the state. The chairman of the Building Committee gave a brief historical review, and the chairman of the Construction Committee presented the keys of the building to the Sunday School superintendent. Rev. B. Jacksteit, our pastor, gave the keynote address entitled, "Prayer at Dedication,"



The new Educational Unit of the Bethel Baptist Church, Anaheim, California, with spacious classrooms and modern equipment for all age groups from infants to college age students

based on the dedication of Solomon's temple.

A social hour with a buffet supper concluded the event of the day, and so the pastor and the people dedicated themselves anew to the teaching of the Word of God in both precept and example.

Olga Pieper, Reporter

Immanuel Baptist Church, Portland, Ore., Starts Sunday School on New Church Site

It was with great anticipation and much joy that our second staff of teachers met at the Immanuel Baptist Church, Portland, Oregon, for prayer before the opening of Sunday School on March 6. For this was the first service held in the residence at the property recently purchased by the church for relocation. This property is located at N. E. 83rd and Prescott Streets, and contains six lots together with a lovely residence with seven rooms and large cement basement.

There were 40 persons present. Our hearts were joyous at seeing each new face, and we thanked God for

opening this new avenue of service to us.

The church worship service was started on Palm Sunday, April 3, with Mr. Myrl Thiesies preaching. Mr. Thiesies has attended the Bible Institute of Los Angeles, Western Conservative Baptist Seminary and is at present a student at Cascade College, the latter two located in Portland.

We are conducting several visitation programs in the new neighborhood. Also we are planning this summer's Daily Vacation Bible School at this location and pray God's continued guidance over all of our endeavors to further his Kingdom.

The following are working at the new Sunday School: Mr. Seth Marks, superintendent; Mrs. Rudy Bauder, pianist; teachers: Mr. and Mrs. Seth Marks, Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Bauder, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Reck, and Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Young. Treasurer and secretary are Mr. and Mrs. Maitland Sanford.

Rev. Henry Barnet is pastor of the home church, and Mr. Paul Miller is Sunday School superintendent.

Mrs. Rudy Bauder, Reporter



Residence and property at N.E. 83rd and Prescott Streets, Portland, Oregon, purchased by the Immanuel Baptist Church for its new Sunday School mission and future site for its new edifice

Easter Season Programs and Activities at the Bethany Church Near Portland, Oregon

The Bethany Baptist Church near Portland, Oregon, has been receiving real blessings during the various special gatherings of the past month. The Ladies' Missionary Guild under the able leadership of Mrs. Ben Croeni gave a very fine program at its 28th anniversary. Dr. Margaret Robson, a returned medical missionary from Jhansie, India, was the guest speaker who also showed colored slides. Various Guild members were featured in instrumental and vocal selections, with the entire Guild singing "Labor On" as the closing song.

It was with great joy that eleven young converts were baptized during the Sunday evening service of March 27. The following Sunday (Palm Sunday), they received the hand of fellowship in joining the church, one other coming by letter.

The young people of Bethany Church were hosts to a group of the neighboring churches which gather once a month following the evening service for sing-spiration and fellowship. It was a real joy to see 125 young folks gather in this way.



Junior Church congregation of the Emmanuel Baptist Church, Morris, Manitoba, with Mr. and Mrs. Waldemar Rempel (extreme left and right, back row), leaders

Our minister, Rev. Arthur Schulz, gave us a surprise when Sunday evening found us with a missionary appointee to Patagonia, South America, as our guest speaker. The "Gods Stewarts," our men's group, had a blessed time of fellowship at a "Hot Cake" supper. The Gideons had charge of the service after the supper.

Easter Sunday is always a blessing to all who worship our risen Lord. The Sunday School presented its program with even the smallest ones participating during the Sunday School hour. Special Easter music was presented by the choir and a mixed quartet during the morning service. A musical evening featuring the adult and junior choirs, male chorus, special vocal groups, and our newly organized 15-piece orchestra made a joyous conclusion to Easter Sunday.

Mrs. Bill Jenne, Reporter

Atlantic Conference

87th Birthday Celebration of Woman's Missionary Society, Ridgewood Church, Ridgewood, N. Y.

A special program was prepared to mark the 87th anniversary of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Ridgewood Baptist Church, Ridgewood, N. Y., on March 30. The president, Mrs. Ella Beck, led the meeting. Rev. Paul Zoschke of our sister church, Evergreen Baptist, offered prayer. A number of visitors from the Evergreen Church were also with us. Mrs. Paul Wengel, the vice-president, read the Scripture passage.

The flowers which decorated the auditorium were presented by Mrs. Ella Beck in memory of her own mother and of all other women of the Society who by their loyalty and devotion have made Christ more real in our midst.

Our own pastor, Rev. Paul Wengel, brought words of greeting and congratulation to the Society on this 87th birthday. Mrs. Hilmar Ross, our organist, favored us with an organ selection.

Korjus told of the program which sends needy New York children to country church families, sponsors refugee families and invites young students who are strangers in the city to Christian homes.

The choir rendered a fitting selection, and then everyone was invited to partake of the fine refreshments, prepared by the women of the church, in the social period that followed.

Marion von Ahnen, Reporter

Southern Conference

Evangelistic Meetings and Easter Sunrise Service at West Side Church, Beatrice, Nebraska

From March 28 to April 8 evangelistic services were held at the West Side Baptist Church of Beatrice, Nebraska. Rev. L. H. Smith of Quincy, Ill., brought the message and children's story each evening. Attendance was good, and we want to thank the Lord for these services and for the revival within our own hearts.

On Easter morning, April 10, we held our sunrise service. A breakfast was served by some of the men. Miss Phyllis Cory led in the singing of choruses. We were then favored with two numbers sung by Eula, Arlene and Linda Niday, and by Joyce Williams, Beverly Whitehead, Daryl Hill and Junior Ahl. Mr. Eden spoke with emphasis on prayer to young people. Rev. George W. Neubert is the pastor of our church.

Beverly Whitehead, Reporter

Northern Conference

Junior Church Services at the Emmanuel Baptist Church of Morris, Manitoba

Since October, 1954 the Junior Church of the Emmanuel Baptist Church, Morris, Man., has been placed in charge of Mr. and Mrs. Waldemar Rempel. The average attendance has been 65 for this period. The age range is 5 to 14 years. For the song period they are divided into two groups: 5-8 years and 9-14 years, inclusive. This is really an intensive choir rehearsal period for the youngsters and they make the most of it, too. Mrs. Rempel takes the younger children and Mr. Rempel the older group.

After this, they come into the Sunday School auditorium for their regular Sunday worship service which follows the same pattern as the service for the adults. The Junior Choir renders two numbers. Their appointed leaders read Scripture and offer prayer. They have their own ushers. They are taught to listen reverently and to conduct themselves worshipfully during these exercises. All are encouraged to take part in prayer and testimonies. Their choir, under the leadership of Mr. Rempel, sings for special occasions in the church sanctuary also.

Because the girls and boys of today are going to be the church of tomorrow, we feel that special care should be tendered these little ones in preparing them for the responsibilities which they will have to take upon themselves in the years to come.

Ida Hoffman, Reporter.

Evangelistic Services at McDermot Avenue Church, Winnipeg, Man., With Pastor as Evangelist

From March 6 to 18 we at the McDermot Avenue Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba, held evangelistic meetings in the English language with our pastor, Rev. H. J. Waltereit, as evangelist. Mr. Herman Effa, our assistant pastor, took charge of providing stories for the children every evening and arranged for musical numbers to beautify the service.

Mr. Waltereit's messages were heart-searching and enlightening. Christians were revived and challenged to greater service, and we thank God for the souls who were saved. The stories told to the children by Auntie Ardath and Auntie Lois were filled with deep meaning and had a very definite message for young and old alike. The young people met before the service for at least a half hour of prayer, and we thank God for answering these prayers in that he blessed us so abundantly during this time.

We had a good attendance and we could feel the Holy Spirit working in our midst. May our church always be in tune to the will of God, so that the Holy Spirit will have full control.

Miss E. Redlich, Reporter.

Good Friday and Easter Sunday Services at Baptist Church, Nokomis, Saskatchewan

On Good Friday evening, April 9, the young people of the Baptist Church, Nokomis, Sask., presented a program with choir, duets, quartets, trios, solos and instrumental numbers. They also gave a pantomime, "In the Garden They Laid Him," with the tomb and the Holy City as a background. The church was filled to overflowing. The young people have also presented this program at Seaman's and Serath.

The Nokomis Baptist Church again was blessed on Easter Sunday. In the morning we had our services as usual, but after the worship service our pastor, Rev. Oscar Fritzsche, stepped into the baptismal waters with eight candidates, seven from Nokomis and one from Lockwood, and baptized them on profession of their faith in Christ.

In the evening the Nokomis Choir presented a cantata, "The Golden Dawn," which was enjoyed by all. Mr. Fritzsche gave a short message on the last words Jesus spoke from the Cross, "Father into thy hands I commend my Spirit"—and "He Is Risen." To complete the Easter day we had the communion service and our pastor gave the hand of fellowship to the new converts, giving each a Scripture verse to guide him or her through life.

Mrs. Fritzsche, Reporter.



The Woman's Missionary Society of the McDermot Avenue Baptist Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba, on the festive occasion of its 50th anniversary

Golden Anniversary of the McDermot Ave. Woman's Missionary Society, Winnipeg, Manitoba

In the beautifully decorated sanctuary of the McDermot Ave. Church of Winnipeg, Man., Canada, the ladies of the Woman's Missionary Society recently presented a well prepared program to celebrate fifty years of work and grace within the activities of the church. A large sign over the platform indicated in gold letters, "50th Anniversary." Beautiful flowers added color and fragrance.

Under the leadership of our president, Mrs. H. Waltereit, we reviewed these 50 years in songs, poems and reports. The presence of three charter members, namely, Mrs. J. Otto, Mrs. Lehr and Mrs. Grapentine, was a special privilege and joy. Mrs. J. Otto was president of the society for a good many years.

Fifty years ago the city of Winnipeg itself was little more than a small town. The ladies of the church have always had the great task of ministering to immigrants, and were always ready to heed the cry of distress and need of our people in Europe. Human records will never be able to hold the deeds of love and compassion which they have rendered.

The Women's Chorus sang two lovely songs, one of which was composed for this occasion by one of our members, Mrs. Bruchmann, who also recited one of her poems. The play, "Nimm Zeit dir zur Andacht," presented a challenge to live more devoted lives and to seek the fellowship of the living Lord. In closing, our pastor, Rev. H. Waltereit, gave a brief message of greeting to the Jubilee society. We will continue to walk in the faith of our fathers, and humbly fill the place assigned to us by our Lord and Master.

Mrs. E. Sturhahn, Reporter.

All books reviewed and other books on the market can be ordered from the
ROGER WILLIAMS PRESS,
 3734 Payne Ave., Cleveland 14,
 Ohio

BOOK REVIEWS

(Continued from Page 13)

be heartily recommended for our homes with children.

TABLE TALK AND TIDBITS. Compiled by Dorothy A. Stevens. The Judson Press. 159 pages. \$2.50.

To break bread with anyone, says Miss Stevens, establishes a bond of fellowship. It is her hope that through the stories and recipes in this book the reader and the eater will identify themselves with these friends around the world and draw them into the inner circles of their family. This book can be highly recommended to leaders of missionary societies who want to plan something different for their missionary programs with refreshments and meals that have the flavor of other countries and people. It is likewise fascinating to any Christian housewife who wants to try "something different" on her family and at the same time to teach them missions. Altogether, over 70 stories and 100 recipes have been included from 64 contributors living in five continents of the world. The spiritual comments and missionary stories accompanying the recipes are a vital part of this unusual book.

GREAT IS THE LORD. By Robert G. Lee. Fleming H. Revell Co. 160 pages. \$2.00.

This is far more than a volume of sermons by one of America's great preachers, a former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, and now pastor of the Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee. It is called "a five foot homiletical shelf—all in one volume!" Dr. Lee deals scripturally and with detailed exposition with such basic Christian themes as salvation, the personal devil and sin, justification, the second coming of Christ, etc. He quotes from the Scriptures profusely, illustrates his points graphically, and prepares a full table with food for reflection. In one chapter on

(Continued on Page 24)



Tolliver's Chapel Baptist Church Choir, the finest and most popular Negro Choir in the Waco area, will present a thrilling program of spirituals and sacred songs on Sunday evening, June 12, at the General Conference (7:00-7:45 P.M.). Mrs. W. R. Anderson, director and accompanist, is in 2nd row (extreme right). The pastor, Rev. O. L. Hegmon is in the foreground (center)

AS I SEE IT!

(Continued from Page 11)

formation of a "General Council," composed of representatives of our various organizations, together with the general elected officers, which would have jurisdiction over their affairs. To many this appeared a revolutionary procedure and it met with strenuous opposition on the part of some of the organizations. But in the end the idea prevailed in 1934 and the General Council was born. In 1940 it was broadened to include elected representatives from the various local conferences, thus making it more representative along geographic lines. In this form it functions today.

MEMORABLE CONFERENCES

The rapid development of our work in the northwest demanded that we face this problem and so in 1937 we met for the first time in the west, in Portland, Oregon. Many feared that the distance would prevent many from attending, but the large attendance proved their fears unfounded. For the first time the English language predominated both in the discussions and the devotional meetings, proving that we courageously were facing the language problem.

In 1940 the Conference was to have met in Winnipeg, Manitoba, but the war made it impracticable. Burlington, Iowa, graciously extended an invitation and we met there in 1940. The attendance broke all previous records. For the first time the program was conducted entirely in the English language. A promotional secretary was elected and plans made to raise another "Centenary Offering" of \$100,000. (The first Jubilee Offering was completed in 1910.)

In 1944 the "theological conflict," which had been brewing since 1922, finally came to a head. It resulted in a complete reorganization of our educational system, the election of a new president for our Seminary, the ap-

pointment of new members to the faculty and the enlargement of the School Board.

The enlargement of our Cameroons Mission was approved and Paul Gebauer was made superintendent of our mission work in the Cameroons. Who will ever forget that hour in May 1944 when almost a dozen of our young people responded to the appeal and volunteered for the task? Since then the work has grown by leaps and bounds, until it has become not only an outstanding achievement of our North American Baptists but is considered an outstanding accomplishment of foreign mission work in the annals of much larger denominations.

Again in 1946, yielding to the rapid growth of our work in the northwest, we met in Tacoma, Washington. Because of the retirement of Rev. Wm. Kuhn, we faced the problem of electing a new executive secretary. The Holy Spirit guided us in electing Rev. Frank H. Woyke as his successor. Also due to the retirement of Rev. Samuel Blum, editor of "Der Sendbote," we were confronted with the problem of electing a new editor for our German publications. Rev. W. J. Luebeck was chosen for that position.

WHAT HATH GOD WROUGHT!

At the same Conference it was voted to transfer our Seminary from Rochester, N. Y., to a point farther west. Sioux Falls, S. Dak., was finally agreed upon as the most suitable site. This action was confirmed at Sioux

GENERAL CONFERENCE MAIL

Your address for mail to be sent to you while at the Waco General Conference should read:

NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST
GENERAL CONFERENCE
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY,
WACO, TEXAS

Falls in 1949 and the new Seminary was dedicated in 1950, entirely free of debt, at a total cost of \$225,000.

This article is not intended as a history of our denomination. For that purpose we refer you to the reading of the book, "These Glorious Years," published in Cleveland in 1943, and the various Conference Reports. But in looking back we can only say, "What hath God wrought!" That many new problems will have to be faced at Waco, Texas, no one will deny. Let us resolve to go forward with the same faith that animated those who faced the problems of their day, trusting that HE, who guided their paths, will also guide ours.

CENTRAL CHURCH, WACO

(Continued from Page 10)

laboring families, yet the remaining indebtedness on our church plant is only \$8,500.

You will be interested to know that this is the church home of our denominational missionary, Margaret Kittlitz, who has rendered a monumental service as missionary-nurse in the Cameroons, Africa. Dr. Charles W. Koller, president of Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, also grew up in this church, and our beloved Dr. Martin L. Leuschner was born here.

We invite you to visit our church during conference time! Inspect the grounds and spend a few moments in quietness and meditation in the church building itself. It is about a mile and a half from Waco Hall, site of the conference sessions, and only one block off the street on which Waco Hall is located. The address of the church is 29th Street and Connor Avenue.

God has most graciously led us in a period of advancement. The church now faces the tremendous responsibility of preaching the Word to a new and growing community of people for whom Christ died. We look back only to thank God and to find encouragement for the task before us.

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. CARL F. GRANZOW of Forest Park, Illinois.

Mrs. Hannah Granzow, nee Einfeldt, of Forest Park, Ill., was born and reared in Oak Park, Ill. She was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. August Einfeldt. She was a faithful member of the Forest Park Baptist Church, for many years giving her vocal talent to the glory of God as a member of the church choir. After several years of lingering illness, she died suddenly, to be with her Lord whom she implicitly trusted and faithfully served, on Monday, March 21. She is survived by her loving husband, Mr. Carl F. Granzow; a sister, Mrs. Clara Vanderkloot of Antioch, Ill.; a circle of relatives and many friends. Funeral services were held from the Forest Park Baptist Church. May the Lord's hand of comfort rest upon and guide the bereaved!

Forest Park Baptist Church,
Forest Park, Illinois

REV. RUBIN KERN, Pastor.

MR. MICHAEL PRAST of Beaver Township, Mich.

Mr. Michael Prast of Beaver Township, Mich., was born October 24, 1861 in Russian Poland, and he died March 28, 1955, reaching the beautiful age of 93 years. He was married to Frances Schuler in 1887. They both came to the United States in 1891. The family had three children, of whom one son preceded the parents in death. Our mother in Christ is survived by one brother, August of Los Angeles, Calif.; three sisters: Augusta Lietzau, St. Paul, Minn.; Matilda Waeiss, Detroit, Mich.; and Pauline Wolfe, Battle Creek, Mich.; one daughter, Mrs. Paul Schuler; and one son, Robert of Beaver Township; four grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Mr. Prast was converted in the Bethel Baptist Church of Detroit, and baptized by Rev. Otto in 1901. After moving to Beaver Township, he became a charter member of the Beaver Baptist Church near Midland, Mich. He remained a faithful member until his death. While the pastor of the church was hospitalized, Rev. D. A. Lindsay of the Hope Baptist Church officiated at the funeral, and brought words of comfort to the bereaved family and friends. Interment took place in the Beaver Township Cemetery.

Beaver Baptist Church,
Auburn, Michigan

HENRY HIRSCH, Pastor.

MRS. ERICH NEUSITZER of Chicago, Illinois.

Mrs. Emma Neusitzer, nee Dalley, of Chicago, Ill., was born in Germany on June 27, 1878. She was the only child of a devout Christian family and early was taught in the "ways of the Lord." On June 3, 1895, after a public confession of Christ as Savior and Lord, she was baptized at Insterburg by the Rev. Hinzke and added to the membership of the local church.

On April 12, 1923, the family arrived in Chicago, where she lived the rest of her life. Here she joined the First German Baptist Church (Foster Avenue Baptist Church) and remained a faithful member until her passing.

Left to mourn her passing besides her husband in the immediate family circle are two daughters: Lenore, Mrs. N. Franze; Louise, Mrs. W. Zoch; four grandchildren: Leona and Delores Zoch, Mrs. Elva Adams, and Harold Franze; and three great-grandchildren, and a large group of friends who remember her with deep respect.

On March 29, after a pilgrimage of 76 years, nine months and two days, she calmly and peacefully slipped away to be with her Lord whom she adored. During her life she was called upon to suffer. The

last 16 months she spent in bed. During the time of her illness, she bore herself with superb Christian grace. Her spirit remained loving and tender to the end. She died as she had lived, at peace with God. Funeral services were conducted on Saturday, April 2, 1955. The undersigned spoke on "The Comforts of a Godly Mother," using Isa. 66:13 and 2 Tim. 4:7.

Foster Avenue Baptist Church,
Chicago, Illinois

JOE SONNENBERG, Pastor.

MR. JOHN OBERMILLER of Kenosha, Wisconsin.

Mr. John Obermiller of Kenosha, Wis., was born in Germany, December 18, 1890 and passed on to his heavenly reward after an extended illness on March 23, 1955. He reached the age of 64 years, three months and five days.

He came to Canada at the age of 18 and settled in Manitoba. On July 16, 1921 he was married to Caroline Herter and this union was blessed with two children. Together with his wife and children he came to the United States in 1925 and made his home in Kenosha, Wis. In 1928 he accepted Christ as his personal Savior, was baptized upon confession of his faith by Rev. Jacob Herrman and received into the fellowship of the Immanuel Baptist Church of which he was a faithful member to his death.

Mr. Obermiller leaves to mourn his departure, his wife, Caroline; his two daughters: Mrs. Edith Whitefoot and Mrs. Dean R. Ehlert, both of Kenosha; a brother and a sister, Joseph of Mitchell, S. Dak.; and Mrs. Kasper Seitz of Benito, Manitoba, Canada; and five grandchildren, as well as other relatives and friends who are looking forward to a blessed reunion.

Services were conducted at the church by Rev. Gordon J. Platt who spoke words of comfort from Psalm 23, a favorite Scripture portion of the deceased. The large audience and the many flowers at the memorial service were evidences of his many friends and the esteem in which he was held.

Immanuel Baptist Church,
Kenosha, Wisconsin

HERTHA BEHR, Church Clerk.

DR. A. D. STASSEN of Lorraine, Kansas.

Mr. Arthur Diedrick Stassen of Lorraine, Kansas, the youngest son of Henry and Dora Stassen, was born at Monee, Illinois, on April 22, 1884 and passed away at his home in Lorraine, Kansas, on March 20, 1955, at the age of 70 years and eleven months.

During his youth he professed Christ as his personal Savior, was baptized, and joined the Baptist Church in Green Garden Township, Will County, Illinois. He came to Kansas in 1908. Soon after, he joined the First Baptist Church of Lorraine, where for over 40 years he was a faithful member, serving as deacon and Sunday School teacher. In 1911, he was united in marriage to Miss Lillian Willms of Geneseo, Kansas. After engaging in farming and building, Mr. Stassen attended Calvin Chiropractic College in Wichita, Kansas. After a short practice there, he moved to Lorraine, where he engaged in his profession for the last 30 years. In his office contacts, he never failed to witness for his Lord. In his home, he was a loving, Christian husband and father.

Dr. Stassen is survived by his wife; four daughters: Mrs. Paul Peters, Jr. and Mrs. R. E. Fowler of Lorraine, Mrs. Glen Carlson of Port Angeles, Wash., and Mrs. Robert Wilkens of Hays, Kansas; one son, U. C. Stassen of Wichita, Kans.; a brother, Will of Plainville, Ill.; a sister, Mrs. Henry Hinrichs of De Motte, Ind.; five grandchildren; other relatives and many friends.

Funeral services were held from the First Baptist Church of Lorraine on March 23, with his pastor speaking on one of Dr. Stassen's favorite passages: "Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls" (1 Peter 1:9). Burial was in the Lorraine Baptist Cemetery. May the "God of all comfort" sustain the bereaved family.

First Baptist Church,
Lorraine, Kansas

HAROLD W. GIESEKE, Pastor.

MRS. ANNA SCHWEITZER of Philadelphia, Pa.

On March 16, 1955, the Lord called home Mrs. Anna Schweitzer, nee Vosseler, of Philadelphia, Pa., aged 75 years and nine months. She was born on June 7, 1879 in Thalheim, Württemberg, Germany, and came to the United States with her family in 1895, where she settled in Philadelphia, Pa. In 1896 she found Christ as Savior and was baptized on the confession of her faith into the fellowship of the Pilgrim Baptist Church, where she took an active part in the activities until incapacitated by a stroke a year ago. In 1908 she was married to Mr. Charles Schweitzer who preceded her in death by 2½ years. The Lord blessed this union with four children.

Her home-going is mourned by her three sons: Charles of Baltimore, Md., Arthur and Herbert; one daughter, Mrs. Anna Eisbrenner; and eleven grandchildren, all of Philadelphia, Pa.; as well as two sisters: Mrs. E. Marie Vosseler Krueger of Baltimore, Md., and Mrs. Katherine P. Vosseler Schairer of Philadelphia, Pa. She often refreshed her pastors with her encouragement and prayerful intercession. One of her favorite Psalms, the 121st, furnished the word of hope at the funeral service. The Lord is comforting the bereaved.

Pilgrim Baptist Church,
Philadelphia, Pa.

WALTER C. DAMRAU, Pastor.

MRS. CLARA SCHNUIT of Philadelphia, Pa.

Mrs. Clara Schnuit, nee Zieboldt, of Philadelphia, Pa., was born on November 25, 1876 in Marienewerder, Prussia, Germany, and went to her heavenly home on March 15, 1955, aged 78 years. In 1896 she came to the United States. Here she met Mr. Herman Schnuit whom she married on November 29, 1906. They were privileged to share life's journey together for 49 years. For more than ten years she had been ailing.

On March 6, 1911 she found Christ as her personal Savior and shortly thereafter was baptized on the confession of her faith in the Mt. Zion Church of Jersey City, N. J., and became active in Christian work. She had been a member of Pilgrim Baptist Church here since 1926, and since 1952 both she and her husband have been guests of our Home for the Aged.

Her home-going is mourned by her husband, Herman; one sister, Mrs. Anna Fiebrandt, and one brother, Richard Zieboldt, both in Germany. At the funeral service the Rev. P. Kemper of the Fleischmann Memorial Church assisted the pastor. The message of comfort was based on two of her favorite texts, Phil. 1:21-24 and John 14:1-3. The Lord is comforting the bereaved.

Pilgrim Baptist Church,
Philadelphia, Pa.

WALTER C. DAMRAU, Pastor.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

(Continued from Page 17)

their Bibles. The monthly mission offerings were just about double those of some previous months, as reported by Rev. Fred J. Knalson, pastor. Evangelistic meetings were held at the church from April 18 to 20 with Rev. J. K. Warkentin of Corn, Okla., as the evangelist. The speaker at the Pentecost Festival of the Marion church on Sunday, May 29, will be Dr. Ralph E. Powell, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

At a circus a thoughtful-looking gentleman stood for a long time, studying a camel. At length, he stooped, picked up a straw, and placed it on the camel's back. Nothing happened.

"Wrong straw," the man shrugged, then walked away.

Spice of Life

Traffic Officer: "How can you be sure you weren't exceeding the speed limit?"

Driver: "I was on my way to the dentist's."

One morning Brown looked over his garden wall and said to his neighbor, "What are you burying in that hole?"

"Oh," he answered, "I'm just re-planting some of my seeds."

"Seeds!" shouted Brown angrily. "It looks more like one of my hens."

"It is. The seeds are inside."

David: "What is the difference between a hill and a pill?"

Curtis: "I don't know."

David: "One is hard to get up and the other one is hard to get down."

Tom: "Joe, which hand do you use to polish your shoes with?"

Joe: "My right, of course."

Tom: "That's funny. Most people use a brush."

Interviewing a well-known business executive, the young lady reporter said: "I understand that you walk to the office every morning. Does that mean you're a devotee of outdoor exercise?"

"Not necessarily," he answered. "It only means that, these days, there isn't much left after taxes and taxis."

BOOK REVIEW—"GREAT IS THE LORD"

(Continued from Page 21)

"Great is the Lord," he presents an array of axiomatic assertions, affirmed attributes, astonishing acts, available actuality, and an ambassadorial assignment, all referring to God and his revelation in Christ. This is a most interesting book for all friends of Dr. Lee. It is also a memorable contribution to the serious thinking of all Christian people who want to know more of the mysteries of the Gospel and of the greatness of their God.

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE CHURCHES

(Continued from Page 8)

bers still keep it near the top. Its contributions to the Kingdom of God in lives and monetary gifts have been amazing. It is still a bright lighthouse for the Gospel that shines with evangelistic fervor and with a splendid educational program. Its pastor is Rev. Howard Schenk.

The story of the Central Baptist Church of Waco, Texas, the host church for the 31st General Conference is described separately in another article. It is a church that is very dear to my heart since it was my father's first pastorate (1902-1904) after Seminary days.

CARROLL AVE., DALLAS

In the metropolitan center of Dallas, Texas, with its immense Southern Baptist Churches, stands our Carroll Avenue Church. But it does not

have to stand in the shadow of any other church. It has enjoyed the glory of God that has been resplendent in its own ministry. Its missionary contributions have been large. Its ministry to the students of Dallas Theological Seminary, to nurses of nearby hospitals, and to young people of the city has been most commendable. It is always an enthusiastic congregation with a great faith in God's purposes for them. Even though its membership numbers only 107, you will find good-sized congregations listening intently to the sermons by Rev. Douglas H. Gallagher, pastor. Its parsonage next door is one of the best of the Southern Conference churches.

HURNVILLE CHURCH

Near the Panhandle section of Texas a few miles from Henrietta, Texas, you will find the Hurnville Baptist Church. Rev. Harold Ekzut was the minister until April 1, 1955. The beautiful white church stands out against the blue horizon as you come into this vicinity. With only 54 members, the struggle here has been uphill, but the church has won its spiritual victories with Christ in the past and God's promises today are as bright as ever.

Every one of these churches in the Southern Conference is like a sparkling jewel in a precious crown in God's sight! There are flaws, to be sure, and things to discourage the leaders of these churches at times, but with God's eyes you will see the marvelous things that have been accomplished over the years and the spiritual victories that are being won in these days in the Southern Conference churches.

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