

Baptist Herald

● ● ● NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE



April
5
1956

North American Baptist Seminary Faculty

Special Seminary Issue
Bible-centered Instruction
John Becomes a Minister

March of Events

● All newspaper ads for alcoholic drinks are barred in Sweden for six months. Neon signs advertising liquor are dark by night and covered by day. No liquor ads are allowed on billboards, either. The reason is that the Government is conducting a six-month campaign to make Sweden less "alcohol minded."

● The Yonan Codex, one of the oldest copies of the New Testament known to scholars, is on a tour of the 48 states of the U.S.A. by bus. The ancient manuscript, believed to have been written about A.D. 400, is in Aramaic, the language spoken by Jesus. Michael Yonan, an Iranian rug importer, brought it to the United States when he immigrated here 25 years ago. He says it had been in his family for 900 years. Recently, the manuscript had been on display in the Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

● This year the Christian world celebrates the 100th anniversary of the birth of Dr. R. A. Torrey, who was renowned as a fervent prayer warrior a personal soul winner, and a powerful revivalist. In a very real sense, as the mantle of Elijah fell upon Elisha, so Dr. Torrey was the successor of D. L. Moody. Torrey headed the new Bible institute founded by Moody through its formative years; pastored the church Moody founded; and followed Moody in the field of world evangelism. — Watchman-Examiner.

● A new corporation to be known as Zondervan Music Publishers has been formed by B. D. and P. J. Zondervan, partners in the Zondervan Publishing House, and Robert J. Hughes, formerly Music editor with "Singspiration" Publishers. The purpose of this new corporation is "to supply Christian people with quality Gospel music at reasonable prices." The first major project of the new music publishing company is the production and publication of a hymnal for use in evangelical churches.

FRONT COVER

The front cover picture shows the faculty of the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. In the front row (left to right) they are: Hugo Lueck, Professor of Church History and Greek Exegesis; George A. Lang, President, Professor of Pastoral Theology and Homiletics; George A. Dunger, Librarian, Professor of Missions; (back row) Herbert Hiller, Secretary of Faculty, Professor of Old Testament and Evangelism; Roy W. Seibel, Public Relations Director, Professor of New Testament and Worship; Martha M. Leyboldt, Registrar, Professor of Christian Education; and Ralph E. Powell, Professor of Biblical and Systematic Theology.

● Dr. Charles Clayton Morrison, editor emeritus of the "Christian Century," Chicago, was elected president of Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State at its annual meeting in Washington, D. C. He succeeds Dr. Edwin McNeill Poteat, of Raleigh, N. C., who died in December. Dr. Morrison had been a vice-president of the organization, which he helped found in 1947. Elected vice-president in his place was Dr. Joseph M. Dawson, of Austin, Texas, retired executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

● The tenth annual Child Evangelism Fellowship conference will be held at The Westside Christian Church, Wichita, Kans., May 7-11. Fellowship directors, teachers, workers, and friends gather each year to exchange ideas and to hear missionaries and Bible-centered messages. There will be handwork displays and workshops of different phases of children's work. This year's outstanding Bible teacher will be Dr. Richard Seume. Wichita has been chosen this year as meeting place because it is in the central section of the United States and has a large number of Good News Clubs.

● A large revolving globe, eight feet in diameter, soon will be spotlighted atop the Church of the Nazarene's new \$40,000 international headquarters building in Kansas City, Missouri. The globe symbolizes for the denomination obedience to the biblical injunction: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature." It will be mounted on a twelve-foot tower of porcelain-enameled steel. A motor will make the globe revolve slowly and continuously 24 hours a day. The Nazarene denomination has 4,200 churches, of which 800 are in the mission field, with a total of 269,510 members.

● The average Protestant minister puts in a 10-hour workday, of which 13 per cent is devoted to what he considers his most important function—preaching. This was determined through an analysis of questionnaires sent to 1,500 ministers representing 22 denominations in all parts of the United States. Dr. Samuel W. Blizzard, Jr., associate professor of sociology and rural sociology at Pennsylvania State University, reported on the survey in conjunction with the Ministers Week program of the Chicago Theological Seminary. The survey found the average minister spends 39 per cent of his slightly more than 16-hour waking day with his family. The remaining 61 per cent is broken down thus: 23 per cent at administrative tasks, 15 per cent as counselor, 13 per cent as preacher or officiant at services, 7 per cent as community and parish organizer and 3 per cent as teacher.

Editorial

Seminary Guideposts

THIS SEMINARY ISSUE with articles, pictures and stories pertaining to our North American Baptist Seminary at Sioux Falls, S. Dak., ought to be of unusual interest to "Baptist Herald" readers. Our Seminary is "going places" in its program of advance with beautiful buildings, unexcelled facilities, increased faculty, promise of a larger student body and greater support by our churches. If you will read this number carefully, you will soon become aware of the Seminary Guideposts that serve as objectives of the school's teaching ministry and spiritual influence.

Consider this Guidepost as our Seminary lifts its students into the presence of Christ and the truths of God's Word. To sit at the feet of these Seminary teachers, trying to absorb the wisdom of the ages, is to sit at the feet of the Master Teacher, Jesus Christ. These young people come to the close of their seminary studies with a firmer faith in Christ as Savior and Lord and with a greater, more comprehensive appreciation of God's Word as the Gospel revealed to all mankind. This is clearly evident in the content and spirit of the chapel sermons by senior students that are published in this issue of the "Baptist Herald." The prayer life of the students, the spiritual atmosphere of the school and the teaching of the classroom soon convince the visitor that our school lifts its students into a keen awareness of God's Word for our age and of Christ's presence in their own lives.

Another Guidepost that describes the objectives of our Seminary is the empowering of men and women as its students to rise to their feet and to realize their possibilities in service for Christ. A school must give its pupils assurance and self-confidence, opening their eyes to the things they might become and accomplish, if they are willing to pay the price. But a seminary must also carry out its educational task along with its Christian purposes of transforming the student into a humble, selfless ambassador of Jesus Christ whose sole aim is to glorify his Savior and to magnify his Name. One of the greatest joys of our churches undoubtedly is this awareness of timid, untried young men going to the Seminary and several years later coming from these sacred halls with spiritual tools in their hands, with a message that rings clear and true, and with a poise and confidence that sends them forth to "turn the world upside down" for Christ.

Another Guidepost by which the Seminary fulfills its objective is the harnessing of the enthusiasm of consecrated youth into a triumphant life of leadership. If the school makes anything with God's blessing, it makes well trained, spiritual leaders who spearheaded the program of God's Kingdom, who blaze new trails on mission fields, and who wield the scepter of administrative leadership in church affairs. The burning zeal and idealism of the student must be harnessed to the great eternal objectives of God. This requires the disciplining of life, the ability to choose the highest and best aims, and a commitment of oneself to God's call to preach the Word, in season and out of season. These are some of the Seminary Guideposts that will loom up prominently as you read this Special Seminary Issue.

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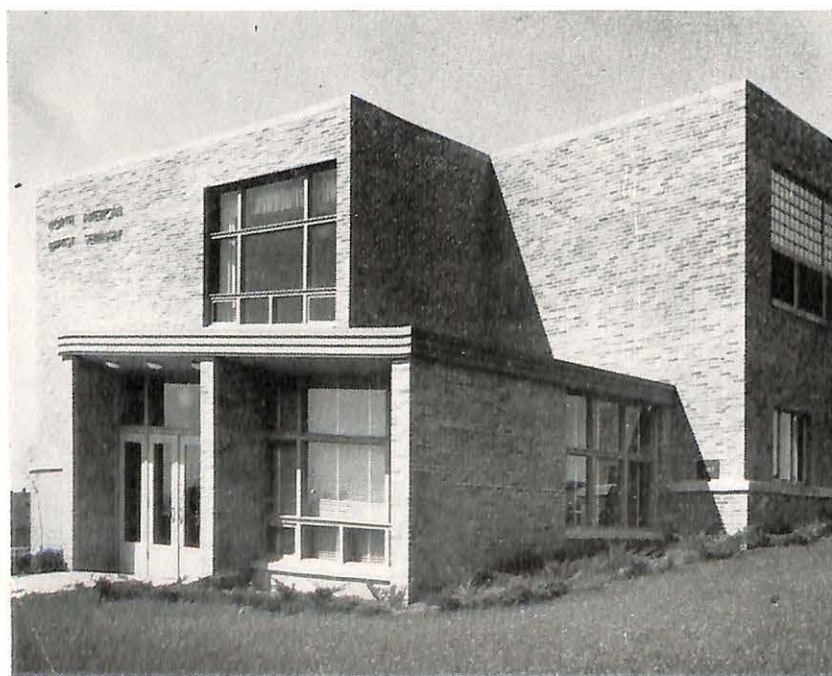
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Beautiful entrance to the administration and instructional wing of the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, S. Dak., showing the president's office at the right.



Dr. George A. Lang, Seminary president, speaking at a chapel service for students and faculty of the North American Baptist Seminary.

John Becomes a Minister

★

The making of a good minister of Jesus Christ at the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

★

By DR. GEORGE A. LANG, Seminary President

JOHN WANTS to be a Gospel minister. He plans to attend the Seminary for ministerial training. He hopes to be a pastor of a church in the United States or Canada, or to be a missionary on the North American continent, in the Cameroons, or in Japan. What will be his experience in becoming a minister? What part does his church, his Seminary and he himself play in this process?

John must first consider the concept of the Christian ministry. What is meant by "the ministry"? What does it involve? Who is a true minister? He must think of taking general and specialized courses of study, both before his entrance into and during his training at the Seminary. Somewhere during his training period he should become convinced of his definite ministerial objective—where he is to serve as pastor or missionary.

CHURCH'S RECOMMENDATION

When John applies for entrance into the Seminary, he is requested among other requirements to give an account of his Christian experience and purpose. In this statement he refers to his conversion and call to the ministry. He is also required to give a recommendation from his church and pastor. The former is usually secured after he has given a testimony of his Christian experience to the local church.

The members of the church evaluate the facts presented and the spirit in which the testimony is given. If the church is convinced that John's testimony gives evidence of having received a call of God into the Christian ministry, it sends such a recommendation to the Seminary. This is a serious decision on the part of the church since it involves the result, not merely of human evaluation and judgment, but also of a conscious guidance by the Holy Spirit in arriving at the

conclusion stated. It also means that John has been started in either the right or wrong direction in the securing of ministerial training.

When John states that he has felt the call of God into the Christian ministry, he is saying that he believes the ministry to be a divine calling. This does not eliminate the truth also that the ministry is looked upon in relationship to all other callings as a profession. As far as the concept of the word is concerned, however, John accepts the ministry as a calling. Yet most of the people in business and society will consider it as a profession similar to that of a doctor, lawyer, or statesman.

A DIVINE CALLING

What, therefore, is our understanding of a calling and a profession? What will John have to learn regarding the ministry in the light of these two expressions? It is very evident when reading the history of the Christian church, and especially of Baptists, that much weight has been laid upon the ministry as a divine calling. This is especially emphasized at the ordination service when a young man like John is officially set aside unto the Gospel ministry. The church and the council which has been called for the examination of the candidate, before the actual ordination takes place, give expression to the fact that they recognize God's call to him.

Rightly speaking, no church or council can ordain a man into the ministry. They are only visibly expressing to society that they recognize that the young man already has been ordained of God in the ministry. This is a visible testimony to a spiritual experience, just like baptism is such to the experience of the forgiveness of sin and the acceptance of the believer into the family of God through Jesus Christ.

John will have to deal with the reality of his call again and again. It will be tested by his experiences in life, both while at the Seminary and also while being pastor or missionary. His permanent conviction of call will help him to be properly oriented to the problems, challenges, temptations, and selfish allurements which will come his way.

After the Admissions Committee and the faculty of the Seminary are satisfied with his call and other required documents, John will be accepted as a ministerial student. It seems to me that it cannot be overemphasized that John already is in the ministry if he has had a true call of God. He is, however, entering a very important phase of the calling which is proper preparation. John will have had grade school and high school training at home, and two or four years (preferably four years) in a recognized standard college of liberal arts and science. His collegiate work should have given him a broad foundation upon which his Seminary training can be built.

A minister, today, must deal with all kinds of problems and with all kinds of people who have had college and specialized education. Even though John will not be required to have all of these specialties, he should have a broad enough education to give sympathy and understanding to men and women of all walks of life.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

With such a background he is ready to take a more specialized course of study which will equip him for effective work in the ministry. His spiritual life is not to be neglected while studying but needs to grow with his intellectual capacity and understanding. A seminary training will include both in its curriculum and activities. At the same time John is growing into a more mature adulthood during

these years. Therefore he will have to learn to make his own decisions which will help him in this growth. As a matter of fact, this is an expression of growth. The professors and instructors will teach and encourage intellectual and spiritual growth. But only as John responds in a conscious and voluntary acceptance of these instructions and challenges will he develop as a Christian minister who must lead his people aright under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The seminary training which John gets will include courses of content, outreach, and skill. In the content courses emphasis is laid upon beliefs, history, and tradition. The Bible is studied thoroughly to get a basis for Christian beliefs. Theology takes a central place in the curriculum with Biblical exegesis. A study of the development of the church as seen in its history assumes an important place. Great religious movements and traditions which have been handed down from one generation to another are studied, analyzed, and evaluated. Courses dealing with Christian outreach are taken by John. These cover world missions, evangelism, and Christian education. By them John gets an enlarged vision of his task as minister or missionary.

Then there are courses of skill which teach John how to conduct a worship service, how to construct sermons, how to make pastoral calls, and how to administer a church. He learns that much more is demanded today of a minister in the leadership of a church than was the case of a pastor fifty years ago. His training therefore is geared to his day.

The central task of a Seminary is to take the basic Biblical teachings

which are the same yesterday, today, and forever, as is the Lord Jesus Christ, and to pass them on. These teachings are eternal verities and change not with the passing generations. However, the world does not stay the same. New gadgets, new philosophies of government and religion, and new ways of living arise affecting the life and thinking of people. These new experiences must be thought through in the light of eternal truths of the Gospel and of the Bible.

The problems that come into the home, the church and society because of radio and television, of racism and supersonic modes of travel are different than the problems of our forebears one hundred or one thousand years ago. Thus the Seminary must ever be progressive in its application of the Gospel. John will deal with the winning of souls and the establishing of Christian homes and churches in the light of these advances. Therefore the type of training in a Seminary is never static.

At the end of his Seminary training, John should be equipped to bring the Gospel message in clarity to people who assemble for worship. He should know how to help people in their sickness, sorrow, and sin so that faith in Christ will bring to them the healing, the comfort and the salvation that are needed. He will also be trained in his personality and spirit so that he will not be moved by every wind of doctrine or change in scientific discovery, but will have sound judgment, true evaluation of the important and the less important, and will have the adventurous spirit of Christ to be a successful minister in a changing world.

What part does the local church play in the Seminary training of John?

This may seem to be an "off" question. Many have possibly thought of the training in a Seminary completely separated from local churches. To such the Seminary may seem to be something like a ministerial mill. A young man would enter the Seminary to become a minister. He would get three, five, or seven years of training there without much contact with the churches. He would be a faithful student grinding at his studies. Then at graduation the Seminary will have ground out its product—a minister.

WHAT CHURCHES CAN DO

The true picture is considerably different. The Seminary is incomplete in the training of the minister without the local churches. John comes to the Seminary, first of all, as the product of the church of which he is a member. He has received his first concept of the ministry from his pastor, his Sunday School teacher, the church leaders and his Christian parents. This concept will never fully be erased. Thus the Seminary is dependent upon the churches for their encouragement of qualified young men to enter the ministry.

Then John needs opportunities of service in the local church while he is studying at the Seminary. He will be directed in this by the director of field work at the Seminary. He will take advantage of summer appointments by the Student Service Plan of the Commissioned Baptist Youth Fellowship, which plan is appreciated by the Seminary immensely. He will need to be encouraged, corrected, and challenged by the pastor and leaders in whose church he will serve. This type of training is part of the Seminary's responsibility which cannot be carried out without the cooperation of the churches.

Finally, the Seminary needs the financial, moral, and spiritual support of the churches in the training of John. Beyond the fees, room and board which he must pay, more than a thousand dollars per student per year must be secured through endowment income and through contributions from the churches. The consecrated, well-trained and sacrificing members of the faculty need spiritual support by the prayers of the members in the churches.

Students and prospective students need likewise the prayers as well as words of encouragement from fellow-Christians and especially from the pastors and church leaders. Therein they contribute to the overall training and education of John.

With this support, with the training at the Seminary, with the infilling of the Holy Spirit, and with the wielding of the whole life to Christ, John is ready to begin the great work of pastoring a church or supervising a mission field, in which we pray he will have much joy, much success, and many souls won for Christ.



The North American Baptist Seminary Quartet which will visit many of our churches this summer.

Left to right: Robert Hoffman, Charles Littman, Paul Siewart and Arthur Boymook.



Students of the Class of 1956, North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, North Dakota. Left to right: Iver L. Walker, Bert Itterman, Henry R. Ramus, David Keiry and John Ziegler.

Chapel Talks

by

Seminary

Students,

Class of 1956



Prayer Versus Prison

By HENRY R. RAMUS of Arnprior, Ontario

"Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him" (ACTS 12:5).

THE TIME is during a great Passover Feast, 44 A.D. The place is the upper room in Mary's house at Jerusalem. Herod had killed James, and seeing that this pleased the Jews, Peter was also taken and cast into prison.

Meanwhile in the upper room, the church assembled for prayer. Their immediate purpose was to pray Peter out of prison. Could they do it? Peter lay bound with two chains and in the custody of sixteen soldiers and imprisoned behind three gates. He was as secure as imperial power could make him. And what had these Christian people? Well, they had the power of prayer, and they had Jesus Christ! That was all, and that was more than enough.

God sent an angel to deliver Peter in direct response to the prayer of these Christians. The helpless men who could only pray were stronger than Herod and his sixteen soldiers, his chains, and his gates. "Prayer was made." Therefore, all that happened

was brought to pass, and Peter was delivered.

Yes, God hears and answers the prayers of his people. Reason alone tells us this. If God is our Father, and we are his children, then surely he would not be indifferent to our welfare.

President Lincoln had a favorite son familiarly known as "Little Tad." One day at school he had some trouble and he went directly to the White House and into the room where the Cabinet was in session. There, heedless of everybody and everything, he threw himself into his father's arms and poured out his sorrows. The members of the Cabinet sat in silence and the affairs of Government stood still while the President listened to the complaint of little Tad. How much more will God, our Father, hear and answer when we appeal to him.

Furthermore, the Bible is full of promises regarding answered prayer. In addition there is testimonial evidence of millions of people who have experienced answered prayer. Thus, in the face of our crisis we too can resort to our upper room and wield a power that can release us from our imprisonment.

Our Preaching and Faith

By IVER L. WALKER of Ashley, North Dakota

ONCE AGAIN Easter has come and gone. Easter Sunday, that is! The message of Easter is eternally fresh and central to Christianity. The resurrection of Jesus is the cornerstone of Christianity; remove it and Christianity falls into a worthless heap of rubbish. That's why Paul says, "If Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain" (1 Cor. 15:14).

If Christ was not raised, then our preaching of the Gospel is nothing

but empty words based on the life of a good and great man, but that is all. The message of salvation would be gross fallacy. What sense is there in presenting a dead Christ; one who "cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities"; one who cannot say, "Lo, I am with you alway"? What merit is there in preaching the message of a man who did not fulfill his promises, a man who failed to accomplish the task he came to do? "If Christ be not risen" then "the preaching of the

cross is . . . foolishness," for the death of Christ in itself affords only despair, resulting in a message that is empty, unreal and vain.

Furthermore "your faith is also vain" "if Christ be not risen." Faith by itself can save no one. It must be in someone who can save. The rich and fashionable who crowded the staterooms of the "Titanic" as it sailed from England on its maiden voyage had faith that this ship would safely bring them to their desired destination. Had not the "Titanic" been heralded as the "unsinkable" ship? Five days out at sea it went to the bottom carrying with it 1502 souls. They had faith. But it was in something that was not worthy. Their faith was vain.

In like manner "if Christ be not risen," our faith is vain. A dead savior cannot atone for our sins. He cannot give us a hope of future life, for he himself is bound by sin and death.

But the glorious message of Easter is "HE IS RISEN!" The Gospel message is not a fallacy. It is rather "the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth." He is worthy of our faith for "he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." Our living Savior will never leave us nor forsake us, for he cares for his own. Daily he is fulfilling his promises and task. Because "he is risen," his death has wrought atonement for our sins. At this very moment he is preparing an eternal Home for us.

Are our preaching and faith in vain? Never! "He AROSE," hallelujah, Christ arose!"

READY FOR CHURCHES

If any of our churches are interested in the availability of these Seminary students, who will soon graduate, they can get in touch with Dr. George A. Lang, President, 1605 S. Euclid Ave., Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

Christ's Glory in His Disciples

By JOHN ZIEGLER of Medicine Hat, Alberta

"They saw no one, save Jesus Only" (MATTHEW 17:8).

IT WAS doubtless a nocturnal scene as Jesus, Peter, James and John made their way to the summit of Mount Hermon for the purpose of prayer. As if in answer to prayer, there was a remarkable transformation of Jesus. The dazzling superfluity of light startled the disciples, who were sleeping into full consciousness. Then follow three dramatic testimonies of the true identity of Christ. They confirm the testimony of Peter, which he had made just one week before, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God."

The personal, bodily transfiguration of Christ, so that his face did shine as the sun, his countenance was altered, and his garments became white

as the light, revealed his royal state. His inherent glory shone through the thin veil of his flesh, "for in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily" (Col. 2:9).

Moses and Elijah, representatives of the two great economies, through which God dealt with men, appeared to the disciples. They recognized Christ as the One in whom the law and the prophets were fulfilled.

The third testimony was a Voice coming out of the Shekinah cloud, which had enveloped him. It was the voice of the Almighty saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him."

At the sound of the Voice, the disciples fell on their faces in fear. Jesus then touched them and calmed their fears. They looked up and saw "Jesus only." Thus the scene closed

as it had begun; the four remain, Moses and Elias are gone. Their work was done. New hands must take up the task. The purpose of the transfiguration was to strengthen and encourage the disciples to go on with the work of preaching Christ, the Messiah.

This same task has been handed down to all those whom Christ has called into his service. We, his chosen servants, must also experience this transformation by the renewing of our mind. This is accomplished by utter abandonment to the will of God. The disciple must display the mind of Christ (Rom. 12:2) and by that intimate fellowship with God, he is transformed into the same image from glory unto glory, even as from the Lord the Spirit (2 Cor. 3:18). When this transformation of the servant of Christ has taken place, then he can stand before men and preach the Good News, and men will see no one but Jesus only!

Consecrated Christian Lives

By DAVID C. KEIRY of Monte Vista, Colorado

BECAUSE of different environments and religious customs, we are likely to understand many passages of Scripture as we like rather than accept the deeper meaning for our Christian growth.

The Apostle Paul writes in Romans 12:1-2 about the need for a consecrated life. "I beseech you . . . by the mercies of God." Our relationship to God and Jesus Christ dominates and determines our attitude toward him. As believers we have a new position (in Christ) and this requires new responsibilities toward God and our fellow-believers. Paul bases the need for an all-out life upon the mercies of God which have been recorded in the previous chapters.

When we were lost in sin, God sent his Son for our redemption, and we are not only recipients of pardon from eternal damnation but we are heirs of the marvelous resources of divine grace. It is not in fear that we submit to consecration but the driving motive is love.

The character of consecration is a voluntary, personal, sacrificial giving of our bodies to the service of the Lord. God uses that which is living to propagate his message to those who have not heard. But he will not go over the individual who refuses to be a channel and force him to carry the Good News.

Nor does the Lord have a place in his program for the soul who only wants to give part of himself for service. Man can not serve two masters. Lest we feel that this is wrong, let us consider that this consecration is the only logical thing for the Christian. It is reasonable for an individual to give his life in return for the bless-

ings of salvation and the mercy of God.

We have often heard that life is made up of attitudes. Consecration demands both a negative and a positive attitude for effective living. "Be not conformed . . ." You are no longer a part of this world; you are only a stranger and pilgrim here traveling toward your heavenly home. We need not the negative emphasized so much but the positive—"be transformed." This word comes from a word biolo-

gists use frequently, "metamorphosis," which means a change in form, structure, or character. For example the little tadpole becomes in later stages a frog. This illustration from nature is a type of the change that ought to be in the Christian life as he consecrates himself to the Lord (2 Cor. 3:18).

The effect of the consecrated Christian life is that those who follow the Lord all the way have spiritual discernment. They know the will of God; they have proved it. They do God's will in their life. They enjoy doing the will of God because of the close fellowship with their Savior.

A Life of Power

By BERT A. ITTERMAN of Edmonton, Alberta

YOU WILL recall the story of Delilah, how she prevailed upon Samson with her charms, until he revealed the secret of his strength. This mighty man, who could protect himself against his deadliest foes, fell victim to the smooth talk of a woman, and so committed the worst blunder of his entire life. Immediately thereupon, Delilah purred Samson to sleep and then sent for a barber.

In short order Samson received his first haircut, which, perhaps, made him better looking, but at the same time something very drastic also took place, for his strength left him. Being aroused from his sleep, he sprang to fight, but the Bible tells us, "He wist not that the Lord was departed from him." Seemingly the same man, perhaps even better looking, but no strength!

Although men of God have sought to combat the spirit of conformity throughout the entire history of the Christian church, we must shamefully confess that the latter condition of

Samson is a very vivid picture of countless churches today. As it is true of the church, so it is true of the individual members making up the church.

Very emphatically they adhere to the function of the church, in the popular sense, but shy away from any principles that would call for a rigidly disciplined life. They see no need for practicing the narrow principles of the apostolic church in detail, but rather seek to modernize such old fashioned principles. "Strip off that which makes religion inconvenient, because after all, it's not so important what you believe, just as long as you are sincere." This is their motto. As a result, basic Christian principles have given way to more practical, pliable methods.

There are those who day after day go through the external acts of a Christian but inwardly possess little or no power. Boldly these people proclaim that they have brushed aside (Continued on Page 13)

Bible-centered Instruction

The searching of the Scriptures at our Seminary makes the student a resourceful interpreter of the Bible

By PROFESSOR HERBERT HILLER, Seminary Teacher

"SEARCH the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me" (John 5:39). So said the Master to his disciples in the long ago. He is saying the same thing to his followers today, to the Church called by his name, and most certainly to the institutions whose distinctive objectives are the training of preachers of the Word. Thus the Bible must be central in all Seminary training, for it is the source and content of the Christian message as it relates to the needs of the Christian Church and undergirds modern life and all its present complexities with deep, rich meanings.

THE SEMINARY'S TASK

These are derived from Hebrew-Christian experience and their faithful witness to the world regarding God's distinctive living Word in a progressive, full-orbed revelation, reaching its climax in Christ who stands, historically and theologically, between the Testaments. An earnest Bible student recognizes at once the Bible's intrinsic worth, for he sees the Scriptures full of him who is "the Way, the Truth, the Life," and who said, "Everyone that is of the truth, heareth my voice," and again, "He that believeth on me, as the Scripture hath said, from within him shall flow rivers of living water."

The issue is clearly that of spirituality at the price of diligent and persistent searching of the Scriptures. Its vigor is here likened to a sparkling fountain with its blessed overflow and "springing up into everlasting life." Conclusively the Master said, "This is life eternal, that they may know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent" (John 17:3). Through the Bible we come

to know the Author of our salvation and our Savior himself through whom we inherit eternal life. Thus Bible-centered instruction leads to Christocentric living.

In a time of treachery and deceit, an age of rapid change and anxiety, an era of lies, extremes and suspicion, there is a resurgence of interest the world over in the Bible, God's Book for mankind, which anchors distressed souls to the Rock of Ages. Seminaries must steadily and decisively seek to make the Bible a creative Book of culture and civilization by relating it to the thought and life of the world, giving encouragement and guidance to noble pursuits, and the work of healing mercy in the world. Its words of saving assurance, orientation, comfort and hope from God keep men on their feet who in this time despair of the words of men. The place of Biblical studies in a theological Seminary is determined by whatever relations obtain between the Bible, the Christian church and the contemporary culture.

SPECIALISTS OF THE SCRIPTURES

How restful it would seem to be quietly meditating upon God's Word within the sheltering walls of the Seminary and let the fierce winter storms blow and the rest of the world go by! However, it is not quite like that here. All of us are more or less affected by what goes on in the outside world, and we are most concerned about how to relate ourselves with the message of the Bible to the ever-growing needs of men, and to be fitted for the task as instruments of God's Spirit.

In this age of specialization it becomes necessary to be specialists in the Holy Bible. Surely, there is more

to learn at the Seminary than a young student would anticipate at the outset. Is it necessary to study in survey courses the content of every Bible book, times, circumstances and purposes of its writing, learn all about the history of the Hebrews and the unique contributions of every prophet with his characteristic style and message? Of course, all this is necessary, for what best spoke to its age, speaks best to the ages, including ours.

Is it also important to probe into the philosophic problem of innocent suffering and to dig deep into the wisdom of the ancient proverbs, or scale the lofty heights of joyful lyrics in the Old Testament? One can easily see the wisdom of requiring a detailed knowledge of the Lord's life and ministry, but must one also learn all about Paul's missionary journeys, and laboriously work out clear expositions of problematic apostolic epistles and come to see their relevance to church life in our time?

TRUE BIBLE KNOWLEDGE

It would often seem more pleasant to dream of the gleaming city of God, the new Jerusalem with its pearly gates and streets of gold and unending enjoyments and rest in God's presence, with freedom from want, greed, war, anxiety, fears, and tears. But this is the prepared place for prepared people who do abound in the work of the Lord here on earth, endure life's hardships, bear the heavy cross of responsibility and remain faithful to the end.

Revelation is no substitute for hard digging and careful study, and we must work on, seeking to assimilate true Bible knowledge until our very being is saturated with its imperishable truth, and the very essence of

(Continued on Page 13)



—Photo by A. Devaney, Inc., N. Y.
"This is life eternal, that they may know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent" (John 17:3).



Students with profound theological volumes go to their classes at the North American Baptist Seminary.

Recent Trends in American Theology

The theological presentation of the evangelical Christian is achieving an intellectual stature and respect in our day

By PROFESSOR RALPH E. POWELL, Seminary Teacher

OURS IS A DAY of doctrinal complexity and confusion. There is a confluence of various swiftly-moving streams of thought. The twentieth century has so far been one of remarkable instability and striking upheaval. If perchance this may be fascinating to the scholar, it is certainly confusing to the average person, to say the least.

Interaction, reaction, reversal, qualification, and reconstruction of religious thought have characterized the past fifty years in theology. Therefore there is a strategic need for perspective in the midst of all this.

AMERICAN LIBERALISM

The period from 1900 to 1920 was marked by a growing liberalism under an increasing influence of the thought of Immanuel Kant. Resulting ideas which became typical for American liberals were: the essential goodness of man, the inevitability of progress, the unquestioned validity of the scientific method, the trustworthiness of reason, etc. A typical slogan of many thinkers of the time was, "Man is the captain of his soul and the master of his fate."

The main message of those following this dominant trend was centered in the hope of man's gradual Christianizing of the social order and his building of the Kingdom of God on earth. With some it was coupled with a message of personal redemption, but with others it was purely a humanistic approach. Generally there was a minimizing of sin, of the cross, atonement, the deity of Christ, divine holiness, sovereignty, revelation, and supernaturalism. A growing list of doctrinal denials was produced by an increasing penetration of relativism, pragmatism, secularism, naturalistic evolution, and casting off of divine authority, mostly issuing from a thorough-going empirical method in religion.

The ruling era of classic liberalism came to an end soon after World War I, and there followed a period of controversy and realignment from 1920 to 1935. Conservatives vigorously challenged liberals in view of the catastrophic events of the war, which virtually devastated the confident, optimistic tenets espoused by the liberal theology. They challenged the liberal view also in terms of historic Christian faith which rested squarely on the Bible as the divinely inspired and authoritative record. Discerning, scholarly critiques of the liberal position were produced by men like J. G. Machen, E. Y. Mullins and others. But these warning cries were accused of being reactionary and provincial, to which liberals turned a deaf ear.

THEOLOGICAL CONFUSION

Then came an attack from the opposite direction—from the left-wing humanists like William James and John Dewey, who charged the liberals with timidity and half-heartedness. The humanists challenged the liberals to go all the way in their empirical method. They said, "Boldly and unreservedly put trust in modern science and social idealism as all-sufficient guides for faith and morals." This attack had a sobering effect on classic liberalism, for it could be seen that to adopt so radical a procedure would mean the surrender of any uniqueness of Christianity at all, which liberals were generally unwilling to do.

With the tragic depression of 1929 and the long, hard years that followed with human poverty and suffering, most of the liberal social ideals were rudely frustrated and sharp reaction set in. Instead of the essential goodness of man, the appalling manifestations of the depths of human evil were seen. Instead of inevitable social progress and the validity of the scientific method, poverty, hunger, unemploy-

ment, anxiety, frustration and fear were everywhere in evidence.

This caused theological confusion and internal disintegration of classic liberalism. Man must now face the stubborn facts of sin and evil. He must look beyond and above himself and nature. He must be repentant instead of being proud; he must see his need of grace and mercy instead of feeling self-sufficient.

A series of gradual theological shifts becomes evident: from pantheistic immanence to divine transcendence and sovereignty; from continuity between God and man to chasm between God and man; from essential human goodness to depravity; from confidence in human reason to revelation and faith; from naturalism to super-naturalism; from a man-centered approach to a God-centered approach.

NEO-ORTHODOXY

A galaxy of new theologies emerge, the most prominent of which, by far, is neo-orthodoxy. In America the brilliant theologian of this type of thought is Reinhold Niebuhr. While differing greatly from the European scholars and founders of the movement, Karl Barth and Emil Brunner, Niebuhr stands as the great constructive theologian in this country representing a neo-supernaturalistic approach.

The theological picture at this point is not by any means simple. A bewildering complexity of developments confronts (and confuses) the observer. A host of new terminologies arises, together with newly reconstructed schools of thought. One hears of "repentant liberals," "realists," "neo-this," and "neo-that." And within each of these variant types of realigned theologies there is a variegated group of "fifty-seven varieties."

Out of this perplexing maze of competing new theologies there does seem to be a constructive restatement. From

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Christian Education in Action

By Professor Martha M. Leypoldt, Seminary Teacher

"IF YOU WANT to Be Wanted ... become a Director of Christian Education." This is the challenge that Mary Huey presents in a pamphlet by this name. She confronts men and women with the intriguing, demanding, and satisfying task of directing a program of Christian education in a local church.

THE CHURCH'S TOTAL TASK

If we agree with Paul Vieth's definition of Christian education, that it is "the process by which persons are confronted with and controlled by the Gospel," we will consider that Christian education is the total task of the church. We must educate our people to realize that everything we do in the church is an educational process. Our program of evangelism is that of confronting people with the Gospel, and after conversion, guiding their spiritual lives so they are being controlled by Christ.

pastor is too busy to perform all the tasks of directing the spiritual life of the church. Statistics show startling figures that many more opportunities for service in the field of Christian education are open than there are trained directors to fill these vacancies. Our North American Baptist churches must be constantly alert in seeing this need and our North American Baptist young people must be sensitive to the call of God to this special field of service.

How are we preparing for this training in our Seminary? A program of action expresses itself in five ways.

1. ACTION IN OUR CONCEPTS

No one can be complacent in the field of Christian education and say, "I know it all now!" The fulfillment of knowledge never is achieved, for with the changing demands of the day, the changing shifts of population, and the acquisition of new knowledge

students who sense the necessity of preparing for an educational ministry, the Seminary has added to its curriculum many new courses in Christian education.

Among these the following emphases are being stressed: the organization and administration of a Christian education program, teaching in Christian education, and a specialized course for each age group in the church, work with children, youth, and adults.

Since camps and summer conferences are so much a part of our North American Baptist program, a two-hour course will be offered every other year to assist students in planning and administering an adequate camp program.

Audio-visuals are important in reaching our people with the message of Christ, and three semesters of supervised field work will be a vital part of our program for those who major in the Christian education field.

A seminar for directors will consider special problems and encourage research in areas of importance and interest.

3. ACTION IN THE CLASSROOM

The study of Christian education adapts itself to various methods of approach and diversified ways of teaching in the classroom. The practical application and participation of the students in classroom projects emphasizes the importance of "learning by doing."

During the first semester of this school year the class in the Christian Education of Children undertook a project in the classroom which was of assistance to all students in the class. One of these students is a student pastor who challenged the class with several problems with which he was confronted in the church which he is serving. Crowded classrooms, inadequately trained teachers, the lack of a departmentalized children's department and the exodus of the children after the Sunday School hour were presented for solutions. The class was willing to tackle these problems studying ways of meeting the situation and suggesting concrete methods of providing for an adequate educational program for the children in his church.

After visiting the Sunday School and evaluating the situation, each student became a specialist in his field of study in one age group. With a vacant store nearby as a possibility for additional space, the class prepared a floor plan, with adequate space

(Continued on Page 12)

A Glimpse of Student Life

By Professor Roy Seibel, Director of Public Relations

RIVULETS of melting snow tell us that spring is near! God's great earth is slowly laying aside winter's blanket of snow in response to the gentle prodding of the returning sun.

Busying itself in weaving a mantle of spring green, nature reminds us that this is a season of great activity. The bustling of springtime only serves as a sharp reminder to us that all the while nature was asleep there has been a methodical program of activity progressing in the Seminary since the days of September's fading sun.

Activity in the Seminary's classrooms, dormitory, and the students' private lives can be described explosively in the one word "action!"

The legendary picture of a typical student dreaming over his notes with the dusty smell of old books saturating the room exists only in the mystical land of imagination.

ROOM 304

In reality the student's life is filled with new challenges beckoning daily, for every hour offers him new spiritual heights to conquer.

Each day must begin in the secret chambers of God's presence, for the primary goal of Seminary life is to enlarge and to strengthen the spiritual foundations. No true shepherd can lead his own people to greater heights than he himself has experienced.

Room 304, the students' prayer room, has endeared itself to many students, for it has been hallowed by the memories of soul stirring fellowship with God by the students who daily resort to its sheltering quietness for meditation.

No day's activity is permitted to become so pressing that it is allowed to make inroads into the quiet place of the Seminary's chapel. As the student daily enters this worshipful atmosphere, he is aware that a veil has silently dropped between him and the world so that in quietness and in confidence he can feel God's resurging powers well up within his soul.

Aware of the need for greater spiritual power the students have supplemented the Friday prayer chapel with a student volunteer prayer meeting on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 A.M.

The Seminary student recognizes that the deeper spiritual exercise of the soul before God is the necessary preparation for a thorough study of the Bible and related practical subjects such as pastoral counseling and church administration.

The demands upon the minister of today are tremendous. The admonition of Paul to young Timothy, "Neglect not the gift that is in thee ... meditate

upon these things; give thyself wholly to them" (1 Timothy 4:14-15), needs to be carefully heeded by the minister who serves in this present generation.

The classroom lecture and discussion, the library research, and personal concentrated study are approached with earnestness and with a sense of individual responsibility. The student accepts these as a laboratory where he can discover better means of becoming a faithful steward of the Gospel.

The student is aware that the Bible was given originally in real life situations and there must be a similar application to contemporary life if it is to convey real meaning. It is for this reason that every attempt is made to keep abreast of the times in which he lives, whether it be in the field of world events or in recent trends of missionary methods.

The Seminary is no longer looked upon as a cloister to seclude the prospective pastor from the activities of the work-a-day world. It is accepted rather as a base of operation where new ideas discovered in the classroom can be tested in actual application to a life situation.

It is for this reason that the student seeks out opportunities to preach, to sing in the choir, to teach a Sunday School class, and to take part in rescue mission work. He knows that he

not only learns by doing but he also has the satisfaction of serving while he is learning. He realizes that he is rendering a vital ministry while he continues his training.

STUDENT FIELD WORK

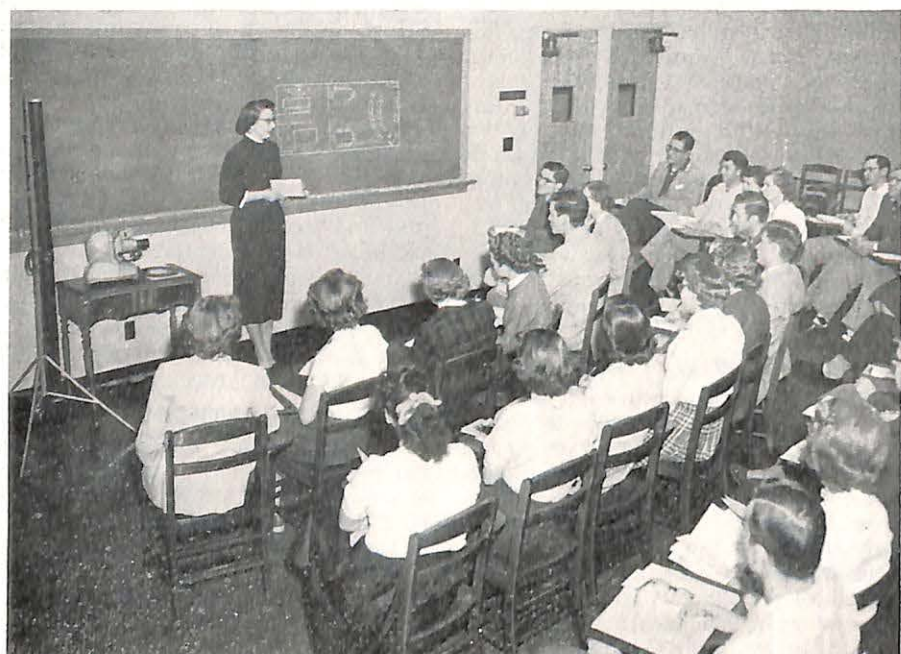
According to the field work reports, eleven of the students are serving as pastors of churches while an additional fifteen go out from Sunday to Sunday in pulpit supply. Ten are engaged as directors of youth work or serve as workers in a youth department. Fifteen serve as Sunday School teachers throughout the city.

An immediate result of the students' activities is evidenced in the fact that every month confessions of faith in Christ are reported. In this manner evangelism is more than a classroom theory but rather it becomes an inspiring demonstration of the power of God today.

Students are constantly engaged in visitation programs, church choirs, leadership training classes, and prayer services. Through opportunities such as these the pastor-in-training experiences every phase of church activity.

Like the Apostle Paul many students and their wives find it necessary to engage in some means of livelihood aside from their main purpose. While Paul made tents, our students scatter over the city to find employment as

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Prof. Martha M. Leypoldt of the North American Baptist Seminary faculty captivates the attention of students in the class on Vacation Bible School Methods meeting on Monday evenings, 7:00 to 8:00 P.M.

Our Christian beliefs are basic to our program of Christian education, but our program of Christian education is also dependent upon the communication of these Christian beliefs to others. An understanding of the pattern of growth of the child, the perplexing problems confronting youth and the maturing concepts of the adult are necessary in order to produce results in the lives of those whom we need to reach for Christ.

Many churches are becoming conscious of the importance of Christian education. They are realizing that the

of human behavior, Christian education methods must keep abreast of these demands.

Pastors, Sunday School superintendents, teachers and seminary students must be alert to constantly changing trends and improved methods in Christian education adequately to meet the needs of those under their spiritual care.

2. ACTION IN OUR OUTREACH

Because of the increasing demand for workers in the Christian education field and the rising concern of pastoral



The basketball team of the North American Baptist Seminary, directed by George Schlittenhardt, gets ready for another league game in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

The Seminary Drama Team

By MR. DALE ROTT, Director of the Drama Team

"The Romans flog before they crucify!"
"No, dear God, not crucify."

... And thus the Seminary Drama Team began its first presentation.

With the constant emphasis on the Bible being our source of spiritual guidance, the term "drama" has served to cultivate that guidance. The Word of God is to be applied to our lives and drama furnished, both the example and the medium. Drama brings the printed Word of God to life. Men and women who have experienced the Word of God in their



A dramatic moment in a play presented by the North American Baptist Seminary Drama Team.

Left to right: Leslie Zilkie, Donald Kohrs and Roxanna Kohrs.

The play is "The Lost Book" by Dorothy Clark Wilson based on 2 Kings 23:1-5.

RECENT TRENDS IN AMERICAN THEOLOGY

(Continued from Page 9)

1935 onward the tendency has been for the intricate network of doctrines to gravitate toward three major theological parties and two minor parties. There is the neo-orthodox group (R. Niebuhr, P. Tillich) with their stress on divine transcendence, supernaturalism, revelation, salvation by grace, coupled with a higher critical and evolutionary approach.

Second, the neo-liberal group (John Bennett, R. L. Calhoun), who have moved away from humanism but do not go as far to the right as neo-orthodoxy. Here is represented a vigorous resurgence of liberalism in a modified, corrected or chastened form.

Third, the neo-naturalist group, H. N. Wieman), who make it easy to find God in the realm of nature, that is, God is one aspect of nature, refusing to admit any transcendent element.

The two minority parties are: first, the left-wing group, the humanists,

life portray their conception of God's Word. This presents to the audience both the promise of the Word of God and the actual living of his Word.

Through the untiring efforts of several young people, the Seminary Drama Team is providing a stimulating spiritual program. At the present time the team is composed of five members who are using their God-given talents. Each member is capable of playing an instrument, singing and acting. With this variety of talent the team has assembled a program consisting of two parts with one theme. The first section includes biblical dramatic readings with musical interludes. The second section consists of a one-act play.

... "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

disciplined by the tragic events of modern times, but humanists still. These, for the most part, are graduated in thousands each year from secular universities of our land.

Second, the right-wing group, evangelical conservatives, who subscribe to the traditional, orthodox, historic position of the Christian Church, whose faith is confessed essentially in the great historic creeds. One of the significant things about this party is that it is achieving an intellectual stature which is gaining the respect of leading theologians of America. No longer can it be ridiculed as pre-scientific, obscurantist or intellectually puerile. It is more and more winning favorable regard from those who honestly and openly evaluate its merits. For the evangelical Christian, to whom the New Testament is authoritative, this group represents "the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

(Continued from Page 10)

for each child and equipment needed in each department. Suggested detailed programs for each department were outlined, also taking into consideration the importance of keeping the children during the worship service hour. Knowing that such plans were only on paper, the class outlined the steps to be taken to adopt such a program in the church.

4. ACTION IN OUR CHURCHES

In addition to classroom projects, nothing can be more valuable than getting into the field and confronting children, youth and adults with the message of Christ. A systematic and well balanced program of field work is being planned so that students in Christian education will have adequate training and active participation in many areas of Christian service before they go into the field in full-time service.

"Learning by doing" is again exemplified in this part of our program. Students are encouraged to observe and participate in teaching situations in churches and other agencies in and around Sioux Falls. Opportunities for service in our churches during the summer months are challenging to our students, and they also give them opportunities for using their knowledge in a practical way.

5. INTERACTION IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS

No only do our students benefit from the experience that they receive when they work in our churches, but our teachers and workers can benefit from the training and inspiration that the students can supply.

Close cooperation between our headquarters staff and our educational program at the Seminary is a vital relationship. Students become acquainted with our denominational leaders and the plans that are being carried out by them through our churches. Several committees have met at the Seminary that tie in with our Christian education program, and students have cooperated in these meetings. The class in Curriculum in Christian Education is at present assisting in the study of Sunday School materials for our churches which is sponsored by the General Council through our Sunday School Union.

As churches, pastors and young people, we must catch a vision of the tremendous potentialities offered in a program of Christian education in a church and avail ourselves of the latest methods and techniques.

No greater challenge confronts Christian youth today than that of Christian education. We are just beginning to catch a glimpse of what can be done.

ENGAGEMENTS

Dr. Frank H. Woyke

April 14—Committee on Denominational Objectives and Organization, Forest Park, Illinois.

April 18—Commencement Speaker, Christian Training Institute, Edmonton, Alberta.

April 19—Christian Training Institute Board, Edmonton, Alberta.

Rev. R. Schilke

April 3-5—Southwestern Conference Ministers' Retreat, Okeene, Okla.

April 17 (Tuesday)—Detroit Woman's Missionary Union Rally, Grosse Pointe Baptist Church.

Rev. J. C. Gunst

April 13 (Friday)—Bethany Church, Lethbridge, Alberta.

April 15 (Sunday A.M.)—McKernan Church, Edmonton, Alberta.

April 15 (Sunday P.M.)—Baccalaureate Service, Christian Training Institute of Edmonton.

April 15 (Sunday Evening)—Central Church, Edmonton, Alberta.

April 19 (Thursday)—Temple Church, Medicine Hat, Alberta.

Rev. G. K. Zimmerman

April 8 (Sunday A.M.)—Durham, Kansas.

Rev. G. K. Zimmerman and Miss Ruth Bathauer

April 9—Christian Workers' Conference at Creston, Nebraska.

April 11—Christian Workers' Conference at Emmanuel Church, Marion, Kansas.

April 13—Christian Workers' Conference at Immanuel Church, Loyal, Oklahoma.

Rev. Lawrence Bienert

April 4-6—Associated Church Press Conference, Toronto, Ontario.

Dr. M. L. Leuschner

April 4-6—Associated Church Press Conference, Toronto, Ontario.

April 8 (Sunday A.M.)—Hamilton, Ontario.

April 8 (Sunday P.M.)—Toronto, Ontario.

April 10 (Tuesday)—Hamilton, Ont.

CHRISTIAN TRAINING INSTITUTE

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

April 15 (Sunday Afternoon)—Baccalaureate service at the Central Baptist Church, Edmonton, Alta. Rev. J. C. Gunst, Speaker.

April 16 (Monday Evening)—Annual Sacred Concert by C.T.I. Student Chorus at Alberta College Auditorium.

April 17 (Tuesday Evening)—Play, "For He Had Great Possessions" by Dorothy Clarke Wilson, directed by Mrs. O. R. Schmidt. Alberta College Auditorium.

April 18 (Wednesday Evening)—Commencement exercises at Alberta College Auditorium. Dr. Frank H. Woyke, Commencement Speaker.

OUR NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST SEMINARY
is located at 1605 South Euclid Ave., Sioux Falls, South Dakota.
Visitors
always welcome to the new buildings and beautiful grounds!

BIBLE INSTRUCTION

(Continued from Page 8)

the Bible flows from us in healing, living streams into the lives of others. The objective in all our Biblical studies is an effort to appreciate and understand the dimensions of Biblical faith, and appropriate them for the life and work of the church.

It is hoped that such careful searching of the Scriptures in their context will make the student a resourceful interpreter of the Bible, capable of sharing with his congregation the treasures of experienced faith with expository accuracy and freedom, and showing insight and understanding for life's situations today.

A LIFE OF POWER

(Continued from Page 7)

all the unpopular, queer, and uncomfortable phases of Christianity, and that religion looks so much better, but they fail to realize that the Lord has withdrawn from their midst and they remain powerless.

Samson in his latter state was unable to overcome the enemy, and so

Rev. H. Palfenier, Evangelist

The Lord willing, we shall be in Chilliwack, British Columbia, April 15-27, and in the Bethany Church, Vancouver, B. C., April 29-May 11. May the Lord bless these meetings to the salvation of souls.

WE THANK GOD:

For his sustaining and keeping grace! Last month we completed eight years of service as denominational evangelist and during all these years he has never failed to supply the needed health and strength to do our work. We look back upon these years

SEMINARY, SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA

April 24-25 (Tuesday Noon through Wednesday Morning)—Spring Convocation. Dr. William A. Mueller, Professor of Philosophy of Religion at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., Guest Speaker.

April 27-28—Seminary Board meetings, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

IMPORTANT APRIL DATES

April 19—Session of the Christian Training Institute Board at Edmonton, Alberta.



Joyce Ringering, Christian Education student and daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Oliver Ringering of Bison, Kans., at the chapel piano.

many people will find themselves helpless in their hour of greatest need and will suffer defeat just as Samson did.

Keeping God's commandments, regardless of what others may say, or how much we are tempted to break them, assures us of power in our battle against Satan, and a triumphant victory.

PRAYER REQUEST

Pray that the Lord may use your evangelists in the power of the Holy Spirit, giving them grace, love, and a prayerful spirit in the proclamation of his Word and in counselling with precious souls. Pray that the strongholds of Satan may be broken down and captive souls be set at liberty.

April 20-22—75th Anniversary Program, Evergreen Baptist Church, Brooklyn, New York.

April 24-26—Sessions of the General Missionary Committee at Forest Park, Illinois.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Rev. A. Buech
Jansen, Saskatchewan
Canada

Rev. Ernest Radke
Golden Prairie, Sask.
Canada

We...the Women

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

INTRODUCTION

MRS. EMANUEL WOLFF needs no introduction to us for she has served the Woman's Missionary Union as a capable and efficient secretary for the last six years. Many times she has saved the day, not only for our Union, but in other capacities of our denomination with her minutes, taken in shorthand.

She is an understanding and sympathetic minister's wife. She and her husband have ministered in our churches at Bethlehem, Pa.; St. Paul, Minn.; Cleveland, Ohio (White Ave. Church); Salt Creek Church near Dallas, Ore.; and they are now serving the Oak Street Baptist Church of Burlington, Iowa.

She is the mother of two children. Her son passed away at the age of 19 as a result of an accident while at work. Her daughter is now married and lives in Oregon.

As to her hobby, it is her church work. This keeps her busy and she enjoys it very much. Mrs. Wolff now serves us as Scholarship Committee Chairman, and as you read her article, you will know that she has the work at heart.

THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

By MRS. EMANUEL WOLFF.

"We should so love and labor in our time," admonished Henry Ward Beecher, "that what came to us as seed may go to the next generation as blossom, and that which came to us as blossom may go to them as fruit. This is what we mean by progress."

This is the challenge that faces every Christian. Not only has God entrusted us with his Word that is to be proclaimed in every nation, but we have inherited the fruits which are the result of the faithful Christian living and efforts of our predecessors. These glorious achievements have been handed on to us with the hope and the trust that there might be even greater progress in the future.

To me this is a vivid picture of the work of the Woman's Missionary Union. It represents a challenge to every officer of the Union as well as to every worker in our local societies. God has richly blessed us with devoted and capable leaders and workers in the past. The seed was sown; it has blossomed and brought forth fruit. We are called upon for increased devotion and loyalty to God's service, not only to continue the progressive and fruitful work of the past, but to sow new seeds so that



Mrs. Emanuel Wolff of Burlington, Iowa, Scholarship Committee chairman of the Woman's Missionary Union.

those who follow us will find new blossoms in the Lord's vineyard.

I am personally thankful for the privilege of working together with the Executive Committee of our Union in the past few years. It has taught me so many things and has enriched my life with true friendships and with joy. I have seen sacrificial service given willingly and cheerfully by each member. The local societies showed their Christ-like spirit by their wholehearted response to the work of the Union. With the continued loyalty and cooperation of each one of us, the missionary work of the women of our denomination will continue to prosper.

Although interested in the total work of the Woman's Union, this triennium I am particularly concerned with the opportunities that the scholarship program offers. The Woman's Union is interested in the training of girls from our churches for special Christian service. Each year a scholarship of \$300 is made available to some girl who has experienced God's redeeming grace through faith in Jesus Christ, who feels called to the missionary work of our denomination, and who plans to avail herself of Christian training.

To be eligible for the scholarship a girl must be a member of one of our North American Baptist churches, must have a high school education, and must have a favorable recommendation from her pastor and church. There is no written rule, but it is

understood that if a girl receiving the scholarship marries before she has given two years of service, she endeavors to refund the money in order that another girl may have an opportunity.

The Woman's Missionary Union would encourage young women to take advantage of this opportunity by making inquiry about our Scholarship Fund.

We know the need for workers in God's vineyard is great and that the seed will not blossom and the blossom cannot bear fruit without the loving care of consecrated and devoted workers. May we all sincerely seek to serve HIM who gave his all for us!

MISS LYDIA ANDERSON, SCHOLARSHIP GIRL

Miss Lydia Anderson was our scholarship girl last year and we hope that you not only remember her article on the, "We, the Women" page last year, but that you have been with her in prayer throughout this past year. She has faced adverse conditions bravely, and we pray that God will bless her and lead her in the coming days. She writes:

Dear Christian Friends:

Again I bring you greetings from the Baptist Missionary Training School in Chicago. It is with deep gratitude that I write this letter, since it was you of the Women's Missionary Societies who made possible my return to school this year.

I would like to tell you of the marvelous ways by which God has led and provided, and how much B.M.T.S. is helping me to prepare for Christian service.

The school opened its doors on September 17th, and I was still in Seattle, Washington. I worked at the Telephone Company, but the summer was short and when it came time for school to begin, it seemed impossible to return because my funds were low. Although I was still hoping to return, I wondered if I would be accepted late. Would there be any chance of my getting the scholarship that was offered to me, or had it already been given to someone else? I received a letter from Miss Alethea Kose encouraging me to come back. The letter had been written before school began, but was late reaching me because of my change of address.

Still with many questions in my mind, I wrote and said that I would return. Only a few days later I received word that I was accepted and that the scholarship was to be mine. The Lord had led! I learn again and again that with God all things are possible when they are for his purpose. He works through his people in marvelous ways.

Truly, this year, though difficult in many ways, has and is still proving to be very rich and rewarding to me.

(Continued on Page 24)

C.B.Y. Fellowship

By REV. LAWRENCE BIENERT, General Secretary

YOUR CBYF Executive Committee is glad to serve you. Pictured below are members of your Executive Committee and members of the office staff at the time of the annual committee meeting in February. Mr. Jerome Janssen, committee member, was not able to be present because of weather conditions. These officers are your representatives. Pray for them. Work with them. Share your ideas and suggestions with them. They are concerned about the welfare of each local Fellowship.

In our last "Baptist Herald" report we shared with you some of the plans which were made at our annual Executive Committee meeting. These plans will be carried out to the best of our abilities. Members of your committee are active also as regular contributors to the "Youth Compass" and will be writing for this CBY Fellowship page from time to time. Editors of the regional papers may feel free to ask members of the CBYF Executive Committee to contribute to their regional papers at various occasions.

Many of you will be interested in becoming acquainted with the presidents of our conference and regional

fellowships. New elections will be taking place this summer. We hope to be able to introduce these new officers to you by means of pictures and written testimony.

The time set for the completion of your Mission Project is quickly drawing to a close. You will want to check with your regional or conference treasurer, or with your missions promoter to see how near you are to reaching your goal. You still have an opportunity to put forth some special efforts to "go over the top." Our missionaries are depending on us to hold the ropes by means of prayer and financial gifts. We cannot and dare not fail them.

We have been very pleased with the response on the part of our young people in connection with our 1956 Youth Week activities. According to the number of questionnaires returned to our headquarters office, there has been more participation by local CBY Fellowships than in previous years. We are urging all of our CBY Fellowships to return their Youth Week questionnaires to us at their earliest convenience.



The Commissioned Baptist Youth Fellowship Executive Committee at its annual session in Forest Park, Illinois.

Left to right (seated): Miss Betty Meister, vice-president; Herman E. Balka, president; Rev. Lawrence Bienert, general secretary; Russell Middleton and Miss Sena Plucker, committee members at large.—Left to right (standing): Miss Ruth Bathauer, Children's Worker; Dr. Frank H. Woyke, executive secretary; Miss Donna Mae Rabenhorst, office secretary.

CAMP COUNSELOR TRAINING PROGRAM

Are you interested in a well trained staff for your camp this year? If so, you will need counselors who are adequately prepared to carry out their duties. A Counselor Training Program has been prepared by our General Secretary. If you are interested in such a training program write to Rev. L. Bienert, Box 6, Forest Park, Illinois, for further details.

STUDENT LIFE

(Continued from Page 11)

salesmen, carpenters, clerks, school teachers, and many other tasks.

They accept such employment not only as a means of securing necessary finances but also to learn how to meet people and to serve Christ with a broom and typewriter. As a result the businessmen of the city have discovered that the students practice the principles of Christ in the workshop as well as from the pulpit.

One of the rich recompenses of attending the Seminary is the rewarding opportunity for Christian fellowship. Young people who soon will scatter across the continent as well as beyond the seas are now living together in a Christian community.

They have the opportunity of forging golden cords of Christian friendship that will bind their hearts together.

It is for this reason that the students are encouraged to participate in activities such as basketball and other sports. Students plan and promote school socials once a month. The student lounge and recreation rooms afford many opportunities for relaxed fellowship.

With a well rounded program of activities that embrace the spiritual, intellectual, and social areas, the Seminary seeks to assist the student in becoming an effective minister of the Gospel. Combining such a program with opportunities for practical expression, the young pastor is able to step into his life's work with a realistic grasp of his task in the world of today.

Each September a new group of students enter this active program of training. A short three years later they graduate to accept positions of responsibility in our great church family. The sobering fact remains, however, that we have too few who answer the call to such service.

Somewhere God is calling our youth to the mission field, Christian education, and to the ministry. God calls, but for some reason we do not find them in sufficient number.

The cry that must ring from heart to praying heart is, "God give us consecrated youth who will lead us on!" Your Seminary joins in this prayer!



Sunday School Lessons

A TEACHING GUIDE

Date: April 15, 1956

Theme: **THE COURAGE OF THE EARLY CHRISTIANS**

Scripture: Acts 3-5.

The Central Truth: Jesus did not promise to keep the Christian out of trouble; but he did promise to be with him in trouble.

Introduction: There are three thoughts of Jesus which can be expressed in connection with this lesson. The first is found in Matthew 5:11-12, "Blessed are ye when men shall revile you and persecute you, and say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad; for great is your reward in heaven." The second is found in John 16:32. "In the world ye shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." And the last is recorded in Matthew 28:20, "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

Some of the words and prophecies of Jesus were already being fulfilled. Persecution, tribulation and suffering had affected the lives of the first Christians. But the comfort of Christ's presence and the power of the Holy Spirit gave them the courage to overcome the world.

I. A Courageous Christian Is Ready to Share. Acts 3:6.

A dare-devil attracts attention to himself; while a courageous person attracts attention to God. One shows what HE can do; the other shows what GOD can do. It takes courage to use God's power for God's glory. Peter and John had nothing of their own to share, but they did have the power of God to give to those who needed it. How many people look upon us "expecting something" (Acts 3:5), but go away disappointed? Often we lack the courage to share the little silver and gold that we do have; much less the power of God. Perhaps, if we let go more of the former, we would have more of the latter.

II. A Courageous Christian Speaks UP. Acts 4:19.

Peter and John were not always courageous when they spoke. Often they spoke with resentment and anger (Luke 9:54). A revengeful spirit is not a courageous spirit. Peter was afraid to speak up as he warmed himself at the fire (Mark 14:54). But what a difference there was in his courage when he was warmed with the fire of the Holy Spirit!

It is strange that a Christian is a peacemaker and at the same time a trouble maker. The Reformation was brought about by men who had the courage to speak up. Abraham Lincoln was a soft-spoken man. But because he had the courage to speak up on the issue of slavery and union, he made trouble. A soft answer does not always turn away wrath, particularly when it voices the hard facts of truth. It takes courage to "speak the things which we have seen and heard" (Acts 2:20).

III. A Courageous Christian Is Ready to Suffer. Acts 5:18, 40-41.

It is better to obey God and suffer from men than to obey men and suffer from God (Acts 5:29). For the Christian it is not "Truth or Consequences," but "Truth AND Consequences." John Bunyan suffered imprisonment for many years rather than give up speaking in the name of Christ. In ministering to his people Phillips Brooks used to say, "Do not pray for easy lives; pray to be stronger men."

A TEACHING GUIDE

Date: April 22, 1956

Theme: **THE CHURCH ENDURES PERSECUTION.**

Scripture: Acts 6:1-8:3.

The Central Truth: There is no better way of expressing the truth in today's lesson than in the historic phrase used again and again: "The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church."

Introduction: So far the enemies of the apostles tried to stop them from preaching Christ by threats, beatings, and imprisonment. Since that did not work, they decided to put one of his followers to death. They were foolish enough to make the same mistake twice. When they crucified Jesus, they opened the flood-gates of God's power, and when they stoned Stephen, they spread God's power.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PAGE EDITOR

The able editor of this page of Sunday School Lessons is Rev. Bruno Schreiber, a deacon and Sunday School teacher in the Forest Park Baptist Church, Forest Park, Illinois. His address is 1026 S. Harvey, Oak Park, Ill.

Think of all the martyrs since Stephen, who willingly laid down their lives for the sake of the Gospel—from the apostles to John Huss and to the latest missionaries in Ecuador (Rev. 14:13).

A PORTRAIT OF A MARTYR

1. His Equipment—Faith and the Holy Spirit. Acts 6:5-7.

We are all possessed by something. It may be fear, hate, doubt, self-righteousness, or jealousy. What a difference it makes when these things are cast out and we become full of love, faith and the Holy Spirit. Only then can we be chosen for a God-given task.

2. His Calling. vss. 5-6.

The apostles did not want to "leave the word of God and serve tables" (vs. 2). Stephen however, "served tables" but did not leave the word of God (vs. 10). When he was not busy ministering to widows, he was busy performing wonders and miracles and witnessing (vss. 11-14).

3. His False Arrest. vss. 11-14.

You cannot get rid of an honest man of God by using honest means. The pattern is always the same. When Jezebel got rid of Naboth she did it through false witnesses (1 Kings 21:13). At Jesus' trial "many bare false witness against him" (Mark 15:56). For Stephen, too, they "set up false witnesses" (vs. 13). "This is the condemnation," said Jesus, "that men loved darkness rather than light" (John 3:19). They loved a false witness rather than a true witness!

4. His Appearance. vs. 15.

It is important to note that his judges, who were condemning him, said that he had the face of an angel. His face was lifted steadfastly toward heaven and heaven was imprinted on his face (Acts 7:55). We often sing, "Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me." Certainly the beauty of Christ was evident in the face of Stephen. We were given "the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" (2 Cor. 4:6).

5. His Message. 7:2-53.

Stephen is probably one of the few men who was able to give his own funeral sermon. It was not a eulogy of himself. Instead he gave a most accurately condensed history of the Jewish nation, ending with a sting—
(Continued on Page 23)

What's Happening

● Rev. and Mrs. Edwin Kern of Kyoto, Japan, missionaries who recently arrived in Japan, have reported that a son was born to them on February 15 to whom the name, Timothy Dale, has been given. He was born at the Japan Baptist Hospital in Kyoto. This is their first child. Mr. Kern is a 1955 graduate of the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

● The Temple Baptist Church of Jansen, Sask., has extended a call to Rev. A. Buech of Edmonton, Alta., to become its pastor. He has given the church a favorable response and is already on the field with his family, having succeeded Rev. Waldemar Ertis, now of Calgary, Alberta. Mr. Buech is a former Baptist pastor of Germany, having come to Canada several years ago under the immigration program of the Canadian commonwealth.

● The Golden Prairie Baptist Church, Golden Prairie, Sask., Canada, has extended a call to Mr. Ernest Radke who responded favorably and began his ministry at the church on Sunday, February 5. The report of the reception held by the church for Mr. and Mrs. Radke and their family appears elsewhere in this issue of "Baptist Herald." At the Golden Prairie Church Mr. Radke has succeeded Rev. Alphonz Lamprecht, now pastor of the McKernan Church of Edmonton, Alberta.

● The Baptist Church of Serath, Saskatchewan, is conducting a mission station at Raymore. This was formerly an independent group known as the Raymore Gospel Mission. A baptismal service was held at Raymore in November with four adults baptized. The mission now totals 18 members. Mr. Joseph Hufnagel, formerly of Valley View, Alta., Canada, is the assistant pastor for the Serath, Southey and Raymore area, assisting Rev. E. L. Thiessen, pastor. Mr. Hufnagel resides in Raymore and concentrates his efforts upon the Raymore field, but he also assists in the larger work wherever needed.

● The Tabitha Society of the First Baptist Church, Elgin, Iowa, presented a program on "The Life of Helen Keller" on Thursday afternoon, March 15. At the Sunday School Rally on that Thursday evening, the guest speaker was Rev. Robert Bear of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The special Lenten emphasis from March 18 to April 1 by the pastor, Rev. H. John Vanderbeck, was "Miracle of Love." Dr.

Ralph Powell of the Seminary faculty, Sioux Falls, S. Dak., was the guest speaker at both services on Sunday, March 4. The church has voted to construct a new front entrance to the church building.

● "Baptist Men," the laymen's organization of the North American Baptist General Conference, has announced the appointment of Mr. David Jenkins of La Grange Park, Ill., as secretary-treasurer, succeeding the late Mr. Roland E. Ross. Mr. Jenkins is senior psychologist in the Department of Health for Chicago. He is a graduate of the University of Chicago where he secured his Master of Arts degree. He is a member of the Forest Park Baptist Church. Other officers of "Baptist Men" are Mr. Raymond Engelbrecht of Waco, Texas, president; and Mr. Herbert H. Stabbert of Anaheim, Calif., executive vice-president.

● The Oak Street Baptist Church of Burlington, Iowa, helped Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wemmie of the church to celebrate their golden wedding anniversary on Saturday afternoon, Feb. 25, in the social hall of the church. Guest speakers for March during the pre-Easter season at the Burlington church were Rev. J. C. Gunst of Forest Park, Ill., promotional secretary, on March 4; Dr. T. W. Bender of Chicago, Ill., professor at the Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, on March 11; and Dr. W. L. Muncy, Jr., professor at the Central Baptist Seminary, Kansas City, Kans., on March 18. Rev. Emanuel Wolff is pastor of the Burlington Church.

● The young people of the Calvary Baptist Church, Killaloe, Ontario, observed Youth Week from January 29 to February 4 with many activities. On Sunday the young people were in charge of the evening service, rendering musical selections followed by a message by the pastor, Rev. L. W. George, on "Strive to Win Christ." Tuesday evening the regular young people's meeting was held. On Thursday they were in charge of the evening prayer service, giving a presentation of the functions of the Commissioned Baptist Youth. Mr. E. D. Zummach, reporter, stated that "we trust the witness of our young people will continue to be a spiritual blessing throughout the year."

● The Forest Park Baptist Church, Forest Park, Ill., has announced the appointment of Mr. Arthur Schulz, formerly of Calgary, Alta., as the

music director of the church. He was head of the music department of Rideau High School and choir director of the First Baptist Church of Calgary. He began his ministry at the Forest Park Church on March 11. On three successive Sunday evenings prior to Easter Sunday, Lenten service speakers at the services held from 6:30 to 7:45 P.M. were Rev. Joe Sonnenberg of Chicago, Ill.; Rev. Roy Seibel of Sioux Falls, S. Dak.; and Dr. T. W. Bender of Chicago, Illinois. On Easter Sunday a baptismal service was held with the pastor, Rev. Rubin Kern, officiating.

● Evangelistic meetings were held by the Bethany Church, Lethbridge, Alta., from Jan. 8 to 20 with Rev. Daniel Fuchs as evangelist. "Christ Is the Answer" was the challenging theme of the services which were well attended by members and friends. All the choirs of the church brought inspiring numbers. A prayer circle was held each morning from 6:00 to 7:00 A.M. as Christians prayed earnestly and fervently with their pastor, Rev. O. A. Ertis. At the close of the campaign it was joyously recorded that 35 persons had confessed Christ as Savior and a great many of the church members had rededicated themselves to the Master's service as reported by Mr. John Naundorf.

● On Sunday evening, Feb. 12, the First Baptist Church, Watertown, Wis., honored the Rev. and Mrs. Jothan G. Benke at a surprise party on the occasion of their completion of seven years in the church's ministry. Representatives of the Men's Fellowship, the King's Daughters, the Woman's Missionary Society, the Senior CBY and the Sunday School, in addition to various church officers, spoke in appreciation of Mr. and Mrs. Benke's services to the church. Mr. Roger Norman, chairman of the board of deacons, announced that the congregation had decided to give the pastor an increase in salary, retroactive to January 1, 1956. Mr. A. W. Krause, moderator, acted as master of ceremonies.

● On February 1st the Willow Rancho Baptist Church of Sacramento, Calif., was officially organized with 56 charter members. This has been a Church Extension project with Rev. Clarence Walth as the pastor. The first baptismal service of the church was held on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 12, at the Elk Grove Baptist Church. On Feb. 16 a North American Baptist Council held a recognition service for the new church at the sanctuary of the First Baptist Church, Elk Grove, California. Rev. Robert Penner of Dallas, Ore., the secretary of the Pacific Conference Mission Committee, brought the address. A detailed report about these festivities at this new Sacramento church appears in the section, "Our Denomination in Action," in this issue.

Our Denomination in ACTION

Eastern Conference

Meaningful Chapters in the Book of Life at Central Church, Erie, Pennsylvania

On the first Sunday of Lent on Feb. 19th when one somehow feels the meaning of the words, "God so loved . . . he gave his only Son . . ." so very much more real than at other times, the parents of seven babies brought them to the altar to be dedicated in a simple, yet stirring ceremony conducted by Rev. Peter Pfeiffer, pastor of the Central Baptist Church, Erie, Pennsylvania. As one looked into the innocent, trusting faces of these babes, as lovely as the rose presented to each, one also felt a thrill that stirred the heart in the contemplation of God's wonderful promises and Jesus' words, "Except ye become as little children."

Then as the second chapter in the Book of Life opened, that same evening saw four young people from the Open Bible Tabernacle follow the Lord Jesus into the waters of baptism in an equally inspiring union service in the Central Church. Rev. Richard Mikolon of the Open Bible Tabernacle brought a challenging message from the sixth chapter of Romans on, "What Does the Bible Say About Baptism?" His charge to the candidates was based on the last verse in that chapter.

Now we at Central Church look forward to the third chapter as Dr. T. W. Bender of Chicago, Ill., comes to us for a week of special services the last of March. These meetings have been designed with the view to deepening and enriching our spiritual lives.

K. Louise Eichler, Reporter.

SPECIAL REPORT

Golden Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Ruff, Plant City, Florida

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Ruff of the South Side Baptist Church, Plant City, Fla., observed their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 28, 1955. Open house was held at their residence, 1605 W. Raynolds St., Plant City, Fla., on that day.

Mr. and Mrs. Ruff were married on Dec. 28, 1905, in the Germantown area of North Dakota. Rev. William L. Wahl was the officiating minister. They lived in Gackle, N. Dak., for some time and then moved to Benton Harbor, Mich., and became members of the Clay Street Baptist Church. They were members of that church for 26 years.

They have eight children: Arthur Ruff, River Dale, Ill.; Emil Ruff, Chico,

Calif.; Rev. Edwin J. Ruff, Portland, Ore.; Clarence C. Ruff, Dowagiac, Mich.; Raymond J. Ruff, West Collingswood, N. J.; Mrs. Arthur Buss, Allen Park, Mich.; Mrs. C. R. Sech, Bellerville, Mich.; and Mrs. Theodore Bryant, Toccoa, Georgia. All of their children besides 17 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, came to be with them for the wedding anniversary celebration. Neighbors and friends wished them a happy anniversary and everyone who attended had a most enjoyable time.

We thank our God for all of his blessings that he has showered upon our parents. There have been times of sorrow and very happy days. God's goodness and guidance have been evident in their pilgrimage together through these past fifty years.

The Family.

Pacific Conference

United Prayer Fellowship for Baptist Women on Feb. 17 at Lodi, California

"More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of. Wherefore let thy voice rise like a fountain night and day."
—Tennyson.

These were the words on the cover of the bulletins that were passed out to approximately 200 women who met in the beautiful sanctuary of the First Baptist Church of Lodi, Calif., on the World Day of Prayer on Feb. 17. The Elk Grove Church, First Baptist Church and Temple Baptist Churches of Lodi have followed the custom for some years alternately to invite the women of these churches to meet together for a united program of prayer and fellowship on this annual World Day of Prayer. This year the newly organized Willow Rancho Baptist Church of Sacramento, Calif., was included in the invitation that was sent out by the women of the Temple Baptist Church who were this year's hostesses.



Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Ruff of Plant City, Fla., formerly of Benton Harbor, Mich., on the occasion of their recent golden wedding anniversary.

tist Church who were this year's hostesses.

This blessed program began with a very delightful luncheon served by the Temple Church women at noon. Tables were most attractively decorated with large bowls of spring blossoms bearing the fruits of the Spirit according to Gal. 5:22 in heart-shaped tags.

After lunch the familiar strains of "Sweet Hour of Prayer," effectively rendered on the organ, invited the women to the church sanctuary and prepared their hearts for the worship and prayer which followed. Mrs. A. Auch presided as leader and the following ladies: Mrs. Dorene Walth of Sacramento, Mrs. Rachel Herbel of Lodi's First Church and Mrs. Martha Janzen of Lodi's Temple Church, spoke on the assigned topics of prayer. Mrs. Betty Knauf of Elk Grove led in the opening prayer and many others took part as the opportunity was given.

It is indeed a great privilege to be able to experience again and again the power of united prayer to God.

Linda Rutsch, Reporter.

Inspirational Activities of Youth Week at the Victoria Avenue Church, Chilliwack, B. C.

On Sunday evening, Jan. 29 an impressive candlelight installation service was held at the Victoria Ave. Baptist Church, Chilliwack, British Columbia, for the new officers with Mr. Milton Falkenberg representing "The Reader" and Mr. John Enns as "The Voice." The pastor, Rev. G. Beutler, gave the dedication prayer and followed with a challenging message on, "God's Call to Youth."

Officers for 1956 are as follows: president, Clara Werk; vice-president, Mildred Wilkie; secretary, Adeline Nessel; treasurer, Mildred Bresch; counselor, Mrs. G. Beutler; and pianist, Joyce Ratke.

Monday evening the Sports and Social Committee was in charge of a well planned Fellowship Night at the home of the pastor. The entertainment consisted of games, films, which were shown by Mr. Henry Tepper, and short talks on "Activities in the Airforce," by Bob and Ron Blessin, two of our members, who were home on leave at the time. A delicious lunch topped off a wonderful evening.

The CBYF also had charge of the mid-week prayer service. Miss Hildegard Lau, as chairman, introduced the topic, "Youth's Stewardship of Life," and Mr. Heinz Tonn and Mr. Gerhard Schulz brought short messages on the theme. Special music was also contributed by the young people.

On Sunday, Feb. 5, the young people, led by their able president, Miss Clara Werk, were again in charge of the evening service. Mr. Milton Falkenberg served as guest speaker. In a stirring message on, "The Importance of Bible School Training," he urged the young people to make every effort to prepare themselves for better Christian service by securing Christian training in their youth. Special individual and group selections in song and by the orchestra helped the services. The offerings received amounted to \$16.02, which were used for our Camp Project Fund.

Betty Beutler, Reporter.



North American Baptists from the Chicago area at the ground breaking exercises for the new edifice of the Central Baptist Home for the Aged (left), and members of the Home's Building Committee (right) on this cold Sunday afternoon.

Recognition and First Baptismal Service at Willow Rancho Baptist Church, Sacramento, Calif.

To have a North American Baptist Church in Sacramento, Calif., is no longer a dream but a reality. We invite all readers of the "Baptist Herald" to rejoice with us over this fact. It was a thrilling experience for all who were present at the Sunday morning worship on Jan. 22 when, after a stirring message, Rev. Clarence Walth invited all who desired to become charter members of the new Willow Rancho Baptist Church to come forward and to sign their names in a book that had been provided for this purpose. Nearly the entire congregation arose and came forward, indicating their eagerness to join by transfer of letter, by testimony and baptism.

On Feb. 1 the church was officially organized with 56 members. The first regular business meeting was held that same evening. A detailed constitution was drawn up and accepted, and the church officers were elected. The testimonies of nine candidates for baptism were heard and they were given instructions for the baptismal service to take place in the Elk Grove Baptist Church on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 12. This was a glorious testimony for the Lord when in this impressive and dignified service Rev. Clarence Walth for the first time performed the ordinance of baptism with nine candidates (three married couples and three young people) being baptized.

Our cup of joy was already full, but the climax came when on Feb. 16 this new church was recognized and welcomed into the fellowship of the sister churches of the California Association by eight pastors and 14 delegates. The Council met at our temporary location in the afternoon to inform themselves of the qualifications, credentials and basic fundamentals of faith of the new body of Christians. They expressed their satisfaction and recommended the procedures with the recognition service for the evening in the Elk Grove Baptist Church.

Rev. Robert Schreiber of Temple Church, Lodi, was the very efficient moderator. After the invocation by

Rev. P. G. Neumann of Costa Mesa, Rev. G. G. Rauser of the First Church, Lodi, gave a vivid, verbal picture of the afternoon's council session. Rev. B. Jacksteit of Anaheim gave the charge to the new church in his own warm and appealing manner. His message was based on Rev. 3:8. Rev. W. W. Knauf offered the dedicatory prayer after which the Pacific Conference Mission Secretary, Rev. Robert W. Penner of Dallas, Ore., spoke on the theme, "Cross Roads." This timely message was divinely inspired, effectively rendered, wholeheartedly received and will long be remembered. The new Ladies' Chorus of the church rendered two appropriate messages in song which added to the beauty of the service.

May God bless everyone who in any way contributed to the establishment of the Willow Rancho Baptist Church of Sacramento, Calif., thus far.

Linda Rutsch, Reporter.

Central Conference

Ground Breaking Ceremony for Chicago's New Central Baptist Home for the Aged

It was on Sunday afternoon, February 12, that a man, ninety-six years old, was handed a spade and asked to turn up some ground. It undoubtedly was a very meaningful moment for him because he was doing it in the interest of his new earthly home. Admittedly, such a man—and others like him—need help in building a home. A good group of friends from the churches of the Chicago area had gathered to promise their interest and support for the new edifice of the Central Baptist Home for the Aged in Chicago, Illinois.

Much planning had indicated that a new Home was needed and desired. This moment signified that much of this planning had been completed. Mr. E. Meister, chairman of the Building Committee, told the friends about this. But building a Home is costly, and the chairman of the Finance Committee, Mr. R. Krogman, informed the friends that hope and trust had been

placed in them to help this man of ninety-six years and his friends in the building of their home.

Dr. Frank H. Woyke pointed out that a Home for older people was one way in which we obey God in the instruction to honor our fathers and mothers. Because a Home ought to be a place where singing is heard, the Christian Fellowship Club of the Foster Avenue Baptist Church served prophetically through song.

"Persuasive" weather caused the program, of which Mr. D. B. Granzow, president of the Board, was chairman, to be brief. When the friends of the Home left the spacious site, they knew that God had already begun to approve the efforts. Large mounds of earth proved that the foundation of the Home was taking their place.

Fred Sonnenberg, Sec'y of the Board.

Inter-Church Youth Retreat for Detroit Area Churches at Lapeer, Michigan

One hundred and fifty-nine young people from our churches in the Detroit area gathered at the Detroit Baptist Camp at Lapeer, Mich., on February 3 and 4. Churches represented were: Ambassador, Bible Church, Center Line, Conner, Ebenezer, First Church of Utica, and Grosse Pointe Church. The purpose of this retreat was to provide spiritual challenge and inspiration and to foster fellowship among our youth of these churches.

Since the retreat was held in connection with Youth Week, the theme was "Strive to Win." Rev. Edwin Miller of the Parma Heights Baptist Church of Cleveland, Ohio, was featured as guest speaker and spoke four times on various aspects of the theme. A film entitled, "What Is A Christian?" and a discussion by the pastors on the North American Baptist Conference proved interesting and informative.

Winter sports such as skating, tobogganing and skiing formed the activities for Saturday afternoon. The program committee for this retreat was composed of Rev. Dwight Fry, Rev. Victor Priebe, and Rev. David Draewell.

Betty Draewell and Vernie Priebe, Reporters.

Northern Conference

Reception for Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Radke at Golden Prairie, Saskatchewan, Canada

Ever since Rev. and Mrs. Alphonz Lamprecht left us, we of the Baptist Church, Golden Prairie, Sask., felt like sheep without a shepherd. After waiting impatiently for several months, the day finally arrived when Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Radke and their two daughters came to us to succeed the Lamprechts. We have already enjoyed the soul stirring messages of our new pastor, Brother Radke.

On Sunday, Feb. 5, we as members and friends gathered for the evening service to welcome our pastor and his family into our fellowship. This was done with musical numbers and the hand of welcome extended by the various organizations of the church, after which a hearty lunch was served in the church basement.

We received as a gift a fine piano from our Rosenfeld members after they had sold their church to the Glidden Baptist Church. We are waiting upon the Lord to help us in the future that we may be a blessing and encouragement to further his Kingdom.

Fred Kramer, Reporter.

Events of Youth Week and Other Activities, First Baptist Church, Springside, Saskatchewan

We, of the First Baptist Church, Springside, Sask., can certainly praise the Lord for his goodness. We now have three choirs serving during the Sunday services—male, mixed, and Junior choirs. Evangelistic meetings with Rev. J. B. Kornalewski of Kelowna, British Columbia, were held from Nov. 16 to 27. Souls were blessed through his messages and several decisions for Christ were made.

Our CBY was in charge of the two Sunday evening services during Youth Week, Jan. 29 and Feb. 5, with special numbers by the mixed choir and male quartet. They also participated in the mid-week prayer service. Dan Breitzkreuz is the CBY president. Saturday evening, Feb. 4, was the climax of Youth Week, when a banquet was held in the church parlors. The Woman's Missionary Society catered for us. As guests we had invited our neighboring young people from the Fenwood, Yorkton, East Ebenezer, and West Ebenezer churches. There were also some young people present from Regina and Minitonas, Manitoba.

Our young people worked hard preparing for this event, and their labors were appreciated by some 130 guests. The theme, "Strive to Win," was obvious all around, on place cards, name tags and as a striking background. Rev. Walter Hoffman of Ebenezer, Sask., was guest speaker, centering his thoughts around the theme, "Strive to Win." As a conclusion to a blessed evening of fellowship, our pastor, Rev. Bert Milner, showed a filmstrip, "God of the Hills," supplying appropriate thoughts and fitting hymns. Each visiting CBY brought a special num-

ber during the course of the program which was rendered in candlelight.

A new group has recently been organized, "The Home Builders," comprising the young couples of our church. Rev. Bert Milner is our able president. We meet once a month at different homes and have had approximately 20 members in attendance thus far. Our first project has been that of making tables, chairs, etc., to occupy our pre-school children. May God help us as young parents to bring up our children to follow and serve our risen Lord and Master, Jesus Christ.

Mrs. Darleen Tillman, Reporter.

Teachers' Training Course at the McDermot Avenue Baptist Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba

For 1956, with Mr. Wm. Patzia as superintendent of the Sunday School of the McDermot Avenue Baptist Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba and with very willing assistants and teachers, plans are being made for an increased enrollment and technical improvements.

In order better to equip the teachers and prospective teachers to instruct their classes more effectively, we held another Teachers' Training Course from February 13 to 17. At this time we were privileged to have Rev. E. P. Wahl, president of our Christian Training Institute in Edmonton, Alta., teaching in the German language and Rev. H. J. Walte-reit, our pastor, in English. They taught the course, "A Guide for Child Study."

This very educational week was certainly not wasted and we are thankful that approximately 60 persons took advantage of this opportunity to become better acquainted with the characteristics of the various age groups. The majority of students were young people. On Friday we wrote our examination, with very pleasing results, after which we gathered in the lower auditorium for Christian fellowship and refreshments of coffee and doughnuts.

Now that we have the advantage of a better understanding of the work we are challenged to do, may we be more diligent in our efforts effectively to win souls for Christ.

Miss E. Redlich, Reporter.

Atlantic Conference

Observance of Youth Week at the Calvary Baptist Church, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Youth Week at the Calvary Baptist Church, Bethlehem, Pa., began on Sunday evening, Jan. 29th. Charles Goleman, Jr., CBY president, had charge of the service with members of the CBY and Junior Young People taking part. Our hearts were thrilled as several of the Junior young people presented the special music.

Mr. Ed Eichelberger, a member of Lehigh University Inter-Varsity and star wrestler for the college, was the speaker. We praise God for his Christian testimony in such a large non-

Christian college. Our prayers go with him as he "strives to win."

The regular monthly business meeting of the CBY also took place that week. The mid-week prayer service was also in charge of CBY. Dennis Schuyler led the meeting, while Miriam Klausen and Marlene Masteller spoke on, "Strive to win by prayer and dedication."

The highlight of the week was the annual banquet held on Saturday evening, Feb. 4th. Tables were decorated with greens and "rugged crosses" made by CBY'ers. Special music and a skit were presented. Don Robertson from the "Word of Life" was the speaker of the evening. After the challenging message he presented, we are looking forward to our special revival meetings this spring at which he will be the speaker.

Doris Dorozowski, Reporter.

Southern Conference

Central Valley Church, Donna, Texas, Welcomes Its New Pastor and Guest Speaker

On Friday evening, Feb. 17, the Central Valley Baptist Church of Donna, Texas, gathered at the church to welcome its new pastor and family, Rev. and Mrs. B. F. Taylor, son, Jimmy, and niece, Sheila. Rev. Gordon Johnson from the Rio Grande Bible Institute was master of ceremonies, who was introduced by Mr. Lawrence Terveen, deacon.

Welcoming words were spoken by the Sunday School superintendent, D. Terveen; the Woman's Missionary Union president, Kate Terveen; CBY president, David Mulder; and deacon Ralph Hansen. Special numbers were rendered by the young people and a very heart-warming response was given by both Mr. and Mrs. Taylor. At the conclusion of this response the Taylors were given an old fashioned "pounding" which included a large list of groceries. The ladies of the church served delicious refreshments.

This is a happy occasion for the Donna church and also for the Taylors since this is their home church. We are greatly encouraged with the coming of a pastor and by God's grace we hope to see many souls saved.

On Tuesday evening, Feb. 28, the Donna church met with a great number of friends to hear Dr. M. L. Leuschner of Forest Park, Ill., when he visited our church for the first time in over six years. Dr. Leuschner spoke of all our missionary work and showed films of the Japan field and also pictures taken last summer in London, Germany, Austria and other European countries.

Our pastor, Rev. B. F. Taylor, led us in a blessed song service and Mr. Raymond Castro was present from the Rio Grande City mission field to read the Scripture passage and to lead in prayer. A missionary offering was taken and there was a generous response. We thank God for Dr. Leuschner and are happy he could be with us as well as visit the mission field here.

Mrs. B. F. Taylor, Reporter.

North Texas Association Sessions at the Canaan Baptist Church, Crawford, Texas

The North Texas Association met with the Canaan Baptist Church, Crawford, Texas, February 17-19. Rev. Howard Schenk, moderator, spoke words of greeting at the opening session and presided at all the business sessions. The genial host pastor, Rev. Joe Bob Alexander, extended a cordial welcome to delegates and visitors. It was a high privilege to have as denominational representative at the Association, Dr. Martin L. Leuschner, editor of the "Baptist Herald."

The Association program was developed around the theme, "Seek the Lost," and the keynote message on "Soul Winning in the Program of the Lord" by Dr. Leuschner, as well as the topics, "Why Seek the Lost," "How Seek the Lost" and "Who Seeks the Lost," discussed by the Reverends Walter G. Gummelt, John Luebeck, and Louis R. Johnson made clear the fact that it is the duty of every Christian to be a soul winner.

The devotional periods were conducted very effectively, on Saturday morning by Alfred Ray Hoppe of Crawford, basing his thoughts on 1 Corinthians 13; and in the afternoon by the Woman's Missionary Union of the host church, in which our thoughts were directed to "The Love of God" through scripture and songs.

We were greatly impressed through the report of our Conference Mission Secretary, Rev. Louis R. Johnson, concerning our Mission Project in the Valley at Rio Grande City, Texas, and our hearts were thrilled as we heard of the spiritual success of our missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Castro, and of the plans of the Mission Committee for the erection of a chapel in the near future.

During the business session the following officers were elected to serve the Association in the coming year: moderator, Rev. Joe Bob Alexander, Crawford; vice-moderator, Rev. Douglas Gallagher, Dallas; secretary, Rev. Walter G. Gummelt, Hurnville. A youth activities committee was appointed consisting of the following: Rev. John Luebeck, Gatesville; Rev. Walter G. Gummelt, Hurnville, and Ray Niederer, Waco.

The meeting on Saturday evening, at which time Dr. Leuschner reviewed the General Conference in Waco and the Baptist World Congress in London through lecture and pictures, was greatly enjoyed. Sunday, with the local superintendent Clodius Westerfeld presiding during the Sunday School hour, and the lesson taught by B. F. Engelbrecht of Crawford and Herman Balka of Dallas, the morning worship services with a stirring message by Rev. Louis R. Johnson of Waco, and the great youth rally in the afternoon, was a blessed day.

The Association theme was further noted in the beautiful musical selections provided through the efforts of the music committee, the local choir and organist. The spirit of friendliness manifested by the host church, their kind hospitality and delicious meals provided, made the guests feel at home. We are thankful to our

heavenly Father for the bountiful blessings during the days of this Association. Our lives have been enriched through the fellowship with fellow-Christians and that higher fellowship with God.

Mrs. Raymond Engelbrecht, Reporter.

Dakota Conference

Golden Wedding Anniversary Celebration of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Schnabel, Venturia, N. Dak.

A golden wedding anniversary celebration took place in the Venturia Baptist Church, Venturia, N. Dak., on January 16, for Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Schnabel. Their son, Berthold, and his family secretly made all arrangements and it was a complete surprise to the honored couple. They were ushered to their places of honor by Mr. and Mrs. Martin Bender, who were their attendants fifty years ago at their wedding, which was solemnized by the late Rev. Christian Bischof on January 16, 1906.



Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Schnabel of Venturia, N. Dak., on the festive occasion of their golden wedding anniversary celebration.

The program was held in the upper auditorium under the leadership of the pastor, Rev. Raymond Dickau, where a goodly number of relatives and friends were present to spend this happy occasion with them. The program given consisted of various musical numbers, two brief talks and three congratulatory messages, one from one of the deacons of the church, another from the Sunday School superintendent, and another from the president of the Ladies' Mission Society. Rev. A. Bibelheimer of the First German Baptist Church of Ashley, N. Dak., spoke briefly on Psalm 121:7-8, and the pastor spoke on Psalm 100:14. Opportunity was given the honored couple to reminisce.

Mr. Schnabel served in several church offices. He was the church treasurer for 24 years. As Sunday School superintendent he served for about twelve years, as well as being periods of time. Mrs. Schnabel has always been active, and still is, in

the Woman's Missionary Society, and is one of the living charter members of that organization. Both have always been faithful supporters of the entire church program all these years.

Following the program, a time of fellowship was enjoyed about the beautifully decorated tables in the church parlors. A beautiful wedding cake centered the head table, which their daughter-in-law had baked and decorated. A delightful lunch was served to all, and while still at the tables a number of old German favorite songs were sung. Our prayer for them is that God will continue to bless them, and also make them a continued blessing to the church.

Raymond Dickau, Pastor.

Programs and Activities of Youth Week at Grace Church, Grand Forks, North Dakota

Another wonderful week of activities was experienced at the Grace Baptist Church of Grand Forks, N. Dak., from January 29 to February 5 with the observance of Youth Week. The week opened with the young people staying at home to spend the eve-

ning in devotions and fellowship with their families. Tuesday night the young people met at the church before visiting the sick and other youth. The group was split up and then the occupants of each car had certain individuals to visit. The prayer meeting was taken over by the young people. A very inspiring candlelight service was then brought entitled, "Be Still and Know."

Friday night was the real climax of the Youth Week with a banquet to which all the young people were invited. The theme of the banquet was, "Only To Be What He Wants Me To Be," and we were privileged to have as our guest speaker Rev. Bernard Fritze from the Baptist Church in West Fargo, North Dakota. He brought to us a very inspirational message taken from the theme of our banquet. The mothers of the members of our young people served us a wonderful meal.

Sunday evening was the last meeting of our Youth Week with the young

people in charge. The program dealt with some of the favorite Christian songs. The stories of the song were told by some of the young people and then the songs were sung as quartet, trio, duet, and solo numbers. We thank God for the many blessings of this Youth Week and we pray that we as the young people of our church might always be ready to witness for our Savior. Rev. Walter Stein is the pastor of our church.

Marilyn Stroh, Secretary.

Trinity Church, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Holds Reception for Rev. and Mrs. Henry Pfeifer

Rev. Henry Pfeifer began his ministry at the Trinity Baptist Church of Sioux Falls, S. Dak., on February 1 at a prayer service. On the following Sunday evening, February 5, the church held a reception for the pastor and his family. Words of greeting were spoken by Rev. Herbert Hiller, church moderator. A joyful song service was led by Mr. Leslie Zilke. Rev. Hugo Lueck read the Scripture and led in prayer. The choir under the direction of Mr. LaVerne Haas sang two anthems. Professor Hiller shared with us thoughts on the faithfulness of the church and the pastor. Following this we were favored by a mixed quartet comprised of Miss Gladys Hoogstraat and Mr. Art Boy-mook and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Siewert, who sang, "Send Forth Thy Light."

The various officers of the church spoke as follows: Mr. Daniel Feske for the Diaconate, Mr. Alvin Bleeker for the Board of Trustees, Miss Gladys Hoogstraat for the Sunday School, Mrs. Henry Ramus for the Woman's Missionary Society, and Miss Twila Wobig for the CBY. Mrs. Elmer Harms gave a reading and Miss Joyce Ringering favored us with a violin solo.

Rev. Harold Weiss from our sister church, Northside Baptist, brought hearty greetings from his church. Dr. George A. Lang brought words of welcome from the North American Baptist Seminary of this city. Mrs. Henry Pfeifer greeted the church with the words, "As thy days, so shall thy strength be." Dan, Esther, and Dwight Pfeifer spoke happy words of greeting also.

Rev. Henry Pfeifer in his welcome message emphasized the following verses: "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer" (Psalm 19:14), and the following from the New Testament: "With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men" (Ephesians 6:7). Following the service a reception was held in the lower sanctuary for the Pfeifers.

Thus, God has answered the prayer of his children in giving Trinity Baptist Church an undershepherd and challenged us to continued faithfulness in his service.

Louise A. Dunger, Reporter.

Women's Anniversary and Prayer Day Programs at Ebenezer Church, Lehr, North Dakota

On Sunday evening, Jan. 29th, the Woman's Missionary Society of the Ebenezer Church, Lehr, N. Dak., held

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Miss Ruth Bathauer teaching a class at one of the Dakota Christian Workers' Conferences held at Gackle, North Dakota.

Workers' Conferences in the Dakotas

By REV. GEORGE BREITKREUZ, Lehr, North Dakota

DURING the latter part of January the Dakota Conference conducted Christian Workers' Conferences in the various regional areas. January 20-21 the conference met at Avon, S. Dak.; January 23-24 at McLaughlin, S. Dak.; January 25-26 at Gackle, N. Dak.; and the last conference was held at McClusky, N. Dak., on January 27-28. The total registration at the conferences was 398. The members of the team who instructed and gave leadership at all the conferences were Miss Ruth Bathauer, and the brethren Lawrence Bienert, Richard Grenz, and George Breitzkreuz. At the various regional conferences the team members were assisted by the local pastors and lay people.

The theme of the conferences was "Effective Gospel Teaching" based on the words of our Lord which we find in the Great Commission, "Go . . . teach . . ." All who attended the sessions were aware of the need for a more effective teaching program in our churches. May it please the Lord to bless these endeavors to the end that our teaching ministry for Christ and his Church will be expanded and strengthened to the salvation of many souls and the glory of God.

Mrs. Norman Martin of Gackle, N. Dak., reports:

"An experience long to be remembered is one which I received during the latter part of January at the Christian Workers' Conference. There was great enthusiasm and an air of expectancy of new things to be learned that could be used for the improvement of our Sunday Schools.

"The conference team had a wealth of ideas which were well presented in each department. A few comments heard from the Sunday School workers after attending departmental sessions were as follows: I've had so many questions answered. I've received a host of new ideas. It is all so interesting and educational. My

time has been well spent; and I can see ways in which our Sunday School can be approved.

"Effective Visitation Evangelism" was a highlight of the conference and was well presented. Many of our Sunday Schools and churches could readily benefit by this plan with proper organization. My earnest hope and prayer are to see this visitation program being used in our communities in the near future."

Mrs. C. E. Aldinger of McLaughlin reports:

"We were happy to be host to the Christian Workers' Conference which convened at our church. I am sure that everyone who attended will agree that we received much good food for thought. The subject material was well presented in all the class sessions and challenged us all to a more effective teaching ministry. The educational filmstrip which was shown revealed how teaching in the Sunday School is both an adventure and a challenge to mould and build lives. The time the conference spent in prayer was also an inspiration. Miss Bathauer also gave us a clear understanding of the Scripture Memory Course and its functions.

"All in all, the conference was a time of blessing and inspiration. A great task is before each one of us; may we be willing to serve the Lord as he sees fit."

Mr. Raymond Sease of McClusky, N. Dak., reports:

"Due to the fresh snow fall and blizzard conditions our conference was not as large in number as had been expected. Very few from the surrounding churches were able to attend. However, we had a very fine spirit at the conference and the sessions proved a blessing to our church. The classes were very interesting and informative. The evening program of the second day was omitted because of the weather."

OBITUARY

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

MR. EDWARD H. JUCHT
of Emery, South Dakota.

Mr. Edward Herman Jucht of Emery, S. Dak., son of August and Catherine Jucht, was born on a farm in the Plum Creek vicinity of South Dakota on June 21, 1887. He was suddenly called to his eternal reward on February 22, 1956, at the age of 68 years, 8 months, and 1 day. When a young man of 17, he took Christ as Savior, was baptized and joined the Plum Creek Baptist Church.

On March 15, 1910 he joined heart and hand with Lydia Hertzberg as his devoted companion. They farmed in this area until moving to Emery in 1949. Two children were born to this union, Mildred, now Mrs. Gerald Healy of St. Paul, Minn., and Roland of Emery.

Mr. Jucht served God through his church as deacon, Sunday School superintendent, Sunday School teacher, mission treasurer, and treasurer of the South Dakota Association of North American Baptists, each for many years. At the time of his death he was an honorary deacon, teacher of the Men's German Sunday School class and mission treasurer.

He is survived by his wife and two children: two brothers, Albert and George of Emery; three sisters, Mrs. Amelia Edzards, Martha (Mrs. Theodore Lang), and Alice (Mrs. Wm. Triebwasser) of Emery, and five grandchildren. His steadfast faith and gentle manner will be missed by all who knew him.

Plum Creek Baptist Church,
Emery, South Dakota

WILLIS POTRATZ, Minister

MR. HENRY WEIGUM, SR.,
of Trochu, Alberta, Canada.

Mr. Henry Weigum, Sr. of Trochu, Alta., was born in South Russia on January 24, 1882. In his 12th year he and his parents emigrated to the United States, settling in South Dakota. Here he was married to Miss Eva Sticklemeir in 1906. From South Dakota, Mr. Weigum and his family came to Alberta, Canada, in 1914. His spiritual interests were climaxed in 1916 when he acknowledged his personal faith in Christ Jesus and was baptized by the Rev. A. Kujath in 1917, becoming a member of the Knee Hill Baptist Church at Torrington, Alberta.

His first and final illness was noticed approximately two years ago. The last two months of his earthly pilgrimage were spent in the local hospital in which he passed away on January 29, 1956. Mr. Weigum lived to be 74 years and 5 days old.

He leaves to mourn: his dear wife; four sons: Henry, Theodor, Elmer, and Lloyd, all of Trochu; two daughters: Mrs. Emma Jensen of Delbourne, and Mrs. Bertha Dickau of Wetaskiwin; eleven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; one sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Diede of Carbon; and one brother, Mr. William Weigum of Moberly, S. Dak.; and a host of other relatives and friends.

"We mourn, yet not as others who have no hope."

Trochu, Alberta, Canada

DAVID BERG, Minister

MR. JACOB LANG
of Lehr, North Dakota.

Mr. Jacob H. Lang of Lehr, N. Dak., son of Mr. and Mrs. Heinrich Lang, was born June 8, 1905 in South Russia. During his childhood he came with his family to America and settled near Lehr, N. Dak., where he grew to manhood.

On April 1, 1933 he was united in marriage to Miss Pauline Schlecht of Fredonia, North Dakota. They made their home on the parental farm. Thirteen children were born to this union. Nine children preceded death when their home was destroyed by fire on Nov. 18, 1946. In 1948, Mr. Lang became a Christian and was baptized by Rev. H. J. Walteit and united with the Ebenezer Baptist Church at Lehr, North Dakota.

On Feb. 15, 1956, at eventide, our brother passed away as the result of a heart attack. He reached the age of 50 years. He leaves to mourn his passing his wife and four children: Lester, Robert, and Esther of Lehr, and Betty (Mrs. Edwin Reile) of Wishek, N. Dak.; also three sisters: Mrs. Julius Hermann, Lodi, Calif.; Mrs. John Roemmich, Braddock, N. Dak.; and Mrs. John Werth, Jr., Lehr, N. Dak.; 2 brothers: Konrad Lang of Streeter, N. Dak.; and Otto Lang of Fredonia, North Dakota. His parents, one brother and one sister and the nine children preceded him in death. Memorial services were held in the German Baptist Church in Ashley, N. Dak., conducted by Rev. G. Breitzkreuz and Rev. A. W. Bibelheimer.

Ebenezer Baptist Church,
Lehr, North Dakota

A. W. Bibelheimer, Off. Minister.

MR. KLAAS DIRKSEN
of Madison, South Dakota.

Mr. Klaas Dirksen of Madison, S. Dak., was born on August 1, 1862 in Germany. He came to the United States with his mother, one sister and one brother when he was 17 years old. They located in Freeport, Ill., later moving to Grundy County, Iowa. In 1894 they moved to a farm near Rock Rapids, Iowa. On February 19, 1895 he was married to Helen Bartels. In 1913 they moved to Madison, South Dakota.

As a young man he professed his faith in Christ and was baptized by Pastor DeNeui. He was received into the Buck Grove Baptist Church which was near Aplington, Iowa. When he and his family moved to George, Iowa, he became an active member of the First Baptist Church of that community. Later when the Central Baptist Church was organized in the town of George, he became a charter member. He served as clerk of that church until they moved to Madison. Here they united with the West Center Street Baptist Church. He served as deacon for many years.

Brother Dirksen enjoyed good health most of his life. He passed away quietly on February 17, 1956. He had attained the age of more than 93 years.

He is survived by his wife; five children: Mrs. John Bauman, Mrs. Oliver Schrepel, Edward and Harry Dirksen, all of Madison, S. Dak.; and Clarence Dirksen of Minneapolis, Minn.; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Rev. Harm Johnson of George, Iowa, and the pastor were in charge of the service. It could be said of Brother Dirksen: "For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God" (Heb. 11:10).

West Center Street Baptist Church,
Madison, South Dakota

FRED SCHMIDT, Minister.

MR. J. GEORGE EITEL
of Bison, Kansas.

Mr. Johann George Eitel of Bison, Kans., passed away to be with his Lord on Feb. 25, 1956, 16 days after his eightieth birthday. He was born in Beideck, Russia, on Feb. 9, 1876. He was united in marriage in 1894 to Miss Catherine Mary George of the same village and came to America in 1903. They settled in Lincoln, Neb., for about four years. In 1907 they moved to a farm near Alexander, then to the one southeast of Timken, where they lived until they retired to Bison in 1931. Seven children came into the home. However, five died in infancy, John and Lydia remaining to bless the home.

Mr. Eitel, his wife and son were baptized in May 1914 by Rev. John Sievers. Mr. Eitel immediately became active in the work of his Lord. For many years he was the church clerk, faithful in attendance, and

LETTER OF THANKS!

The many letters and cards of condolence and sympathy which have reached me since the unexpected passing of my dear husband, Rev. Daniel Klein, have been a great source of comfort to me. The tributes paid the departed one have brought cheer to my heart. It would be humanly impossible to acknowledge all these messages in a personal way—much as I would like to do so. Therefore I wish to use this means of thanking you one and all, my dear friends everywhere. God bless you!

MRS. PAULINE KLEIN.

even teaching a class the last Sunday of his life. Mr. Eitel and his wife celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1944. On April 14, 1948 his wife passed away. In October 1948 he married Mary Neve, and she passed on to the Lord in October 27, 1953.

He leaves to mourn: his son, Mr. John Eitel and wife of Timken, and his daughter, Mrs. Lydia Wunder and husband of La Crosse; nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren; and a great number of other relatives and friends. Services were conducted from the First Baptist Church of Bison, Kans., on Feb. 29, by the pastor.

Bison, Kansas

OLIVER K. RINGERING, Pastor.

MR. WILLIAM BRUNKEN, SR.
of Columbus, Nebraska.

Mr. William Brunken of Columbus, Neb., was born on Oct. 31, 1876 at Westerstede, Oldenburg, Germany. He came to America with his parents in 1891. They settled in Platte County in the state of Nebraska where he remained until his death. On April 6, 1904 he was united in marriage to Minnie Husmann. They honored this day by celebrating their golden wedding anniversary in 1954. To this union ten children were born. Mr. Brunken farmed in the Creston community where he was an active citizen, a friend and a neighbor, which was confirmed by a great host gathering to pay their last respects. Eleven years ago he retired and made his home in Columbus, where he passed to his heavenly home on Feb. 18, after a short period of illness. He reached the age of 79 years, 3 months, 17 days.

He accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Savior and followed him in baptism in 1895, under the ministry of Rev. Gustav Peitsch, pastor of the Shell Creek Baptist Church, which he also joined. He remained a member there until the Creston Baptist Church was organized, of which he became a charter member as one of the key men to organize it. Here he was a faithful and active member until he was called home. He served as church clerk for many years and also taught a Sunday School class until about two years ago, only to discontinue because of the lack of physical strength. He also served in many other capacities in his church to honor his Master.

He was preceded in death by one son, Emil; his parents; two sisters and two brothers. He leaves to mourn his departure: his devoted wife and nine children, as follows: five daughters: Miss Anna of Columbus; Mrs. Herman Kallweit of Humphrey, Neb.; Mrs. Ervin Scheffer, Mrs. Fred Hamburger, Mrs. Perle Scheffer of Madison, Neb.; and four sons: Walter of Omaha, Neb.; William, Jr., Fred, and Edward of Creston, Neb.; one brother, Henry of Genoa; 16 grandchildren and two great-grandsons; and a great host of other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted in the Creston Baptist Church, Creston, Nebraska. Interment was at the Creston cemetery.

Creston, Nebraska

R. C. STADING, Pastor.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

(Continued from Page 16)

ing condemnation of its leaders (7: 51-53).

6. His Death. 7:59-60.

Stephen knew how to live because he lived in Christ; he knew how to die because he died in Christ. The death of his Savior must have been fresh in his mind, for some of his words were similar to those of Jesus on the Cross. He surrendered his undying spirit and he died forgiving his enemies.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Christ helping me, I will strive to be an answer rather than a problem."
—Manuela L. Valencia (Philippines)
in "The Upper Room."

WE, THE WOMEN

(Continued from Page 14)

The eternal truth that Christ died to give salvation to all, no matter what language they speak or what color of skin they have, is a great challenge to me.

My experiences this year have been interesting. For field work, I teach a small class of kindergarten children at the Albany Park Baptist Church in Chicago. I love working with the children, and this is also an opportunity to apply what we learn in classes every day.

In all our classes we discover a greater vision of the work which we have to do. It is an honored privilege to be preparing for the service of the King.

Again I want to express my sincere thanks to each of you who have had a part in making my school year a rich experience. I have much appreciated their prayers, letters and gifts which you have given to me. May God richly bless you for your loving kindnesses.

LEHR, NORTH DAKOTA

(Continued from Page 22)

its annual program. Guests of the evening were the entire Berlin Congregation together with their pastor, Rev. V. Prendinger, and his wife who as guest speaker had a fitting message and inspired all her listeners. Songs by the members, a trio, reading and

FOR MY SIN

By DALE ROTT, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Can it be that the hands that once clutched straw hold spikes?

That he was once kissed by a virgin and now by a betrayer?

That hundreds walked with him and only two buried him?

"He came unto his own and his own received him not."

Can it be that the palm branches have changed to thorns?

That the "Hail him" has changed to "Crucify him"?

That the donkey has changed to a cross?

"What is man that thou art mindful of him?"

the dialog entitled, "The Beautiful Garden of Prayer," by eleven persons were given.

The secretary, Mrs. Jacob Schopp, gave a combined secretary's and treasurer's report showing a total of 22 active members and two honorary members. Mrs. Jacob Kessler, who had been a very faithful member in past years, is unable to attend any of our meetings due to difficulty in getting around, but she is a charter member, and a generous giver.

Our past year's accomplishments have been numerous: White Cross work, including hundreds of bandages, seven pairs of men's pajamas of unbleached muslin, many double

blankets and diapers which were stitched, plus rubber sheeting, gauze, buttons, etc., that were sent to headquarters. Designated months were set aside for sacrifice offerings. The Children's Home at St. Joseph, Mich., was remembered, as well as the Old People's Home, Bismarck, N. Dak., to whom we gave the greatest share, including 61 pounds of cottage cheese, cases of eggs, kuchen, rolls, poultry, cream, 32 pounds of homemade cookies and some fancy work. We also gave a generous donation for foreign mission, home mission, and the Crystal Springs youth camp. Hundreds of sick calls were reported.

This past year most of our savings were used for our kitchen in our new church which was reported in a previous report in connection with the church dedication. We gave 15 tables for the dining room, \$100 donation toward the organ fund, and \$195 for aisle carpeting. All in all, we spent approximately \$2,000 for worthy causes and we still have a reasonable balance in the treasury.

The World Day of Prayer program on Feb. 17 was held in the Baptist Church this year, in connection with the Evangelical United Brethren Church. Members of both the Woman's Missionary Societies planned and rendered the program. Mrs. W. D. Elmer, pastor's wife of the neighboring church, was chairman. The theme, "One Flock, One Shepherd," was carried out as prepared by headquarters. Though adverse weather conditions existed, a large number attended this meeting and experienced rich blessings.

Mrs. John Kranzler, Reporter.

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