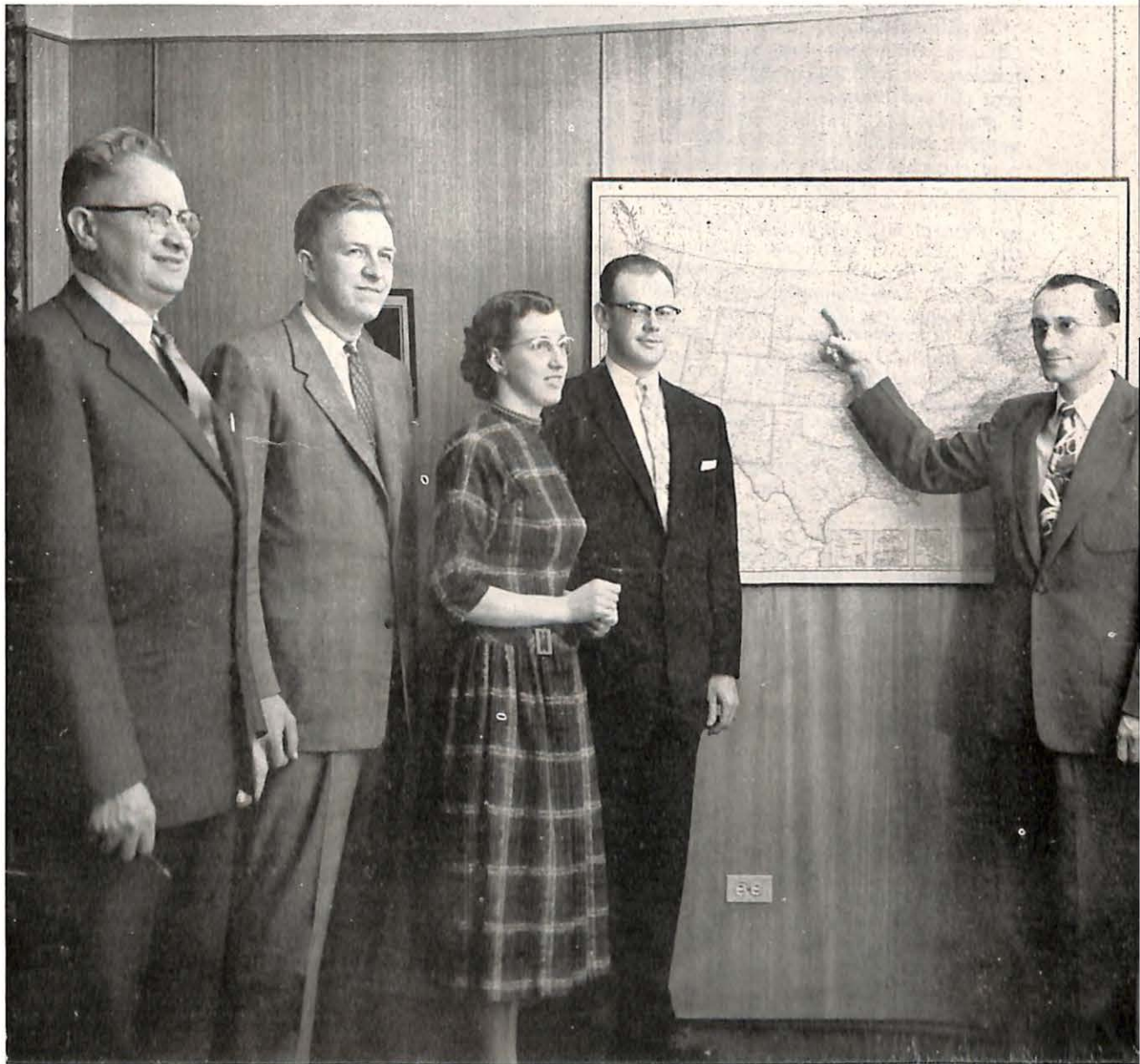


Baptist Herald

● ● ● NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE



**September
6
1956**

The Sunday School Union's Executive Committee Considers Its Task

**Sunday School Week
The Sunday School Standard
The Teacher's Spiritual Enrichment**

March of Events

● The 59th General Council of the international Christian and Missionary Alliance held at the Omaha Gospel Tabernacle, Omaha, Neb., May 16-21, must certainly be reported as one of the most colorful church conventions of the year. Downtown Omaha took on an exotic hue Sunday afternoon when 200 missionaries, representing the 22 foreign countries in which the alliance is active and dressed in the garb of the lands they serve, paraded to City auditorium for a mass rally. For the first time in the history of the movement a national representative attended its convention: Raghuwell P. Chavan, president of the Marathi national churches of India. The alliance will augment its total of 720 missionaries with 102 appointees to be sent out by the end of November. As a goal for the coming year the convention set establishment of as many new churches as there are missionary appointees.—Christian Century.

● Central High School in Oklahoma City, Okla., is receiving an unusual class gift from its graduating seniors—a small non-denominational chapel for student use. The graduating class voted to convert an unused storage room in the building into a chapel where pupils can go before and after school, or during lunch hour, for devotions or meditation. The seniors have been doing all the renovation work themselves—cleaning, painting, redecorating, and providing the necessary equipment. The chapel will accommodate about 30 persons. Members of the class said they felt nothing else could so fitly exemplify the traditional purpose of a class gift: "to make the school better by our having been there." Ruth Swanson, a senior leader, said that some of the students had been meeting twice a week in a classroom for half an hour before school for a devotional program of hymns, Bible readings and prayer. "Students want this kind of thing, and the chapel will give them a place for it," she said.

● A crack team of five literacy experts is in Tanganyika, East Africa, to conduct an intensive three-month literacy and literature campaign. The team will concentrate on the development of a self-perpetuating native leadership training program and on the training writers who can supply new literates with simple materials. Sponsor of the program is the Committee on World Literacy and Christian Literature. Dr. Floyd Shacklock, executive director of the Committee, said the program represents a major change in the churches cooperative

world-wide program to teach illiterates their ABC's. He said previous work has concentrated on the teaching of large numbers of people in brief team-stop-overs in a country. Team headquarters are at Kinampanda. Upon completion of the three-month campaign there, the team will go to Kenya, the Belgian Congo, Ruanda, Urundi, Egypt, and the Sudan. They will teach in three languages—Swahili, the trade language of Tanganyika, and Irambi and Remi, tribal languages of the areas. Dr. Shacklock said recent statistics show that approximately 75 per cent of Tanganyika's 8,000,000 residents cannot read and that the present school system is serving only about 40 per cent of the children.

● Two persistent problems remain in Korea: the currency is seriously inflated; and second the task of repairing all kinds of transportation is still far from completed. The farmer is

especially hampered because it is most difficult for him to get his crops to cash markets; also the money value of his crops varies wildly. But Rev. Bin Im, General Secretary of the Korean Bible Society, has come up with a plan to help Korea's farmer. His plan is a tribute to his imagination and devotion to the Bible cause. The farmer doesn't have cash, but he does have crops that he hasn't been able to get to market. So by Mr. Im's scheme he takes a truckload of Scriptures to the farms and small villages and barter them for produce—Bibles and Testaments and Gospels for rice, soybeans, and eggs! Mr. Im reports the results of one of his first trips: "First we went to the Yongin District, 45 miles southeast of Seoul. I preached in the church in the evening and then started out the next morning for some of the smaller farm villages. We 'sold' Scriptures all along the way, and the net result was that we distributed 554 copies of the Scriptures and almost filled the truck with several bushels of rice and ten eggs. Not only did we receive rice and eggs, but also soybeans, peas, sesame—anything the farmers had. They wanted Bibles, we knew that."—Evangelical Christian.

Baptist Briefs

● A library housing the hymn collection of the late Rev. B. B. McKinney was dedicated to his memory in a ceremony at Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Oklahoma. The collection comprises some 800 different hymn books gathered by Mr. McKinney during his singing tours at more than 250 revivals and state conventions. The Baptist minister was the author of some 700 gospel songs and other compositions. Mrs. McKinney donated the volumes to the university following her husband's death four years ago.

● Birthdays will be celebrated by three American Convention organizations when the Philadelphia meeting takes place next year, May 29-June 4. Philadelphia Baptists will be the oldest group, celebrating 250 years of existence. The first association of Baptist churches in the Western World was organized in 1707 and had its center at Philadelphia. Marking its 125th birthday, will be the American Baptist Home Mission Society, founded in 1832. A historical book, written by Dr. G. Pitt Beers, will be ready in 1957. The American Convention itself will celebrate its 50th anniversary. Another significant anniversary will be that of the writing of "America" by a Baptist minister, Rev. Samuel F. Smith, in 1832, just 125 years before 1957. —Watchman-Examiner.

● The American Baptist Convention is studying an offer from the University of Chicago of land for a headquarters on the university campus. Chancellor Lawrence Kimpton has offered the convention a 360 by 550 foot site along the Midway. At present Chicago is one of five cities under consideration for a consolidated headquarters for the convention, which now has offices in four buildings in New York and a publications office and printing plant in Philadelphia. Two agencies of the American Baptist Convention have leased space in the center to be constructed by the National Council of Churches in New York city. Chicago is also being considered as a site for the sixth seminary to be built by the Southern Baptist Convention. —Christian Century.

● Temple Baptist Church of Los Angeles, Calif., has launched a Christian Alcoholic Fellowship. Of the 65 million Americans who drink occasionally, four million are already problem drinkers and 750,000 chronic alcoholics. There are 50 per cent more uncontrollable drinkers in the nation than victims of tuberculosis. The Men's Council of Temple felt constrained to do something about this national menace that is the source of more crime, broken homes, wasted lives and traffic tragedies than any (Continued on Page 24)

Editorial

Stir Up Your Sunday School!

THE WATERS OF A POOL are fresh and sweet as long as they flow in constant activity or are stirred up. In our Christian lives we are at our best when we are aroused to action, inspired to noble deeds, stirred up to achieve greater objectives. In Exodus 35:21 we read how Moses gathered all the congregation of the children of Israel together. "And they came, every one whose heart stirred him up, and every one whom his spirit made willing, and they brought the Lord's offering to the work of the tabernacle." Things are bound to happen when a congregation or a Sunday School is stirred up to a new and greater program of Christian service!

This unique phrase is used frequently in the Scriptures. In almost every instance, it means to give the Spirit of God free reign in your life. The Apostle Paul wrote to young Timothy in direct, challenging words: "Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee" (2 Tim. 1:6). The Apostle Peter considered this to be his spiritual obligation to stir up the early Christians by "putting them in remembrance" as to what they ought to be and do in God's sight (2 Peter 1:13). Every Sunday School officer, teacher, and leader is a vessel in God's hand, a spokesman for the Most High God, and as such he or she must clear the way for the Spirit's manifestation in power and glory in the work of the Sunday School.

We should also be critical of our present Sunday School accomplishments. When the Apostle Peter wrote that he needed to "stir up your pure minds" (2 Peter 3:1), he wanted the early Christians to be "mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets," of the things which still ought to be done in their lives. We become stagnant as soon as we are content with our accomplishments or rest on our laurels. In Sunday School work especially we must set new objectives before us, make constant improvements in our teaching ministry, provide better facilities for the children, strengthen the weak places in the organization, recognize and correct our mistakes, and constructively consider how we can best present the Gospel message in the greatest possible outreach of the Sunday School.

By stirring up our Sunday Schools, we shall also challenge them to try some new ideas and plans in accord with approved Christian educational programs. There is no phase of Christian work in which everything is constantly changing with new and better ideas than the extensive field of Christian education. With the changing panorama of life and present day customs, there is bound to be a drastic change in the educational approach to those to whom we minister. This is evident in the new books on the market, the new spirit in Sunday School workers' conventions, the new objectives for Church-Sunday Schools in our modern day. Stir up your Sunday School by trying out some of these methods and plans which have been tested successfully by approved Christian Education leaders of today.

There is sound Scriptural teaching as well as a timely challenge in these words for the observance of Sunday School Week: "Stir up your Sunday School for a greater ministry for Jesus Christ!"

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—Eva Luoma Photo

Sunday School teachers have the great privilege of having "precious little lives" entrusted to them to unveil to them the glory of Christ's teachings, and therefore they also have the great responsibility of being spiritually influential.

THE spiritual heights of great saints of God described in the Scriptures challenge our spiritual desires to a more Christ-like life. Dwelling among us are men and women of the Christian faith who tower mountain-like above us in their testimony of a vital, powerful and living faith which also calls us to strive toward a more perfect faith.

We as Christian teachers are especially confronted with the responsibility which demands a spiritual life so rich and full that it can overflow into the lives of those whom we teach and lead toward a closer walk with our Lord Jesus Christ.

THE MASTER TEACHER

Every Christian teacher is faced with answers to the self-examining question, "How can my life be spiritually more influential?" Jesus, the Master of teachers, was described by Nicodemus in the words, "We know that thou art a teacher come from God; for no man can do these miracles that thou doest except God be with him" (John 3:2).

In our longing to be teachers commissioned of God we must repeatedly examine the greatness of Jesus as a teacher. The inner circle of the disciples recognized the high qualities of Jesus as a teacher. He was a constant inspiration to them as he unveiled the eternal spiritual truths which would lead to an abundant life.

Jesus drew on great resources for spiritual enrichment, which are the same for us as they were for our Savior. His constant source of strength, wisdom, and courage came from the long hours in fellowship with the

Heavenly Father. The disciples were so impressed by the results of Christ's prayer experiences that they humbly confessed that they didn't know how to pray.

"Lord, teach us to pray," needs to be our request more often as we seek for a more influential spiritual witness. Our busy schedule or daily routine seems to occupy all our time, and we find ourselves failing because our efforts in God's work are being put forth under our own resourcefulness.

Jesus as the Son of God found prayer essential for all circumstances. He was found in prayer during the temptation experiences, the calling of the twelve, preaching the Sermon on the Mount, while ministering to the hungry and sick, and as he was preparing to face the cross. The Gospel writers repeatedly refer to Jesus drawing away from the multitudes to pray. "He went out into the mountain to pray and continued all night in prayer to God."

The content of Jesus' prayers is best found in his prayer as recorded in the Gospel of John, chapter 17. It verifies the emphasis which Jesus gave in his message on prayer that we pray much for ourselves. The Christian teacher is certainly deeply aware of the need to pray for self. Jesus prayed that he might fulfill the task on earth so "that they know thee, the only true God." This remains the sacred desire of every Christian teacher to make known our God.

We as teachers have a high calling from God which calls for much fellowship and prayer with God. We must pray to God for guidance, wisdom, and understanding that we, too,

might attain unto many higher Christian goals which can and should be attained. All obstacles, which so easily slip into our lives, can be removed through prayer and faith. Jesus assured us that "whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye ask anything in my name, I will do it" (John 14:13-14). Our requests must be kept within the spirit and teaching of Jesus and not to "ask amiss, that we may consume it upon our own lusts" (James 4:3).

Jesus prayed not alone for self but also for his disciples and for those who would yet come to a faith in him. Christian teachers will experience many spiritual heights by praying for those whom they teach. When souls turn to Christ and acknowledge him as Lord and Savior, there is always great joy for those who have prayed. A Sunday School teacher will always find this experience one which gives courage to continue faithfully in teaching the Word. Our prayers, like the prayers of Jesus, must include those who are saved.

THE WORD OF POWER

Jesus prayed "that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves." He prayed that they should be kept from evil and be consecrated to the truth as he taught it. He prayed that they would become powerful in order to draw men unto Christ. Prayer is the key which unlocks the door to the resources which replenish the Christian teacher with spiritual power needed to be an effective Gospel teacher.

The multitude who listened to Jesus "were astonished at his doctrine; for" (Continued on Page 12)

The Christian Teacher His Spiritual Enrichment

Theme for Sunday School Week, September 23-30, 1956

By REV. G. K. ZIMMERMAN,
General Secretary of the Sunday School Union

The Teacher's Spiritual Resources

Opportunities for spiritual growth by every Sunday School teacher as viewed by several Conference Sunday School Secretaries

GROWING THROUGH SOUL WINNING

By REV. NORMAN MILLER,
Southwestern Conference Sunday
School Secretary

"Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit, so shall ye be my disciples" (John 15:8).

One of the primary activities of a good Sunday School teacher is soul winning. This is, indeed, the task to which all Christians are appointed, but in a special way it is the teacher's responsibility. The opportunities are limited only by a dimmed vision, an indifferent attitude or the lack of spiritual discernment.

We are concerned here primarily with the growth of the teacher who is an active soul winner.

Activity and growth go hand in hand. You don't learn to swim by sitting on beach chairs! Taking the first step always precedes the ability to run a race! Soul winners are people so filled with the Holy Spirit that they take that "first step," speaking to that first person about his soul. In soul winning each new experience helps the worker to grow and to sharpen his abilities. Practice makes perfect. You grow as you go!

The faith of the soul winner also is deepened as he sees how effective God's Word is. "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it" (Isa. 55:11). Bible reading, prayer, church attendance, and teaching are all good activities for a Sunday School teacher, but in soul winning he sees lives changed! How his faith grows!

There are many other ways in which a Sunday School teacher will grow through soul winning. He will have a greater vision of God's plan, a greater passion for the lost, the joy of being in God's will, the joy of seeing others happy because of their salvation and activity in the Lord's work.

POWER IN PRAYER

By MR. VERNON J. HECKMAN,
Northwestern Conference Sunday
School Secretary

Most teachers know that God's Word is replete with precious promises! How many of us, however, are alerted to the realization that God uses prayer as one of the principal means of carrying into effect his promises?

At the close of the thirty-sixth chapter of Ezekiel, which is full of promises that God could very well have carried out without further ado, we read, "I

will yet for this be enquired of by the house of Israel to do it for them." This verse therefore indicates that the key to unlock the treasure chest of God's golden promises is—prayer.

What then is prayer? John Bunyan says, "It is a sincere, sensible, affectionate pouring out of the soul to God through Christ in the strength and assistance of the Spirit for such things as God hath promised." Bunyan adds, "Prayer is a shield for the soul, a sacrifice to God, and a scourge for Satan."

Sometimes we teachers act as if our resources were inadequate. We need not so live, "for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds."

There is a sacrifice in our present age that is appropriate for teachers to bring before God's throne. "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name."

Satan was refuted and punished by the Lord's intercession for Peter (Luke 22:31-32). Remember that Christ likewise intercedes for YOU.

JOYS OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

By REV. HOWARD C. SCHENK,
Southern Conference Sunday School
Secretary

"And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and good works; not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together . . . (Hebrews 10: 24-25a).

The spiritual life of the Sunday School teacher must be nourished or

this precious privilege becomes a common duty. The above Scripture provides for a large part of this nourishment by exhorting regular assembling for worship and Christian fellowship.

The comradeship that comes from Christian fellowship is as necessary to the teacher as morale is to an army, as the cluster is to the grape. The Sunday School teacher needs to attend the worship services and prayer meetings of his church for his own good. His spiritual life will be nourished by attending teachers' and officers' meetings where he can share spiritual experiences with other workers, and also present his problems.

But we must remember that Christian fellowship is not a one-way street, but a giving as well as receiving experience. The spiritual life of the teacher will be nourished also as he seeks to create Christian fellowship, as he "considers one another to provoke unto love and good works."

As the teacher avails himself of the many wonderful and valuable opportunities of Christian fellowship in his local church, he is being fitted and energized by God to encourage others in the walk of Christ, and to radiate the love of Christ to those who are unsaved in his class.

A WORKING KNOWLEDGE OF THE BIBLE

By REV. DALE CHADDOCK,
Eastern Conference Sunday School
Secretary

Have you ever met another Sunday School teacher who evidently had an (Continued on Page 12)



—Eric Pohl Photo
Sunday School teachers and workers of the Trinity Baptist Church, Portland, Oregon, with Rev. John Wobig, pastor, fourth from left, front row.

The Sunday School Union in Action

By MR. E. RALPH KLETKE of Philadelphia, Pa., President of the General Sunday School Union

ONE of the momentous decisions of the 1955 General Conference at Waco, Texas, was the creation of the Sunday School Union as a separate cooperating organization. It is with a sense of joy and gratitude to the Lord that we can reflect upon the first full year of operation.

In its first year any new organization is involved in the mechanics of initiating its program and getting established. This was accomplished in a most expeditious manner because of two reasons: the existence of a basic Sunday School program, and efficient, consecrated general workers.

The general secretary, Rev. G. K. Zimmerman, has proven to be a progressive and tactful leader with an intelligent grasp of the mission and the potentialities of the Sunday School work. As the Children's Worker, Miss Ruth Bathauer is continuing her very valuable contributions to the program.

In February 1956, the General Sunday School Committee held its first annual session. Here the representative opinions of the officers and the Sunday School secretaries of the nine local conferences were used to chart the course for the year.

FIRST YEAR'S PROGRAM

In the short space of a year indications are that the program of the Sunday School Union has had a stimulating effect upon our local churches. Here are some facts that support this statement:

1. In the past year over 46 Workers' Conferences were held involving some 162 local churches. The response to this aggressive effort has been most enthusiastic. Since many of the conferences were held in the individual churches, conference leaders were able to counsel with local workers with regards to their specific problems.

2. Under the sponsorship of the local Sunday School Committee more and more conferences have scheduled periods on their annual programs devoted to Sunday School topics and workshops. This has proven to be successful at the recent programs of the Atlantic, Central, and Dakota Conferences.

The goals and objectives of the local Sunday Schools are set forth in a very practical form in the SUNDAY SCHOOL STANDARD. All Sunday Schools have been urged to adopt the STANDARD and to use it as a guide in the yearly evaluation of their school. The emphasis for 1956-57 will be goals four through seven: "A Baptist School, A Missionary School, A Church School, and A Church Going School." (See page 7 of this issue.)

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL STANDARD

When God looks down on your Sunday School

And sees — —

A Growing School
A Bible School
An Evangelistic School
A Baptist School
A Missionary School
A Church School
A Church Going School
A Graded School
A Leader Trained School
A Planned School — —
He will say,
"That is good!"

An intelligent program of missionary education and promotion in our Sunday Schools is a major concern. The mission projects were Home Missions and Church Extension. For 1956-1957 the Japanese Field has been added. Past issues of JUNIOR MISSION MATERIAL have been mailed with ACTION to all superintendents and pastors for use in missionary promotion. A committee has been appointed by the Union to suggest methods of periodic mission emphasis in the local schools and to suggest a list of additional collateral and supplementary mission material.

REPORTS AND PLANS

The development of the response to the Children's Work is increasing steadily. In 1955, 1333 children completed the Scripture Memory Course, an increase of 30 per cent over the previous year. This spring the Sunday School Union made available to all pastors and workers a group of Vacation Bible School materials, including

FRONT COVER

This special Sunday School Number of the "Baptist Herald" calls your attention graphically to the observance of Sunday School Week in our denomination, Sept. 23 to 30, 1956. On the front cover are members of the executive committee of the General Sunday School Union considering Sunday School opportunities on a map of North America. From right to left they are: Rev. G. K. Zimmerman, general secretary; Mr. E. Ralph Kletke, president; Miss Ruth Bathauer, children's worker; Mr. James Billeter, vice-president, and Dr. Frank H. Woyke, executive secretary of the North American Baptist General Conference.

the newly published D.V.B.S. HANDBOOK, attendance charts and charts for leaders, dedication service for D.V.B.S. workers and mission stories adapted for Vacation School use.

The exciting news for next summer is the General Workers' Conference for Sunday School Workers and CBY Leaders, August 5-9, 1957, to be held at the seminary in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The plans for the conference include a well coordinated program of Christian training, fellowship and recreation.

In order to keep abreast of the times and the needs of our local churches, the Sunday School Union is constantly engaged in a program of study and planning in various areas of concern. This work is being accomplished by several appointed committees, utilizing the abilities of the members of the General Sunday School Committee, staffs of our seminary and C.T.I., and key leaders from our churches.

The Sunday School Lesson Committee is now engaged in the mammoth task of evaluating the lesson materials under consideration. As a result of this work, it is expected that the Sunday School Union will be able to recommend to our churches a series of lesson materials for use in the schools. Contributors are now completing the preliminary outlines for the various sections of the forthcoming SUNDAY SCHOOL HANDBOOK. Another committee is making a study of the various Sunday School record systems.

CONFERENCE S.S. COMMITTEES

The local conference Sunday School Committee performs a very vital function in promoting the Sunday School Union program in the local churches. These committees are striving to become aware of the problems in their respective local Sunday Schools. They are responsible for maintaining a close liaison between the local churches and the Sunday School Union. They also have the responsibility of planning the local workers' conferences, and Sunday School programs for the annual local Conferences. It is our desire that the Sunday School Committees become one of the most active in the local conference areas.

The development of an up-to-date Sunday School program is a continual process. The challenge to the Sunday School Union is to serve our churches as they strive to win scholars to Jesus Christ and carry on an aggressive program of Christian education. Our desire will be to continue to meet this challenge with wisdom and devotion to our blessed Lord.



The children and teachers of the Primary and Junior Departments of the Trinity Baptist Sunday School, Portland, Ore., with Mrs. Edwin Rocks and Mrs. John Wobig, Junior and Primary Department superintendents, at the extreme left.

The Sunday School Standard

Four of the ten goals of the Standard as described by Conference Sunday School Secretaries

A BAPTIST SCHOOL

By REV. ROGER SCHMIDT,
Atlantic Conference Sunday School
Secretary

IN TOO MANY of our church schools, the only way one would know it is a Baptist school would be to read the sign outside. An incredibly large number of Sunday School scholars (sometimes teachers too) cannot even spell BAPTIST correctly. This may or may not be significant but the fact remains that somewhere we have missed the trolley.

Why are we Baptists? Because of birth, proximity, convenience or conviction? I fear to ask that question of many who attend our church schools. If we have convictions about our Baptist faith, then they must be defined, strengthened and taught. Why should we be hesitant about what we stand for? The world shouts long and hard to join people's attentions and, unless we are just as determined and clear with our voice, our Baptist witness will suffer. With all due respect to other denominations and inter-denominational endeavors, we believe our Baptist teachings most nearly follow those of Christ. How dare we then teach anything else!

Use Gospel-centered Baptist materials that give a clear cut definition of our work. Use the many supplementary materials which our North American Conference provides to acquaint the pupils with the many facets of our Baptist work.

Material, however, is not enough. Make sure that your teachers and officers who sift and present the material are staunch supporters of the Baptist witness.

Let us stop taking our Baptist faith for granted. It is not the sign outside the door but the message in the heart that counts!

A MISSIONARY SCHOOL

By REV. E. A. HOFFMANN,
Northern Conference Sunday School
Secretary

The importance of our Sunday Schools is often forgotten. One of our ministers at our association, speaking on the benefits which we reap from our Sunday Schools, gave the following statistics: 75 per cent of our church members, 85 per cent of our ministers, and 95 per cent of our missionaries come to us through Sunday Schools.

In view of the above facts, in order to carry out the Great Commission of Christ, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel . . .," we need a strong missionary emphasis in our Sunday School program. Here is where our present missionary program is supported and where our future missionary program is determined.

We need to acquaint our children and young people with the missionary work which we are already doing, and with the golden opportunities that lie before us. To do this our Sunday School Standard suggests that we have at least one good missionary program once a quarter. For this occasion study and present one field of our missionary work. In addition to studying and presenting the work of this field, let us also join the large number who are supporting this work with their prayers and offerings.

Your Sunday School Committee suggests three projects for this coming year: the Home Mission Fields Project (No. 630); Church Extension Project (No. 640); and our Japan Project (No. 680).

From where shall we get our information for missionary studies and programs? We need not go far to search and to find the necessary material. Almost every issue of our "Baptist Her-

ald" carries missionary news. Denominational news letters are sent to all who are interested. Ask for them. Once a quarter the leaflet, "Action," is mailed out to your superintendents. With it comes also a folder called, "Junior Mission Material" adapted for our juniors.

Besides these, our office at Forest Park, Ill., is sending out leaflets concerning our missionary work. Read these. A wealth of information concerning our missionaries and their work is found in a booklet entitled, "Now We Are Fifty-five." This can be secured for ten cents from the office in Forest Park.

A CHURCH SCHOOL

By MR. PAUL JUNGKEIT,
Pacific Conference Sunday School
Secretary

An important part of the teaching work of the church is carried on by the Sunday School. It is the most important organization in the church that attempts to provide a program of systematic instruction for all age groups. It has been estimated that 95 per cent of the leaders of our churches come through the Sunday School.

In order to improve our Sunday School, let's look at its relationship to the church. Has it been an orphan which no one would claim? To function effectively, the Sunday School must be related properly to the total educational program of the church. It must not operate as an independent institution but as an integral part of the church.

To avoid duplication, overlapping and omissions in the learning program, to make the Sunday School a vital part of the church, and to build a well balanced, comprehensive program, there should be a central planning (Continued on Page 13)



Mr. and Mrs. James Billeter and their two children on their way to Sunday School at the Trinity Baptist Church, Portland, Oregon.

The Sunday School Superintendent's Vital Leadership



By MR. JAMES BILLETER, Superintendent of the Trinity Baptist Sunday School, Portland, Ore., and Vice-president of the General Sunday School Union

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL superintendent is one of the key laymen in the vital educational branch of the church. His enthusiastic leadership and cooperation with his pastor, Board of Christian Education and church will have a profound effect, not only on the Sunday School, but throughout the entire church program. Upon the successful ministry of the Sunday School hinges the entire success of the comprehensive outreach of the church, spiritually and numerically.

One of the important duties of the superintendent is to make the church aware of the vital ministry of the Sunday School, and with the aid of the pastor to impress upon the congregation the importance of its ministry of evangelism and Christian training.

PROMOTION SUNDAY

Promotion Sunday or Rally Day is an excellent opportunity to present to the church a picture of the vital contribution which the Sunday School is making to the overall church program. In a closely graded school, in which departments through the young people's ages meet separately, the adults of the Sunday School and congregation sometimes lose sight of the progress that is being made in these departments.

At Trinity Church in Portland, Ore., we found it effective to invite the entire church for this occasion, to be held during the Sunday School hour, preferably in the church sanctuary. The younger departments marching in, accompanied by spirited music of the Sunday School band or orchestra, with their class banners and flags will create an enthusiastic and lasting impression, and present the challenge to the church of what a power and potential for church growth a growing Sunday School is.

Time for publicity during church worship services for special events of the Sunday School, contests, stressing attendance goals, teacher enlistment,

etc., will coordinate more closely the work of the Sunday School with that of the church. The programs of the Sunday School celebrating special occasions during the year such as Harvest and Mission Festival, Christmas, Bible Day, Easter, and Children's Day are a good investment given by the church of its worship service time in providing on outreach to non-member parents in the area.

His relationship to the Board of Christian Education is another phase of the superintendent's work. He must keep the Board informed as to specific needs pertaining to curriculum, teacher training, class room facilities, program correlation, and other needs of the school. In addition to regularly scheduled monthly meetings, the Board may be made aware of the problems by being encouraged to visit the various departments and classes in regular session.

It is well for the superintendent to keep abreast of the latest trends in Christian Education by the reading of the newest books on this subject, and by being alert for new teaching aids and materials which may be superior to those currently being used, so that he may make recommendations to the Board along these lines.

AN EFFICIENT TEACHING STAFF

Another responsibility of the superintendent is to develop an efficient and adequate teaching staff. This may be accomplished through monthly meetings conducted by the superintendent to include departmental sessions, a planned course of teacher training, a stress on the importance of visitation to the growth of the school, and a continued emphasis on the primary goal of the school, EVANGELISM.

It is necessary to point out that business sessions at these monthly meetings be kept at a minimum, since nothing will kill staff interest more quickly than prolonged discussion on matters which could be referred to the Board of Christian Education or an appointed committee.

Tact in dealing with the staff and its problems is a virtue which all superintendents must ever try to attain. Teachers properly placed according to their particular abilities and personalities will help to achieve a smoothly operating organization.

Occasionally arrangements may be made to take the department heads on a planned visit to outstanding Sunday Schools in the area, so that they may see what others are doing and observe these schools in action. Quite often, ideas worth trying may be obtained and many times the teachers will return to their school confident that the caliber of their department is standard or possibly above.

The superintendent should encourage the Sunday School to avail itself of the opportunity and bear the expense of sending teachers to many of the fine teaching clinics in the area so that they may receive practical training in the latest methods, particularly in the critical Junior and Junior High departments. Many fine Sunday Schools with thriving Primary Departments are failing to hold and to win these pupils for Christ and the church because of lack of adequately trained personnel in the vital Junior and Junior High ages. No school can show a consistent growth if its organization is weak in these age groups.

PLAN WELL IN ADVANCE

To launch successfully a new Sunday School year, a fall planning meeting, one of the most essential of the entire year, should be planned well in advance of Home Coming Sunday or Rally Day. At this meeting it is the job of the superintendent to present a carefully prepared report as to the growth of the school during the past Sunday School year, a report of the financial status of the entire school as well as per capita giving, and an analysis of phases or departments in which the work could be strengthened.

It has been our experience at Trinity Church that more enthusiasm and

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Missions in Your Sunday School

REV. RICHARD GRENZ of Underwood, N. Dak., the Dakota Conference Sunday School Secretary

YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL is an excellent place in which to present and promote missions. For here there are boys and girls, young people and adults who are more faithful in attending Sunday School than the church services. Furthermore, teachers and officers have a more personal contact with each scholar than the pastor during the church services. Therefore, the Sunday School can have profitable results as it launches out in its missionary program. The words of Jesus, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself," need to be made a reality in the missionary program.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PROJECTS

The Sunday School Union, of which you are a part, has three specific mission projects, "Home Mission Fields Project No. 630," "Church Extension Project No. 640," and "Japan Project No. 680." What constitutes these projects and how much knowledge do you and the people of your Sunday School have of these mission fields?

Home mission fields include the mission-supported churches, the Indian Mission and the Spanish-American Mission. What is a home mission church? According to reports there are 55 such churches in our denomination with the majority of them in two conferences, the Dakota and the Northern. Interesting sketches of several churches have appeared in the "Baptist Herald" since January 1956.

Mission work is carried on among other races of people within our confines at home, with the Indians in Alberta, Canada, and the Spanish-Americans in Colorado and Texas. Frequently, articles have been published in the "Baptist Herald" about them.

Since August 1954 when the Church Extension Fund of our denomination was launched, 17 new Church Extension projects have been started in five of our nine local conferences. There are other areas open to our Church Extension Committee right now. Possibly one is near you!

These two projects were promoted and supported by the Sunday School Union during the past year. It has been decided to continue these two for another year and to add "Japan" as the third project with its seven missionaries.

It is very essential to support these mission projects with our tithes and offerings but it is also of importance to gather and to impart knowledge and information about these projects. How necessary and helpful to possess the latest information of the mission fields at home and abroad in order to pray and to give intelligently! This calls for an aggressive educational mission-

ary program within the Sunday School in every class. We have failed to emphasize the educational program. Now is the time to begin. Here are some ideas which you can adapt to your class and Sunday School.

COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS

The Union suggests that a committee on missions be appointed in every Sunday School to study and promote missions. The duties could be many, but chiefly, it could generate and maintain interest in missions.

Informative missionary articles appear regularly in the "Baptist Herald." The committee on missions, the teachers and officers ought to be among the first to read them and to review them in Sunday School and refer the scholars to the articles. A subscription or two to the "Baptist Herald" for the Sunday School and the organizations

by R. H. Glover; Missionary Education in Your Church by N. C. Harner; Missionary Education in a Baptist Church by D. A. Stevens; Missions Under the Cross by N. Goodall; Into All the World by A. V. Casselman; Missions at the Grass Roots by A. R. Crouch; Missions in the Plan of the Ages by W. Carver.

The office at Forest Park, Ill., has pictures of our missionaries, films, and slides of the fields and the Church Extension projects for Sunday School use.

There are other activities, such as dramatizations. Shadow drama was popular several years ago. Take an article or more in the "Baptist Herald" on a given field and write it in the form of a drama for children and young people to present to an audience. Other plans are to have a study course on missions and a missionary conference. A study of the people and



Japanese children and leaders at the newly organized Sunday School in the Baptist Mission, Kyoto, Japan, enjoy singing the Gospel songs.

of the church would make it possible for the articles to be clipped and placed on file in the church for future use.

From time to time mimeographed copies of letters from missionaries are mailed to the pastors and these are helpful and suggestive. Then there is the direct contact with missionaries and workers through correspondence and their visit to your church which make a real contribution to the Sunday School.

What knowledge do you have of Japan? Possibly you may wish to read and recommend books on Japan, dealing with the culture and religious background of the Japanese. Do you know of any books on the Spanish-Americans and the Indians? There are books on missions in general such as: The Progress of World-wide Missions

missionaries will give an insight into the needs and problems of these fields. I believe the resources on promotion, program, plans, and material are inexhaustible.

PROGRAM FOR MISSION GIVING

You may be interested in employing the following methods in your program of giving.

The first Sunday of the month or any other Sunday, but a specific one, could be designated as MISSION SUNDAY. Some classes could use two offering envelopes, one for current expenses and the other for missions. There are the coin folders and the mission mite boxes, besides the birthday offerings, which could be set aside for missions. Whenever the Sunday School

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Effective Leadership Training

By MISS RUTH BATHAUER, North American Baptist Children's Worker

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15).

AS WE WORK in our churches we want to work in a way which will obtain results. In thinking of the kind of teaching which will secure results, we as Christian teachers go to the Lord Jesus Christ, the divine Teacher, for our inspiration, motivation and for proper principles and methods of achieving the results. In order to be a "workman that needeth not to be ashamed," we must have a constant training program in our churches.

When speaking of training Paul H. Vieth states, "The best way to improve teaching is to improve the teachers. To have a group of good teachers requires more than the selection of the best available workers. It involves their training as well. Constant vigilance and unceasing effort is the price which must be paid if you would have a staff of competent teachers."

LEADERSHIP TRAINING COURSES

Our churches are to be commended on the fine way they realize the need for trained workers and for the many leadership training courses being conducted. Plans are under way for a large number of regional workers' conferences this fall.

To assist our churches in the selection of a balanced program the Sunday School Union is suggesting the following Leadership Training courses for this year:

BIBLE:

"Knowing the Old Testament," by James P. Berkeley.

"Knowing the New Testament," by Ralph E. Knudsen.

"Old Testament Studies," by P. E. Burroughs.

DOCTRINE:

"Christian Beliefs," by Ralph E. Knudsen.

ADMINISTRATION:

"Solving Church School Problems," by Irene Catherine Smith.

"Our Church Plans for Children," by Lois Blankenship.

CHRISTIAN LIFE:

"The Devotional Life of Christian Leaders," by Clarence W. Cranford.

All of the above books may be ordered from Roger Williams Press, 3734 Payne Avenue, Cleveland 14, Ohio.

It would be well for churches to select one or two of the above courses for their church and have the local pastor or a neighboring pastor conduct a training course. An excellent course for beginning teachers is the course entitled, "You Can Teach," by James P. Berkeley.

As a denominational worker, it is interesting for me to note the changes in those churches where some type of training program is being carried on. Last fall it was my privilege to be a member of a team conducting workers' conferences. As I arrived at the Salt Creek Baptist Church, Dallas, Ore., I found that the pastor and his Sunday School staff had been making plans for departmentalizing their school. Naturally many interesting questions arose in the discussion at the conference and further guidance was received in grading. It was evident that the staff had been reading and receiving training. Several months later I discovered that the school is now fully departmentalized and graded. This church has managed to establish a certain prestige for trained teachers. In order to be a teacher in the Salt Creek Church, a person must

have a certain amount of training which is very commendable.

Often one hears the explanation that due to limited facilities very little can be accomplished in applying information gained through training. The Minnetrista Church at St. Bonifacius, Minn., a rural church, is an excellent example showing that things can be improved. When visiting this church last fall, we discovered a few trained teachers who were putting into practice some excellent educational standards. There was no large educational building, but every space was being used efficiently with graded furniture and graded material.

It would be wonderful if we could share many other examples we have found in our churches. We know that many of our churches are evaluating and improving the standards of their school. It is most encouraging to see groups from one local church assemble after a class at a workers' conference discussing what has been presented and how it could affect their local situation.



Miss Ruth Bathauer stresses important teaching methods at the Southwestern Conference Christian Workers' Conference held at Marion, Kansas.

Scripture Memory Work

By MISS RUTH BATHAUER, Children's Worker of the General Sunday School Union

DURING THE MONTH of September, renewed efforts are being made in all phases of the work of the Sunday School and church. One very important phase of the training program of the church is the Scripture Memory work. Thus far the largest number successfully completing their work comes from the Ebenezer Church, Vancouver, B. C., with 60 memorizers. Miss Sylvia Schmuland is the sponsor. The second highest number comes from Mrs. J. H. Fluth, First Baptist Church of Emery, S. Dak., with 50 memorizers completing the assignments. Thirty-one Grand Award win-

ners have been reported this year.

Scripture Memory supplies should be ordered this month. Enrollment cards should be issued the third Sunday of September so that the program may begin with a good start on the first Sunday of October.

Course III is the current course for all three departments. We trust that parents and workers of the 6-14 age group of the church will want to be familiar with the Scripture Memory program. The Junior High's will learn Scripture pertaining to assurance of salvation, Christian living, tithing,

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S. S. Organization and Administration

By Prof. MARTHA M. LEYPOLDT of the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

AND GOD SAW everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good" (Genesis 1:31). This phrase was recorded by the sacred writer after God had performed the great feats of creation. The earth that had been "without form, and void" was molded into a masterpiece of law and order. Out of chaos God created an organized and well-ordered universe.

Man, the crown of God's creation, is a magnificent demonstration of co-ordination and organization. "The body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body" (1 Corinthians 12:12).

The God of creation, who made the world of law and order, can also make of our lives, of our homes, of our churches, of our Sunday Schools, a thing of law and order. As Paul admonished the people of Corinth, "Let all things be done decently and in order" (1 Cor. 14:40).

Out of our confused life, God can make a man "whole." He can develop within him an integrated personality through Christ. Likewise, out of a chaotic situation in a church, or out of a group "without form," can emerge a well organized working group that God can look down upon and say that it is good.

Our denominational Sunday School Standard has given us some principles by which we can guide our Sunday School programs. With regard to the organized aspects of the program we can follow the eighth standard, A GRADED SCHOOL.

To clarify how our schools should be organized, the departments that should be included in a completely graded school are listed. They are:

1. **The Nursery Department** for babies in cribs, toddlers, and children of two and three years of age. Wherever possible, a separate room for each age group should be provided. The younger children should be cared for so that parents can attend the Sunday School classes. An informal instructional program can be carried on for the children 2 and 3 years of age.

2. **The Kindergarten (or Beginners) Department** for children of ages four and five, or until the children enter the first grade of school.

3. **The Primary Department** for children in grades one, two, and three.

4. **The Junior Department** for children in grades four, five, and six.

5. **The Junior High (or Intermediate) Department** for young people in grades seven, eight, and nine.

6. **The Senior High Department** for young people in grades ten, eleven, and twelve.

Unless your Sunday School is too small, there will be at least one class for each age and grade group and these classes will make up the departments as listed above.

7. **The Older Youth Department** for young people out of high school through age of twenty-four.

8. **The Adult Department**, which is sometimes divided into a Young Adult Department and an Adult Department.

In our larger churches where the facilities are available, the departments can be divided into two-grade groupings or even a department for each age and grade group. In the smaller churches, some adjustments may need to be made to combine departments or classes.

To provide adequately for the spiritual growth of each age group, whenever possible, each one of the above mentioned departments should meet separately for the entire Sunday School hour. This will give opportunity for each group to sing songs suited to its age group, to share common interests, to learn Bible stories, Biblical truths, Bible verses, and religious concepts which meet the needs of each age level.

To take care adequately of all possible enrollees in your Sunday School, two additional departments should be included in your organizational pattern:

9. **The Home Roll (or Cradle Roll)** enrolls all babies of members of your church and also of prospective members. Frequently the interest shown in their children will be one avenue of winning people to Christ and his Church.

10. **The Home Department** can serve those people who cannot attend your Sunday School. This can include the aged, the shut-ins and many others in your church family and community.

With such an organizational pattern, the question naturally comes, "Who should administer such a program?" The simple answer is that the church is responsible for the Sunday School.

The reason why some of our churches use the term **Sunday Church School** instead of **Sunday School** is because their Sunday teaching program for all age groups is part of the entire church program. Although the important thing is not to change the name, but the concept is essential to carry out.

The sixth goal of our Sunday School Standard states that our Sunday School should be "A Church School." This is the reason that a Board of Christian Education is appointed by the church to administer the Christian education program of the church, of which the Sunday School is only a part. The Sunday School superintendent and assistant superintendent are

selected by the church, and the department superintendents, officers and teachers are appointed by the Board of Christian Education with church approval.

In a completely graded Sunday School the general superintendent of the school is responsible for supervising the entire Sunday School program. He is no longer the leader of the general assembly of the entire Sunday School, since the groups meet individually in their departmental meeting places.

In addition to the general Sunday School superintendent and his assistant, there are at least three general officers: secretary, treasurer, and general secretary of records.

In each department of the school there will be a department superintendent, an assistant department superintendent, a secretary of records, and the teachers.

Does your Sunday School follow this plan? If not, why not read books on the subject and confer with the general secretary of the Sunday School Union?

SCRIPTURE MEMORY

(Continued from Page 10)

faith, prayer, stewardship, missions, the Holy Spirit and other verses.

The Juniors will learn verses including salvation, baptism, God's precious promises, the Lord's Supper, the Easter story, worship and other units. They work on the Easter story in spring. It would be well to have the memorizers share this on Easter Sunday, making it an interesting part of the church program. The Primary group will work with Scripture concerning the church, God's world, the Lord's Prayer, words of Jesus and others.

It is important that sponsors check over the units in an effort to relate the Memory Course with a unit of study being conducted in that department. If the lesson material in the Sunday School or Junior CBY is based on Christian living, it is important that those verses in the Memory Course on Christian living also be learned. Plan to use the Scripture portion learned in as many ways as possible.

The songs should be learned by singing them. It is not a requirement to have each child recite the words. Where a Sunday School does not have departmental opening exercises, it would be well to sing the songs often in Sunday School as an entire school.

Establish the Scripture Memory program into that area of your church program most suitable to your local situation. As parents and leaders work together the program will grow.

THE TEACHER'S RESOURCES (Continued from Page 5)

excellent working knowledge of the Bible? Did you sigh with a bit of jealous feeling, thinking, "My, it must be wonderful to know the Bible that well." Did you stop and wonder how that person had acquired such a wonderful knowledge of the Bible? You would probably find the answer in that person's devotional life.

There are two kinds of devotional lives. 1) The nominal devotional life. These teachers read a few verses of Scripture (usually hurriedly and with little thought) utter a brief word of prayer, and soothe their conscience that they are one of those who just don't have time properly to study the Word of God.

2) The diligent devotional life. These teachers spend much time carefully studying the Word and applying it to their own hearts. They learn the art of meditating on the Word and they memorize verses regularly. They spend much time in prayer. They TAKE time for their devotions!

The teacher must do three things with the Bible. 1) AUTHORITY. Accept it as the very Word of God. (2 Timothy 3:16-17 says, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable . . . that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." It is the authoritative Word of God given for his edification that he might be a man of God.

2) ASSIMILATION. The teacher knows there is no short-cut to spiritual growth. 2 Timothy 2:15 states, "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." He is willing to make the effort

to drink deeply and carefully of the Water of Life.

3) APPLICATION. Luke 4:52 declares, "And they were astonished at his doctrine, for his word was with power." Your word in the classroom will be with Holy Spirit power when God's Word has been a power in your life!

THE S.S. SUPERINTENDENT

(Continued from Page 8)

a keener interest are maintained if a specific goal is set before the school for each year's work. These emphases may be attendance goals on a class and school basis, a program of teacher training and enlistment, denominational instruction concerning North American Baptists, a missionary goal supporting some phase of mission work, together with an overall constant emphasis on evangelism.

There are many other duties which are the responsibility of the Sunday School superintendent to be performed during the Sunday School year. Let me mention a few briefly: keep an up-to-date record system of pupil attendance; maintain a permanent record of file cards; have an adequate registration of visitors and absentees for visitation purposes; and strive toward the organization of a closely graded school. In order to carry out successfully these many duties, the Sunday School superintendent should avail himself of the best office staff or group of workers that he can enlist from the church membership.

A consecrated and enthusiastic superintendent and staff will endeavor to create a spirit of evangelism

THE CHRISTIAN TEACHER

(Continued from Page 4)

his word was with power." Studying and reading the Bible must lead us to the same testimony of Christ's teaching as the multitude expressed it. Through the Scriptures God speaks, inspires and leads us into repeated experiences of victory over obstacles and discouragements.

The messages of the Bible remain the lessons needed by the souls who come before us week after week searching more about God. The most certain test that the Bible will enrich us spiritually is the personal experience which takes place in our soul as we read it and meditate upon the sacred teachings.

Next to the place where the daily campfire services were held at Camp Bird near Crivitz, Wis., stands the largest known pine tree in Wisconsin. It is 98 feet in height and 8 feet, 10 inches in diameter. This tree became a message to me of God's marvelous ways of enriching the world in which we live. This high pine tree grew to its historic height and circumference by waiting upon God daily and absorbing the blessings of rain, sunshine, and nurture from the soil.

Christian teachers, too, can enrich the world and every soul to whom they testify by waiting upon God daily and receiving the blessings from prayer and fellowship with God and faithfully absorbing more of his sacred Word.

throughout the entire school, and this evangelistic spirit will spread to the church and the entire church community.

Sunday School Week September 23—30, 1956

A SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER

A Sunday School teacher,
I don't know his name,
A wonderful preacher
Who never found fame —
So faithful, so earnest,
When I was a boy—
He stuck to his task
Though I tried to annoy.
He never was missing,
In cold or in heat,
A smile his face lighted
The moment we'd meet.
He taught by example
As well as by word,
This splendid old teacher
Who honored his Lord.
He helped my young life
More than ever he knew;
Later years I remembered
And tried to be true.
I suppose he has gone now
To join heaven's ranks,
May it be my good fortune
To some day say, "Thanks."

—The Standard



—Eva Luoma Photo
Children in the Junior Choir sing to the glory of God as Christ, the Good Shepherd, looks down upon them with blessing from the stained glass window.

SUNDAY SCHOOL STANDARD

(Continued from Page 7)

body to give general oversight to the educational program of the church as a whole. This is the function of the Board of Christian Education.

Does your church elect the Sunday School superintendent and the assistant superintendent? The church should approve all the teachers and officers of the Sunday School as recommended by the Board of Christian Education before they take office.

Teachers must be selected who are born again Christians, active members of the church, attending church services and mid-week prayer and praise meeting regularly, and who have a heavy burden for lost souls.

Does your Sunday School superintendent give a monthly report to the official church Advisory Board?

Before any major change is made in the curriculum of the Sunday School, such as adopting a new series of lessons, the church should be informed. After an adequate study has been made by the Board of Christian Education, the Board should make its recommendations to the church for action.

The church should provide a unified budget which provides for the financial needs of a growing Sunday School. A planned budget will help justify the expenditures of all segments of the church.

The sixth item on the "Sunday School Standard" of the Sunday School Union states that the Sunday School shall be related to the church. Will you help to make your Sunday School a Church School?

A CHURCH GOING SCHOOL

By MRS. FLORENCE E. SCHOEFFEL,
Central Conference Sunday School
Secretary

"I was glad when they said unto me,
Let us go into the house of the Lord"
(Psalm 122:1).

The church sanctuary, where people seek the very presence of God through worship, is truly the center of the "house of the Lord." How many Sunday School scholars can repeat the above words of the Psalmist as their own testimony? Too many of them leave the "house of the Lord" without ever having attended a worship service. They are oblivious of the fact that they are missing a vital experience, an essential part of their spiritual education and growth.

We need to create in our pupils the desire to attend the Sunday worship service. Especially is this true where the children come from non-church going families. Where the parents fail, it is our responsibility as teachers to show the importance of church attendance. If the boys and girls are not trained to participate in the worship service during their early years, they may be forever stunted in their spiritual development.

It is a trite but true saying that "the blind cannot lead the blind." Teachers and officers cannot invite and encourage the pupils to attend church services unless they themselves faithfully do so. For the enrichment of the teacher's own spiritual life it is necessary that he gain the enlightenment received through the preaching of the Word, as well as the inspiration of the worship experience.

Let pupils and teachers together heed this word of the Psalmist: "O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker."

ENGAGEMENTS

- Dr. Frank H. Woyke**
Sept. 9 (Sunday)—Arnprior, Ont.
(Dedication of new parsonage.)
- Dr. M. L. Leuschner**
Sept. 15—Pilgrim Church, Philadelphia, Pa. (Anniversary Banquet.)
Sept. 16 (Sunday A.M.)—Fleischmann Memorial Church, Philadelphia, Pa.
Sept. 16 (Sunday P.M.)—Pilgrim Church, Philadelphia, Pa.
- Rev. J. C. Gunst**
Sept. 12—Zion Church, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- Rev. L. Bienert**
Sept. 9-11—Harvest Mission Festival (Sept. 9) and Leadership Training Course, Beulah, N. Dak.
- Rev. G. K. Zimmerman, Miss Ruth Bathauer and Rev. J. G. Benke**
Christian Workers' Conferences.
Sept. 12—Wausau, Wisconsin.
Sept. 13—Pound, Wisconsin.
Sept. 14—Manitowoc, Wisconsin.
(Sheboygan Church also invited.)
Sept. 19—Watertown, Wisconsin.
- Rev. G. K. Zimmerman, Miss Ruth Bathauer and Rev. L. Bienert**
Christian Workers' Conferences.
Sept. 20—Racine, Wisconsin.
Sept. 21—Temple Church, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.



The General Sunday School Committee at its first session in the headquarters office, Forest Park, Illinois.
Left to right: Rev. Richard Grenz, Rev. E. A. Hofmann, Rev. Norman Miller, Rev. Roger Schmidt, Mr. Vernon Heckman, Miss Martha Leyboldt, Mr. James Billeter, Mrs. Wm. L. Schoeffel (foreground), Mr. E. Ralph Kletke, Rev. Dale Chaddock, Rev. G. K. Zimmerman, Miss Donna Mae Rabenhorst (secretary), Dr. Frank H. Woyke, Miss Ruth Bathauer, Mr. Paul Jungkeit and Rev. Howard Schenk.

We...the Women

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

OUR THANKS

We thank the members of the Summer Visitation Committee of the denomination and all of those who cooperated in such a way as to make it possible for several members of the Executive Committee for the Women's Missionary Union to be guest speakers during conference and associational days this summer.

As committee members, it was wonderful to be with you—women of our churches! It will help us to do our work better and to understand our duties in serving you. We not only realize how united we are in these efforts, but we see God's hand over it all. As he leads, we would follow.

You will be delighted with the inspirational fervor that is felt from two of these workers on their visits.

MY VISIT TO THE NORTHERN CONFERENCE

By MRS. ALBERT REDDIG,
Cathay, North Dakota

Vice-President and White Cross Chairman of the Woman's Missionary Union

To visit our neighbors to the north was indeed a thrilling and interesting experience for me. The time spent at the Northern Conference, that convened at Morris, Man., Canada, was filled with rich blessings that will long live in my memory. Driving north from my own state across the broad expanse of fertile prairies into another country, I couldn't help noticing the similarity. The same crops were growing on both sides of the border—lush green fields of wheat, flax, and sugar beets. Farmers were busy making hay in Canada as well as the United States—using the same type of equipment. The language is the same, and the friendliness of our Canadian neighbors made me forget that I was in another country.

Just as there is a similarity in the material things, there is also a unity of purpose in the spiritual realm. As North American Baptists our goals and aims are the same on either side of the border, and there is a kindred fellowship in our circles, experienced at such a conference, that can seldom be found elsewhere.

Were I to evaluate my visit to the Northern Conference, I should say that one of the foremost impressions I carried home with me was the enthusiasm felt in all the meetings. People listened attentively and eagerly and they entered into the spirit of the conference with hearty joy. That overflowing joy was especially felt in

the singing. How these old German favorites were sung! It has been many years since I heard such joyous singing—not only that of the special choirs and smaller singing groups, but the congregational singing as well. It lifted one up in spirit!

Since many of our Northern Conference churches are entirely German, and since almost all others use the German language in part, the conference was conducted in bi-lingual fashion. Hearing my native tongue used again so fluently reminded me of the rich heritage that is ours. We owe our founding fathers a deep debt of gratitude.

As I met and talked with many immigrants who have come to make their homes in the rich land of Canada, I was aware of the bountiful blessings of our land, America. How these people from Europe love, enjoy, and treasure the freedom that we have so long taken for granted! We do not appreciate what we have as do these new citizens in the land. How we need to thank God for our America and for the rich blessings which are daily our portion in this land of the free! Our Canadian friends, so recently from the ranks of displaced persons, put us to shame in this respect.

The women of our Northern Conference, as our women everywhere, are doing their best to support our W.M.U. goals and White Cross program. I found them very eager to know what more they could do to promote the work that is especially entrusted to the women of our denomination. The fine, varied program they presented on Women's Day was further evidence of their enthusiasm for and interest in God's work.

The women of this conference are to be especially commended for their successful Missionary - Evangelism Conference held in the spring. This special effort toward winning souls and creating interest in our missionary enterprises has not been attempted by any other conference. We might do well to emulate them in this unique venture.

A special word of appreciation should be spoken for the host church of Morris, Manitoba. Without a pastor to help guide and direct them, they did a most commendable job in entertain-

A THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"In the Christian's life, if there are roots, there will also be fruits." — Prof. O. E. Krueger, Rochester, N. Y.

ing the Northern Conference. To the women, who worked so diligently to house and provide such wonderful meals, a special THANK YOU. Coming away from the Northern Conference, I felt it much worth-while to have been there. May God continue to bless and to inspire our people of the Northern Conference in a special way as they seek to attain new heights for him.

MY VISIT TO THE ONTARIO CONVENTION

By MRS. FRANK VENINGA,
Pittsburgh, Pa., the Council Representative of the Woman's Missionary Union

The picturesque setting of the First Baptist Church of Killaloe, Ontario, was the scene of the Ontario Convention in June. This breath-taking picture of God's handiwork as displayed by the hills and valleys surrounding this church reminds one of the words of the Psalmist, "The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth his handiwork."

Not only were we fascinated by the beauty surrounding us but also by the faithfulness of God's people in this fine convention. The excellent attendance at all the services was most gratifying and an inspiration to those participating in the various services. The Woman's Missionary Union held its annual meeting on Sunday afternoon with Mrs. Leonard Kuehl presiding. Special music was rendered by women from the Arnprior and Lyndock churches.

As a representative of the W.M.U., it was my happy privilege to speak on the subject, "The Significance of Missions." We tried to give forth a challenge to greater loyalty in carrying on our responsibilities in the various fields that God has entrusted into our care. The afternoon offering was designated for Church Extension. We were encouraged to note that the societies of the local churches contributed to our White Cross program both in materials and money.

Not only were the ladies faithful in their stewardship of time, talent and substance, but they did an outstanding task in preparing and serving excellent meals. Approximately 300 guests were served the Sunday dinner as well as supper and refreshments after the evening service. Such tireless efforts are deeply appreciated and we do want again to say a hearty, "Thank You," to those Killaloe women who worked so hard.

We pray that God will continue to bless the work in our Ontario Convention as well as throughout our denomination. It is a great sense of satisfaction to know that God has special tasks for each individual as for every church. May we all be faithful in carrying out his will and his plan!

Sunday School Union

By REV. G. K. ZIMMERMAN, General Secretary

THE MINISTRY OF CHRISTIAN READING

By MISS IRMA L. GRIEGER,
Librarian of the Forest Park Baptist Sunday School, Forest Park, Illinois

Within the past year, how many workers and leaders in your church can you say have shown a definite increase in Christian growth and have improved the quality of their work for the Lord? If yours is the average church, the answer is probably "very few" or perhaps even "none."

How can a situation like this be remedied? Establishing a Sunday School or Church Library may be the answer, for unless the proper materials are made available to them, many people will make no effort to obtain the proper books for themselves.

The cornerstone of your library has been laid once you have found a librarian who is a consecrated Christian man or woman, interested in books, dependable, and is not afraid at times to work long hours at the innumerable details connected with operating a library. The librarian, who should be duly elected to the job—be the church large or small—should be friendly, available, and encourage people to read. The "personal touch" brings results.

Although the ideal situation is to have a separate library room with open shelves, a workable plan can be started with a mere bookcase in a readily accessible classroom or hallway.

CHOICE OF BOOKS

Since the primary function of a church library is to aid in the program of the local church, it is not to be patterned after a public library with books which cater to every taste and need. Because of limited space in most cases, only books of general interest with fundamental Christian emphases should find their way to the shelves. Secular books, no matter how good, can be procured at the public libraries.

Reference books (such as a one-volume Bible commentary, Bible dictionary, Bible atlas) and several versions of the Bible should be among the first purchased. Books on church and Sunday School administration and methods, maps and mounted pictures will also be helpful to teachers. The library should contain devotional books, books on doctrine, biblical background material, biographies of great Christians and Bible characters, missions, church history, religions, as well as a selection of books on Christian conduct and Christian parent educa-

tion. There is a place for books on recreation, poetry, music, and program helps (such as the Woman's Missionary Union annual Program Packet). Of course, there is a definite demand for Christian fiction, but care must be taken to maintain a well-balanced library, and not to go overboard on one particular category.

The ideal way to classify books is through the use of the Dewey Decimal Classification System. However, a simplified version using captions similar to those listed above is very workable—but classify you must—right from the very start (and this includes children's books, too)!

Children are among the library's most enthusiastic supporters. Books in most of the above-mentioned groups can also be purchased on a child's level, and it is a pleasure to serve these eager minds with books far superior to the comics so readily available to them. A wide variety of children's books is available, but not so



Full view of the adult section in the Forest Park Baptist Sunday School Library (left), Forest Park, Ill., showing the new drawer section and glass doors. At the right young people are making good use of the magazine rack adjoining the Sunday School Library.



great that it might not be well to limit withdrawals to "one to a customer."

PURCHASE OF BOOKS

In a small church, the librarian may wish to confer with the pastor, Sunday School superintendent, or deacons as to which books to purchase. In a larger church, a library committee may be appointed which makes recommendations periodically to the Committee on Christian Education as to the books needed. The books, after approval by the Christian Education Committee, may then be purchased through our own publishing house, the Roger Williams Press in Cleveland, Ohio.

At the time it is decided to start a library, it would be well to see that it is included in the budget for a specified amount per month or year. Books are expensive, and the necessary sup-

plies for processing the books properly are also somewhat costly. To burden a librarian with the necessity of begging for funds would be extremely unfair.

The library should be open at times most convenient for the most people. A set rule can not be suggested, for the service schedule in each church is different. However, perhaps before Sunday School and after the morning service would be a good time. If there is sufficient time between services, the library could be open then. Between the CBY meeting and the evening service is another good time; also before or after prayer meeting, workers' conferences, or women's missionary society meetings. The library should be available to all groups, for only then will it serve its purpose fully.

Space does not permit going into the details of book classification, processing, and general library procedure, but excellent information may be obtained in the "Church Library Manual" by Leona L. Althoff (Broadman Press—60 cents).

With the proper publicity, hard work and prayer, the library can become a vital part of your church's ministry, both to the saved and to the lost.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- Rev. Phil. Daum
1897 Third Avenue
Suite No. 12
Prince George, B. C., Canada
- Rev. Paul Galambos
283 Betts Avenue
Yorkton, Sask., Canada
- Rev. Edward Kopf
Odessa, Washington
- Rev. R. Neuman
Edenwold, Sask., Canada
- Rev. Arnold Rapske
Box 998, Camrose, Alta., Canada
- Rev. Chalmers Wirth
Edenwold, Sask., Canada



Sunday School Lessons

A TEACHING GUIDE

Date: September 16, 1956

Theme: CHRIST SPEAKS TO HIS CHURCHES

Scripture. Matt. 18:20; John 21:1-4 and 9-12; Rev. 1:9-18; 3:14-22.

THE CENTRAL TRUTH: With all its weakness and imperfections, the Church is still the bride of Christ and the greatest influence for good in the world. The closeness of our fellowship with him depends on how sincerely we listen as he speaks.

INTRODUCTION: How does Jesus speak to the church today? Often in a superficial way we say, "The Lord spoke to me." But we do not always sound very convincing to ourselves nor to those who listen to us. The prophets of old could say with conviction: "Thus saith the Lord!" God spoke definitely to Christ and through Christ. And since Jesus spoke directly to his disciples, they in turn spoke the Word of God with authority.

With all the different voices speaking to the church today, it is often confusing for the ordinary Christian to understand "what the Spirit saith unto the churches" (Rev. 2:7). There are a number of ways in which Christ speaks:

(a) Through his Word. Not a superficial reading of the Bible, but an honest and sincere desire to study and understand the will of the Lord. The more we know about his Word, the clearer will he speak to us.

(b) Through his Spirit. By meditation and by prayer, Christ will speak to us through the inner voice.

(c) Through the minister of the Gospel. By his special calling, training and study the minister is one through whom Christ speaks to our needs.

(d) Through Christian friends. Often we are so concerned about our problems that it is difficult to pray. Sharing the difficulty with a friend often brings the light and comfort for which we longed.

I. CHRIST'S VOICE DOES NOT DEPEND ON THE MULTITUDE. Matt. 18:20.

Jesus can speak more clearly to a small group which is united than to a crowd in which there is no unity (Psalm 133:1).

II. CHRIST'S VOICE DOES NOT DEPEND ON WHETHER YOU ARE IN THE CHURCH BUILDING. John 21:1-12.

HARVEST AND MISSION FESTIVAL
for All Sunday Schools
Observance in Sept. or Oct. 1956
Program and recitation material has been sent to all churches.
For information or more material, sent requests to NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST HEADQUARTERS, Box 6, Forest Park, Illinois.

He speaks to us and reveals himself to us in the ordinary work-a-day world. We can be like the farmer who said he had his eyes on the furrow but his thoughts on God. Perhaps one reason why the disciples didn't catch any fish was because they didn't really have their minds on fishing. It was difficult for them to forget Jesus after having been with him for three years. But then it was difficult for Jesus to forget them also. Still seeking and saving and forgiving, he called them again to be fishers of men.

III. CHRIST'S VOICE DOES DEPEND ON WHETHER YOU LISTEN. Rev. 1:9-18; 3:14-22.

There are many places where people go on the Lord's Day, but only those who are in the Spirit on the Lord's Day will hear Christ speak. Not always is his voice favorable. He commends us for our work and patience; but because he is God, he also tells us what he has against us.

Study the messages to the seven churches and strive honestly to see which description most accurately fits your church.

A TEACHING GUIDE

Date: September 23, 1956

Theme: A VISION OF THE CHURCH VICTORIOUS

Scripture: Matt. 6:9-13; Rev. 7:9-17.

THE CENTRAL TRUTH: Because it is Christ's Kingdom, it cannot fail. But neither does Christ expect us to fail in continually praying, working and hoping for his Kingdom to come.

INTRODUCTION: When we look upon the world realistically, it is not

S.S. 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.

always easy to imagine that the Church of Jesus Christ will ever be victorious. Three thousand years ago Isaiah had a vision in which "they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore" (Isa. 2:4). "Peace on earth, good will toward men" seems almost like a mockery in the light of hydrogen bombs, jet fighters, atom submarines and guided missiles.

Christians seem like a very small minority compared to the hundreds of millions of Moslems, Buddhists, and Hindus. Yet in spite of all that may be against us, we need never to lose sight of the vision that someday "the kingdoms of this world are to become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ and he shall reign forever and ever" (Rev. 11:15).

I. THE LORD'S PRAYER. Matt. 6:9-13.

While reciting this short prayer that Jesus taught his disciples, we do not often think of the scope it covers in time and space, in the life of the individual as well as of the world. It is a plea for inward reality and outward manifestation. So far reaching is the prayer that, in the words of the poet, "Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and heaven and earth be one."

Some people live so far in the future that they forget the reality of the present. In this prayer, Jesus realizes the need for daily bread, daily forgiveness, the danger of daily temptations and the need for daily deliverance. God will hear us, not because of our "much speaking" (Matt. 6:7), but because of our sincere praying.

II. A VISION OF FULFILLMENT. Rev. 7:9-17.

It is often easy to say, "The future is as bright as the promises of God." But we do not always act upon it. The book of Revelation is filled with warnings, with indescribable woe and suffering, but also with a glorious fulfillment. Paul quotes the words of Isaiah when he says, "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him" (1 Cor. 2:9). John, however, tries to give us a vision of heaven in terms of the most precious things on earth. Nevertheless, the primary truth about heaven is not in the things which we will see and have, but in the Person whom we will see and have—the Lord Jesus Christ.

What's Happening

● On Sunday, July 8th, Rev. Louis R. Johnson presented his resignation to the Central Baptist Church of Waco, Texas. He also announced that he would begin graduate studies in September toward the doctorate degree at the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. He brought his ministry at Waco, Texas, to a close at the end of August. He had served the church as its pastor since 1952.

● Rev. John N. C. Hiebert of California, died on Saturday, July 21st. He supplied the pulpit for some time at the Salt Creek Baptist Church, Dallas, Oregon. For several years he was president of Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas. He was known and beloved in many of our churches for his clear Christian witness and sterling character. He was a great spiritual leader in the work of the Mennonite Brethren churches.

● On Sunday, July 1st, Rev. Arthur A. Voigt, pastor of the Rosenfeld Baptist Church near Anamoose, N. Dak., baptized five converts on confession of their faith in Christ. Among these was a young married couple. On that same Sunday evening the hand of fellowship was extended to them as well as to four others who were received by letter into the church. An illustrated report of the Vacation Bible School of the Rosenfeld Church with an enrollment of 88 children and teachers appears elsewhere in this issue.

● From June 18 to 22 the First German Baptist Church of Ashley, N. Dak., held a Vacation Bible School with 75 children enrolled. It was held in Ashley Public School with Mr. Loren Weber, student pastor for the North American Baptist Seminary, in charge. The Judson Press material was used. The Bible School missionary offering was designated towards the work of Miss Eleanor Weisenburger in the Cameroons, Africa. The closing program on June 25 was presented to a capacity congregation.

● The former Ebenezer Baptist Church of Los Angeles, Calif., is now known as the Milo Terrace Baptist Church of Los Angeles. At the present time the church is in temporary quarters with plans being carried out for a modest new church edifice. The permanent address of the new church is the corner of Avenue 50 and Miles Terrace, Los Angeles 42, California. "It is a promising neighborhood," according to the pastor, Rev. Henry F. K. Hengstler, and the church hopes to grow and thrive with God's blessing in this new community.

● Miss Esther Schultz, Cameroons missionary, left Tiko, West Africa, by BOAC plane on Monday, August 6th, and arrived in London, England, on August 9th. She expected to stay in Liverpool, England, at the Hospital for Tropical Medicine for a short period before coming home for her furlough. She is back in Midland, Mich., at her home as this issue reaches the reader. — Miss Tina Schmidt, another Cameroons missionary, who is returning to Canada and the United States for her furlough, left Tiko, West Africa, by boat on August 18th and hoped to be home early in September.

● From June 24 to July 1st the Grace Baptist Church of Ochre River, Man., Canada, held evangelistic meetings with Rev. H. Schatz, Northern Conference worker, serving as evangelist. As a result of his consecrated ministry and fervent messages and the working of the Holy Spirit, seven Sunday School scholars confessed faith in Christ as Savior. Mr. G. de Vries, church clerk, reported that Mr. Bruno Voss is continuing his appreciated ministry as supply pastor "with much joy and spiritual wisdom," while the church is without the services of a full-time minister.

● On Sunday evening, July 1st, the Grace Baptist Church of Hettinger, N. Dak., held a reception welcoming its new minister and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. Iver Walker, and family. Rev. LeRoy Schauer of Mott, N. Dak., served as guest speaker. Members of the Mott church were also present. Each branch of the church was represented as follows: Mr. Ketterling for the church, Mrs. Magdalena Fuchs for the Woman's Missionary Society, and Billy Mattis for the CBY Fellowship. Afterwards a fellowship meeting with refreshments was held in the church parlors, as reported by Mr. Emil Schneider, church clerk.

● Mr. Paul G. Jungkeit of Anaheim, Calif., a member of the Bethel Baptist Church and the Pacific Conference representative on the denominational Sunday School Committee, has been appointed head of the Department of Education of Chapman College, Orange, California. He succeeds Dr. Earl K. Hillbrand who has completed 40 years as an educator in the middle west and west. At the present time Mr. Jungkeit is principal of the Elementary School, Olive, Calif., and the Orange Unified District Curriculum Committee chairman. He is presently completing work for his doctorate in education.

● Miss Natalie Pfeiffer, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Peter Pfeiffer of Erie, Pa., is one of 17 young women of Keuka Colleg, Keuka N. Y., who are working at various positions in Europe. She also traveled to Le Havre and Paris, France; Heidelberg, Cologne, Mainz, and Mannheim, Germany; Lucerne, Switzerland; and Amsterdam, Holland. She spent several weeks in London, England, on work assignments. She visited Scotland before returning to the United States via Quebec, Canada, towards the close of August. An article about her experience and observations will appear later in the "Baptist Herald."

● Mrs. Leslie Zilke of Winnipeg, Man., Canada, a member of the class of 1958 in the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, S. Dak., has been selected by the Board of Trustees as the exchange student to study at the Baptist Seminary, Hamburg, Germany, for the next year. During the past summer months Mr. Zilke served the churches of the Southern Conference in Vacation Bible Schools, evangelistic meetings and church work. The Seminary Board of Trustees also selected Mr. Robert Hoffman of Medicine Hat, Alta., Canada, a member of the class of 1957, as the recipient of the Baptist Life Association scholarship.

● On Sunday afternoon, June 10, the First Baptist Church of Bellwood, Ill., dedicated its \$60,000 addition and remodeling program with the pastor, Rev. Constantine Salios in charge. The completed addition gives the church auditorium an increased capacity of 75 persons, and the building of an educational unit doubles its facilities from 200 to 400 children. Among those extending greetings at the impressive exercises were Dr. Frank H. Woyke, executive secretary; and Dr. A. Dale Ihrie of Detroit, Mich., and Dr. Ralph Powell of Sioux Falls, S. Dak., former pastors, were also present and spoke briefly. The church now has 190 members with 225 enrolled in the Sunday School.

● Among the several hundred people attending the 4th annual North American Baptist Laymen's Conference at Green Lake, Wis., from July 28 to August 4 was Mrs. E. Elmer Staub of Cranford, New Jersey. She is the widow of the late Mr. E. Elmer Staub, for many years treasurer and Finance Committee chairman of the General Conference until his death on Nov. 20, 1950. Mrs. Staub spends several months each year at Long Boat Key, Florida, west of Sarasota. Her address is English Village 5, Cranford, New Jersey. Another distinguished participant in the Laymen's Conference was Dr. H. von Berge of Dayton, Ohio, former General Conference moderator, Publication Board

(Continued on Page 23)



The new sanctuary of the First Baptist Church, Manitowoc, Wis., at the dedication service, showing the striking architectural design in the window, the colorful floral bouquets, and participants in the service: (right to left) Rev. H. A. Rakow pastor; Dr. Ezra G. Roth of Milwaukee, Wis.; Rev. H. Palfenier, denominational evangelist; and Dr. M. L. Leuschner of Forest Park, Illinois.

Dedication of New Church at Manitowoc, Wisconsin



By Mrs. R. A. NEWLIN, Clerk of the First Baptist Church, Manitowoc, Wisconsin

ON SUNDAY afternoon, July 15, the congregation of the First Baptist Church of Manitowoc, Wis., dedicated its recently completed contemporary church edifice with impressive ceremonies. The large number of visiting guests and members of the congregation overflowed the sanctuary and filled the fellowship hall which was architecturally planned for just such an overflow crowd as was present for this momentous occasion.

The modern structure, the first of its kind in Manitowoc, is functional in every respect, but beauty of color and the silent worshipful atmosphere that prevails called forth many complimentary remarks from visitors.

CANDLE LIGHT CEREMONY

The Sunday Church School began the program of the day of dedication with a candle light ceremony. Various challenges of the future were recited by the children of the Church School and a candle was lighted for each challenge presented. Following this, visiting guests and former pastors of the Manitowoc church were given an opportunity to bring greetings and to lift expressions of praise to God for his blessings toward the church.

The pastor, Rev. Harvey A. Rakow, had a major part in the milestone services of the day. Choir, soloists, and organist made their musical contributions to the services.

Guest minister for the pre-dedication morning worship service was Dr. Martin L. Leuschner, editor of English publications of the North Amer-

ican Baptist General Conference. The theme of his message based upon 2 Corinthians 4:6-7 was, "The Excellency of God's Power." Dr. Leuschner stressed the priority of the spiritual and eternal over the material and temporal, important as the latter are to us now. The congregation was admonished to give God the glory, recognizing that all worthy accomplishments were not by might nor power of man, but by the Spirit of God.

DEDICATION SERVICE

The speaker for the formal dedicatory service held at 3:00 P.M. was Dr. Ezra G. Roth, executive secretary of the Wisconsin Baptist State Convention. He chose Matt. 17:1-21 as the scripture lesson for the basis of his message and challenged the congregation to go on from the present thrill of new beginnings in order to achieve the satisfaction of completing the undertaking now begun. He emphasized the pathos of failing to carry through our undertakings and concluded with the challenge of unfinished

NEW LITERATURE

- "Japan Mission" at Kyoto and Ise. A new 6 page illustrated leaflet.
- Our Indian Mission. The story of our mission fields on the Montana, Bull and Muscowpetung Reserves.
- "Banso Baptist Hospital"—An illustrated leaflet about our hospital in action by Miss Ardice Ziolkowski.
- "White Man's Medicine" and "Miriam With a Big Smile"—stories from the Cameroons mission fields.

work in our lives, our homes, our communities, and our world.

A 7:30 P.M. service brought blessing of post-dedication afterglow. The final message of the day was delivered by Dr. Thorwald W. Bender, Professor of Theology at the Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, Chicago, Ill., who pointed out that some things are often lost with progress. Modern day examples were cited in the field of medicine and psychology. He warned that a church can be lost geographically, socially or religiously and stressed the importance of the churches of today holding forth the witness of Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God. Dr. Bender's message was truly an inspiring conclusion to a day replete with inspiration.

Other participants in the services were Rev. Herman Palfenier, evangelist for the North American Baptist General Conference; Rev. J. C. Kraenzler of Leduc, Alta., Canada, a former pastor of the church; and Rev. Jothan Benke of Watertown, Wisconsin.

NEW EDIFICE

The sanctuary and lighting effects, two large Pella windows, two large picture windows of the fellowship hall and a grill and modern type cross are unique architectural features and make the building distinctively modern. The building also includes Sunday Church School rooms, nursery, kitchen, and pastor's office.

The building committee consists of Lucian Newberry, chairman; George Specht, Miss Frieda Specht, Erwin Anhold and Dr. Jesse W. Shaw.

Our Denomination in ACTION

Southern Conference

Baptismal Service and Vacation Bible School at the Mowata Baptist Church, Louisiana

The Mowata Baptist Church of Branch, La., held its annual Vacation Bible School from June 25 until July 3 with an enrollment of 42 pupils and teachers, and an average attendance of 40.

On Tuesday evening, July 3rd, the children presented an interesting program portraying a portion of the material learned during the seven days. Many Bible verses, stories and songs were given by the various classes. A song service was given by the entire school at the beginning of the program.

Our church extended the hand of fellowship to three new converts who recently stepped forward in faith and obedience into the baptismal waters.

Mrs. Henry L. Bieber, Reporter.

Atlantic Conference

Atlantic Conference Sessions at the West Baltimore Baptist Church, Baltimore, Maryland

The 58th annual session of the Atlantic Conference convened at the West Baltimore Baptist Church, Baltimore, Md., from May 17 to 20. The theme of the conference was "The Church Today" based on the book of Ephesians. In the absence of our moderator, Rev. Robert Cook, our vice-moderator, Rev. Everett Barker, presided over the sessions. We were privileged to have our general missionary secretary, Rev. Richard Schilke, in our midst to bring the opening message on "The Blueprint of the Church."

The Woman's Missionary Society met on Friday afternoon with Miss Ardice Ziolkowski, missionary to the Cameroons, and Miss Delores Henne, missionary appointee to the Cameroons as guest speakers. The Sunday School Committee presented a program following the Friday evening services.

At the business session on Saturday morning the following conference officers were elected: moderator, Rev. Everett Barker; vice-moderator, Rev. Raymond Yahn; recording secretary, Rev. Roger Schmidt; statistician, Rev. Christian Peters; Atlantic Conference Mission Committee, Rev. Lenox Palin; and the entire Sunday School Committee which had been serving under appointment since 1955.

The CBY Fellowship held a rally on Saturday afternoon with our guest missionaries providing the challenge of the spoken word of God. The youth banquet was held at the nearby Fulton Avenue Baptist Church featuring a

message by our general mission secretary and the showing of our Camp Hope film.

Conference days go all too quickly, but it is our hope and prayer that the Lord will continue to use our churches mightily this coming year until the time of our next conference in 1957 which will be held in the First Baptist Church of Jamesburg, New Jersey.

Roger W. Schmidt, Rec. Sec.

One Hundredth Anniversary Is Celebrated at the First Baptist Church, Elsmere, Delaware

The First Baptist Church of Elsmere, Del., observed its 100th anniversary from May 4 to 6, 1956. These Centenary Jubilee festivities were begun on Friday evening with a dinner, which also marked the Victory Meeting of the Every Member Canvass. Rev. Herman G. Kuhl of Union City, N. J., and a former pastor of this church was the guest speaker. He showed how the Lord had led this congregation from small beginning on the east side of Wilmington to its present victories.

A large number of former members and friends attended this dinner where many things of the past history were reviewed. Rev. Edwin E. Steward, associate director of Missionary Cooperation and field counselor for the American Baptist Convention and a considerable number of the pastors and their wives of the Atlantic Conference North American Baptist churches were present and brought greetings at this happy occasion. From many points of view it was shown that the past century had been glorious, but we were challenged that the future can be even greater in many

respects in this fine suburban community where the church has a larger potential than ever before.

A beautifully decorated cake, patterned after the present church building and surrounded by 100 lighted candles, added much to the appearance of these colorfully decorated tables where happy guests were engaged in conversation about inconveniences of the past and more modern ways of carrying on the work of the church today.

Mr. Wm. J. Clarke, general chairman of the Every Member Canvass, gave the Victory Report, showing that \$14,000.00 had been realized in cash and pledges during the first five months of this year, including the Church and the Building Fund. This represents a 100 per cent increase over the total income for the year 1955. We are indeed grateful to the Lord for these abundant blessings and to the well organized committees who worked so faithfully in making this excellent work a splendid advance for the program of the church.

Spiritually, too, this undertaking proved to be a fine encouragement, since a goodly number of new members were won for Christ and for the church. Among these was an entire family of four members. Last, but not least, a very substantial increase was added to the pastor's salary.

Sunday, May 6th, was highlighted by the anniversary message given by Dr. Frank H. Woyke, executive secretary of the North American Baptist General Conference. In the evening a promotional film was shown reviewing the construction of this and other church edifices throughout our denomination.

We prayerfully trust the Lord that he will grant spiritual strength and vision that the congregation will be increased a hundredfold during the coming years through consecrated service and by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Christian Peters, Pastor.



The First Baptist Church of Elsmere, Del., a booming suburb of Wilmington, which recently observed its 100th anniversary as a church at festive services.

Ordination of Rev. Henry W. Speidell at Clinton Hill Church, Newark, New Jersey

The ordination service of Mr. Henry W. Speidell was held at the Clinton Hill Baptist Church, Newark, N. J., on May 31st. The council was called to order by the pastor of the host church, Rev. Sidney Larson. The council elected Rev. William H. Blackley of the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Newark, N. J., to serve as moderator and Rev. Christian Peters as secretary. A total of 14 churches were represented by 19 delegates and six visitors.

Rev. Sidney Larson presented the candidate, Mr. William W. Speidell, to the council for the usual examination. In a fine spirit of humility and with every evidence of a thorough education Mr. Speidell presented a splendid testimony of his conversion, call to the ministry and his doctrinal statements.

This ordination service was held on that same evening, May 31st, at the Clinton Hill Church. The Clinton Hill choir sang, "How Lovely Are Thy Mes-

four candidates followed the Lord in baptism. Preceding the communion service that evening, our pastor, Rev. W. Schmidt, welcomed the new candidates into the fellowship of our church.

During the summer vacation the Sunday School sponsored a Vacation Bible School, which was held during the evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. This year our meetings proved very satisfactory since they were held in the evenings instead of the mornings. We secured many more capable teachers who at this time were free to donate their talents to this growing school.

During the entire sessions we had an average attendance of 75 out of an enrollment of 87 pupils. The ten teachers enjoyed this wonderful work and looked forward to the closing session which was held on July 13. This was the climax of the entire work which was carried on by the school during these wonderful days. That evening we displayed all the handwork, art craft, and also the spiritual teachings which were deeply imprinted into the

The church conducted its annual Vacation Bible School, with our pastor's wife, Mrs. Sarah Rauser, in charge of the entire school. The theme of the Bible School was, "Adventuring With Christ." The total enrollment was 222, and Mrs. Rauser was assisted by 14 teachers and 16 helpers. Many of the helpers were our high school girls. As a result of their faithfulness, 15 boys and girls accepted Christ during the two-week period. A total mission offering of \$88.68 was received. On the last day of the school the parents and friends were invited to come and see the accomplishments of the boys and girls, and refreshments were served to all who attended.

Mrs. Thelma F. Fischer, Reporter.

Ordination of Rev. Ray Hanson at the Trinity Baptist Church, Portland, Oregon

Upon the request of the Trinity Baptist Church, Portland, Ore., an ordination council was called to consider the setting apart of Mr. Ray T. Hanson for the Gospel ministry. The council met on July 19 at the above named church. Twenty-two representatives from seven churches of the Oregon North American Baptist Association, one American Baptist Church, and a representative from the Oregon Baptist State Convention constituted the council. Rev. Ervin Gerlitz was elected permanent moderator, and Rev. Albert Wardin, permanent clerk.

Mr. Hanson stated his Christian experience, call to the ministry, and doctrinal views. After a time of questioning, after which the candidate was asked to retire, the council voted unanimously to recommend to the Trinity Church that it proceed with the ordination of Mr. Hanson.

The ordination service was held that same evening at the Trinity Church. Rev. Ervin Gerlitz, presiding moderator, led the song service. Prayer was offered by Rev. C. Wagner, after which a solo, "Harbored in Jesus," was sung by Mr. James Cook. The candidate and his wife were introduced to the congregation after which the minutes of the council were read by Rev. Albert Wardin. A challenging ordination sermon was given by Dr. Walter W. Wessel. The ordination prayer, with the laying on of hands, was offered by the host pastor, Dr. John Wobig. Rev. Arthur Schulz gave the charge to the candidate after which another solo, "God Leads Us Along," was sung by Mr. Cook. The charge to the church was given by Rev. Wallace Winquist, and the candidate was welcomed into the ministry by Rev. Frank Friesen, who also presented him with the certificate of ordination. After the singing of a closing hymn, the service was closed with Rev. Ray T. Hanson pronouncing the benediction.

Rev. Ray Hanson has had training at the Bible Institute of Los Angeles, Calif., and the Conservative Baptist Theological Seminary of Portland, Oregon. He plans to take a further year of study at the North American Baptist Seminary in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. After he completes his educational work, he is planning to enter the U.S. Air force as chaplain.

Albert Wardin, Reporter.

Dakota Conference

Vacation Bible School With 32 Pupils at Baptist Church, New Leipzig, North Dakota

The New Leipzig Baptist Church, New Leipzig, N. Dak., held its Vacation Bible School the second week of June with 32 pupils and four teachers in attendance. "The Bible" was the general theme carried throughout the entire program.

Each morning and afternoon session was begun with a group devotional led by Mrs. Willard Iblings, our director, who gave a short talk followed by an object lesson. Our theme song, "Over the Top for Jesus," was sung after which each class marched to their respective classrooms.

Each class learned how the Bible was written and how it was preserved down through the ages. The upper classes also studied about the various translations and how they differ. We also learned that God speaks to men of all tongues and that the Bible is a guide book for all to follow.

On Friday evening a program was given for our parents and friends. Each department gave its own separate program telling about the things they had learned during the school. The teachers in the various departments were: Beginners class, Delora Kallis; Primary class, Arlene Mattis; Junior class, Mrs. Arnold Friez; and Junior High class, Arnold Friez. All handwork was displayed for all who desired to see it.

Arnold Friez, Reporter.

Vacation Bible School at the Rosenfeld Baptist Church Near Anamoose, North Dakota

An effective Vacation Bible School was conducted at the Rosenfeld Baptist Church, near Anamoose, N. Dak., from June 11 to 15. Our school was capably directed and supervised by our pastor, Rev. Arthur A. Voigt. Our student helpers were Miss Lu Ella Wolf and Miss Betty Ohlhauser of the Edmonton Christian Training Institute. There were 13 faithful workers serving in five departments.

A total of 75 pupils and 13 helpers and teachers brought our enrollment to 88, with an average attendance of 85. Our theme was "Champions for Christ," and in addition to studying the Word of God, the children were taught Bible stories, memory work, missionary stories, handwork, and singing.

The blessings of God were evidenced in that eleven of the boys and girls accepted Christ as their personal Savior during these school days. A fine program was presented for the parents and friends on Sunday evening, June 17th.

Mrs. Albert Isaak, Secretary.

Ordination of Rev. Iver LeRoy Walker by the Grace Church, Hettinger, North Dakota

The ordination council called by the Grace Baptist Church of Hettinger, N.



The Vacation Bible School group at the Baptist Church, New Leipzig, N. Dak., which studied "The Bible" as the theme of the school's program.

Dak., met on July 10 to examine Iver LeRoy Walker for ordination to the Gospel ministry. Rev. R. H. Zepik served as secretary of the council and Rev. LeRoy Schauer as moderator. Six churches were represented with 18 delegates. Rev. E. Oster, former pastor, opened with a short devotion after which Mr. P. Ketterling read the church's resolution calling the council together.

The candidate was introduced by Mr. Ketterling. Mr. Walker gave clear statements concerning his conversion, call to the ministry and doctrinal views. Considerable time was spent on asking questions on doctrine and the practical aspects of the ministry to which the candidate gave satisfactory replies. The council withdrew and after a few testimonies from those who knew the candidate, it declared itself satisfied and recommended that the church proceed with the ordination service that evening.

Rev. E. Oster led the service at which Dr. George Lang of Sioux Falls, S. Dak., brought the ordination sermon. Rev. E. Oster offered the prayer, Rev. E. Voigt extended the hand of fellowship, Rev. H. Vetter gave the charge to the candidate and Rev. R. H. Zepik the charge to the church. Greetings were given by the chairman of the local ministerial organization. The blessed hour came to a close with the benediction by the Rev. Iver Walker,

the new pastor of the Grace Church of Hettinger, North Dakota.

R. H. Zepik, Clerk of Council.

Northern Conference

Dedication Service Held at the German Zion Baptist Church, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Sunday, July 8, 1956 was a special day for us at the German Zion Baptist Church, Edmonton, Alberta. Not only were we privileged to have Rev. Richard Schilke of Forest Park, Ill., in our midst, but also to conduct a special dedication service for our newly purchased church edifice. "The Lord has done great things for us, whereof we are glad."

Representatives were present from our mother and sister churches, all wishing well in the new work for the Lord. Of special inspiration to us was the address given by Rev. R. Schilke. He spoke on the text of Genesis 28:17, "How holy is this place! this is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

We are thankful to our mixed, male, guitar and brass choirs, who helped to add to the special festive spirit. It is our prayer that our new building may be a "gate of heaven," indeed, to many a sinner.

Gunter Rochow, Student Pastor.



The Rosenfeld Baptist Church near Anamoose, N. Dak., with 51 members conducted a thrilling and most successful Vacation Bible School with an enrollment of 88. Rev. and Mrs. Arthur Voigt are standing at the left.



Rev. Walter Schmidt of Arnprior, Ontario (left, rear, in picture at left), and four young people whom he recently baptized, and (right) the Vacation Bible School group of 87 pupils conducted by the First Baptist Church of Arnprior.



sengers." The report of the ordination council was read and the following program was observed: charge to the candidate by Rev. Walter Damrau and a baritone solo by Mr. Harry Arnold, "The Twenty-third Psalm." The ordination sermon was given by the host pastor, Rev. Sidney Larson. Rev. Everett Barker led in the prayer of ordination, with the laying on of hands by all the ministers present. The welcome into the ministry was given by Rev. LeRoy Lincoln. The presentation of the certificate of ordination was made by the moderator, Rev. William H. Blackley. The newly ordained minister, Rev. Henry W. Speidell, dismissed the congregation with the blessing.

Christian Peters, Clerk of Council.

Eastern Conference

Baptismal Service and Vacation Bible School, First Baptist Church, Arnprior, Ontario

On Sunday morning, July 8th, many members and friends of the First Baptist Church, Arnprior, Ont., witnessed a beautiful baptismal service, in which

hearts, minds, and souls of all who attended. The offering that evening amounted to \$19.65.

Mrs. Gerald B. Kuehl, Reporter.

Pacific Conference

Baptism and Vacation Bible School at First Baptist Church, Lodi, California

We are grateful to the Lord for his bounteous blessings which he bestows upon his children, and we of the First Baptist Church of Lodi, Calif., feel that we have shared bountifully in these blessings. On Sunday evening, May 28th, our pastor, Rev. G. G. Rauser, together with Rev. Clarence H. Walth of the newly organized Willow Rancho Baptist Church of Sacramento, Calif., were privileged to baptize three adults and eight juniors (three adults and six juniors) of the First Church of Lodi, and two juniors of the Willow Rancho Church. We rejoice that of these eleven, nine were saved during recent evangelistic meetings and through the work of Sunday School teachers.

APLINGTON, IOWA

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service. A social hour was held in the basement following the program.

Mr. Patet began his ministry in the Aplington Baptist Church on Sunday, June 3, choosing as his topic, "Ready to Preach." Formerly pastor at Randolph, Minn., Mr. Patet attended Bethel College and Seminary at St. Paul, Minn., and received his B.A. and B.D. degree in 1951. He was ordained July 29, 1951 and had served the Randolph Church since 1952. His home is in St. Paul and his wife's home at Waco, Texas. Mrs. Patet attended Howard Payne College, Brownwood, Texas, for one-half year and Corn Bible Academy, Corn, Okla., for one year. She has had vocal lessons at Baylor University, Waco, Texas, and St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota. The Patets have an eight-month-old son, Jeffrey.

At the annual business meeting held recently, the treasurer reported that \$8,112.22 had been received for missionary purposes during the past year. Mrs. Paul R. Voogd, Reporter.

Central Conference

Transfer of Church Deed and Vacation Bible School at Center Line, Michigan

Father's Day, June 17th, marked an eventful day for the First Baptist Church of Centerline, Michigan. Every father and son who had a part in the building of our beautiful new house of worship must have had a special prayer of thanks in his heart. For on this day in a special afternoon service we witnessed the transfer of deed to our church from our mother church, the Grosse Pointe Baptist Church (the former Burns Avenue Baptist Church) of Detroit, Michigan.

Dr. A. Dale Ihrie, pastor of the Grosse Pointe Baptist Church, gave the prayer of dedication: "That we might go forth in an ever increasing sense of stewardship and responsibility to our community and a new vision of the Lord's will for the years to come." Rev. G. K. Zimmerman, Sunday School Union secretary, brought a short message, "To God Be the Glory" (Acts 2:32-47). Mr. Zimmerman pointed to the apostolic joy in the establishment of new churches with special significance for Father's Day and a parental blessing for the daughter church. May we be so filled with God's Spirit that we might be the influence in our community that God wants us to be, a pillar of faith steadfast in our daily prayer life. May it be said of this church in the years to come that we were a praying church. The service ended with the song, "Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us." Our pastor, Rev. Adolph Braun, was in charge of the service.

We also had two weeks of Vacation Bible School in our church in June, which was successful and richly blessed with 15 conversions.

Louise M. Hanselman, Reporter.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given to the members of the North American Baptist Homes of Sioux Falls, S. Dak., a corporation, that the annual meeting of the said corporation will be held on Tuesday evening, September 25, 1956, at 8:00 P.M. at the West Center Street Baptist Church at Madison, South Dakota.

By order of the Board of Directors of the North American Baptist Homes:

HERMAN BLEEKER, Sec.

MISSIONS IN SUNDAY SCHOOL

(Continued from Page 9)

has a special program, an offering for the mission projects could be received. How interesting to observe a youngster giving when he knows that his gift will help evangelize an Indian, Spanish - American and Japanese youngster.

Right here it ought to be mentioned that the Sunday School should designate its offering when sending to headquarters for one or all three of the Union projects: No. 630, 640 and 680; otherwise the office will divide the offering equally.

When people are intelligently informed concerning the fields and are made aware of the results and the needs, they will pray earnestly for the work and give substantially to the projects.

The words of Jesus, "And ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8b), will give impetus to the missionary program of the Sunday School in the local community and regions beyond, as the Sunday School becomes acquainted with the task and gives to the cause of Christ.

BAPTIST BRIEFS

(Continued from Page 2)

other single factor. Temple's Christian Alcoholic Fellowship is "dedicated to the restoration of alcoholics to their rightful place in society by the life-giving grace of God through his Son Jesus Christ." Activities include weekly fellowship meetings. Dr. J. Lester Harnish is the pastor.

Christmas Greeting Folders

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