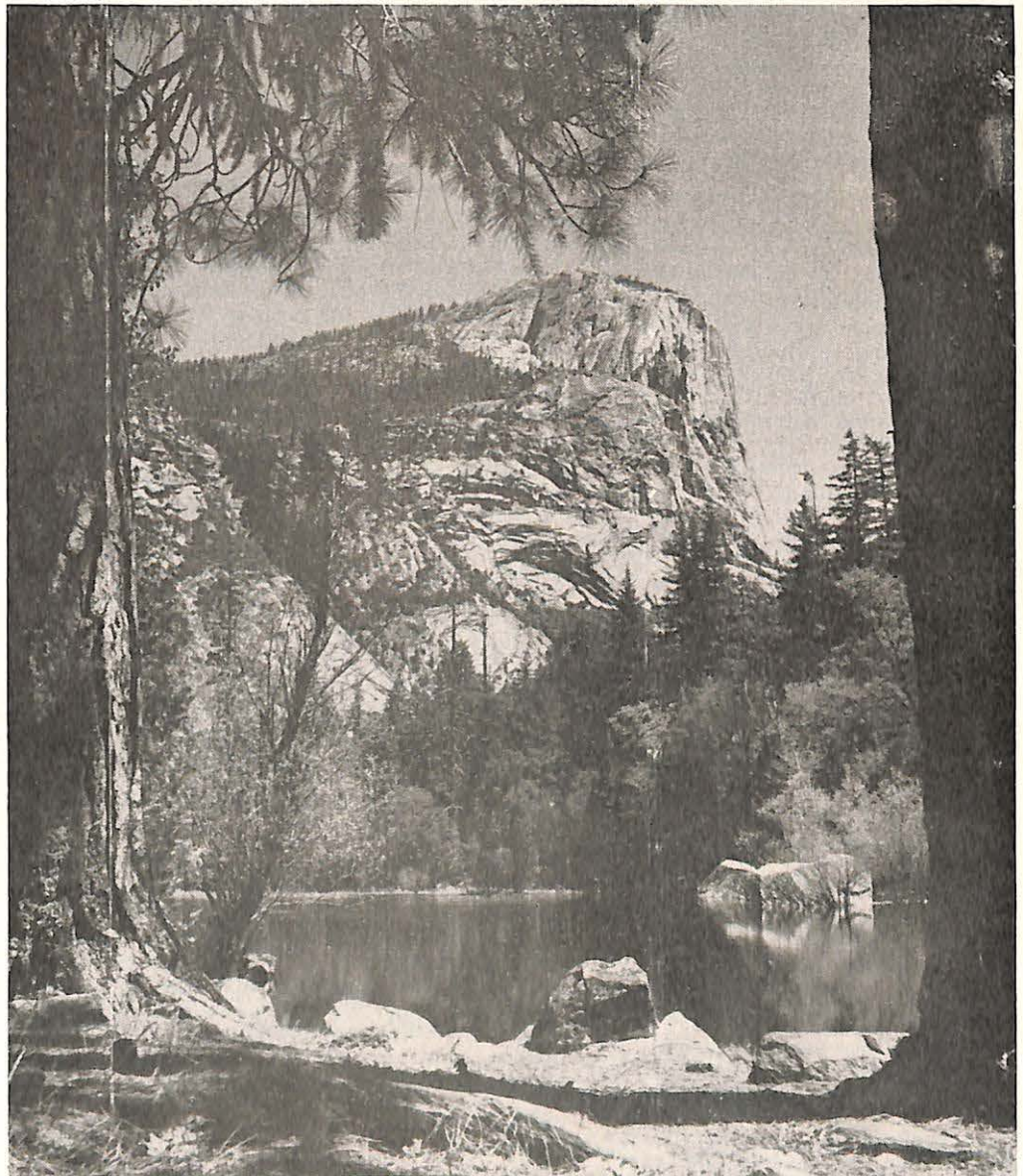


Baptist Herald

NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE



Half Dome in Yosemite National Park

July
21
1960

Number 15

■ The King Who
Pleased God

■ Fulfilling a Vow
at Oberammergau



• Candidates for the ministry of The Methodist Church will have to continue to promise that they will abstain from use of tobacco, delegates to the denomination's quadrennial General Conference declared. The delegates voted 424 to 319 to keep the pledge in which would-be preachers agree to abstain from "all indulgences, including tobacco."

• Steps to provide for the religious needs of athletes and tourists expected in Rome for the Olympic Games starting August 25 and lasting through September, are being taken by the Federal Council of Italian Evangelical churches. A coordinating committee including representatives of various Italian Protestant bodies will draft and coordinate all religious activities during the games. Youth for Christ International will sponsor evangelistic rallies during that period.

• Wycliffe Bible Translators, Inc., will this year observe their twenty-fifth anniversary for it was 25 years ago that the first "Camp Wycliffe" was held at Sulphur Springs, Arkansas. Plans are being laid for a special effort to be made from September, 1959, through August, 1960, to be marked as a year of challenge for Bible-less tribes. Linguists estimate that there are from 3,000 to 5,000 languages and distinct dialects. Into only 1,127 of these has any portion of God's Word been translated. The goal of Wycliffe Bible Translators is to reach these people who still do not have the Bible in their own language.

• Of the world's twelve and one-half million Jews, approximately 5,367,000 live in the United States, according to statistics in the new 1960 *American Jewish Year Book*. Published by the American Jewish Committee and the Jewish Publication Society, the year book records events and trends in American and world Jewish life. It reported that there are only nine countries with Jewish communities of 200,000 or more—the United States, the Soviet Union, Israel, Great Britain, Argentina, France, Canada, Romania and Morocco.

• Dr. Daniel A. Poling, pastor of Temple church, Philadelphia, 1936-48, and editor of *Christian Herald*, has been named minister emeritus of Marble Collegiate Church in New York City by its Consistory and the Classis of New York of the Reformed Church in America. Dr. Poling, who is still affiliated with the American Convention, served as associate preacher and then minister of Marble Collegiate from 1920 to 1930. During the past four years, he has been Sunday evening preacher at the church, where Dr. Norman Vincent Peale is minister.

• Methodists will be asked to give major concern to their own spiritual life during the next 4-year period under a program of emphasis approved by the Church's Quadrennial General Conference. "Evangelistic passion has been the heart of the Methodist movement," said a statement commended by the Conference. "Today there are increasing evidences that the Holy Spirit is again moving among us with power. Retreats are being held for ministers and laymen."

• The coming of Rev. A. Leonard A. Griffith, minister of Chalmers United

Church, Ottawa, Canada, to the pulpit of City Temple, in central London, revives the "commonwealth" tradition in that famous congregation. He succeeds Leslie Weatherhead, who in turn succeeded an Australian, F. W. Norwood. City Temple has a large following of friends in many parts of the world, and its Sunday congregations are always well sprinkled with visitors. Though it has no endowment, the congregation now has more adequate financial resources and a larger regular membership than ever before.

—*Christian Century*.



Baptist Briefs

• **College Enrollment 602 in Hong Kong.** Hong Kong Baptist College, under the leadership of Dr. Lam Chi Fung, is finishing its fourth year of operation as a post-secondary institution and is planning graduation exercises for its first full class of bachelor degree graduates. Enrollment at the college is 602, of whom 273 are Christians and 329 are non-Christian. Baptists number 169. Among those who are not Christian, 156 are listed as "seeking Christianity" and 120 are "interested in Christianity."

• **Encouragement Despite Difficulty.** Reporting to the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society, Rev. J. L. Sprigg, administrative secretary for Congo and for Europe, said that the picture in Belgian Congo is encouraging for American Baptists despite many problems facing that nation. He reported 7,514 baptisms in 1959, an increase of 72.8 per cent in one year. Church membership is up 6.8 per cent for a total of 61,907. Giving for all purposes increased by 13.9 per cent during the year.

• **Explorer Is Baptist.** Dr. Ralph E. Baney, who with other USA divers recently discovered the long-lost cities of Sodom and Gomorrah on the bottom of the Dead Sea, is a Baptist, Religious News Service says. Formerly of Kansas City, Mo., USA, Dr. Baney heads the Christian Approach Mission which runs an orphanage at Bethlehem. The cities of Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed, the Bible relates, because of the wickedness of their inhabitants.

• **Meat Sent to Refugees.** Rev. A. Klaupiks, Baptist World Alliance coordinator for relief, has announced the shipment of 100,000 pounds of canned meat to refugee camps in Hong Kong and 50,000 pounds to Berlin for European refugee camps. The meat was se-

cured through the assistance of the Baptist Federation of Canada, which wrote much of the cost of shipment. The shipments consisted of three full carloads, two loads going to Hong Kong and one to Berlin.

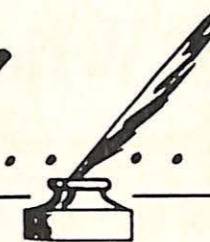
• **Guinea Mission Permanence Uncertain.** Dr. H. Cornell Goerner, secretary for Africa, Europe, and the Near East of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, has revealed that the government of the Republic of Guinea has declined to give permanent residence visas to Rev. and Mrs. W. A. Poe, Southern Baptist missionaries who arrived in that country early this year. "The situation is uncertain; and definite and sustained prayer that the door may be kept open in Guinea is requested of all Baptists," Dr. Goerner said.

• **Distinguished Service Award.** Mrs. Robert G. Lee, wife of one of the most eminent Southern Baptist pulpitiereers, has received the distinguished service award for 1960 presented by the Ministers' Wives' Conference of the Southern Baptist Convention. Her husband, Dr. Robert G. Lee, recently retired after 32 years as pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn. Mrs. Lee was first lady of the Convention for three years while Dr. Lee served as Convention president.

—*The Watchman-Examiner*

• **Nigerian Missionaries.** The Nigerian Baptist Convention, meeting in Sapele in its 47th session, appointed its first foreign missionaries. They are Rev. and Mrs. F. P. Boyo and Rev. and Mrs. I. O. Badejogbin. They will serve in Sierra Leone. The Nigerian Convention established a Home and Foreign Mission Board in 1953 and began home mission work in several areas of the country soon thereafter. At its 1957 meeting the Convention voted to begin mission work in Sierra Leone.

Editorial



Travel—And Live Zestfully!

Travel makes for an exciting life. It adds the color of joy to one's experiences and enriches one's life with a vast array of God's blessings. It isn't necessary to travel far or to go on expensive tours to enjoy these adventures. A trip to your regional conference or to the 1961 General Conference sessions in Minneapolis, Minnesota, can become an unforgettable event in your life. Vacation trips can become spiritual adventures, depending on your sensitive response to the things to be seen and to be learned. In every area, there are places near at hand where our eyes can be opened to God's glory if we will only take the time to seek them out for ourselves.

TRAVEL opens up the wonders of God's handiwork. Wherever you go in your travels, near at hand or around the globe, you will see with amazement how "the heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth his handywork." You are inspired, not only to recognize God's creative and omnipotent power, but also to thank him for the wonderful touch of his glory upon your life. You have acquired rich treasures in memories from such a trip which are priceless in value.

Our people are still talking about their views of the majestic Canadian Rockies which they saw in connection with the 1958 General Conference trip to Edmonton. Baptist delegates to the Congress in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil will soon be returning with fabled accounts of Rio's enchanting harbor and of the tropical forests surrounding 2,000 foot high Corcovado. There are scenes in Switzerland that defy description as I think back to the delightful visits to that little country. Some of the peaks in the Andes mountains in South America are more enrapturing to contemplate than those anywhere else in the world. In this issue of the "Baptist Herald" you will be thrilled as you read about the things that are happening in Oberammergau, Germany, a small village nestled in the green, scenic Bavarian Alps, which this year is a mecca for tens of thousands of tourists.

TRAVEL enlarges one's sympathetic understanding of other people. Boundaries are enlarged far beyond the narrow fences behind which we sometimes live. Travel restrictions to Russia have been eased, and we are only beginning to have a better understanding of the Russian people and their customs. We of the United States are receiving a better understanding of peoples in far away places of the world because of President Eisenhower's good will tours to these lands. As Christians we recognize that the people of Pakistan and Viet Nam and Laos are also "our neighbors" and that we ought to be acquainted with them.

TRAVEL reveals to every Christian the imperative need for a more intensified missionary program in our day. Every trip should become a missionary opportunity to witness by word and deed of the Gospel of Christ. This has been the objective of the Baptist World Congress in Rio de Janeiro. It should reveal the spiritual needs of people and convince us of the divine importance of every missionary effort. On your trips this summer, open your eyes to God's glory and live zestfully!



Cover	A. Devaney, Inc.	
"Half Dome in Yosemite National Park"		
March of Events		2
Baptist Briefs		2
Editorial		
"Travel—And Live Zestfully!"		3
"The King Who Pleased God"	Dr. Harold H. Johnston	4
"The Anlu in Action"	Miss Geraldine Glasenapp	5
"Fulfilling a Vow at Oberammergau"	Rev. Paul F. Zoschke	6
"God's Kingdom Requires Haste in the West"	Rev. Joe Sonnenberg	8
"Conserving the Summer's Blessings"	Mr. Gary Schroeder	10
"American Baptist Convention in Rochester, N. Y."	Rev. Arthur R. Weisser	11
"Dedication of Redeemer Baptist Church"	Rev. Adolph Braun	12
"Gospel Jubilaires Quartet Trip"	Mr. William Kepie	13
"Found Faithful—CIBYF Theme"	Mr. Arthur Patzia	14
What's Happening		15
THE LONG SEARCH	By Sallie Lee Bell	
Chapter Twenty		16
"Sunday School Lessons"	Rev. Bruno Schreiber	18
Our Denomination in Action		19
Obituaries		23



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The King Who Pleased God

The one who pleases God most is not the great intellect, the ready speaker, but the person who reads his Word and obeys it!

By Dr. Harold H. Johnston of Princeton University, New Jersey. (Reprinted with permission from HIS Magazine).

STARTING with Saul and ending with the hateful Jehoiachin, Israel and Judah had a long succession of kings whose fascinating history is recorded in Kings and Chronicles.

They were a diverse collection of men. Some were cowards, many were arrogant fools. One was the wisest man who ever lived. Some, such as Saul or David, are described in great detail, while others are only briefly mentioned. But about every one we are informed on one particular point: what God thought of him. Surely this information was so carefully preserved for our edification.

THE GREATEST KING

What king stood out spiritually? And why?

Certainly not Saul. Though he began well, his life ended in suicide, and he was succeeded by David, the innocent victim of his insane jealousy. David's life we know in great detail, before and after coming to the throne. That life was so pleasing to God that he promised that David's line would rule forever, and the Christ would come as David's offspring. Yet David was not singled out as was this king.

Glancing through I and II Kings we find many whose lives were in some measure pleasing to God. These include, in addition to David, Solomon, Asa, Jehoshaphat, Joash, Amaziah, Azariah, Jotham, Hezekiah and Josiah. Reading more carefully we see that though each is commended, it is usually with some reservation, as, for example, "the high places were not taken down." The Scriptures single out two from this list, though, for special commendation.

Among the kings of Judah (after the rebellion of Israel and before Israel ceased to exist), Hezekiah was singled out for his great trust in God and obedience to God (II Kings 18:5).

Josiah was the other king given special commendation. In II Kings 23:25 we read, "And like unto him was there no king before him, that turned to the Lord with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses; neither after him arose there any like him." This was the lowly King Josiah. The life of this man is told in II Kings 22 and 23, in II Chronicles 34, 35 and 36. What made Josiah so outstanding?

JOSIAH'S ATTRIBUTES

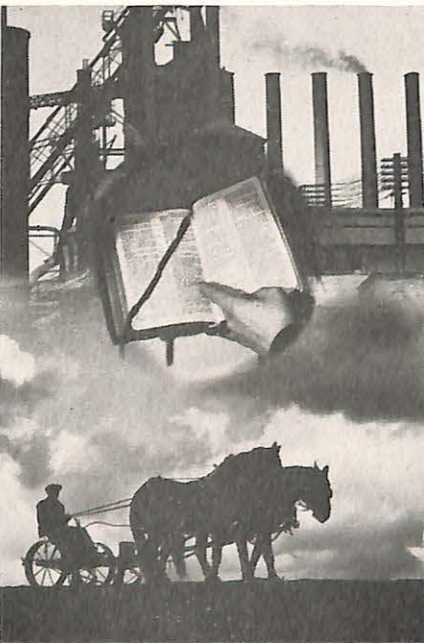
Did he possess natural advantages? Was he wise like Solomon, skilled in war like David? The Bible attributes

BAPTIST JUBILEE ADVANCE
Theme For 1960:
"NEW LIGHT FOR YOU"
from God's Word!

none of these to Josiah. His only recorded experience at war was against Pharaoh Necho, who pleaded with Josiah to leave him alone. It was this fight, fought against God's revealed will, which caused Josiah's death (II Chronicles 35:22).

Did he then have an unusual "walk with the Lord"? Was he a mystic who like David communed often with his God? Did he have a relationship like David's which began by trusting God as shepherd boy and included the thrilling defeat of Goliath? Or did Josiah experience the testing and trials of David in being so utterly trustworthy toward Saul, who yet did everything to destroy him? Did Josiah learn to suffer for righteousness' sake?

The answers seem to be negative. As far as the accounts go, God communicated to Josiah only twice (II Chronicles 34:26-28; 35:21). Both times were through other people, and he did not even believe the second message. We find no dramatic periods of testing, no great acts of trusting faith like Abraham offering up Isaac. Does Josiah behave as we expect of one who is experiencing the "higher life"? God



In all your ways acknowledge God and obey his Eternal Word of revelation and truth.

never spoke a recorded prophecy through Josiah. No sweeping insight by Josiah into the nature of God is recorded. What, then made Josiah spiritually outstanding?

REBUILDING THE TEMPLE

The Biblical accounts indicate that Josiah began well, though not differently from many of the other "good" kings, with a desire to please the God of his fathers. In II Chronicles 34 he began to carry on Hezekiah's rebuilding of the temple, and purging out the idolatry into which the people had slipped. A godly teacher or parent evidently existed in Josiah's background. Then in II Kings 22:10, 11, we read about the experience which seems to have transformed his life, making him not just a good king, but the very best.

Holy Scripture was discovered and read to Josiah. His reaction is dramatically illustrated by the statement, "He rent his clothes." Josiah's life was one of rent clothes, sack cloth and ashes, in response to God's Word. To use James' simile, Josiah suddenly beheld himself and his people in the previously lost mirror of the Word, and he did not go away and forget what he had seen. Instead he spent the rest of his life trying to obey what he read. Isn't this the one unusual feature in the man's life?

From then on, Josiah's life was a monotonous struggle to rid his nation of the plague of idolatry and instead institute the worship of God as revealed by Holy Scripture. Even when God told him it was too late, that the Jews were destined for destruction, Josiah pushed on to restore and teach. When the passover was reinstated, Josiah contributed 30,000 lambs and kids, and 3,000 bulls, of his own possession (II Chronicles 35:7). He pressed on and on, tireless in his purpose to lead his people into true obedience. Josiah had an encounter with the Word God has prepared for men.

HE OBEYED SCRIPTURE

Note carefully that two distinct elements are involved: he obeyed, and he obeyed Scripture. Josiah was simple and direct. He was not absorbed with abstract doctrinal speculations like the Sadducees, nor did he substitute traditional codes for God's commandments like the Pharisees (Mark 7:1-13; 12:18-23), distortions which Satan has always pressed upon God's people. He read what was plainly written and tried to obey it. He was a religious

(Continued on page 24)

BAPTIST HERALD

The Anlu in Action!

The strange and weird effects of a women's movement in the Southern Cameroons aggravated by African superstitions or "culture controls," and resulting in political implications, especially for our Baptist brethren on the Belo Field.

By Miss Geraldine Glasenapp, Missionary Now at Home on Furlough

IN EVERY nation and tribe there are certain rules which serve as "culture controls." They are ways and means of controlling the conduct of the members of the group for the good of the group as a whole.

One such control used in the Bikom Tribe of the Southern Cameroons, Africa, is called the "anlu" (ahn-loo). If an individual is proved guilty of cursing or abusing a parent, of beating a pregnant woman or of some other offense, he or she is then disciplined by the women of the quarter. The women will gather in the courtyard of the offender, sing insulting songs about him, dance, destroy household furnishings, defile any water which might be stored, and generally make it miserable for the offender.

If the guilty person confesses and apologizes, he will be symbolically washed in a nearby stream by the anlu women, the singing and dancing will change in tone and meaning and the case will be considered closed. However, if the offender refuses to repent, the censure of the group continues until the person is driven by despair to leave the village.

BATTLE CRY OF ANLU

In July 1958 a modification of the anlu appeared throughout the Kom Clan. Presumably defending certain land farm rights, "the anlu" quickly recruited most of the women of Kom. Since the land and the farming are the responsibility of the women, any threat to the farming practices would be of great importance to the women and thus "the anlu" had little difficulty in arousing the women to their "cause."

Within a week of the first battle cry of "the anlu," (a high pitched whoop similar to that of children playing cowboys and Indians), probably 90% or more of the women of the tribe had been organized. Young women and old grandmothers . . . women heavy with their unborn children and women nursing small babies . . . they all marched. The disturbance started at Njinikom, a village about eight miles from our mission station at Belo. By the time it reached Belo, a crowd of 4,000 to 5,000 women gathered in the market place wearing the green leaves (symbol of their movement) over the oddest and oldest clothing, clothing borrowed from the men, and carrying the tall raffia bamboo as a symbol of their authority.

It was an amusing sight, at first. But when you looked carefully, you saw that the women were very seri-



AN AFRICAN JUJU

A type of juju costume made of fiber worn in the Southern Cameroons, Africa. The headpiece is of wood. It is painted with local clay and charcoal to be colored red, white and black.

ous. Someone had told the women that their land had been sold to a white man, and they believed it. Few women resisted the call to defend their land, and those who did resist were "convinced" later when their farms were destroyed and their compounds disturbed. In those early days no one resisted.

TERRIBLE EFFECTS OF ANLU

The effects were widespread. Families were disrupted; wives were absent from farm and fireside; husbands and young men did their own cooking; markets did not function normally; travel was disrupted; roads were made impassible, even to our doctor; the number of patients attending the dispensary declined to only the more serious cases; the number of deliveries in our Belo Maternity Centre dropped by one-fourth to one-third. All of our Kom schools, except the one at the leper settlement, were forced to close. Some never reopened until 1959. School children could not be seen on the roads to the schools because they were afraid to be seen. The Fon (chief) was ridiculed and stripped of almost all authority. Even the women of the Fon's palace were against him.

The anlu also interfered with the church. The anlu women disrupted an Inquirers' Class being held in the Belo church, boycotted the Short Term Bible Classes being held in a nearby village, "locked" the doors of more than one church and destroyed the unity of the church by forming pro- and anti- anlu groups in the churches themselves.

It was very soon after the birth of "anlu" that it became apparent that it was a political movement cleverly conceived months before. It was well organized with "a queen," "D. O." (District Officer), "inspectors," spies, messengers and paid secretaries, all patterned after the English system of indirect rule with which they were familiar.

OUR BAPTIST BRETHERN

Beyond the political influence and aim of the movement, we are especially concerned with the effects it had and still has on our Baptist brethren in the area.

It was difficult to keep "anlu" out of the life of the church. Many of our Baptist brethren had taken part, though innocent of the political nature of it. It became difficult for a Baptist to hold any political opinion. If he were anti-anlu, he was ostracised from the predominantly anlu community around him. His farm would be destroyed. He might be prevented from attending the funeral of a relative, and his compound might be considered "out of bounds" to friend or relatives who were of "the anlu." If he were pro-anlu, he was divided in his loyalties. He might be in sympathy with the political party behind "the anlu," yet disagree with the policy of closing schools and churches as did "the anlu." Many things determined which he would choose.

Because our Baptist brethren often withdrew themselves from "the anlu," word soon spread that all Baptists were anti-anlu and that they were thus of the opposing political party. Unjust accusations were levelled against missionaries and mission employees.

Two years later "anlu" is still very active and undoubtedly will become more so before the plebiscite. Our churches in many instances have resumed their normal activities, some having lost some members. Our schools have lost many students and the good relationship of school and community which was so difficult to win has been

(Continued on page 24)

July 21, 1960



The setting of the Passion Play at Oberammergau, Germany, with the Bavarian mountains in the background.

IT WAS LIKE sitting in a deeply satisfying worship service to view the Passion Play at Oberammergau, Germany. The eight hour performance was invigorating and inspiring rather than fatiguing. This was our privilege on Sunday, May 22, as we toured Western Europe.

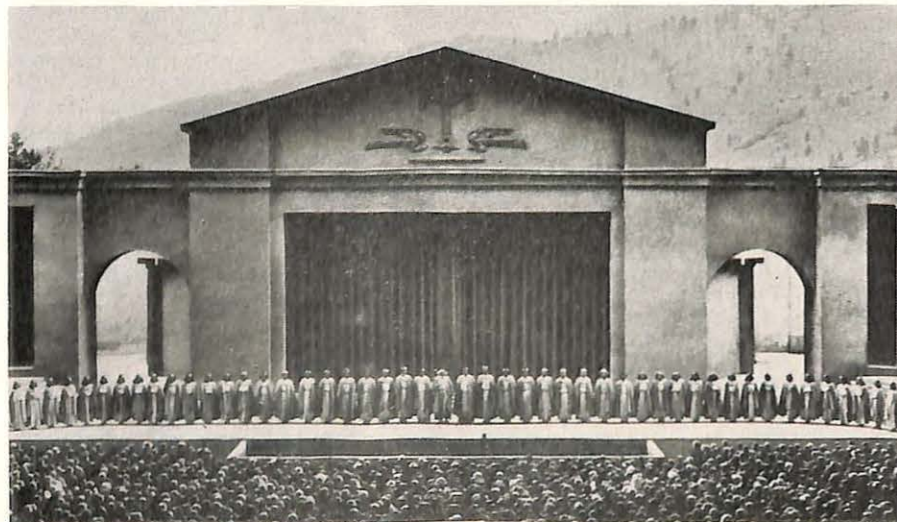
A vow has always been very sacred to people. At Oberammergau this sanctity was inescapable as the villagers enacted again the suffering and death of our Lord.

PLAGUE IN 1632

The story might best be told in the words of the 1960 Official Guide: "In the late autumn of the year 1632 the plague, in spite of all precautions, had reached Oberammergau. For months it had raged in the valleys at the foot of the hills and had brought about the extinction of entire parishes,

such as Boebling and Kohlgrub. Kaspar Schisler, born at Oberammergau and employed at Eschenlohe nearby, carried the Black Death over the mountains into his native village. Though the parish register of deaths does not include his name among the victims of the plague, he is mentioned along with his wife and children in the Oberammergau Memorial Book of the Year of the Plague. The register of deaths gives the names of eighty-four adults who died from the plague within a few months, no children's names being given.

"Out of this affliction of death was born the Solemn Vow of the eternal Passion Play. The Council and the elders of the Oberammergau community pledged themselves in the name of the entire village to perform for all time the Play of the Passion and Death of our Lord at intervals of ten



OPEN AIR PRESENTATION OF PASSION PLAY

The immense platform of the Oberammergau Passion Play on which 700 people can take part in the Biblical story.

Fulfilling a Vow at Oberammergau

For more than three centuries a vow has been kept and the Passion Play of Christ has been a spiritual experience to tens of thousands of people.

By Rev. Paul F. Zoschke

Evergreen Baptist Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.

years, if only God in his divine mercy would put a stop to the fell disease. From that moment, so the chronicler tell us, the plague claimed no further victims at Oberammergau."

After 327 years, one could still catch something of the serious-mindedness of the elders expressing itself in the demeanor and determination of the citizenry of today.

FULFILLMENT OF VOW

"Already the following year, 1634, the solemn promise was redeemed for the first time, which proves that the Passion Play was not unknown to the population of Oberammergau even before their vow. They were obviously in possession of a text and a tradition for this type of play. In this connection two manuscripts in the Munich State Library are of interest. The first is the text of the Passion Play of Weilheim which was supposed for some time to be the text of the Oberammergau Passion Play of 1634. This Passion Play had been written toward the end of the 16th century by the parish priest of Weilheim, Johann Abl, and was performed at Weilheim in the 'Jubilee Year 1600,' and again in 1615."

The Official Guide states that the other manuscript has no connection with the Oberammergau text.

It is evident that many passages in the Weilheim text have reference to a poem by Jacob Rueff, Zurich. It also reveals connection with a Freiburg play. However, original references for the text of the Oberammergau Passion Play are found in a play written in the 15th century by the founder of St. Ulrich and Afra at Augsburg, and in another written in the 16th century by Sebastian Wild, an Augsburg Master-singer.

Though a number of writers have attempted revisions of the text, only

three have been seriously accepted by the Oberammergauers.

The first was Ferdinand Rosner who wrote what virtually amounted to a new text in 1750. He introduced the "Plastic Figures," (the Tableaux Vivants, in pantomime), of today. His work manifested a certain depth and religious ardor.

Another revision for simplification was undertaken by Othmar Weiss who reverted to the first version but retained the best parts of Rosner's text. Later he made an improvement upon his own work.

The third writer to offer a revision was Alois Daisenberger (1845). His major contribution was the prologue at the beginning of each scene.

But however much each of these writers may have contributed, the older text of Ulrich and Afra gleams through all the versions. "Any one desirous of replacing this text, which is the work of centuries, by an 'up-to-date' version, would have to possess an intimate knowledge of the people's soul."

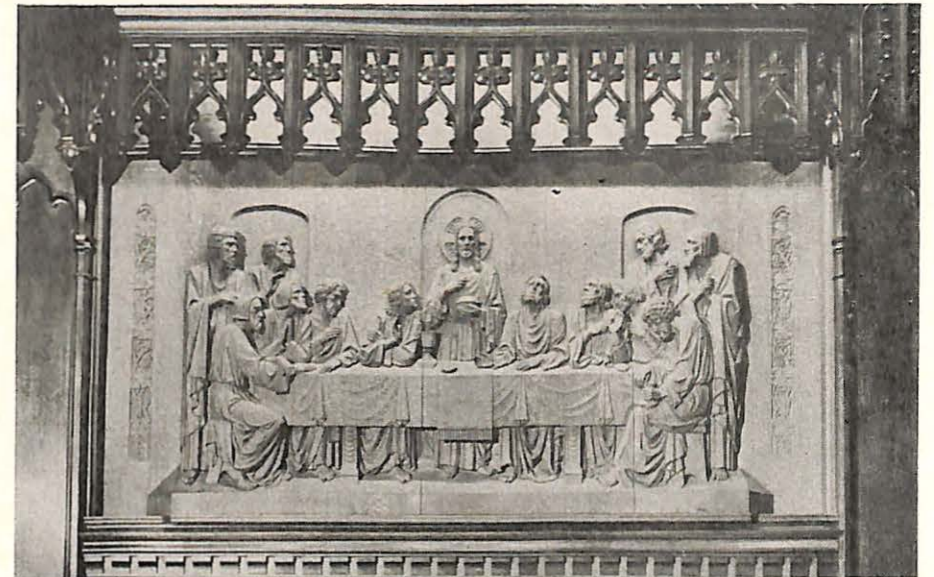
PASSION PLAY MUSIC

The interruptions in the ten-year cycle of performances have had several causes. We mention two: From 1763 to 1801 the political authorities sought to ban all such plays. Several communities were given special license after urgent petitions were made by delegations. In 1922 an interruption was caused by "consequences of World War I."

Rochus Dedler was the composer of the Passion Play music. Born in Oberammergau on Jan. 15, 1779, as the son of the innkeeper of the "White Lamb," he served his native village as teacher, choirmaster and organist. He made his first composition for the play in 1811. However, already in 1815 he was obliged to adapt his work to the revision of the text. Three years later the music was destroyed by fire which took most of the village, including Dedler's school and private property. He wrote the music again based on his earlier composition. While several directors attempted modification of the score, the original themes abide to this day.

Worthy of mention are several families of the village who have produced many of the star actors. The best known are Abl, Rutz, Samm, Stueckl, Zwink and Mayr. The name of Zwink appears in Oberammergau records as early as 1446. Franz Serph Zwink was a painter. Jacob Zwink played the part of Christ from 1800 to 1820, and Peter in 1830 and 1840. Other stellar members were Johann, Otilie and Hans. Records of the Rutz family go back to 1451. The name of Mayr appears already in 1680.

The commonest name in the village is Lang, dating back to 1723. Sebastian Lang played important parts from 1880 to 1922. The present director, Georg Johann Lang, was born in 1889. He participated in the play when he was 11. In 1910 he was stage manager



WOODCARVING BY THE LANG FAMILY OF OBERAMMERGAU

and since 1922 he has been director and producer. "When the last curtain falls in September 1960, he will be able to look back on 400 performances before millions of spectators. No mean record."

SANCTITY OF THE VOW

Not only must the essence of a vow be maintained, but it must be maintained in the spirit in which it was pledged. That has been the strength of the Oberammergauers in fulfilling their "vow for all time." It was a vow made in sacred devotion to God, and only as unto God by their descendants can it be truly be fulfilled.

Upon at least two occasions in the latter part of the 18th century did the secular authorities seek to ban the play. "It is generally assumed that in 1770 Oberammergau too was under the ban. The then warden of the parish church resignedly wrote on the

door of the vestry-shrine, '1770 the Passion Play was Abolished.'

But there are also records of expenditure "for the two deputies to Munich in connection with the Passion Play," and also "to defray the expenses of the Passion Play." Again in 1790 they tried to abolish it, but apparently ways were found either to circumvent these edicts or to gain special permission. Because the vow was considered sacred unto God, the dogged determination of the villagers was successful despite the difficulties.

Repeatedly there have been offers to put the play on a more financially successful basis by outside promoters and organizers. In some of the earlier years, the village was left with a debt after the final performance. But the people felt this was a vow unto God and not a civic ways and means pro-

(Continued on page 24)



CHRIST AND THE TWELVE DISCIPLES

Citizens of Oberammergau who represent Christ (Anton Preisinger) and the 12 disciples in the Passion Play.



THE DISPLAY OF GOD'S GLORY IN OREGON

Mount Hood near Portland, Oregon, sparkles brilliantly in the morning sun. This is one of many delights to the traveller's eye in the Western District.—Photo by Eric A. Pohl.

God's Kingdom Requires Haste in the West

By Rev. Joe Sonnenberg, Western District Secretary

TO WRITE an article of general interest to readers of the "Baptist Herald" makes it mandatory that I begin with the enchanting area of the Western District, in which I serve as one of our denominational secretaries.

THE WESTERN DISTRICT

Between San Diego in the south and Prince Rupert in the north lies a vast stretch of land which is a delight to the traveller's eye. For 2,500 air miles, not a moment of monotony is endured, for the scenery is constantly changing and impressive. In no other part of our vast and far-flung continent is the world of nature so rich in its display of God's glory.

Leaving Portland, city of Roses, upon a sunny July morning by air, you can see seven snow-capped mountains sparkling brilliantly in the morning sun. In between lie lush valleys, green, fertile, and teeming with life. The proud redwoods and the elegant pines greet you as you wind your way south to captivating California.

Going north you are in for rare scenes as well. Tall firs deck the hills and push their way out of valleys. Mighty surging rivers display their powers rolling on to the sea.

In the far north of British Columbia, a Swedish industrialist-investor has teamed up with the provincial government in a gigantic power project known as the Werner-Gren Power Project. The "mighty Peace" will be tamed by a massive dam which will in time

change population trends in Canada.

Then there are the many lakes, placid and colorfully nestled in huge mountains pointing to the heavens. Lake Kalamalka, in Indian meaning lake of many colors, literally changes its color reflections as you drive along its edge going from Kelowna to Vernon, B. C.

Weatherwise, this fabulous West is capable of satisfying every taste. If you have a flare for the sun, you can enjoy it almost 365 days of the year as most Californians do. If you enjoy liquid sunshine, you can enjoy that for almost an equal length of time, but not in California! Whatever your taste may be, the Western District can oblige, and extravagantly!

ERUPTING CITIES

The entire area is astir with vitality and dreams. Small villages have become cities in a matter of a few years. Orange groves have been plowed under, and in their places cities have erupted as people continue to pour into these inviting housing developments.

The Commission, planning additional Freeways for Los Angeles and environs, maintains that the 6,800,000 population will be doubled in twenty years. This is the expanding and emerging West. North American Baptists will need to be alert and likewise to strike out with bigger plans than what has been true of us thus far.

Forty-five North American Baptist churches carry on their witness for

Christ in this area. These churches compose more than 10,000 members. Twenty of the churches are 10 years old or less. Seven are four years old or less, and seven are two years old or less. A recent book maintains that the Baptist principle of the autonomy of the local church or churches can only be maintained through strong "associations." Four such gatherings take place in the area annually. There is talk of increasing the number. Most of the churches have large numbers of young people. That accounts for the many youth camps that are held each year.

DEMANDS OF THE WEST

Obviously the foremost concern is the establishment of additional churches. This program MUST be stepped up NOW, and it calls for financial sacrifice on our part, and demands qualified and devoted pastors. Without such pastors, our efforts could prove to be disappointing and wasted. To believe that all a pastor must do in the west is to erect a building and then to watch the people flock in on Sundays is wonderful. There is only one thing wrong with that belief. It simply is not true!

A pastor must reconcile himself to hard work. The west can wear out your soul and the soles of your shoes, for here as everywhere you must go out and bring them in. Constant and keen competition must be lived with. We must never lose sight of the fact that North American Baptists are not the only ones engaged in Church Extension on the West Coast.

But what about the demands the west has made upon my time and work? The editor has asked me to comment on this point. Most of my time is spent with new churches of our denomination. Getting them orientated to our ways and work, acquainting them with our policies and our missionary program has been a ministry greatly enjoyed by me. The foreseeable future calls for no change. In carrying out this program, 45,000 miles were travelled last year.

DELIGHTFUL EXPERIENCES

I am not a born traveller. I am a persuaded one. This persuasion has come largely through meeting people while travelling. There are the pastors and people of our churches. During the past year, I have come to know and appreciate so many of them that I consider this experience a storehouse of rich spiritual wealth.

One of our churches has a short "coffee hour" after the morning service. The purpose? To make possible a time when members and friends of the church can come to know each other. One young man said when asked how it was working out, "Our church has ceased to be a club and become a church through this arrangement. It is the greatest thing and the best thing that has happened to us." This "great thing" is happening to me almost every day of my life, for I am constantly meeting new people—a happy experience, indeed!

In addition to friends, you meet people of power and importance, people who think and talk in global terms. Recently while travelling, I sat next to a Tibetan aristocrat who was on a lecture tour of this country sponsored by the United Nations. It was his aim to make Americans aware of the importance of Asia in the makeup of the world of tomorrow. In ten years from now Peiping will eclipse Moscow



REV. JOE SONNENBERG

Mr. Sonnenberg of Portland, Oregon, is the Western District Secretary for the North American Baptist General Conference.

and Washington, he maintained.

Thus our times are crowded with world changing events, and these events speak to the church saying, "O Zion, Haste Thy Mission High Fulfilling." The Kingdom of God requires haste on the West Coast and everywhere!



THE UPPER BAY BAPTIST CHURCH, CALIFORNIA

The new two story Educational Unit of the Upper Bay Baptist Church, Santa Ana Heights, Calif., is shown between the sanctuary (right) and the little chapel in which the church had its beginning (left) with Rev. Fred David as pastor.—M. L. Leuschner, photographer.

Conferences and Youth Camps

and General Workers and Missionaries as Guest Speakers

July 20-24

CENTRAL CONFERENCE at First Baptist Church, Saint Joseph, Mich. Rev. and Mrs. Edwin Kern, Dr. Ralph E. Powell and Rev. E. Wolff.

July 20-27

ALBERTA JUNIOR CAMP at Sylvan Lake, Alberta. Rev. L. Bienert and Rev. and Mrs. Fred Holzimmer.

July 22-29

ONTARIO YOUNG PEOPLE'S CAMP at Round Lake Camp, Killaloe, Ontario. Rev. and Mrs. Edwin Kern and Rev. E. B. Link.

July 23-30

MANITOBA INTERMEDIATE CAMP at Lake Nutimik, River Hills, Man. Rev. Herman Palfenier.

July 23-30

CALIFORNIA YOUNG PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY at Hume Lake, Calif. Rev. Daniel Fuchs and Rev. George W. Lang.

July 24-30 WISCONSIN YOUTH CAMP at Camp Bird, Crivitz, Wis. Miss Geraldine Glasenapp, Rev. J. C. Gunst, and Mr. Flavius Martin.

July 25-31 SASKATCHEWAN CHILDREN'S CAMP at Good Spirit Lake, Sask. Miss Eleanor Schuler.

July 25-Aug. 1 BRITISH COLUMBIA INTERMEDIATE CAMP at Green Bay, Westbank, B. C. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Kaiser. (Student Placement Committee).

July 26-28 DAKOTA-MONTANA CONFERENCE GERMAN CAMP at Crystal Springs, N. Dak. Rev. William Sturhahn.

July 29-31 ONTARIO ADULT FAMILY CAMP at Round Lake Camp, Killaloe, Ontario. Rev. and Mrs. Edwin Kern.

July 30-Aug. 1 MANITOBA YOUNG PEOPLE'S CAMP at Lake Nutimik, River Hills, Man. Rev. Herman Palfenier.

August 1-8 BRITISH COLUMBIA JUNIOR CAMP at Green Bay, Westbank, B. C. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Kaiser. (Student Placement Committee).

August 3-7 PASTORS' CONFERENCE at Sioux Falls, South Dakota. (General Workers and Denominational Leaders in Attendance).

August 8-12 CHRISTIAN LEADERS' CONFERENCE at Sioux Falls, South Dakota. (Denominational Leaders Also in Attendance).

Conserving the Summer's Blessings

How to retain the blessings of Summer Camp and of Vacation Bible Schools throughout the entire year.

By Mr. Gary Schroeder, Pastor-elect of the First Baptist Church, Bellwood, Illinois

THE BUSY, exciting days of summer will all too quickly pass into obscurity. Will the results of our activities vanish as well? As we formulate our program, let us plan to nurture every new experience in the lives of our young people so that they may grow to a fuller stature in Christ.

Having initially reached boys and girls for Christ and the church through our summer program, we are challenged to retain and to integrate them into the life of the church. How can this be done?

PERSONAL ACQUAINTANCE

To begin with, we must become thoroughly acquainted with the children, not only to know their names in its proper pronunciation, but also the interests which touch the wider circle of their life. The Sunday School teachers, club leaders and every person who comes in contact with these new prospects should be thoroughly informed about them. The Sunday following camp and Vacation Bible School, the leaders who worked with them should be encouraged to be on hand to greet and to show them to their respective classes, introducing them to their teachers, who in turn will acquaint them with other members of the class.

An important key to the success of any church program is co-operation. Enlist the help of the entire church as you make an effort to conserve your summer blessings. Young people

who live in the same neighborhood or attend the same school as the new member can be encouraged to invite them or even to bring them along to their youth activities. Peer age relationships are by far the most effective.

Not only do we want to retain these young people, but we have now gained an entrance into another home. The deacons or other laymen have the opportunity of calling in the homes, discovering the family situation, thus making a vital contact for Christ and aiding the youth leaders through their greater insight into the home. This

home should be placed on your regular visitation program so that periodical checks will be made and the parents kept informed of our interest in them and their children.

A great asset to the spiritual development of new converts is a prayer partner. Challenge the adults of your church to volunteer to pray daily for one specific individual for the next six months. Their own lives will be enriched and the young convert will be encouraged to know that he or she is being remembered in prayer.

For those who have made a decision for Christ during the summer activities, seek to enroll them in a "church membership" or "new convert's" class, usually taught by the pastor, helping them to become more firmly grounded in their new Christian experience.

Many of the boys and girls whom we reach during our camp and Vacation Bible School are attracted to the varied activities of these organizations. The church that provides a similar program, through club activities, will have a greater opportunity of retaining their interest. Young people are not content merely to listen. We must give them opportunities to be active and creative if we expect Christ to become an integral part of their lives.

Do not let the importance of your summer activities disappear from the scene. Upon return from camp or Vacation Bible school, select young people to report on activities, post pictures taken in a photography contest, perhaps with a "guess who?" from your stunt night, and feature the names of all who attended in a special edition of your church paper. Promote year round interest in your camp program by establishing a system of attendance and Scripture Memory credits, which would entitle your boys and girls to financial help toward next year's camp.

ROUND-UP PROGRAMS

Early in the spring, sponsor a camp and Vacation Bible School round-up. Send personal invitations to those who attended last year, perhaps having them take part in the program. Show pictures, display craft materials and re-enact highlights of the program, being careful to keep alive the spiritual impact which we endeavor to impress upon their lives.

Summer is a time to gather the fruits of our labor. Let us not be guilty of storing fruit in the dampness of unconcern. Rather subject it to the light so that it may ripen through the glow of God's love. "For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness hath shined in our hearts. . . ." (II Corinthians 4:6).

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—Luoma Photo

We must give the young people opportunities to be active and creative if we expect Christ to become an integral part of their lives.

American Baptist Convention in Rochester, N.Y.

A Report by Rev. Arthur R. Weisser, Pastor of the Andrews Street Baptist Church, Rochester, New York

THE AMERICAN Baptist Convention convened in Rochester, N. Y., from June 2-7, 1960. All available hotel rooms and restaurants were taxed to their limits, with many delegates and visitors staying in private homes.

Dr. Herbert Gezork, president of the American Baptist Convention, set the tenor of the days to follow with the presidential address based on the convention theme, "Blessed are the Peace Makers." His message was timely and challenging in view of world affairs and issues confronting the convention: "We are caught in a terrible tension: the fear of an unprecedented war, and the fear of an unprecedented tyranny Is it not understandable that thoughtful Christians will widely disagree as to what should be done? Who of us can claim that he has all the answers and knows what is the wisest action at the present moment?"

GOD'S PEACE MAKERS

Another area in which there is a "desperate need for peace makers" is in the realm of race relations. Also mentioned was an area in need of peace was "the relation of Christians and Christian denominations toward each other." Dr. Gezork said that "diversity 'among us' is basically a result of the inexhaustible richness of the Gospel, but also partly the result of our human imperfection and sinfulness." He said there is more that unites us than separates us as Christians, and "the world needs this witness"

By far the most important point to be made, Dr. Gezork said, is that we are peacemakers between God and man. Modern man, "at war with himself, lost in the jungle of his meaningless existence, hopelessly searching for some Absolute to which he can give himself; hungry for the bread of life, yet getting only stones in the passing philosophies of the day; haunted by loneliness in the midst of a crowd, by silent despair in the midst of noisy pleasures needs the Gospel, that offers salvation to the whole man, his individuality, but also all his human relations, in family, community, nation and world."

NATIONAL COUNCIL ISSUE

A delegation from Wichita, Kansas, and the First Baptist Church confronted the convention with a demand to withdraw from the National Council of Churches because of its liberal tendencies. Dr. Gezork made a strong plea for unity. (Our North American Baptist General Conference and the Southern Baptist Convention are not related in any way with the National Council. Editor).



Dr. Herbert Gezork as president of The American Baptist Convention delivers his presidential address on "Blessed Are the Peacemakers" at Rochester, N. Y.

Dr. Edwin H. Tuller, general secretary of the American Baptist Convention said, "We recognize the variety of viewpoints among the 6,000 churches that make up the convention concerning our relationship with the other religious bodies. The A. B. C. has dealt seriously and responsively with this matter over the years A resolution has been formulated that is in keeping with the traditional Baptist principle respecting autonomy of the local church. The request of the First Baptist Church, Wichita, Kansas, calling for the withdrawal of the convention from the National Council is an example of this principle in action. By the same token, there are other churches who hold it their right to be related to the National Council."

The resolution drawn up, presented and passed, reads in part: "Whereas a sizeable part of the constituency of the A. B. C. is in favor of the National Council and its related ecumenical program, and whereas a part . . . is not . . . Be it resolved that money designated by the A. B. C. for the National Council be channeled to that body unofficially and that American Baptist participants be instructed to speak only for the A. B. C. churches designating money for the N. C. C. rather than the denomination as a whole." It was also stated that no promotional lesson favoring the National Council appear in any publications that are used in American Baptist churches.

VALLEY FORGE HEADQUARTERS

The matter of the new headquarters at Valley Forge, Penn., came under considerable discussion and review. It

was voted to build at Valley Forge. A resolution was presented and passed to raise \$2,225,000 in equity money for this project. Within hours money started to come in and by the end of the Convention \$14,000 had been received from individual donors.

Good music interspersed the convention. A Combined Choir and Massed Children's Choir from the local churches, Negro Girls' Choir, Keaka College Choir, Bach Chorus of the Oratorical Society, the Colgate Rochester Divinity School Glee Club, and a number of soloists brought much enjoyment to all.

CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions covering every facet of the Christian life were presented. Among them were: "Believing we are one faith in our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ, the incarnate Word of God, therefore we are one in allegiance to him as King of kings and Lord of lords. We are one in acknowledging that this allegiance takes precedence over any other allegiance that may make claim upon us. Therefore we affirm:

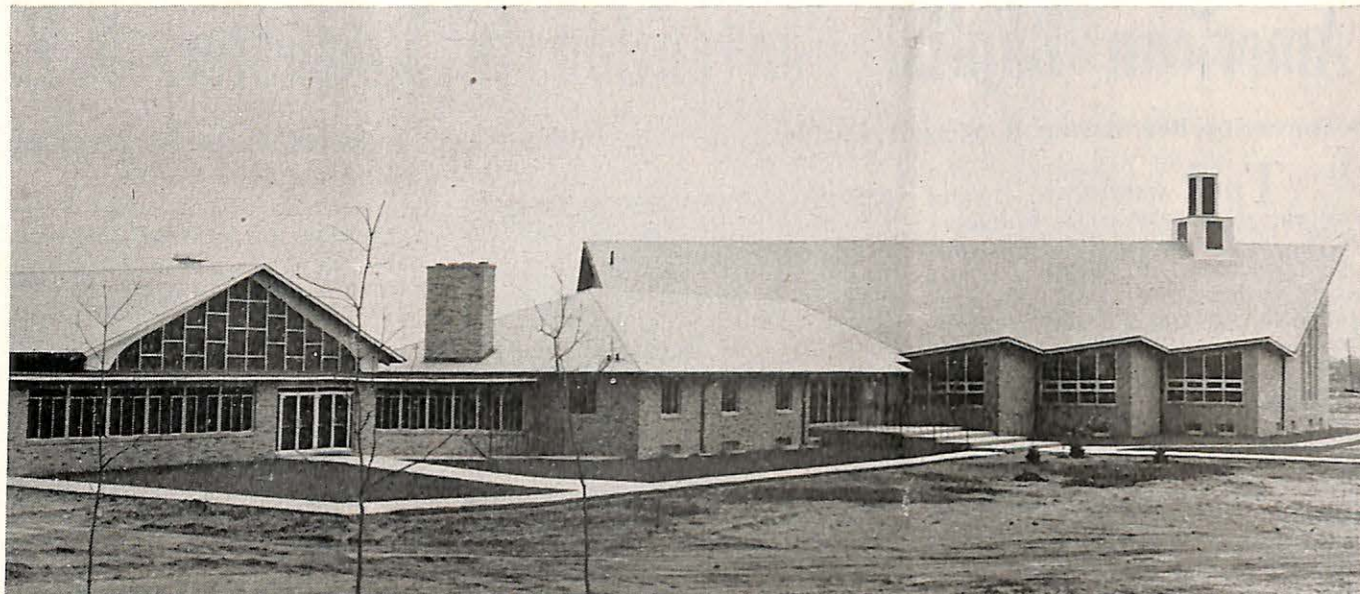
I. "Our primary function is to win souls for Jesus Christ through a. personal witnessing; b. adoption and active prosecution by each church of the Baptist Jubilee Advance second year program emphasis; the renewal of the local church . . . c. extension of the Kingdom through our total denominational missions program by each church"

II. Every confessed believer shall live and act under the Lordship of Jesus Christ through: daily prayer; study of Scriptures; . . . stewardship of life and money . . . observing the Lord's Day as holy . . . support of Children's Homes . . . Homes for the Aging . . . Hospitals . . . Baptist Schools and Colleges . . . ; responsible Christian citizenship in local, state, national and international affairs.

Rev. Benjamin E. Mays said in his message to the convention: "If the world is ever destroyed by nuclear war, the leading men of our time will precipitate the war and be responsible for the destruction of our civilization The people who stand in need of redemption and a change of heart are the people at the top, who can do pretty much as they please and get away with it Most of all rulers of states and men of power need to be redeemed, far more so than petty thieves, gamblers, alcoholics and prostitutes To redeem these people," he said, "is a task that calls for cooperative efforts by religions."

At an impressive service, many new missionaries were commissioned and sent forth. The retired missionaries were recognized and those home on

(Continued on page 24)



REDEEMER BAPTIST CHURCH, WARREN, MICHIGAN

The \$338,000 edifice of the Redeemer Baptist Church, Warren, Mich., which was recently dedicated to the glory of God with Rev. Adolph Braun, pastor, leading the congregation in these festivities.

Dedication of Redeemer Baptist Church

Report of Dedication Festivities at the Redeemer Baptist Church, Warren, Michigan, by Rev. Adolph Braun, Pastor

DEDICATION services for the beautiful new building of the Redeemer Baptist Church of Warren, Michigan, were held during the week of June 5 to 12. The formal dedication service on the opening Sunday afternoon was attended by 464 members and friends. Mayor Arthur Miller presented the key to the City of Warren to the Rev. A. Braun, pastor, and Amos Roe, the contractor, gave the

church keys to Mr. Basel Heemer, chairman of the Trustee Board.

Verbal and written greetings were received from other churches and friends, including a telegram from Governor Williams of the state of Michigan. We acknowledged our deep appreciation for the spiritual and financial assistance given by the Burns Avenue Baptist Church (presently Grosse Pointe Baptist Church) which

helped bring the Redeemer Baptist Church into existence by building the first chapel. The Grosse Pointe Baptist Church choir rendered several musical numbers and Dr. A. Dale Ihrle brought the dedication message. Pastor Adolph Braun led the congregation in the act of dedication.

During the week we had inspiring messages on the following topics: The Church Preaching the Word of God, The Church Teaching the Word of God, The Church Dedicated, The Church in Conference and Missionary Fellowship, The Church in Prayer, The Church in the Community, The Church in Family Fellowship, The Church Worshipping, and The Church and Its Youth. These messages were delivered by Rev. G. K. Zimmerman, Sunday School Secretary; Dr. D. Ihrle, pastor of our mother church; Rev. A. McAsh, a local pastor; Dr. R. Schilke, General Missionary Secretary; Dr. F. H. Woyke, Executive Secretary of our N. A. B. Conference; and Rev. K. Farnsworth, a former pastor, who also gave a short summary of the beginning days in a small store and funeral parlor.

The first organization took place in 1934 when the Christian Fellowship Mission was formed in Center Line with 19 members. In 1937 four lots were purchased and tent meetings were conducted. The group became a mission of the Burns Avenue Baptist Church in 1942 and the Center Line Baptist Chapel was erected by the mother church. The work grew and in 1949 a basement addition seating

(Continued on page 13)



SANCTUARY OF THE REDEEMER BAPTIST CHURCH

The beautiful and worshipful sanctuary of the Redeemer Baptist Church, Warren, Michigan with a seating capacity of 400.

Gospel Jubilaires Quartet Trip

The first summer's adventures for the Seminary Quartet reported by William Keple

THE FIRST week of our tour was very rushed. We had fairly long distances between concerts, since we were trying to get to the East Coast as soon as possible before the hot weather and vacation would prove to be too devastating to the attendance of our concerts.

On May 24, the day following our first concert in Burlington, Iowa, we had an opportunity to visit the city of Nauvoo, Illinois, before going on to Peoria, Ill., which was a comparatively short distance from Burlington. Nauvoo, Ill., is a small city which has historical importance for it was here around the mid-1800's that Joseph Smith and his followers settled to establish the Mormon Church, only to be driven out a short time later to migrate to Utah.

HISTORICAL SIGHTS

On Wednesday, May 25, as we arrived in Indianapolis, Indiana, we were sorry to receive our welcome from Rev. Lawrence George who at that time was confined to bed with a case of strep throat. Nevertheless, we were able to enjoy a brief time of fellowship with him and his family. Since this was only a few days prior to the Indianapolis "500" Auto Race, we found the city bustling with activity.

Since we had an open date on Memorial Day, we as a quartet decided to use that day to tour Washington, D. C., which was only 30 miles from the West Baltimore Baptist Church, Baltimore, Md., where we had presented a concert the previous evening. In Washington, D. C., we were privileged to behold many interesting sights. We took a guided tour of the Capitol Building and while we were doing this who should walk by and wave to us but Vice-President Richard M. Nixon—the next president of the United States! We also visited the Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial, the National Art Gallery, the Smithsonian Institute, Museum of Natural History, the Zoological Gardens and the Museum of Aviation.

Several days later, while in Philadelphia, Pa., on the day following our concert in the Pilgrim Baptist Church, Rev. Roger Schmidt took us as quartet on a guided tour of Philadelphia which we greatly appreciated. Among the interesting historical sights we saw were the Old Christ Church (the church of Benjamin Franklin and George Washington), the Betsy Ross home, the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall.

From June 5 to 12 we were in the New York area and thus were again privileged to take in many of the interesting sights. We visited the Em-

pire State Building, the United Nations Building, and many items of interest during the three-hour guided

Christian to be a faithful witness in whatever place God has called him or her to serve.



GOSPEL JUBILAIRE QUARTET

Left to right: Walter Kerber, LeRoy Kiemele, William Keple and Art Patzia.

boat tour around Manhattan Island.

At present we are in the New England area and today while in Stratford, Conn., we were able to visit the grave site of Fanny J. Crosby, the beloved author of over 3,000 songs and poems. Many of Fanny Crosby's songs appear in our "North American Hymnal."

For us as quartet members, this was our first extensive visit to the East Coast, and we are thankful for the opportunity to become better acquainted with the churches and the pastors. Thus far on the tour, with the exception of only several pastors, all the pastors were strangers to us, but through Christ we are strangers no longer, and we have enjoyed wonderful fellowship with them and their churches.

MARVELOUS FELLOWSHIP

We as quartet have many reasons to be thankful to the Lord for the bountiful blessings which he has bestowed upon us. So it is with personal joy and gratitude that we sing the song, "To God Be the Glory, Great Things He Hath Done." We as quartet have been pleasantly surprised with the warm reception and gracious hospitality which all of our churches thus far have shown us. It is with joy that we note how our churches are showing increased interest in the program and outreach of our Seminary.

We rejoice with many of the churches visited thus far who are presently engaged in building or relocating programs so that their outreach for Christ might be increased. As we have observed this outreach of our churches, we have once again been reminded of the personal responsibility of every

REDEEMER CHURCH

(Continued from page 12)

200 was dedicated.

A sanctuary of 300 capacity was begun for "The First Baptist Church of Center Line" in July of 1954 and a little over a year later it was dedicated. Burns Avenue Baptist Church gave the church its independence at the same time. Lots were purchased for more expansion but conditions were not favorable for building. After much prayer, the church voted to relocate in a rapidly growing area in Warren in the summer of 1957. Building began in the fall of 1958 and occupancy took place in the fall of 1959.

\$338,000 BUILDING

The present property is six acres and the seating capacity is 820. The building is valued at \$338,000 with furnishings. The membership is 358, an increase of 70 since April of 1959. The budget for last year was \$34,038 or \$654.58 weekly. The estimated budget for this year is \$66,023 or \$1,269.68 weekly, which is being met at this time. This is an increase of 48.44 per cent.

The Sunday morning church and Sunday School attendance average has risen one hundred above last year's average. The evening service attendance has increased 45, but mid-week prayer meeting attendance remains in the 90's. We covet your prayers for us in the great field of opportunity. As one pastor said, "The eyes of all Warren are upon us." We pray that we will be a living testimony to all. With pastor and people working together with God, may we see many led to Christ as Savior and Lord.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

(Continued from page 15)

guest speaker. Sharing the service were Dr. Reuben P. Jeschke of Sioux Falls, S. Dak., and Dr. Arthur A. Schade of Spearfish, S. Dak. A fellowship dinner in the church parlors was attended by about 120 guests. This was followed by an hour of sharing experiences in the Christian ministry by 25 persons who were formerly associated with the Seminary. The day was a highlight for the Andrews Street Church and its pastor, Rev. Arthur R. Weisser.

THREE SPECIAL ISSUES of the "Baptist Herald" in Sept.

Sept. 1—Baptist World Congress in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
Sept. 15—Sunday School Number.
Sept. 29—Dedication of the New Headquarters Building, Forest Park.

• The Vacation Bible School of Applington, Iowa, in which all of the churches of the community participated, was held from May 31 to June 10 with the final program being presented in the High School Auditorium on Sunday evening, June 12. There was an average daily attendance of 305 persons. The offerings received for the expenses of the school totaled \$285. Mrs. Harm Sherman was superintendent. Other members of the Baptist Church who served as teachers and helpers were: Mrs. Bernie Lindaman, Mrs. Clarence Ostercamp, Mrs. Leroy Gieseke, Mrs. Earl Stukenburg, Mrs. Ed Frey, Mrs. Kenneth Dreyer, Mrs. Don Lindaman, Mrs. Marlin Lindaman, Mrs. Henry Groeneveld, Mrs. Herman Kramer, Mrs. Lawrence Dreyer and Rev. and Mrs. Donald Patet. Mrs. Swanetta Oldenburger was the reporter.

• The Clinton Hill Baptist Church of Union, New Jersey (formerly of Newark, N. J.) has paid off its indebtedness to the township of Union, N. J., for the two acres of property purchased on Morris Ave. and Larchmont Road. The Relocation Committee of the church has met with three architects and will select one of the architectural plans in the near future. Plans now call for the building of an Educational Unit of colonial style for about \$100,000. The church sanctuary will follow in 1963. At present, the church meets every Sunday morning at the Battle Hill Public School on Killian Place and Remos Ave., Union, N. J., and in the evenings (7:00 P. M.) in the American Legion Hall at the rear of the Union Fire Headquarters on Bond Drive. A newly elected Pulpit Supply Committee is now visiting several states in an effort to secure a candidate for the pastorate to succeed Dr. Sidney Larson, now minister of the American Baptist Convention church of Port Chester, N. Y.

"Found Faithful" — CBYF Theme

By Mr. Arthur Patzia of Winnipeg, Manitoba,
CBYF Fellowship President

YOUNG PEOPLE are called upon to make a decision between God and the world. When you choose God and serve him to the best of your ability, you are then being faithful to him. Faithfulness demands a consecrated life. It means you will give up an egoistic, pleasure-seeking life and give your all to Christ.

It is imperative that Christians be "Found Faithful." There are various organizations and societies that are competing for your allegiance and faithfulness. Too many young people are being unfaithful to God. They claim to be God's children but at the same time they try to serve mammon. If someone can be faithful to a club, baseball team, resort area, why then is there so much unfaithfulness towards the work of the Lord? God says in his Word, "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee the crown of life." Here is a wonderful challenge and promise which each young person must claim.

The CBYF Executive Committee has selected "Found Faithful" as the theme for 1960-61. Each CBYF group should emphasize this theme taken from I Peter 4:10. The committee suggests a four-fold emphasis. Through this four-fold emphasis, it is hoped that each youth group will not only realize but actualize these various phases of Christian stewardship.

TIME

"Redeeming the time because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:16). One of the hardest things to do is to budget or to make the best use of one's time. It is so easy to waste the precious moments God has given us. Time is foolishly and idly permitted to flit by. Young people can compensate this by becoming better stewards of their time. Even a CBYF group may waste precious meetings with superfluous things by not concerning itself with Christian essentials. Programs should be such that they provide the best opportunities for leadership and Christian growth. Be concerned how you budget your time at school and work. Some day you will have to account for each moment.

TALENT

Here is an area that applies to every individual. Each of us has talents which can be used in various phases of our Christian life. Talents differ. No two people are alike, and so it is

no disgrace if you can't play or sing as well as your friend. God wants you to use the talent(s) he has given you for a definite service in his Kingdom. So many young people have become careless and slothful and are not using their talents to God's glory. The church and your CBYF need you. There is much work to be done in God's vineyard. Why not commit your talents unto the Lord's work and serve him wherever he calls you? "Can't" is no word in God's vocabulary, since through him all things are possible.

TREASURE

God has entrusted you with money. You have health and strength from God, and because of his grace you are able to live. There are many opportunities for spending and investing money. Sometimes we waste money very carelessly on objects and pleasures that have no eternal value. The Lord's work demands our money. It's a shame that so few young people tithe and are really concerned about supporting the church in its financial obligations. Even young people are called upon to assist with their treasure. The church you attend, the mission field, Church Extension projects and your CBYF need your support. Give back to God what he has entrusted to you and be a faithful steward with your treasure.

ENLISTMENT

Growth is a vital concern of all of us. The main concern of every individual should be spiritual growth and this, in turn, will manifest itself in your CBYF group. Your CBYF will grow numerically and your friends will want to come to your meetings because Christ is there and genuine Christian fellowship is manifested. The unsaved and unchurched young people near you must be reached for the Lord. Why not begin an effective enlistment program? Invite your friends to your meetings and introduce them to Christ.

This is your four-fold program for the new year. Each one presents a definite challenge and should be launched at the various quarters of the year. Each emphasis must be carefully planned and introduced to the group. The success of this theme depends on you. God wants *you only!* He doesn't want your time, talents or money unless he has *you—your life*. When you surrender to him and place your life in his hand, you will spontaneously become a "good steward of the manifold grace of God."

CHRISTIAN LEADERS CONFERENCE
to be held at the
North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, S. Dak.,
August 8-12, 1960.
"An Inspirational Program for All Christian Leaders."

What's Happening

• Rev. and Mrs. William Effa of Drumheller, Alberta, have announced the birth of a son on June 9 who has been named Robert Martin. Mr. Effa is the pastor of the Zion Baptist Church of Drumheller. This is the second child in their family.

• The Calvary Baptist Church of Billings, Montana, has extended a call to Rev. Richard A. Grenz of Underwood, N. Dak., pastor of the First Baptist Church since 1955. The Underwood church regretfully accepted the resignation of Mr. Grenz. He will begin his ministry in the Billings, Montana, church on August 1st, succeeding Rev. Wesley Gerber, now of Durham, Kansas.

• On Sunday morning, June 5, Rev. Raymond P. Yahn, pastor of the Temple Baptist Church, Pittsburgh, Pa., baptized five persons on confession of their faith in Christ and received these and two others at the communion service that followed. The Sunday bulletin for June 12 honored the 1960 school graduates of the church. Rev. Raymond P. Yahn preached on the topic, "Upon The Rock," at that Sunday morning service.

• About 150 people participated in the Union Singspiration Service held on Sunday evening, June 5, at the First Baptist Church of Trenton, Ill. The Methodist Church and United Church of Christ also cooperated. Rev. J. R. Kruegel, host pastor, brought words of welcome and read the Scripture passage. One of the speakers was Mr. Allan Ranz of the Baptist Church who told the story of a Gospel song. The opinion was expressed by many of the people that they would like to hold similar services in the future.

• The 70th anniversary program of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Inglewood Knolls Baptist Church, Inglewood, Calif., was held on Sunday evening, June 5. Rev. H. John Vanderbeck of Anaheim, Calif., brought the anniversary address. Mrs. S. Maschner, president, presided and Mrs. W. Evanson and Mrs. W. Wetzler brought their respective reports as the society's secretary and treasurer. The choir, under the direction of Rev. Edmund Mittelstedt, pastor of the church, sang several anthems.

• Rev. Clarence H. Walth's closing service at the Willow Rancho Baptist Church, Sacramento, Calif., was on Sunday, May 29. His sermon topic was "Final Words" based on II Corinthians 13:11. At the evening service Mr. Walth baptized two converts. On Easter Sunday evening he had also baptized nine converts who had completed the Pastor's Instruction Class. Seven

of these were adults. On Sunday, July 31, Rev. Eric Kuhn of Alpena, Mich., will begin his ministry as the new pastor of the Willow Rancho Baptist Church. Mrs. Robert Patton is the reporter for the church.

• The Baptist Church of Carbon, Alberta, has announced that Mr. F. Merke of Vernon, B. C., a student in the theological department of the Christian Training Institute of Edmonton, will be supplying the pulpit during July and August. The church has made it possible for its pastor, Rev. Willy R. Muller, to study at Sioux Falls College, Sioux Falls, S. Dak., during the 2nd half of the summer sessions from July 11 to August 13. The church has also agreed to this arrangement for five successive years, thus enabling Mr. Muller to complete work toward a graduate degree.

• On Sunday afternoon May 29, the First Baptist Church of Plevna, Montana held a baptismal service, when an elderly couple, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Denneng, were baptized and became members of the church. On May 30, the church's Vacation Bible School began with ten teachers and an average of 50 pupils enrolled. The course taught this year was "Teachings of Jesus." The offering for the week, amounting to \$53, was designated for Japanese missions. "The week of study, which was enjoyed by every student, was concluded with a picnic," as reported by Ruth Sieler.

• On June 11 Clara and Erna Beth Seecamp, children of Dr. and Mrs. C. H. Seecamp of La Crosse, Wis., received the Master of Arts degrees from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn. Beginning with the school year of 1960, Clara Seecamp will be teaching in the school of music at the University of Minnesota and Erna Beth will be teaching mathematics at the State Teachers' College in River Falls, Minn. Rev. and Mrs. Edward Kary of Cleveland, Ohio, recently returned from a trip to Waco, Texas where they attended the graduation exercises for their son, Lowell, at Baylor University.

• A Vacation Church School was held at the Napoleon Baptist Church, Napoleon, N. Dak., from May 31 to June 3. There were 26 students enrolled who were guided by 10 teachers and assistants. Director was Miss Dorothy Pritzkau. The theme studied during the week was "The Church." The week's activities were climaxed by a picnic on Friday afternoon and a program in the evening. After the program, the congregation was invited to see the display of the work the children had done during the week. The offerings received were designated for the Japanese mission field. Rev. Henry Lang is pastor of the church.

• On Sunday evening, June 19, Rev. Adam Huber, pastor of the Brook Park Baptist Church, Minneapolis, Minn., baptized 5 converts on confession of their faith in Christ. They are Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Shook, Mr. Glenn Kassick, Lee and Lynda Kassick and Myra and Duane Flaming. The Vacation Bible School was held for one week in June with 57 pupils enrolled. Rev. Adam Huber served as the school's director. The Brook Park Church is holding its Sunday services in the Willow Lane School, 70th and Perry Ave., North, with about 80 persons in attendance at the morning worship services.

• Rev. John Crouthamel of Red Bank, New Jersey, has announced his resignation as pastor of the First Baptist Church and his acceptance of the call extended to him from the Temple Baptist Church of Los Angeles, Calif., one of the largest and most influential American Baptist churches in California. The Temple Church is located in a skyscraper building fronting Pershing Square in downtown Los Angeles. He succeeds Dr. J. Lester Harnish who now serves the First Church of Portland, Oregon. Both Mr. Crouthamel and Dr. Harnish formerly served North American Baptist churches, namely, the Fleischmann Memorial Church, Philadelphia, Pa., and the Bethel Church of Detroit, Mich., respectively.

• On Sunday evening, June 5, during the sessions of the American Baptist Convention in Rochester, N. Y., the Andrews Street Baptist Church held a special service for all former students in the North American Baptist Seminary in Rochester. Dr. Frank H. Woyke, executive secretary, was the

(Continued on page 14)

ORDERS FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL LITERATURE

All orders for Sunday School literature should be sent at once to this new address:

Roger Williams Press, 7308 Madison Street,
Forest Park, Illinois

Book and subscription orders will be processed at the Cleveland, Ohio, address until further notice.



—Photo by Harold M. Lambert

The Long Search

By Sallie Lee Bell

A Prize-winning Christian Novel Laid in Texas.

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SYNOPSIS

James Thornton was an embittered young man. His father had been sent to prison by the false testimony and accusation of a business partner, Thomas Martin, and had died there. James went to New Orleans, where he hoped to have his revenge on Thomas Martin. On the way he met Faith, and their acquaintance blossomed into a lovely friendship. But she became ill and was taken to a tuberculosis hospital. There a visitor, Linda Martinez, led Faith to a saving knowledge of Christ and also directed James Thornton to his need of the Savior. But Faith's condition grew worse and finally she followed the heavenly summons. James Thornton railed against God to Linda Martinez. "I've got a job to do," he said, "and God has no place in it." But he was eager to see Linda again. He went to a little church, where he thought Linda sang in the choir, and listened to the pastor's message about God's forgiveness for sin. "In all justice, God would not allow one to suffer the consequences of that sin."

CHAPTER TWENTY

THE preacher told the story of David, of how he had his faithful soldier, Uriah, murdered because David had wronged the man's wife and did not want to have his sin discovered. God forgave him when he repented with heartfelt sorrow, but God warned him that because he had had Uriah killed, the sword should not depart from his house. He pointed out that such might seem unjust, but that man cannot question God's dealings and God's laws are always just and perfect. Retribution came to David, with sorrow upon sorrow, but he was still God's man and God's promise to him was fulfilled when Jesus came to earth as a human being in the Davidic line, and who is now the only legal Heir to the throne of David which God had promised David centuries before Christ was born.

The sermon brought home to James more forcibly than ever his own predicament. It seemed that that sermon was directed toward him. He had murder in his heart and if he committed

that murder, he would bear the fruit of that sin all the rest of his life, no matter what he might succeed in doing to hide it from man's law. God would surely know and even if he should ever accept Christ as his Saviour he would reap what he had sowed. He had never before considered the spiritual aspect of what he planned to do. He had been concerned only about his safety when he might be fleeing from the law. But now there stretched before him the thought of eternity. If his soul lived after this life and that murder was not forgiven, where would that soul be?

He had never believed in hell as an actual place but he shuddered nevertheless, at the thought, at the uncertainty of what eternity was. How sure Linda seemed! She knew what eternity held for her and, since that song she had sung in the morning service, he was inclined to think that she had grounds for her faith. Such faith could not be founded on hallucinations or mere hope. Faith had met death with that same sure knowledge. She knew where her soul was going and she had gone out into eternity with calm assurance.

On his way home James was still pondering over thoughts which left him disturbed and depressed. He was glad that he would see Linda the next evening. He looked to her to give peace and comfort to his disturbed mind, yet he knew that she could not impart peace. That would have to come from within, and for that to come something must go, hate and revenge. Could he let it go? No, not until he found that last man on his list and knew whether or not he had failed.

The moment Linda opened the door and greeted him with her engaging smile, James felt the warmth of her friendship and the glow of her beauty

surround him. It entered his being in a strange new way and he felt a joy in her nearness such as he had never felt before. He had never felt this way even when he was with Faith.

This girl was different. She created the impression of strength and dependability, of staunchness and firmness and truth and life on a higher plane than he had ever known. Yet she was quiet and gentle and tender in her approach to a person. Faith had created nothing. He had loved her because she was beautiful and little and frail and helpless. With her he had felt strong and masterful, her guardian and protector. He felt that he would be happy just having her with him when he could bask in her love and in the joy of her nearness and even in her weakness.

With Linda it was different. She might look to the man she married for love and tenderness and happiness, but she would never be absolutely helpless or dependent upon anyone. There was a strength within her which came from some hidden source to which she could turn in any crisis. He began to realize that what she had tried to make him understand was true, that she did not depend upon her own strength but that she had learned to look to the only One who could impart strength of character and lift a person to the heights which no one could reach unless he sought that same Source.

"It's been ages," he remarked as she led the way to the living room, and they sat down together.

"Whose fault has it been?" she asked with raised eyebrows and a faint smile.

"I was afraid I would annoy you. I felt that you had just let me come before because I had begged. I was afraid that you really didn't want to be bothered with me any more. I'm a hopeless case."

"You're wrong," she replied seriously. "In the first place I wasn't bothered by you. I was interested in you because I thought that you were lonely and sad and I wanted to help you. And as for you being a hopeless case, there are no hopeless cases with God. I was hoping that you would come again, but I couldn't ask you to come. That was up to you."

"That's not the way I've heard it," he said. "Most girls I've known keep the wire hot chasing some fellow they've met."

"I haven't learned the rules of the chase yet," she said as her smile appeared again. "I'm too busy to want to learn."

"I'm sure you never will," he told her. His eyes became serious and as they looked at her lovely face with a yearning look of which he was not aware, it brought the color to her face and a guilty pounding to her heart. "I like you just as you are."

"Thank you, sir." She bowed her head with an exaggerated motion of deference. "Tell me how you've been getting along," she said, hastening to change the subject.

"As usual. Nothing more exciting than the grind of work. It's strange, though, as the days pass so uneventfully and seemingly so slowly, it will soon be a year since Faith died. I can't believe it."

"Time has a way of slipping by. That is why I feel that it is important to put every hour to account and not to waste time idly when there is much to be done before the Lord comes or before he calls us home."

"Don't you ever have a thought that doesn't include God?" he asked. He couldn't understand this attitude. It puzzled him. "It must be a terrible strain to have to keep thinking of God all the time."

She laughed, a clear rippling laugh that revealed her even, white teeth.

"It isn't a strain. I don't force myself to think of God. He's just a part of my life and thoughts of Him come as naturally as thoughts of Mother and Dad. When you love someone you are bound to think of him. And you want to do the things that will please him. I love my parents, so I want to do the things that please them, if I am an obedient child. Just the same way, since I belong to the Lord and love Him, I want to do the things that please Him. Trying to win souls is one way I know of that I can please Him. I feel that I do little for Him when He has done much for me. Feeling as I do, how can I do otherwise than have Him in my thoughts constantly? It's a joy, not a strain."

He was silent. She leaned nearer and said softly, "Time has a way of softening the keenness of grief. I do hope that it has done that for you."

"It has," he admitted, "but you have helped to make the grief more bearable."

"I'm afraid I've had little opportunity to do that."

"But you have. Just thinking of you has helped, even though I couldn't see you. You did something for me the very first time I ever saw you, even though I didn't realize it then. I'm sure you don't know when that was."

"No, I don't, unless it was when I was talking to Faith that day we met."

"No. It was one day when I saw you talking to Jane and reading to her from the Bible. It seemed to me then that you were different from anyone I'd ever seen. There was something in your face and in your eyes that intrigued me because I didn't know what it was. There was a light in your eyes and your face seemed to radiate an inner glow that made it so beautiful I couldn't keep from staring at you. I think you are very, very beautiful," he said suddenly, solemnly, as his eyes met hers.

She lowered hers a moment, unwilling to meet his earnest gaze. This was no idle compliment. She had received many of those and she paid little attention to them, but this was something different. She was afraid that he would discover some evidence of the joy that swept through her at his words. She could not let that happen.

"Thank you," she said soberly. "I appreciate that. I thank God for whatever beauty He may have given me, but what makes me more thankful and happy is when someone can see the beauty of Christ within me."

"I saw it that day." He spoke slowly, as if he had just been enlightened. "I didn't know what it was then, but I think I know now. The man who wins your love will have a treasure far beyond what any man could deserve."

She smiled. "He may realize that he has been cheated and that this treasure is not all he thought it was. I'm not perfect by any means."

"I think he would be willing to take the risk. Tell me," he asked suddenly, "is there someone?"

She gave him a startled glance and he hastened to apologize.

"I'm sorry. I shouldn't have asked that. It's none of my business. Please forgive me."

He was afraid that he had offended her and he did not want that to happen. The thought that she might be in love with someone gave him a moment of uneasiness. If she should marry, he would be denied the joy of her friendship. At least he could not have these moments alone with her and her friendship would mean little to him then. Something wonderful would be taken out of his life and where would he be then? He had no intimate friends, and aside from her there was no one else.

"You look as if you had suddenly lost your last friend," she said playfully. "I forgive you for asking such a personal question, so let's forget it."

"I was thinking how dreadful it would be if you should get married

and I couldn't come to see you. I'd surely be miserable. I'd be alone."

"Don't worry about that until it happens," she advised.

She went to the piano and began to play softly so that he could not see her face. If he only knew what a sudden turmoil his question had stirred within her!

He came over presently and stood beside her and watched her while she played. She was able to meet his eyes with a gaze that was clear and friendly again, for she had been able to conquer her emotions and she was sure that no telltale light lingered in her eyes.

"How about joining me in a few numbers?" she suggested.

"I'll try, but you'll have to teach me. I don't know any of the songs you play."

She helped him and they sang several together, then she played a few others at his request. He had not intended to tell her that he had been to her church but he told her when she had finished.

"I was there at both services," he said.

"I'm glad you came!" she exclaimed.

"How did you find the church?"

"You said it was near here so I selected one and got it right the first time."

"I hope you enjoyed the sermon. The one in the morning was especially helpful to Christians. The one at night was a real evangelistic message. Which one did you like more?"

"I didn't hear much of the one in the morning," he confessed. "I just sat there hoping that I'd hear you sing again. I did enjoy that solo part in the anthem that you sang. It was beautiful and your voice was lovely."

"That's one of my favorite anthems," she told him. "Did you hear the night sermon or were your thoughts wandering again?"

"I heard it, but I didn't care for it. It upset me too much. I was sorry that I had gone. Why do preachers preach such sermons? It seems to me that they ought to say things that bring peace to a person's heart instead of getting someone all stirred up."

"The Word of God always does that when it strikes home to a heart that is not surrendered to Him," she said slowly. "It brings peace only when there is nothing between a soul and the Lord. Otherwise it brings conviction or remorse of conscience or the knowledge that all is not right within. That is the Holy Spirit seeking that heart and pleading for entrance of the Word that will bring light and understanding and salvation."

A sudden shadow settled on his face for he felt the truth of her words. The sermon had done just that for him, but he had stubbornly refused to listen to the pleading of the Spirit.

"What have you decided about joining the choir?" she asked as he remained silent.

(Continued on page 24)

Sunday School Lessons

A TEACHING GUIDE

Date: July 31, 1960

Theme: LUXURY AND IDOLATRY
RUIN A NATION

Scripture: Hosea 10:1-8, 12

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT: A nation which measures its strength by its natural resources below will become weak and helpless unless it looks for supernatural resources above.

INTRODUCTION: When our missionaries return from the foreign field they often display various curios, the work of the natives among whom they work. The art and craftsmanship reveal the culture of the people. Among these trophies are usually several idols which are objects of worship. It is often difficult and sometimes amusing to imagine that people would actually worship such unattractive and hideous objects. With a sense of relief and perhaps not without some feeling of self-righteousness, the civilized and Christian people of America rest in the assurance that they have no such idols.

But there are idolaters in our country and, sad to say, even in our churches. They do not pay homage to some man-made object carved from wood or stone. Neither are they so tangible or as visible as physical objects. Yet they are idols in the sense that they are used as substitutes for God. The fact that they are not always visible makes the temptation to idolatry all the more subtle and dangerous.

There are many similarities in Israel's luxury and idolatry which are found in our present-day civilization, and it ought to lead us to an honest and fearless look at ourselves.

I. ECONOMIC PROSPERITY AND RELIGIOUS DEPRESSION. Hosea 10:1-4.

In the Old Testament, Israel was thought of as the spiritual vine. Through Abraham they were to be a blessing to the world. But they used the blessing for material and selfish purposes and added a worse sin, giving credit to idols for their material prosperity. They trusted in their man-made altars and in their riches and in the process lost their fear of the Lord.

Wealth and poverty are not in themselves the cause of wickedness, but those who have wealth find more opportunity to indulge in wickedness. Prosperity can be either a blessing or a curse, depending on whether God's material blessings are used or misused.

In claiming God's blessings while serving other gods, Israel became both an empty vine and a despoiler of the vine.

**PASTOR'S CONFERENCE
at the NAB SEMINARY
Sioux Falls, South Dakota
August 3-7, 1960.
"Every NAB Minister Should Be
There!"**

II. SIN, IDOLATRY AND JUDGMENT. Hosea 10:5-8.

While Hosea is known for his emphasis on the love of God, he could not escape his obligation and responsibility to announce the doom of this idolatrous nation. God cannot ignore sin. It must be dealt with. The idols of Israel cannot respond to sin or virtue. They are silent in all moral or immoral issues. But God is not long silent, neither is he inactive.

For the people of Israel, the time will soon come when they would prefer to die rather than experience the awful consequences of their sins. Hosea, the sensitive prophet of love, must also proclaim the terrible day of judgment.

III. THE CALL TO REPENTANCE. Hosea 10:12.

The more a parent loves a child, the harder it is for the parent to punish the child. Hate strikes out indiscriminately and finds pleasure in bringing pain to others. Love is slow to anger and experiences pain in punishing where necessary.

God always gives a last call to repentance, hoping the judgment and punishment will not be necessary. Hosea felt this intense love when he proclaimed these beautiful worlds in a last desperate plea—an offer of extended mercy and forgiveness if the nation of Israel would only repent.

A TEACHING GUIDE

Date: August 7, 1960

Theme: GOD'S LOVE FOR HIS CHILDREN

Scripture: Hosea 11:1-9

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT: The sin of the world does not minimize the love of God; it merely reveals it to a greater degree.

INTRODUCTION: In today's lesson Hosea proclaims a love of God that closely parallels the love found in the New Testament as revealed by Jesus Christ. It is amazing to find a prophet with such a deep spiritual understand-

S. S. LESSON EDITOR

The editor of this page, "Sunday School Lessons," is Rev. Bruno Schreiber, who lives at the address: 1026 S. Harvey, Oak Park, Illinois.

ing when all around him the spiritual life of the Israelites was at such a low ebb. Although he is erroneously classified as a minor prophet, he has the stature of a spiritual giant. He was another example of "a man who walked with God" when a whole nation was walking away from God.

Nothing reveals and magnifies God's love more than to see it in contrast to Israel's loveless and merciless character. God's love and mercy make their wickedness all the more flagrant. It was the prophet's object to show Israel the God of love in such a way that the people would become conscious of their sin and evil and return to the care of a loving Father. In the end, the love of God hardened their hearts rather than softened them.

In our lesson it becomes evident that God is willing to go to the uttermost to save the nation of Israel while Israel seems to go to the uttermost to keep from being saved.

I. THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP. Hosea 11:1-4.

In no other religion was there such a close bond between God and people. None could claim to be a God of love but Jehovah. Israel was thought of as a "son" and the people were considered to be children of God. The closest human relationship, the family, was symbolic of the relationship the Jews enjoyed with God. But the close bond of parent and child was marred because the loving son turned out to be a delinquent. The relationship now is that of a loving Father to a disobedient child. We see God's love at its best and Israel's ungratefulness at its worst.

II. THE NECESSITY OF DISCIPLINE AND PUNISHMENT. Hosea 11:5-7.

In verses 1-4 we see God's love and tenderness contrasted with Israel's hard-heartedness and disobedience. No parent enjoys punishing his children, even though it may be necessary. God would most certainly rather bless than punish.

It is a self-evident law that no man can sin and get away with it. Punishment and suffering are natural consequences. It is as impossible to sin and find joy as it is to touch a hot stove and feel comfortable.

The problem of sin will not be resolved by ignoring it. Christianity not only deals with the bright and happy aspects of God's love but also with the disciplines and tragedies of life. Only in this way will we find a strong and adequate faith.

III. THE PAIN AND SUFFERING OF LOVE. Hosea 11:8-9.

In spite of Israel's great wickedness, it is impossible for God to punish the nation according to its just deserts. The Lord is still a God of compassion and love rather than a God of vengeance and punishment. When the suffering and exile are over, God will still be there, loving, forgiving and hoping that his erring children will come home.

BAPTIST HERALD

Our Denomination in ACTION

Central District

Baptismal and Dedication Services at Mott, N. Dak.

The First Baptist Church of Mott, N. Dak., held a baptismal service at the Grace Baptist Church of Hettinger on Sunday, April 10. We rejoice for the five young girls who have followed the Lord in this step of obedience. Rev. Fred J. Knalson, our pastor, was in charge of this impressive service.

It was our privilege on Sunday, May 15, to dedicate our recently purchased church building. Rev. Richard Schilke, general missionary secretary, was the guest speaker for the day, and several neighboring churches attended and representatives extended congratulations.

Mrs. Charles A. Gilbert, Reporter

Mite Boxes Dedicated, Calvary Church, Corn, Oklahoma

On Sunday, May 8, the Woman's Missionary Union of the Calvary Baptist Church, Corn, Oklahoma, had charge of the evening service. With Mrs. Bill Unger directing, the women presented a very inspiring Mother's Day program. The song service was led by Mrs. Albert Franz. Mrs. Bill Leppke led in devotions after which a ladies' quartet sang. Mrs. George Thiessen from the Menonite Brethren Church gave a very fine talk on "Mothers." Our pastor and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. Jack Block, sang "The Prayer of My Mother."

An impressive dedication service was held for all the mite boxes which were gathered for the Denominational Advance Building Fund. The ladies' quartet sang another selection and a special offering was received for Japan. We are very happy to report that our pastor, Rev. Jack Block, has fully recovered from his illness and is again active in every capacity.

Bobby J. Klaassen, Reporter

Vacation School and Church Picnic, Lorraine, Kansas

The members and friends of the First Baptist Church of Lorraine, Kansas, witnessed their Vacation Bible School in action on Sunday evening, June 5, as the children presented an excellent program in our Fellowship Hall. Our Bible School, which was held May 23 to June 3, was directed by the pastor, Dr. Douglas Gallagher, assisted by Mrs. Harold Wilkens and 30 teachers and helpers. The theme, "Pioneering With Christ," was carried out from the Cradle Roll to the Intermediate Departments. A new nursery class learned about "God's Creation." An enthusiastic group of children and teachers met for the last day around the campfire with 131 in attendance. Several of the children gave their hearts to Christ, for which we praise God.

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held in the church park on Friday,

July 21, 1960



Rev. Fred J. Knalson, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Mott, N. Dak., and five girls whom he recently baptized.

June 10, starting at 4 o'clock with a parade for the children. Other events of the evening included a fish pond for the children, nail hammering and rolling pin contest for the ladies, and baseball for men and boys. The evening closed with a brief vesper service led by the pastor.

Mrs. Arlen Janssen, Reporter

Missionary Rally at Faith Church, Minneapolis, Minn.

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of them who publish glad tidings." We fervently say, "Amen" to that, but we would like to add: "How beautiful are the hands" of our missionary nurses, who through self-sacrifice so faithfully minister to the spiritual and medical needs of our lepers at the New Hope Settlement, Bamenda, Africa.

After a hearty "pot luck supper" on Friday evening, June 10, we of the Faith Baptist Church, Minneapolis, Minn., had the privilege of having Miss Laura Reddig show beautiful colored



Mite Boxes for the Denominational Advance Building Fund filled by the members of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Calvary Church, Corn, Okla.

slides of our missions in the Cameroons. Our hearts were touched by the needs so vividly portrayed, and we thank God that Miss Reddig is again permitted to go back to the work she loves so well.

We were glad to have our own missionary appointees, Dr. and Mrs. Jerome Fluth and daughter Kathy, with us for the evening. They testified of their waiting upon the Lord for future guidance. Another of our very capable teachers, Miss Alma Zimmerman, has been appointed for a part time ministry in the Cameroons. We praise God for our many dedicated young people.

Mrs. John Adam, Reporter

Faith Conference at Zion Church, Milwaukee, Wis.

The first "Faith" Conference of the German-speaking churches of the Central and Northwestern Conference convened on May 29 with the German Zion Baptist Church of Milwaukee, Wis., with Rev. John Goetze as host pastor. Churches represented and participating were: Benton Harbor, Chicago, Detroit, and Forest Park. Attendance was about 550 persons. The theme of the conference was, "Where the Spirit is, There Is Life." The topics of the messages were: The Descent of the Spirit, The Gift of the Spirit, The Fruit of the Spirit, and The Sphere of the Activity of the Spirit, which were presented by the brethren: Reverends E. Schuelke, W. W. Knauf, Stettler of Switzerland, and Dr. M. L. Leuschner.

Music was furnished by the host church choir and brass band, by the choirs of the participating churches, a mass choir and a mass men's chorus. A number of lay people participated as they testified to the power of God's Spirit in their life's experiences. A mission offering was received which amounted to \$235.50. Dr. Leuschner also showed the film of Dr. Dunger's recent visit in the Cameroons of West Africa. The host church did a fine job of ministering to the physical needs of the conference guests. Next year's conference is tentatively planned to be held at the First German Baptist Church of Benton Harbor, Mich.

W. W. Knauf, Reporter

Ordination of Rev. Karl E. Bieber in Louisiana

The Mowata Baptist Church of Branch, Louisiana called together a council for ordination on June 3, 1960. Seventeen delegates representing ten churches met to examine Karl Edgar Bieber as to his qualifications required for ordination. The meeting was opened by Rev. Alex Sootzmann, the host pastor. The council was organized and elected Rev. L. B. Hinz of Waco, Texas, as chairman and Rev. C. Auch of Dallas, Texas, as secretary. The candidate, Karl Bieber, was introduced by Rev. Alex Sootzmann. Karl Bieber gave his testimony and call to the ministry and read his prepared doctrinal statements. The council voted unanimously to recommend to the Mowata Baptist

Church to proceed with the ordination service.

At 8:00 P.M. the Council members, friends of the candidate, relatives and church members gathered for the ordination service. Rev. Alex Sootzmann, host pastor, led in the singing of a hymn. Rev. E. L. Wren read I Thessalonians 2:1-2. Rev. C. Auch led in prayer. Rev. N. L. Robinson led the congregation in a responsive reading. Rev. C. Auch, secretary, read the minutes of the examining council. The charge to the church was given by Rev. W. Weber. The host pastor, Rev. Alex Sootzmann, gave the charge to the candidate. The local choir rendered a special selection entitled, "Follow, I Will Follow Thee." The message was delivered by Dr. Walter Wessel of Sioux Falls, S. Dak. The ordination prayer was offered by Rev. L. B. Hinz. The Rev. Karl Bieber pronounced the benediction.

Clemence Auch, Reporter

Program Highlights at Emmanuel Church, Marion, Kansas

"Mother" was honored in the Emmanuel Church, Marion, Kansas, on Mother's Day. Corsages were given to Mrs. Anna Schmersey, 81, as the oldest mother and to Mrs. Earl Morse with the mother having the most children present . . . four. On Wednesday, May 4th, Rev. Elton Kirstein of Wessington Springs, S. D., in response to a call from this church, spoke to us at our prayer meeting. With him were Mrs. Kirstein, Paul, and Jeannette. Mr. Kirstein has accepted our call and will be with us Sept 1st as our new pastor.

The King's Daughters Society held its annual missionary program on Sunday, May 15. Miss Margaret Kittlitz was the speaker. She showed films of the Bansa hospital and Mission. An offering was received for our project, which is the support of a male nurse,



PENTECOST SUNDAY SPEAKERS, MARION, KANSAS

Left to right: Rev. Frank Friesen, interim pastor of Emmanuel Church, Marion, Kansas; Rev. Wesley Gerber, Durham, Kansas; Rev. Charles Littman, Strassburg Church, Kansas; Rev. J. C. Gunst, Central District Secretary—Photo by Leslie O. Broadstreet.

David Nfar, at the Bansa Hospital. On May 20 the church honored Rev. Frank Friesen at a surprise birthday party.

Vacation Bible School was held from May 22 to June 3, with a program and a picnic the last day. Nearly forty children attended. Our pastor was in the hospital most of the time when Bible School was in session, but he was able to take part at our Pentecost Services. Pentecost Sunday was a time of great blessing and fellowship. Rev. W. Gerber was the afternoon speaker, and Rev. J. C. Gunst, District Secretary, brought the message of the evening. Our neighboring Strassburg and Durham churches had part in the program throughout the day.

Mrs. Albert Hart, Reporter

Eastern District

Ground Breaking Ceremonies, Hillcrest Church, Cleveland, O.

Sunday, June 5, 1960, was a red letter day for the Hillcrest Baptist Church, formerly the White Avenue Baptist Church, of Cleveland, Ohio. The severe electrical storm and heavy rain during the night and early morning hours caused us some anxious moments, but by 10 o'clock the skies had cleared and the sun shone brightly. A very happy congregation faced the pastor as he spoke on the subject, "Lengthen and Strengthen" (Isaiah 54:2).

We then proceeded to the building site as a caravan for the ground breaking ceremony. Following the introduction of the general contractor, the pastor, Rev. Edward Kary, turned the first shovel of earth. He was followed by Hubert Zion, Building Committee chairman; Herman Krause, chairman of the Board of Deacons; Hugo Zion, chairman of the Trustees; Ernest Rubly, oldest member in age as well as membership; Rev. R. Sigmund, superintendent of the Sunday School; Mrs. Flora Dorod, vice-president of the Woman's Missionary Society; Miss Joyce Coble, president of the Commissioned Baptist Youth Fellowship; and 10 year-old Michelle Schobel, representing the children of the Sunday School.

The two-story building of contemporary design, will cost \$102,000 and will contain a nave seating 220 persons, chancel, dining hall, assembly room, kitchen, office and provisions for 10 classrooms. Of brick and frame construction, the building is dominated by the high pitched roof of the nave and features a cantilevered first floor, glass nave walls and exposed laminated arches. The site work, which will be done by the Herkner Construction Company, is over and above the \$102,000. Completion time is expected to be about 6 months.

Edward Kary, Pastor

BAPTIST HERALD

Golden Wedding Anniversary, Rev. and Mrs. C. Zummach

Rev. and Mrs. Charles F. Zummach of Peoria, Ill., one of the pioneer pastoral couples of the North American Baptist General Conference, were honored at a Golden Wedding Anniversary Open House on June 12 at the home of their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Kohrs, where the Zummachs reside. Their 50th wedding anniversary date was June 15. More than 80 well-wishers from Peoria's North Sheridan Baptist Church, of which the Zummachs are members, and from First Baptist Church of East Peoria,



Rev. and Mrs. Charles F. Zummach of Peoria, Ill., at their golden wedding anniversary celebration.

which was built under Mr. Zummach's direction, called at the Kohrs home to extend congratulations. The couple were the recipients of numerous gifts, including a gold-decorated "money tree" from the East Peoria church.

The couple also received congratulatory cards, letters and flowers from all of the churches where Mr. Zummach (now retired) has been pastor. His first pastorate was at Trenton, Ill. Successively, he served N.A.B. churches at Ebenezer, Sask.; Edmonton, Alta.; Kankakee, Ill.; Burlington, Iowa; and a return to the pastorate at Trenton, Ill. The Zummachs moved to Peoria in 1947. For a time, he served as interim pastor at Chatsworth, Ill. At the conclusion of 10 months' ministry there, he became pastor of First Baptist Church of East Peoria, his last active pastorate.

Walter Kohrs, Reporter

Golden Wedding Anniversary, Rev. and Mrs. P. Geissler

Many friends and relatives from Rochester and Buffalo, N. Y., met at the Andrews Street Baptist Church, Rochester, N. Y., on May 15th to honor Rev. and Mrs. Peter Geissler. Fifty years ago on May 10th, following his graduation from the Seminary here in Rochester, Peter and Margaret Bauer pledged each their troth to each other. Now, at their golden anniversary, they were led to the platform to the strains of Lohengrin's Wedding March. Pastor Arthur Weisser brought fitting remarks on the theme, "And God Blessed Them." The choir sang two favorite anthems. Dr. Albert Bretschneider read

letters from the churches which Mr. and Mrs. Geissler served: Durham, Kansas; Zion Church, Okeene, Okla.; Grace Church, Sheffield, Iowa; Victor, Iowa; Bethel Church, Buffalo, N. Y. and Avon, S. Dak. Gifts of money and flowers accompanied these greetings.

A gift was presented them by Mr. W. Neuffer in behalf of the Andrews Street Church. A German poem was read by Siegfried Barsch and Achim Brauch sang a solo, "Be Ye Faithful." A reception was held in the church parlors. A decorated wedding cake was supplied by their daughter, Edna Geissler, Director of the National Board of the Y.W.C.A. of U.S.A., and their daughter-in-law, Marion Geissler of Buffalo, N. Y. Mr. Geissler is slowly recovering from an injury received when a car struck him last winter. He is again able to attend church and to do light tasks about his home. Up to this time he had been very active working full time and teaching a Bible Class along with some preaching.

Marian Geissler, Reporter



Rev. and Mrs. Peter Geissler of Rochester, N. Y., at the golden wedding anniversary celebration held for them by the Andrews Street Baptist Church.

Northern District

Evangelistic Services and Baptism at Golden Prairie, Sask.

At our Spring Crusade for Christ at the First Baptist Church, Golden Prairie, Sask., with Rev. P. T. Hunsicker of Medicine Hat, Alta. as evangelist, we had the joy of seeing 6 persons take their stand for Jesus Christ, and also many dedications. This being the Easter season, it was our pleasure to join with the Grace Baptist Church of Medicine Hat on Easter Sunday evening to witness the baptism of 13 candidates. On May 8, Mother's Day, 15 persons received the hand of fellowship from our pastor, Rev. R. Grueneich, at the communion service. On the same evening our newly organized CBY presented a Mother's Day program. The play was entitled, "A Mother's and Daughter's Love."

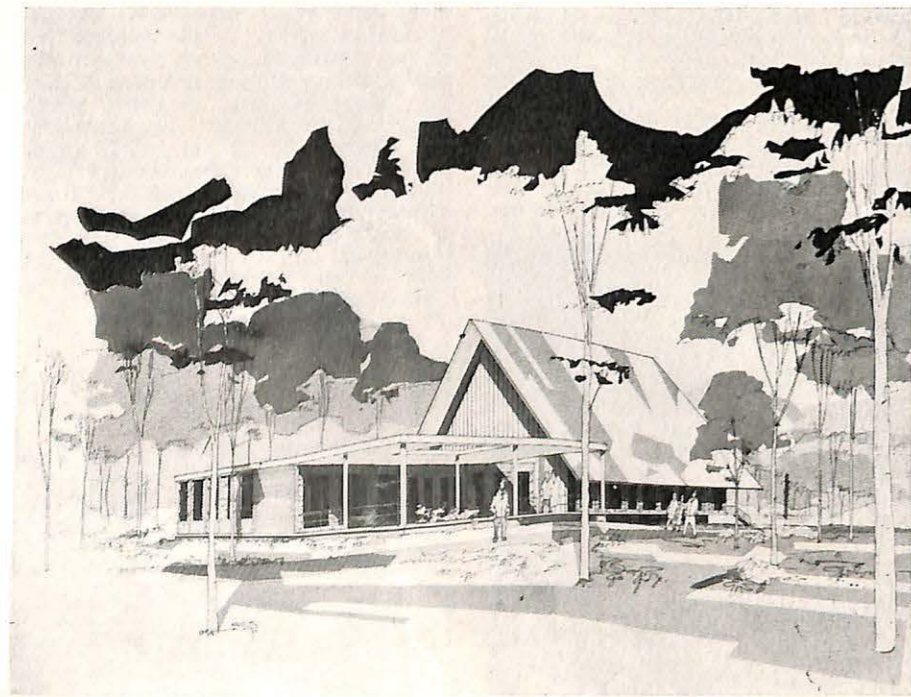
Our Sunday School has increased and our Junior Church, which was started a few months ago, has proven very successful. Mrs. Grueneich leads the Junior Church. We are thankful for the many blessings and we give thanks to God who has done great things for us.

Teana Kramer, Reporter



BAPTISM FOR GOLDEN PRAIRIE CHURCH

Rev. R. Grueneich of Golden Prairie, Sask., and 13 young people whom he baptized on Easter Sunday at the Grace Church of Medicine Hat, Alta.



HILLCREST BAPTIST CHURCH, CLEVELAND, OHIO

The architect's sketch for the proposed \$102,000 edifice of the Hillcrest Baptist Church (formerly White Ave. Church), Cleveland, Ohio, for which the ground has been broken with Rev. Edward Kary, pastor, in charge of the exercises.

wrestling with the Angel, as he said, "I will not let thee go, except thou bless me" (Gen. 32:26).

R. Hoffman, Reporter

Sunday School Committee of the Northern Conference

The Northern Conference Sunday School Committee met with the local provincial Sunday School directors in Regina, Sask., for a session discussing Sunday School promotion within our constituency. For some time it has been felt that there is a lack of unity between the promotional work carried on by the Sunday School Committee of the conference and the directors for Sunday School work elected by the four associations. Enthusiastic comments were expressed concerning the

Albrecht, deacon, presided at the meeting. The church choir presented two numbers, and a vocal solo and trio were rendered by various members of the church. Rev. H. J. Waltereit, pastor of the McDermot Ave. Baptist Church, Winnipeg, brought the message. Words of greeting were brought from various neighboring churches. We as a church are grateful for the many who so faithfully remembered our need in prayer, and we are also thankful to God for answered prayers.

The pastor and his family were welcomed by representatives of the church, the Sunday School, the Woman's Mission Circle, and the young people. Mr. and Mrs. Falkenberg moved to Oak Bank after completing several years of Bible School and are residing in the Oak Bank Baptist parsonage. Having

Baptismal and Youth Services, Tacoma's Portland Ave. Church

On Sunday morning, May 17th, members of the Portland Ave. Baptist Church of Tacoma, Washington, held their first worship service in their newly built sanctuary. Our pastor, Rev. Henry Smuland, brought a very fitting message. At seven o'clock a baptismal service was held with four candidates being baptized. We praise God for this progress which has been made for his honor and glory. Also in May we were privileged to have Miss Laura Reddig with us who brought to us a challenging report and pictures of her work on the mission field in the Cameroons, Africa.

In the month of June our Senior C.B.Y. held its annual banquet in honor of the graduates. The women of the church served them using our new church kitchen. The Junior C.B.Y. held a dinner party in honor of the choir members who served faithfully at the evening Sunday services. Seventeen boys and girls turned out for this happy occasion. May God continue to use our young people for his service!

Mitzie Neumann, Reporter

Swain Oaks Baptist Church of Stockton, California

On Sunday morning, May 22nd, the small membership of the Swain Oaks Baptist Church, Stockton, Calif., held its first Sunday School service and worship service in the new building, which is still incomplete. It was truly a time of praise and thanksgiving. The Sunday School attendance numbered 98, both young and old. We are particularly thankful to God for the boys and girls who came to Sunday School, many of whom had never attended Sunday School before. Each Sunday morning since then, we have seen new faces. It is our prayer that we may be faithful in proclaiming the Word of God to these boys and girls who will be the future of our nation, should the Lord tarry.

The church service on that Sunday morning was also a thrill to our hearts as we counted 148 people in attendance. Some visitors came from other churches, but a goodly number of people were from the vicinity who do not attend church services otherwise. Our hearts rejoiced over the offering of \$634.00 for the day. Our evening services average from 95 to 100 people.

Mrs. Leonard Fischer, Reporter

Woman's Society at Magnolia Church, Anaheim, Calif.

The Woman's Missionary Society of the Magnolia Baptist Church, Anaheim, California, gathered at the church on the evening of May 17 for a Friendship Tea. This time of fellowship was held so that the old and new members might become better acquainted and in so doing be able to accomplish more in the Lord's service together. Miss Virginia Rios, missionary nurse, gave her testimony and showed slides she had taken in Mexico and Costa Rica. Later, delicious canapes, cookies and tea were served to the 50 ladies present. Altogether, it was a lovely and inspiring occasion!

The five circles of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Magnolia Baptist Church have chosen to name

(Continued on page 23)

Obituary

(Obituaries are to be limited to about 150 words. A charge of five cents a line is made for all obituaries.)

MRS. KATE KAMPEN of Corona, South Dakota

Mrs. Kate Kampen of Corona, S. Dak., nee Sevalve, was born Dec. 13, 1868 in Silver Creek, Ill. She was united in marriage to William Kampen on Feb. 24, 1887, at Ridatt, Ill. They first resided at George, Iowa and then moved to South Dakota, living at Ipswich, Marion and Corona. She was very active in church work and was a charter member of the First Baptist Church of Corona.

Surviving her are 3 sons: John and George of Milbank, S. Dak., and Henry of Hibbing, Minn.; 3 daughters: Mrs. Lyle Johnston of Milbank, S. Dak., and Misses Carrie and Ann Kampen of Corona, S. Dak.; 17 grandchildren and 51 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband and a son, Albert. She lived a dedicated life in serving her Lord, anxiously awaiting for the time to be with him.

Corona, South Dakota
W. DACHTLER, Pastor

MRS. SOPHIA HOFMAIER of Philadelphia, Pa.

Mrs. Sophia Hofmaier, nee Zinger of Philadelphia, Pa., was born Sept. 8, 1881 in Philadelphia. At the age of 11 she accepted Christ as her personal Savior and was baptized by Rev. John Linker in the Second German Baptist Church. She was a faithful servant of her Lord and served as Sunday School teacher, choir member and by request of Mrs. Wm. Kuhn joined the Ladies' Missionary Society and became its pianist. She was joined in matrimony to Henry Hofmaier on June 29, 1904. During the midst of her illness, she voiced the desire to go Home to the Lord and our Savior answered this prayer on May 11, 1960. Three sons were laid to rest in their youth awaiting reunion with their beloved mother on the Heavenly Shore. She is survived by her husband; three sons: C. Fred, Willard A. and Herbert H.; and three grandchildren: Mark W., Barbara J. and Steven E. Our loss is Heaven's gain and we trust in God's promise to care for his own.

Pilgrim Baptist Church
Philadelphia, Pa.
ROGER W. SCHMIDT, Pastor

MRS. RUTH GRAMS of Benton Harbor, Michigan

Mrs. Ruth Grams, nee Elke, of Benton Harbor, Mich., was born Sept. 28, 1915 in Poland. When she was 14 years old, she accepted Christ as her Savior, and in 1930 was baptized and received into the fellowship of the Baptist Church in Lucynow. In 1936 she was united in marriage with Daniel Grams. The Lord blessed this union with three children. After 8 difficult years of deprivation and separation during and after World War II, they found refuge in Ger-World for two years, and in 1952 came to Benton Harbor, Mich. She was a member of the Clay Street Baptist Church, and two years ago she became one of the charter members of the First German Baptist Church of this city.

In Sept. 1959 she became ill, and had to submit to radical surgery which proved unsuccessful. After much suffering, the Lord relieved her from all earthly trials on May 27. She leaves to mourn her husband, Daniel Grams; one daughter, Hilda; one son, Alfred; her father, Gustav Elke; and her sister, Mrs. Sarah Peglau, both of Winnipeg, Man.; one brother, Ewald Elke of Swan River, Man.; and a large circle of friends.

First German Baptist Church
Benton Harbor, Mich.
W. W. KNAUF, Pastor

MR. SAMUEL G. ROTT of Fargo, North Dakota

Mr. Samuel G. Rott of Fargo, N. Dak., was born on Feb. 17, 1904 in McIntosh County, near Ashley, N. Dak., where he grew to manhood. On Dec. 1, 1929 he was married to Hulda Dobler. For several years they farmed south of Kulm, N. D., and then moved to Ashley. In 1940 the family moved to West Fargo where he went into the business for a time and then pursued carpenter's trade until his passing through accidental death on June 1st. He committed

his life to the Lord in his youth and was baptized. In 1955 when the Grace Baptist Church was organized, he reaffirmed his faith in Christ and joined the church as a charter member. He was active here, singing in the choir and helping much in the construction of the church edifice.

Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Rott, of whom two preceded their dad in death. Remaining to comfort the mother are: Eltha (Mrs. Paul Tweed) of Seattle, Wash.; Howard, now residing in Colorado; Clifton of Fargo, N. Dak.; Melvin, in the U. S. Air Force stationed in Arkansas; Delmer, at home; and 10 grandchildren.

Grace Baptist Church
West Fargo, North Dakota
BERNARD R. FRITZKE, Pastor

MR. JOHN MAIER of Missoula, Montana

Mr. John Maier of Missoula, Mont., was born in Russia Oct. 1, 1887 and peacefully fell asleep in the Lord, Sunday, May 29, 1960. In 1905 he migrated to the U.S.A. and lived in North and South Dakota, in Washington and in Missoula for many years. He joined hands and heart with his faithful and loving wife in 1910 and this happy union was blessed with 16 grateful children.

In 1925 he came to a saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and followed him in baptism the following year. He remained a loyal and active member in Baptist churches until the Lord called his suffering servant home. In the Bethel Church of Missoula, he was a highly respected member and occupied the most responsible positions in it. His church and pastor loved him dearly and we shall miss him. Mr. Maier leaves to mourn his children, his loving wife, 44 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren, 2 sisters, one half-brother, 4 half-sisters, many relatives and friends.

Bethel Baptist Church
Missoula, Montana
C. T. REMPLE, Pastor

MRS. ESTHER LEUSCHNER WALTER of Anaheim, California

Mrs. Esther Leuschner Walter of Anaheim, Calif., was born on the 23rd day of April, 1910 in Los Angeles, California, and passed away at her home at 546 South Clementine in Anaheim on May 20, 1960. She had reached the age of 50 years and 28 days. In her early youth Esther lived in a number of places, moving with her family to the various churches her father pastored in our North American Baptist fellowship. They moved from Los Angeles to Spokane, Washington. Following one year of ministry in Spokane, the family came back to California, moving to Lodi, to Anaheim, and then back to Los Angeles, Calif.

Esther attended the University of California from 1928 through 1932. Through the years she was a faithful and excellent teacher, gaining the admiration and respect of her children, their parents, and her co-workers. Recently she had the singular joy of having a new school in the Magnolia District named in her honor. She was a member of the Bethel Baptist Church of Anaheim where she served faithfully as church organist for many years.

She was united in marriage to Erich Walter on August 11, 1957. This union, brief as it was, brought much joy and happiness into her life. She leaves to feel the loss of her presence her husband, Erich Walter of Anaheim; her mother, Mrs. Emma Leuschner of Anaheim; two brothers, Paul, also of Anaheim, and Martin, of Forest Park, Illinois, whose visit in those last days brought her much joy.

Bethel Baptist Church
Anaheim, California
H. JOHN VANDERBECK, Pastor

MR. EDGAR C. BIEBER of Branch, Louisiana

Mr. Edgar Bieber of Branch, Louisiana was born on April 23, 1905 in Breitenbach am Herzberg, Germany and passed away in a hospital in Lafayette, Louisiana on June 5, 1960. He immigrated to the United States when a small child. On Feb. 22, 1928 he was married to Ruth Marie Casselmann. Of this union two sons and two daughters were born. He received Jesus Christ as his personal Savior in his early youth, was baptized and united with the Mowata Baptist Church, Branch, La. He was always a faithful and devoted member of the church, and served as Sunday School Superintendent, Trustee and Deacon. In addition, he was Southern Conference representative to the General Council. Brother Bieber was a lifelong resident of the Mowata Community, having been actively engaged in farming as an occupation.

Brother Bieber is survived by his mother, Mrs. Henry Bieber of Branch, La.; his wife, Mrs. Ruth C. Bieber; 2 sons: Henry,

of Branch, La., and Karl of Sioux Falls, S. Dak.; 2 daughters: Mrs. C. H. Engelbrecht (Marlene) of Crawford, Texas; and Miss Rosalie Bieber of Branch, La. There are 4 grandchildren; 3 brothers: Edward, Rheinhard and Ernest; 5 sisters: Mrs. Emelia LaFrantz, Mrs. Hattie Lengefeld, Mrs. Alice Toepfer, Mrs. Anna Engelbrecht, and Mrs. Ester Casselmann, and a host of other relatives and friends.

Mowata Baptist Church
Branch, Louisiana
ALEX SOOTZMANN, Pastor

MRS. PAULINE POTRATZ of Elgin, Iowa

Mrs. Pauline Potratz of Elgin, Iowa, was born on July 14, 1889, at Monroe, Wisc., and passed away on June 4, 1960, at Postville, Iowa, at the age of 70 years, 10 months and 21 days. She came to northeastern Iowa as a child, residing in Sumner for 37 years and in Elgin for the past 8 years. On March 3, 1915, she was united in marriage to Emil H. Potratz of Sumner.

During the ministry of Rev. C. F. Stoekmann she was converted and baptized on May 1, 1904, becoming a member of the First Baptist Church of Elgin. She transferred her membership to the First Baptist Church of Sumner, when the church was organized in 1944, thus becoming a charter member. She served as secretary-treasurer for the first five years. In recent years she returned her membership to the Elgin church.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, on June 11, 1938; one sister, and one brother. She is survived by 2 sisters: Mrs. Anna McNeill and Mrs. Salome Miller, both of Elgin; a nephew, Milton Miller, Elgin; and also a host of relatives and friends.

Elgin, Iowa
ELDON SCHROEDER, Pastor

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Rev. Aaron Buhler
530 South Rose
Lodi, California

Miss Geraldine Glasenapp
6607 W. Silver Springs Drive
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Rev. Howard Johnson
2626 Sibille Street
Burlington, Iowa

Rev. Eric Kuhn
7240 Cromwell Way
Sacramento 22, California

Rev. Edwin Michelson
717 North Young St.
Wichita 12, Kansas

Rev. Fred W. Pahl
Springside, Sask.,
Canada

Rev. Kenneth Schmuland
Creston, Nebraska

Rev. Clarence Walth
Route 1, Box 167
Dallas, Oregon

Rev. Manuel Wolff
Route 1, Box 285B
Auburn, Michigan

MAGNOLIA CHURCH REPORT

(Continued from page 22)

their circles in honor of the following missionaries for the coming year: Mrs. Florence Miller, Mrs. Joyce Batek, Mrs. Eleanor Castro, Mrs. Meraleen Kern, and Mrs. Ben Lawrence. Rev. Kenneth Fischer is pastor of our church.

Ina Carter, Reporter



NORTHERN CONFERENCE SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Left to right: Joe Hart, Bill Binder, Rev. Raymond Harsch, Rev. R. Grabke, Arthur Smith, W. Rempel and Herbert Buschkowski.

promotional leaflet sent out by the secretary to all pastors and Sunday School superintendents promoting Sunday School work.

More of our churches are conducting Vacation Bible Schools. In 1958 1,491 pupils were enrolled in our churches of the prairie provinces but this only includes 25 out of 51 churches which reported. This year the response was much better with 43 churches reporting an enrolment of 2,177. But the most outstanding fact was the number of conversions. A total of 134 persons made decisions for Christ.

Our Sunday School Committee consists of Waldemar Rempel, Morris, Man.; Bill Binder, Glidden, Sask.; Rev. R. Harsch, Leduc, Alta.; Herbert Buschkowski, Winnipeg, Man.; and the secretary, Rev. R. Grabke of Winnipeg. The local Sunday School directors are: Manitoba—H. Buschkowski of Winnipeg; Saskatchewan—Bill Bonney of Jansen, Sask.; Northern Manitoba—Joe Hart of Minitonas; Sask-Alta.—Bill Binder of Glidden, Sask.; and Alberta—Arthur Smith of Millet, Alta.

R. E. Grabke, Reporter

Oak Bank Church, Man., Welcomes First Full Time Pastor

On Sunday afternoon, May 1, at the Oak Bank Baptist Church, Oak Bank, Manitoba, a special program was held to welcome the new pastor. Mr. M. W. Falkenberg, and his family. Mr. D.

had the pleasure of welcoming Oak Bank's first full time pastor, we feel that a great need has been met. We wish the Falkenbergs God's richest blessing as we labor together in the Lord's vineyard.

Madelin Albrecht, Reporter

Western District

Activities at the Baptist Church, Startup, Washington

The Baptist Church of Startup, Wash., held one week of special meetings, April 3 to 8, with Rev. E. Gerlitz of Sherwood, Oregon, as guest speaker. One adult decision was made. Several young people also accepted Christ on Easter Sunday. On Palm Sunday evening the Adult Choir rendered a sacred concert under the able direction of our pastor, Rev. Herbert Schauer. The offering went for choir robes.

On Friday evening, April 29, the women of the church gave a complimentary banquet to the young people. A varied program followed, climaxed by a film on "Mixed Marriages." On May 15th we were thrilled to have Missionary Laura E. Reddig with us and were challenged anew to do more toward mission work. We are thankful that we have a share in the work being done in Africa.

Mrs. Margaret Sherman, Reporter

OBERAMMERGAU STORY

(Continued from page 7)

ject. Such offers were always declined. The greater debt was one of gratitude to God for his deliverance from the plague, and nothing must take priority over this fact.

Even in later years offers were made by Hollywood to film the play. Broadcasting and television networks also have held tempting financial figures before the village council. All of them received the same reply. They felt that a vow was a matter of conscience, and conscience belongs primarily to God. On this principle, the citizenry has always maintained their stand.

PARTICIPANTS IN PLAY

Another expression of this sanctity of the vow has been in the regulation that all the players must be either native Oberammergauers or must have maintained constant residence in the village for at least twenty years. The vow was not to be performed by outside representation. This year two children in the Triumphal Entry scene are counted as Americans because their fathers were American service men. But they were entitled to participate because their mothers were native citizens of Oberammergau. The village feels that a sacred vow cannot be performed by proxy.

Originally the play was presented under the open sky, regardless of weather. Fairly recently, a roof was erected over the spectators, but not over the stage. The theater with its 5,200 seats has one end completely open toward the stage. Part of the stage is still in the open. Concessions, however, were made to have the secondary stage for the tableaux under roof but so arranged as to need no artificial lighting. This is a three-fold rotating stage so that two scenes may be in preparation while one is being shown.

Keeping the theater and stage with a semblance of the original in the open also has its relation to the sacredness of the vow. About 700 of the 1,000 participants appear on the stage in one scene. No artificial make-up is used. The men let their hair and beards grow as a part of their preparation.

The play is not essentially a performance. It is rather a proclamation to humanity of the love and grace of God in the suffering and death of his Son. Therefore, the spirit of worship and devotion is felt very strongly in the presentation.

BIBLICAL TEXT

This is due partly to the Biblical nature of the text. While the sacred record is enlarged with human phraseology, every sentence is designed only to elucidate the Scriptural statements. Even though the play is produced by those of a much different religious persuasion than ours, yet the most evangelical must be impressed with the Biblical character of the play.

Not only in the Biblical text is this

SEMINARY MATRON AND SUPERINTENDENT NEEDED

The North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, S. Dak., is in need of the services of a matron and superintendent who must be a wife and husband team. If you would like to apply for the positions, please write with information about yourselves to President Frank Veninga, 1605 S. Euclid Ave., Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

evident. It also appears in the way each actor plays his role. May we quote again the Official Guide: "Most of the visitors who attend the performance of the play have no idea whatever of all the detailed preparations which are involved before it is actually presented. For a whole year prior to performance, the actors have no private life whatever; and the people of Oberammergau, who by nature and temperament are merry and fond of folk-songs, shun all festivities and noisy entertainment. They commune with themselves and prepare themselves spiritually for their difficult roles, which they can only play convincingly if they themselves are inspired by deep piety . . . They have to work extremely hard and forfeit much of their leisure, even during the interval of years between one Passion Play and the next in order to perfect their art. And practice plays are both training and a test of character."

All of this makes the Passion Play not just a performance, but a spiritual experience for the visitors. What the Council and Elders of 1633 must have felt in making the Vow thus reaches across more than three centuries to the attendants of 1960. One feels one is translated back into history by 2,000 years to view the marvellous acts of God in Christ for the salvation of man.

THE KING JOSIAH

(Continued from page 4)

zealot of a sort which is apparently very pleasing to God. This brings to mind Paul's explanation for Christ's sacrifice as twofold: to redeem us and to "purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works" (Titus 2:14).

David wrote Scripture, Josiah obeyed it.

And God was more pleased with Josiah than with any other king. But should this surprise the Christian? Jesus said as a preface to his Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:19), "Whoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

And today God is no different. The one who pleases him most is not the great intellect, the keen apologist, the ready speaker. It is the man or woman who reads his Word and obeys it.

AMERICAN CONVENTION

(Continued from page 11)

furlough. A speaker for missions said, "When a Christian confronts a person of another faith, he must speak, as one committed to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, who at the same time has studied deeply into the other's faith . . . A Christian must approach others as one who differs, but who loves."

Mr. C. Stanton Gallup, 49 year old lumber company president of Plainfield, Conn., was elected the president of the American Baptist Convention, to succeed Dr. Herbert Gezork. For the first time a Negro was elected vice-president of the convention. She is the new second vice-president, Mrs. Ruth McKinney of Cleveland, Ohio. The Rev. Roger Frederikson of Sioux Falls, S. Dak., was named first vice-president.

ANLU IN ACTION

(Continued from page 5)

in part destroyed and must be rebuilt.

The medical work has returned to normal. Some of our churches are stronger for having been alerted to the dangers which await an uninformed membership. Many have begun to realize that they must be informed of what is happening in their nation today, since decisions made today may affect the religious freedom of tomorrow even more seriously than "anlu" did in the past.

Our Christian brethren of the Cameroons need the prevailing prayer support of all of us.

THE LONG SEARCH

(Continued from page 17)

"I don't know. I've thought about it, but I haven't made up my mind."

"Please decide that you'll join us. We really do need you and I'm sure that you will enjoy knowing the others. I ask it as a favor. I'd be glad if you would come. It would make me happy."

"If you put it that way, I suppose I'll have to come," he said.

"Thank you." She gave him a radiant smile. "We'll be looking for you."

She felt that he was under conviction, though he might not realize it, if that sermon had disturbed him and she prayed earnestly after he had left that in some way it might lead to his salvation. She could not deny that her prayer was not entirely impersonal. This one soul was especially precious to her. There was no respect of persons with God, but there was with her. She was only human and he had become infinitely dear to her. If he were a Christian, nothing could prevent her from praying that one day perhaps he might love her and she would be free to give him her love.

The night seemed brighter and her sleep sweeter because of this hope, in spite of her father's condition and his hardened heart.

(To Be Continued)