

MAY 21, 1964

NUMBER ELEVEN

WELCOME TO CALIFORNIA

BAPTIST DISTINCTIVES

BAPTIST HERALD



NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE

Welcome to California!

By Rev. Aaron Buhler, Co-chairman of the Local Arrangements Committee for the 34th General Conference in Sacramento, Calif., July 13 to 19, 1964.

WELCOME TO California! It is a great state. It has a gross area of 158,693 square miles. To put it in another way! The country of Israel could be placed into California 22 times and there would be room to spare.

The population of the state is 17,675,000 and is growing at the rate of 1,600 a day. One out of twelve Americans lives in California.

Sacramento, California's Capital, will host the 34th General Conference in its spacious air-conditioned Memorial Auditorium from July 13 to 19, 1964. It is a beautiful city with a population of 200,000 people. Ocean going ships reach the port of Sacramento by way of the Sacramento River Deep Water Channel. Several major military installations also form a part of greater Sacramento.

An hour and a half's drive by automobile takes one from the capital to fabulous San Francisco and the Pacific Ocean. One hour's drive also takes the visitor into the snow-covered Sierra Mountains.

Welcome to California from the six host churches in and around Sacramento! The North American Baptist General Conference has 13 churches belonging to the California Association, with a total membership of 4034. Of that number, six churches with a total membership of 2224, are located in what we term "Northern California," although one has to travel more than 200 miles north to reach the Oregon State line. These six churches include Swain Oaks Baptist of Stockton, Temple Baptist and First Baptist of Lodi, First Baptist of Elk Grove, Willow Rancho Baptist and Lincoln Village Baptist of Sacramento. These six churches have selected the 16 local Arrangement Committees that are hard at work, hoping to make the 34th General Conference one of the most momentous in our history.

We believe that you, as delegates and friends of the General Conference, will find our people very hospitable. You will sense that they will do what lies in their power to make you feel that we are honored to have you as our guests at this 100th Anniversary of our General Conference sessions.

As you find time to visit our churches, you will find in them a warm Christian spirit. You will learn that our churches are progressive and have a genuine concern for the cause of Christ and our larger work as a denomination.

Not only are we interested in your physical well being, but we are concerned that you will have a delightful stay while in California. Our churches are also anxious that you will take from the General Conference sessions a spiritual impact that will remain with you for a long time.

It has been our joy to welcome to this area, in connection with the conference preparations, Mr. Ed Marklein, moderator; Dr. Frank Woyke, executive secretary; and Dr. Martin L. Leuschner, promotional secretary. Now we welcome you as delegates and friends to be participants at the 34th General Conference July 13-19, 1964. Welcome to California!

MISSION NEWS AND NEEDS . . .

BOARD OF MISSIONS. The epoch making sessions of the Board of Missions were held at Forest Park from April 21 to 24. Since the Board's recommendations will have to receive the approval of the General Council (May 21-22) before they can be announced, only a few missionary highlights can now be given. The needs of the fields are tremendous. The budget requests of our missionaries and general missionary secretary total \$576,000, which represents \$74,000 more than was granted last year. Rev. Fred C. Folkerts and Miss Laura E. Reddig of Cameroon, Africa and Rev. Walter Sukut of Japan were present for the Board of Missions sessions.

EDUCATION SECRETARY'S REPORT. For the first time since his appointment as Education Secretary in West Cameroon, Africa, Mr. E. K. Martin presented a comprehensive and inspiring report of six pages to the Board of Missions. His was one of 19 reports from nationals and missionaries to the Board sessions. In our 111 Junior Primary Schools and 51 Senior Primary Schools, we have almost 14,000 children enrolled and employ 471 teachers. These schools are largely covered by government grants, as far as expenditures are concerned, for the total of \$250,298 received this past year. However, our financial part in the total educational picture in Cameroon is considerable and our administrative leadership is tremendously challenging.

MACEDONIAN CALLS. Dr. R. Schilke's report to the Board of Missions sounded an urgent note in response to the many Macedonian calls and open doors before us: "Our Indian Mission is in need of a well trained missionary couple. Our Spanish-American Mission in the deep south of Texas is looking to a new work and a new missionary couple. Our missionaries in Japan requested the appointment of another couple. The cry from Cameroon comes for the appointment of 15 new missionaries. There is work for them all and for more. We look to the far South of South America and we hear the plea, 'Come over and help us.' Any beginning there would require the appointment of several missionary couples. Seldom have we heard such calls for help. It thus behooves us to be much in prayer and to ask and receive the wisdom of God for the decisions that are to be made."

FRONT COVER

CITY OF SACRAMENTO,
CALIFORNIA

showing the capitol, business
district and auditorium.

Editorial

"Apples of Gold"

If it is true, as the writer of Proverbs suggests, that a word fitly spoken is like apples of gold, then we shall enjoy a rich spiritual harvest at the General Conference in Sacramento, July 13 to 19. For the messages of those days will capture the attention of the thousands of people in attendance with words that are freighted with meaning, words that will burn like eternal fire, and words that will exhort with Scriptural urgency. Let those who have ears to hear come to Sacramento personally to enjoy these "apples of gold in pictures of silver" (Proverbs 25:11).

We shall give attention to the words that describe our denominational history and review our spiritual heritage. All of this should lead us to praise God for the "wondrous things he has done" as "our help in ages past." Dr. William A. Mueller of New Orleans, La., who is now busily engaged in research work on our historical volume about our churches, will show how such historical words can refresh our souls. We shall pause reverently at the 100th milestone of our General Conferences. (Read the article in this issue about 1865 Conference).

We shall be stirred by challenging words—fighting words—to send us into crusades of action, through new open doors, and into the vineyard of the Lord in the heat of the day. Mr. Edwin H. Marklein as the Conference moderator; Rev. Raymond P. Yahn of Pittsburgh, Pa., as one of our able younger pastors; Dr. Paul M. Stevens of Fort Worth, Texas with his intimate acquaintance with world wide issues and crises; and Dr. C. Emanuel Carlson of Washington, D. C. in the thick of the fight for religious freedom will endeavor to launch us into greater service for Christ by their thought provoking words.

This phrase, "apples of gold in pictures of silver" is especially applicable to the words of inspiration that will fall on listening ears at the Sacramento Conference. Dr. Frank H. Woyke, our executive secretary, will confront us with the awesome truths of "The Everlasting God." Dr. Josef Nordenhaug, Baptist World Alliance general secretary, will make God's Word warm and alive for us in his Sunday morning sermon. The communion service on Sunday night will make the presence of Christ wonderfully real and near to all in attendance.

Other words will resound like trumpet music—mission words, words proclaiming the Gospel to the ends of the earth, and evangelistic words extending the Gospel invitation. These words will be clearly heard in the testimonies of missionaries; the message by our African friend, Rev. Samuel B. Nfomi; the colorful missionary pageant on Sunday afternoon; and the evangelistic sermon by Rev. Herman Palfenier. Like a bugle call, these words will call young people to dedication at the great Conference banquet with Dr. Douglas Gallagher fitly handling these words "like apples of gold."

And what shall we say about the blessing of the silent words, the words that are unexpressed but felt in Christian fellowship, and the words of prayer that are sent heavenward from many hearts? These silent but fervent words will well up in your souls as you view the wonderful missionary and denominational exhibits, as you listen to the thrilling music, and as you thank God just for the privilege of being a Conference participant.

Come to Sacramento and listen reverently to this fine Conference program and the words will seem to you to be "like apples of gold in pictures of silver!"

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Martin L. Leuschner, D.D., Editor

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The Busy Businessman of Brooklyn

The story of Mr. Edwin H. Marklein, General Conference moderator, who will preside over the sessions of the 34th General Conference in Sacramento, Calif.,

July 13 to 19, 1964

By Dr. M. L. Leuschner
of Forest Park, Illinois



Mr. Edwin H. Marklein (left) presents a scroll of honor to Mr. Arthur Schwerin, chairman of the Finance Committee, at the 1961 General Conference in Minneapolis, Minn. At present, Mr. Marklein is the General Conference moderator.

EVERYBODY in our churches knows him as "that man from Brooklyn." You will recognize him at any place and every meeting of our General Conference by his Brooklyn accent. But he is even better known as "that busy businessman" who is even busier in the Lord's work than at his job as business assistant to the vice president of the Manhattan Savings Bank of New York City.

HIS EARLY TRAINING

By this time, you will easily recognize him as Edwin H. Marklein, General Conference moderator and our roving ambassador of good will in the denomination. As chairman of several important denominational committees, he travels tens of thousands of miles each year to meet the scores of engagements and to plan for the program of our General Conference. He is at his best in making difficult decisions, in giving effective leadership to the work of Christ, and in working with others to reach the objectives of our denominational program.

Ed Marklein was one of a group of boys who were trained in Christian service by a devoted pastor, Rev. W. J. Zirbes, of the Evergreen Baptist Church of Brooklyn, N. Y. Through his dynamic ministry, Mr. Zirbes interested these boys, as Ed Marklein remembers, to come to prayer meeting and to participate with their testimonies. He was obedient to the pastor's urging and sat usually on the front row. In his early teens he attended a German class conducted by his pastor.

The fine training of that class is still in evidence to some extent today.

He was baptized by Rev. W. J. Zirbes following a decided conversion experience. His first job in church was that as president of the young people's organization when he was 17 years of age. His leadership activities in his local church grew with the years, as he seemed to follow his brother, Walter, in most of the positions and activities. In fact, the two of them were a highly esteemed "brother team" in the Atlantic Conference for many years and later in the denominational picture.

In the early 1930's Ed Marklein was elected treasurer of the Atlantic Conference Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union. In successive terms he also served as vice president and as president of the Atlantic Conference Union. In fact, he was presiding as president of the Young People's and Sunday School Workers' Union of the Conference at a banquet in the Evangel Church, Newark, N. J., when his brother whispered to him that a telephone message had been received that a daughter had just been born to his wife and to him. In the months that followed, he was kept busy conducting a visitation program in all of the Atlantic Conference churches, giving leadership to the youth programs at Camp Unami, and serving as the Conference representative on the national youth committee.

In 1937 Ed Marklein stepped into the spotlight of denominational service by his election as the president of the National Young People's and Sunday

School Workers' Union. The 1937 General Conference in Portland, Ore., and the 1940 Conference in Burlington, Iowa, featured great youth gatherings, since simultaneous meetings and activities in English had to be conducted in addition to the German services. During Mr. Marklein's presidency, some of the most inspiring youth sessions were held at Burlington with the climax reached at the thrilling youth banquet on Saturday night of the Conference week.

A LEADER OF DISTINCTION

Mr. Marklein was one of the first members of the General Council with his services in behalf of the Council's ministry beginning in 1937. Since then, he has held almost every possible position of denominational leadership and has served with distinction and devotion to his Lord and our churches. For many years he has been a member of the denomination's Finance and Investment Committees. He has been an active leader in Baptist Men and in planning for many General Conference programs.

As the first and only chairman of the Church Loan Fund Committee, Mr. Marklein has led the Committee in loaning more than a million dollars to our churches for new church and parsonage buildings. He has also served as the chairman of the Church Extension Committee since its inception in 1954 and has found great personal joy and pride in the launching and in the financial undergirding of 64 Church Extension

(Continued on page 9)

BAPTIST HERALD

The First General Conference in 1865

Story of the first "Bundeskonferenz" held in Wilmot, Ontario in 1865 and of the first sessions when "God revealed his glory and tears flowed with joy."

By Dr. John E. Knechtel of Chicago, Illinois

INTO AN AREA of Canada, which is now rolling farmland, interspersed with thriving industrial communities in which educational and religious institutions are endeavoring to keep pace with modern progress, there came in the decades following the 1830's large numbers of German settlers. They were driven from their homeland in Europe by religious persecution, the wish to escape compulsory military service, and the desire to win by hard labor, coupled with great hardships and a new life of freedom.

They had been preceded by companies of Mennonite farmers from Pennsylvania, probably the first to buy large tracts of land in what was Mohawk Indian territory and to start primitive settlements.

Farms were being hacked out of what was then called "The Queen's Bush" in Upper Canada (since 1867 this is known as Ontario). The wooded wilderness was turned into productive farms and thriving villages marked by such names as New Hamburg, New Dundee, Kitchener and Waterloo.

THE BUSH CHURCHES

Churches sprang up in the woods, known by the townships such as Wilmot, Woolwich, Logan and Tavistock, in the counties of Waterloo, Wellington and Perth.

Some of the people migrated on foot or horseback 60 or 70 miles further north, and others came from Germany and the States of Pennsylvania and New York to drain the swamps and to gather the stones from more rocky territory. Here the churches of Carrick Township, now Neustadt, Hanover, and Elmwood developed.

Other pioneers, speaking the English, Scotch and Gaelic tongues, made good neighbors. Our German work received financial help from the American Tract Society and the American Baptist Home Mission Society. Support and cooperation also came from men who founded the Canadian Baptist Convention, such as Reverend Alexander Stewart, who tramped hundreds of miles through the woods to bring the Gospel to scattered settlements. His sons and grandsons have had influential places in such institutions as Colgate Rochester Divinity School, and the Divinity School of McMaster University in Hamilton.

The Spirit of God prevailed, and these sturdy pioneers were followed by such stalwarts of missionary zeal as August Rauschenbusch, Heinrich Schneider (converted under Rauschenbusch's ministry in Altona, Westphalia,

and baptized by him in Ontario in 1851), John Stumpf, Conrad Bodenbender, Henry Kose and Edward Jacob Fellmann.

Strong religious convictions received help from among the first students in our German Department of the Rochester Seminary. Beginning with John Stumpf in 1859, about 25 consecrated men were ordained for the ministry in the Ontario churches in the next three decades.

Such were the conditions which brought August Rauschenbusch to conduct evangelistic meetings in the "Bush" in 1851, which resulted in the organization of three churches.



In 1891 the ministers of the Eastern Conference honored the memory of the late Rev. Konrad A. Fleischmann (in framed picture) at a Memorial Service held in the Old Log Church near Williamsport, Penn.

According to available records, the first German Baptist Church building in Canada was erected in 1842 or 1843 in Shingletown (Schindelstaedtel), now Victoriaburg, about four miles east of New Hamburg, and two miles east of WILMOT CENTRE.

WILMOT, ONTARIO

Here a church was organized on January 1, 1853, under the leadership of Reverend Heinrich Schneider of the Berlin German Baptist Church, now Benton Street Church, Kitchener. Among the charter members are the names of Appel, Weber and Hoffman.

After a pastorate of eight years, Reverend Heinrich Schneider was followed in the Wilmot and New Dundee churches by Reverend Edward Gruetzner (brother-in-law of Rev. G. A. Schulte).

In the early 1860's there was considerable discussion in these churches, by word of mouth, about the possible formation of a "General Conference." This was voiced in "Der Sendbote," published by Rev. Konrad Anton Fleischmann in Philadelphia, Pa., representing the Eastern Conference, which included churches in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Ontario, and in "Die Biene," published by Rev. Philip Bickel in Cincinnati, Ohio, with its influence on the Western Conference, including the region of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri and Wisconsin. This General Conference (Bundeskonferenz) was to include all German

Baptist Churches, in which a united effort in missionary outreach, publication work, and ministerial education was deemed advantageous.

In the August 15, 1865 issue of "Der Sendbote," the call went out by Rev. J. C. Haselhuhn, secretary of the Eastern Conference, for a meeting of both conferences in the Wilmot, Ontario, church for September 14, 1865. That was accompanied by a warm invitation by Rev. Edward Gruetzner, pastor, to all the churches to come to Wilmot "in flocks, as the swallows to their windows." From 58 churches 54 delegates gathered.

Here, in the primitive surroundings of the Canadian woodland, our triennial General Conference of North American Baptist churches was born. Under the guidance of the Spirit of God and

(Continued on page 9)

May 21, 1964

Getting Ready for the Sacramento Conference

Latest Announcements About Hotel Arrangements, the Special Conference Train and Preparations for the General Conference at Sacramento, Calif., July 13 to 19, 1964

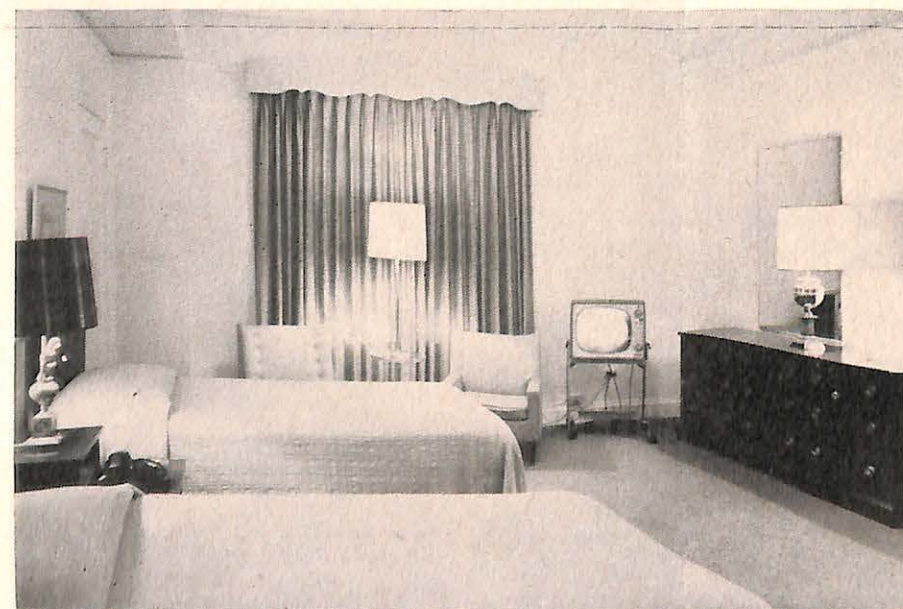
ELEGANT is the word for SACRAMENTO'S HOTELS

You will enjoy comfortable relaxation and exciting elegance in the Sacramento hotel or motel which you will select for the General Conference days, July 13 to 19, 1964. The best accommodations are going rapidly. So look over the list of Sacramento's many hotels and motels and write for your reservation soon.

SENATOR HOTEL

The headquarter's hotel, "THE SENATOR," is only six blocks from the Memorial Auditorium, the meeting place of our 34th General Conference sessions. It is easily *near everything*—across the street from the quiet serenity and scenic beauty of the 40 acre, tree shaded Capitol Park, within a few steps of delightful shops, fine restaurants and other points of interest, and close to ample parking and public transportation.

THE SENATOR HOTEL has 350 air conditioned, newly furnished guest rooms, with every room quiet, beautifully decorated, and pleasant with smart looking furnishings. Here at this hotel most of the Conference's special breakfasts and luncheons will be held. Here in its Empire Room the elegant Missionary Tea and Reception will be held on Friday afternoon and the memorable Conference Banquet will convene on Saturday evening. This luxury



ELEGANT GUEST ROOMS—SENATOR HOTEL

Comfort second to none with all-new, individually controlled air conditioning, new decor and professionally selected furnishings will make your stay at the Senator Hotel, the headquarters hotel, a pleasant adventure during the General Conference days.

Hotel and registration information available on request at Forest Park, Illinois.

hotel can be your pleasant and convenient "home" during the General Conference week.

EL DORADO HOTEL

HOTEL EL DORADO is a "dream palace" of an elegant motel, located two miles from downtown Sacramento and easily accessible for those who come to the Conference in their cars. The spirit of adventure has been captured in this dramatic ranch style hotel. It is contemporary in feeling with its ideal accommodations, especially for the family, and historical with its magnificent accents on the Aztec, Mayan and Incan civilizations as seen in its colorful decorations.

The bedrooms feature beautiful Swedish design furniture in American black walnut, combined with harmonious colors. The huge swimming pool and its palatial lounging deck provide recreation for the tired visitor. The "Cafe de Oro," the "Camellia Room," and the Coffee Shop serve delicious foods that are truly a gourmet's delight. The Women's Luncheon on Thursday will be held in the luxurious "El Dorado Room," seating a maximum of 1200 people.

Reservations can still be made at this magnificent motel for "a dream come true" during the General Conference days.

ALL ABOARD FOR THE GENERAL CONFERENCE TRAIN

The General Conference joys will be stretched to three glorious weeks for those who use the General Conference Train, beginning with July 11 at Chicago, Ill., en route to Sacramento, and continuing a week afterwards on the Post-Convention Tour in Golden California.

LUXURIOUS "CALIFORNIA ZEPHYR"

The sumptuous accommodations of the "California Zephyr" of the Burlington Lines and the breath-taking beauty of the Rocky Mountains in Colorado California on the way to Sacramento will provide a trip defying description and etching its glory on the mind of each one of the more than one hundred North American Baptist travelers.

Yes, it is true! Before the end of April more than 100 of our people have made their reservations to go on the Conference Train and to join the crowds on the scenic, sightseeing California tour to San Francisco, Yosemite National Park, Los Angeles, Disneyland, our Anaheim churches, Knott's Berry Farm and Glendale's Forest Lawn Park. Since the accommodations are definitely limited, those who wish to join this gay, festive, heart-moving fellowship of North American Baptists on this train will have to write SOON with their requests.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PASSENGERS

By June 1st or as soon as possible thereafter, you will arrange for the payment of your railroad and your tickets with Mr. H. S. Brown, Burlington Lines, 105 West Adams Street, Room 711, Chicago, Illinois. Two complete coaches on the California Zephyr will be filled by North American Baptists where Christian fellowship can be enjoyed and a Sunday morning service of worship will be conducted. Here you will have your own Vista Dome to gaze on the majestic scenery and here in the train's diner you will eat your complimentary meals with your Baptist friends.

Reservations that have been made for the Post-Convention Tour in California are definitely limited. In fact, the doors of opportunity to join this NAB train fellowship will soon be closed. Write now and begin your anticipations of a marvelous adventure and sightseeing tour to add to your Conference joys in Sacramento!

BAPTIST HERALD

Christian Leaders' Conference at Sacramento

Twenty-two Helpful Workshops will be held on Monday, July 13, at the First Baptist Church of Sacramento, Calif., as announced by Rev. G. K. Zimmerman of the Department of Christian Education.

DOUBLE BLESSINGS are in store for General Conference delegates and visitors through the added feature of a one-day Christian Leaders' Conference, scheduled for Monday, July 13. This will require only a few additional hours for all conference guests because the Christian Leaders' Conference is scheduled only hours before the beginning of the General Conference sessions.

TWENTY-TWO WORKSHOPS

The Christian Leaders' Conference is for every adult and young person attending the conference. A glance at this program will indicate the wide area of workshops which will be held. Your problem will be in choosing which workshop to attend, but since we repeat the workshop sessions in the afternoon, you can attend two such workshops.

Plan now to attend by arranging your travel and lodging in order that you can be present at the 10:00 A.M. opening session on Monday, July 13, 1964. We shall be using the air conditioned facilities of the First Baptist Church of Sacramento located at 24th and L Streets.

The following program and workshops will compose the Christian Leaders' Conference:

CHRISTIAN LEADERS' PROGRAM

- 10:00 A.M.—Meditation and Orientation—Rev. G. K. Zimmerman, Chairman.
- 10:30 A.M.—WORKSHOPS.
 1. "Books Can Talk" (Church Library)—Mrs. Robert Midthun, Lodi, Calif.
 2. "Staff Strategy Sessions" (Sunday School Workers' Conferences)—Rev. Harvey Mehlhaff, Lodi, Calif.
 3. "The Effective Use of the Bible in the Sunday School"—Prof. Arnold Rapske, Edmonton, Alta.
 4. "Music in the Sunday School"—Professor E. Link, Edmonton, Alta.
 5. "Board of Christian Education in the Local Church"—Miss Alethea S. Kose, Chicago, Ill.
 6. "Ministry to the Shut-Ins and Shut-Outs" (Home Department)—Dr. Douglas Gallagher, Cleveland, Ohio.
 7. "Camp Programs for Junior High and Senior High"—Rev. John Binder, Forest Park, Ill.
 8. "Dynamic Junior Camping Program"—Ruth Bathauer, Forest Park, Ill.
 9. "The Pastor's Wife in the Parsonage and Church"—Dr. George Lang, Sioux Falls, S. Dak.
 10. "New Approaches to Sunday Evening Services"—Rev. Howard Johnson, Burlington, Iowa.
 11. "Functional Relationships of

Church Officers to Pastor"—Rev. Robert Penner, Lansing, Mich.

Lunch

- 1:20 P.M.—General Assembly
 - 1:30 P.M.—3:00 P.M. WORKSHOPS. (Same sessions as in the morning)
 - 3:15 P.M.—Closing inspirational service—Presiding, Rev. G. K. Zimmerman
- Special music by the North American Baptist Seminary Quartet
Message: "It Costs to

Christian workers at this luncheon. The program will feature Christian education directors and leaders on the topic, "Long Range Planning." With the nations planning to go to the moon, we must plan for a more effective Christian education program, which is not for one year, but for the next decade and more. From previous conference experiences we know that the tickets have usually been sold out ahead of time. Get your tickets for the Christian Leaders' Luncheon upon registration at the conference!



The Adult Committee of the General Christian Education Committee discusses the new Bible-centered Sunday school lesson materials with the aid of a chart listing the total curriculum.

Seated (left to right): Rev. LeRoy Schauer; Rev. Paul Siewert, Chairman of the General Committee on Christian Education.

Standing (left to right): Rev. Alvin Harsch, Rev. Alex Sootzman, Rev. Daniel Kolke, and Rev. G. K. Zimmerman.

Teach" — Miss Betty Pershing, Christian Education Consultant for Gospel Light Publications

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

The Department of Christian Education report at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday morning will be presented through a unique combination of slides and natural settings. This report will provide very essential information for every Christian worker in our churches.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SESSIONS

There will be classes for children, youth and adults. Details will be available during the week of the conference and in the official program.

Make your plans now to attend the Christian Leaders' Conference and all other activities of the General Conference sessions in Sacramento, Calif., July 13-19!

ADDITIONAL CONFERENCE FEATURES

The Christian Workers' Luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday, July 15. The most unique fellowship of North American Baptist Christian leaders takes place at this triennial meeting of

Plan to attend this Christian Leaders' Conference at Sacramento to just before the opening of the General Conference sessions.

May 21, 1964

Luncheons, Breakfasts and Banquet Tickets

Special Announcement for the 34th General Conference at Sacramento, California, July 13-19, 1964.

Many of the gala events during the General Conference days in Sacramento, Calif., will be the occasions when North American Baptists will sit at the same table and fellowship together during the breakfast and luncheon hours. Even though the prices for these tickets may seem rather expensive, most of these events will be held at the Senator Hotel which is close to the Auditorium and which assures everyone of the finest possible food.

It will be important for you to secure your tickets for these events which you want to attend as soon as possible after your arrival in Sacramento. The maximum number of 1,000 tickets for the Saturday night banquet may be exhausted early in the Conference Week. The Women's Luncheon at the El Dorado Hotel on Thursday will be held in a spectacular setting.

Check the following list of breakfasts, luncheons and the banquet and take this with you to the Conference in Sacramento to help you in making your purchase of the tickets.

1. **Directors of Christian Education Breakfast**
Date: Tuesday, July 14—7-15 A.M.
Place: Senator Hotel (Jubilee Room)
Price: \$2.25.
2. **Woman's Missionary Union Executive Committee Breakfast**
Date: Wednesday, July 15—7:30 to 9:00 A.M.
Place: Senator Hotel (Rooms 221-223)
Price: \$2.25.

SALE OF TICKETS
All General Conference tickets will be available at Sacramento at the Memorial Auditorium when you register. Do not write for them in advance.

3. **Christian Workers' Luncheon**
Date: Wednesday, July 15—1:00 to 2:30 P.M.
Place: Senator Hotel (Empire Room)
Price: \$2:50.
4. **Pastors' Wives Fellowship Breakfast**
Date: Thursday, July 16—7:30 A.M.
Place: Senator Hotel (Embassy Room)
Price: \$2.25.
5. **Seminary Alumni Breakfast**
Date: Thursday, July 16—7:30 A.M.
Place: Senator Hotel (Empire Hall)
Price: \$2.25.
6. **Ministers' Luncheon**
Date: Thursday, July 16—1:15 P.M.
Place: Senator Hotel (Embassy Room)
Price: \$2:50.
7. **Laymen's Luncheon**
Date: Thursday, July 16—1:15 P.M.
Place: Elks Club Hall—11th and J St.
Price: \$2.25.
8. **The Woman's Missionary Union Luncheon**
Date: Thursday, July 16—1:15 P.M.
Place: Hotel El Dorado
Price: \$3.25
This luncheon as well as the "Reception and Tea" have been ar-



SACRAMENTO'S WILLIAM LAND PARK

This beautiful, scenic park of Sacramento contains ample picnic facilities, a large zoo, a fairy tale town for children, and a picturesque lake. Here at William Land Park the General Conference picnic will be held on Saturday, July 12th.

ranged by Mrs. Wanda Lippert and Mrs. Ann Fandrich and their Committees.

9. **Christian Training Institute Breakfast**
Date: Saturday, July 18—7:15 A.M.
Place: Senator Hotel (Embassy Room)
Price: \$2.25.
10. **General Conference Picnic—Box Lunch**
Date: Saturday, July 18
Place: William Land Park
Price: \$1.25 Per Box.
11. **General Conference BANQUET**
Date: Saturday, July 18—6:30 P.M.
Place: Senator Hotel (Empire Hall)
Number Attending: 1,000 (Fixed maximum).
Price: \$3:50.
12. **Retired Ministers' and Wives' Breakfast—(For retired ministers and those with 30 years of active service).**
Date: Sunday, July 19—7:45 A.M.
Place: Senator Hotel (Jubilee Room)
Complimentary Breakfast.
Banquet, Luncheons and Breakfasts Committee:
Rev. Eric Kuhn, Chairman
Mrs. Melita Cole
Mrs. Olga Helwig
Frank Veninga
Gerald Douglass

LITTLE BIT OF HEAVEN

(Continued from page 16)

est to you. Here you will find year-books, historian's books, the Scholarship Scrapbook, in addition to the White Cross display. As you visit this display you will find many helpful ideas to use in your local society. If you have not sent your yearbook to Mrs. Eric Pohl, 3714 S. E. Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, Oregon, be sure to do so at once.

PRESIDENTS, we urge you to read the president's summer letter to the members of your society because it contains important information concerning our business meeting.

The philosopher, Bronson Alcott, and the father of Louisa May Alcott, used a bottle of red ink when he wrote in his journal about what seemed to him the important things—the first robin in spring, the birth of a daughter, the day the roses bloomed in his garden, and a new step in religious experience. We ought to mark the great days of our spiritual life, mountain-top experiences, with red ink such as the General Conference will offer.

We are aglow with anticipation and are looking forward most eagerly to welcoming you to our women's activities. Your presence will be your contribution for a wonderful conference. Do come and join us in Sacramento!

1865 GENERAL CONF.

(Continued from page 5)

in the wisdom and faith of our illustrious and consecrated forefathers, the foundations were laid, by which our organization could grow and be of untold blessing to multitudes during the century which has since passed.

1865 CONFERENCE RECORDS

This first General Conference (known as the Bundeskonferenz) attended by 54 delegates (all of them men) was opened on Thursday evening, Sept. 14, 1865 at the Wilmot Church. One of the first sentences in the Conference minutes describes "the love and good will that radiated in all of the faces so that these brethren, even in advance of the business sessions, were convinced that God answers prayer and that he had brought them together in the right mind and in his Spirit to organize this Conference."

Rev. Konrad A. Fleischmann of Philadelphia, Pa., was elected as the first moderator. A letter from Professor August Rauschenbusch was read to the assembled Conference.

Then this epoch making resolution was unanimously passed: "All of us, for the sake of the spiritual welfare of our churches, are convinced about the great importance and the urgent necessity for a General Conference, and so we are voting with overwhelming joy that such a General Conference, meeting triennially, should be organized and should carry on effectively for our Lord and Savior." That was the birth of our General Conference on Friday, Sept. 15, 1865 which has now reached its 100th milestone in Sacramento, California.

In a spirit of humility and great faith, decisions were made by the 1865 General Conference which have shaped our denominational life in this unfolding century. A Publication Society was organized and its ministry was outlined which is still carrying on today in the same spirit and in keeping with the same general objectives. There was lengthy discussion concerning our educational tasks, the preparation of a hymnal, the undertaking of relief and pension aid for ministers and their widows, and the future of the Conference. The delegates voted the approval of a resolution praising God for the outcome of the Civil War, for the victory over slavery regarded as "the shame of America," and recognizing the equality of Negroes with all whites as the great blessing resulting from the bloody struggle of the Civil War.

"THE EVERLASTING GOD"

So the General Conference ended on Wednesday, Sept. 20, 1865 singing, "Now Thank We All Our God," and rejoicing that no longer were there an Eastern Conference and a Western Conference but "all are now one in the Lord." So the Lord's Supper was observed and Rev. Konrad A. Fleisch-



SACRAMENTO'S FABULOUS EL DORADO MOTEL

Swimming pool, outdoor dining facilities and motel rooms of Hotel El Dorado, located about two miles from downtown Sacramento where many General Conference visitors will stay during the Conference days.

mann, the first pioneer pastor, told about God's guidance in his life and about the earliest beginnings of the churches. Again the record stated that "God revealed his glory in this service as tears flowed and God's people testified that their hearts had been warmed by all that they had seen and heard." So they clasped their hands in affectionate farewell and, at the close of the day with the setting of the sun, took to the road to go to their respective homes.

The God of glory of those early pioneer days is still "The Everlasting God" today at the 100th anniversary of our General Conference. He who was "our help in ages past" is still "our hope for years to come" in the greatness of our General Conference's fellowship and ministry.

THE BUSY BUSINESSMAN

(Continued from page 4)

sion projects through the work of this important committee.

A very important responsibility was thrust on his shoulders in 1955 in becoming the chairman of the Commission on Denominational Objectives and Organization. This required a thorough, three year study of our denominational setup and recommendations for changes and improvements affecting every phase of our denominational ministry. The Commission's report presented in 1958 at Edmonton, Alberta, has given new impetus to our ministry and has brought great blessing to the various cooperating societies.

In 1958 at the Edmonton General Conference Edwin H. Marklein was elected vice moderator and in 1961 at Minneapolis, Minn., he was honored by the General Conference to serve for a

three year term as moderator. During these years he has given eminent leadership in the difficult tasks that he has faced. He has traveled extensively in order to meet the many engagements and committee meetings. He has spoken frequently at the dedication of church extension projects, Conference programs and special events. He has represented the North American Baptist General Conference at the White House in Washington, D. C. at a dinner honoring the president of the Federal Republic of Cameroon, Africa and at other festive gatherings. He is the type of genial, enthusiastic, dedicated layman who gives added prestige to our Conference in the larger circle of Christian groups.

He met the young lady who became his wife at a young people's camp held informally at the summer home of Rev. and Mrs. W. J. Zirbes in New Jersey. He and his wife served for six years managing the Baptist Summer Cottage at Bradley Beach, N. J. For five years he served as chairman of the Board of Directors of the Children's Home on Ocean Avenue in Brooklyn, N. Y. He has served for many years on the Board of Trustees and for some time as the treasurer of the Watchman-Examiner Foundation, responsible for the publishing of this Baptist weekly paper.

Ed Marklein has "many irons in the fire," as you can see, serving with faithfulness and distinction in these many areas of Christian's concern. He loves people and the fellowship with Christian friends, and his outgoing, genial personality reveals this interest in others. But above all, he is devoted to his Lord and Master, eager to honor his Name, to testify of God's grace and love in his own life, and to see our North American Baptist General Conference go forward under the banner of the Cross of Jesus Christ.

Baptist Distinctives

Statement presented to the Baptist Jubilee Rally at Atlantic City, N. J., May 22 to 24, as the basic convictions of 22 million Baptists participating in the Baptist Jubilee Advance.

BAPTISTS, from their organized beginnings in the early 17th century, have tenaciously held dear certain basic convictions. Some of these they have borrowed from other Christians. Some were the results of their fresh understanding of the Word of God and the world of men. The validity of many of these insights has, through the years, brought about their adoption by other Christian groups as well.

It would not be true, therefore, to say that any one Baptist conviction is held today by Baptists only. It is true, however, that they hold them in combination in a manner not found in other churches. This combination results in a Christian witness which is peculiarly and distinctively Baptist.

AUTHORITY

Christ as Lord of the Believers. The foundation truth upon which Baptists build is the Lordship of Christ over the individual believer. All other authorities are judged by the authority of the Son of God. Ultimate loyalty, therefore, is given to a Person, rather than to creeds, books, historic patterns, or effective procedures. Christ's will is mandatory for the believer. Joyful submission and purposeful obedience to the Savior form the essence of the Christian life.

Christ as Head of the Church. Just as Christ is confessed as Lord of the individual believer, so also Baptists recognize him as head of the church. He is head of the church in its expression within a local congregation. He is likewise head of the church in its wider expression which includes all those redeemed by his grace. No vicar, pope, bishop, prophet, elder, minister, priest, council, synod, or convention can usurp the primacy of Christ's authority. Neither may anything nor anyone interfere with the directness of that authority to the church. The church, therefore, never moves with greater sureness, purpose, and victory than when it acknowledges its proper relationship to Jesus Christ. In the imagery of Scripture, we confess that the body must submit to the head.

The Scriptures. The Bible has always been recognized by Baptists as having a unique role and character. For them, the inspired Scriptures possess authority in all matters of faith and practice. Though not known as a creedal people, Baptists have, nevertheless, at times found it helpful to use creeds or confessions of faith. These have been used primarily as instruments to systematize and summarize certain Biblical truths. Such formulated statements, however, have never been accorded the same status as Scripture. They have always

been recognized as deriving their authority from the Bible; moreover, their validity has always been judged by the Scriptures.

CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE

Spiritual Rebirth. Baptists understand the Bible to teach that it is by a personal spiritual rebirth that one becomes a member of the Family of God. This regenerating experience can be effected within a human life only by the power of a gracious and loving God. No boasting or other expressions of personal pride are, therefore, appropriate to one who has been the recipient of such redemptive grace.

Man's Response. Though salvation is of God, man must make the proper response to this divine provision for his need. His response begins with an acknowledgement of his sin and his estrangement from God. It continues with his sincere repentance. It includes also his personal faith in the One who reconciles men to God.

THE CHURCH

The Universal Church. Many early Baptists in their confessional statements expressed a belief in the Church Universal as composed of all who truly profess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior by whatever denominational name they are known. They also indicated their understanding of the church as being visibly expressed in local congregations where the Gospel was truly preached, the ordinances rightly administered, and the discipline

of holiness maintained. This dual understanding of the church has been maintained by Baptists to the present day and is a viewpoint which allows them to recognize other communions as fellow Christians.

A Fellowship of Believers. Baptists began with the conviction that the church is a fellowship of believers who, upon personal repentance and profession of faith, have been incorporated into the body of Christ through the activity of the Holy Spirit. Thus they stand apart from those who assume that citizenship in a "Christian" nation, living within the geographical boundaries of a church parish, or receiving baptism as an infant places one within the church. Personal Christian experience always precedes church membership. Within the fellowship of believers, Baptists find nurture for their Christian experience to help them grow into the fullness of the stature of Christ.

Baptism by Immersion. The ordinance of baptism is the act of entry into the fellowship of the local church. Their study of the New Testament led Baptists to conclude that only immersion has Scriptural authority as a mode of baptism. The meaning of the originally-used Greek words, the contexts of Scriptural descriptions of the act, and the historic evidence of early church practice support this contention. The symbolism of baptism revealed in Scripture, which portrays death, burial and resurrection, has confirmed Baptists in their conviction that only immersion speaks clearly of the meaning of this ordinance.

Baptists also baptize none but believers. Since baptism is an outward expression of an inward experience, the former has no meaning apart from the latter. Thus, baptism of infants who are incapable of personal faith, mass baptism of peoples without due regard for their personal relationship to God, and baptism of the unconscious or dead have not been practiced.

Baptism is not viewed by Baptists as mediating in any way the saving grace of God to the individual. It is seen rather as one of the significant first acts of obedience to be performed by the individual who has experienced spiritual rebirth. In the waters of baptism, one thus reveals symbolically his death to an old life and his resurrection by God's Spirit to a new life in Christ. This act is attended by God's blessing upon the one who so confesses his faith and also upon the community of believers who witness his profession.

The Lord's Supper. The second ordinance administered by the church is that of the Lord's Supper. While Bap-

tists reject doctrines of transubstantiation and consubstantiation, nevertheless, they find genuine spiritual renewal through the observance of this memorial feast. The memory of Christ's sufferings and death brings to the believer the wholesome experiences of self-examination, repentance, a new-found sense of communion with God, a purposeful dedication to the divine will, and a new loyalty to the body of Christ.

BAPTIST CONGREGATIONS

Democratic Government. Since the church is composed of the redeemed who have equal access to the presence, mind, and will of God, Baptists are convinced that the local church should be governed democratically by its own congregation. While it is not assumed that church decisions democratically arrived at always reflect the will of God, it is assumed that a spiritually sensitive congregation is less likely to misinterpret the divine will than an individual believer. The New Testament gives prominence to the congregation and the local expression of the priesthood of believers.

An Ordained Ministry. An ordained clergy has always been part of Baptist structure. Ordination is a formal recognition that God has given a set-apart ministry to the church, that he has called a man into his service, endowed him with spiritual gifts to bless the church, and, further, that the candidate has taken seriously the divine call by giving evidence of thorough preparation and a holy life. Ordination is an act of the local church and is conferred following the recommendation of a council, composed of ordained and lay representatives of sister churches, which examines the candidate.

Principle of Association. Baptist churches have recognized from the beginning of their history that loyalty to the New Testament requires them to associate together. The practical values of so doing have been recognized and appreciated by them. They have found in their conventions, conferences, federations and unions satisfying opportunities for fellowship, mutual encouragement, corporate witness, evangelization, missionary outreach, and other expressions of Christian concern. The relation of the local church to the larger organization, though recognized as important, has always been a voluntary one.

FREEDOM

Individual Liberty. Baptists have long pled for and have practiced consistently religious liberty for all men. Today, although zealous to propagate their own convictions, they refuse to use physical, economic, or political intimidation to obtain converts. They also vigorously protest the use of these tactics by others.

Baptists further believe that every follower of Jesus Christ is free to come to God without the mediation of a



ATLANTIC CITY'S FAMOUS BOARDWALK

Here at Atlantic City, New Jersey, 40,000 Baptists, including hosts of young people, will gather for an inspiring Baptist Jubilee and Missionary Rally from May 22-24, 1964.

priestly class which has an exclusive control over the dispensing of divine favor. The Christian is free to read the Bible and be guided to its meaning by the Holy Spirit. In becoming a part of the witness of a local church, however, his freedom in doctrinal interpretation and personal behavior is tempered by the convictions and needs of the community of believers.

Church Liberty. Baptists believe that a local church is free to make and carry out the policies and programs which best reflect and fulfill God's purpose for the church. The church always has the obligation to give heed to the direction of Jesus Christ, and must be free to do so. This freedom is conditioned by the fact that each church bears a living relationship to the total body of Christ. In the words of Scripture: "the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee."

In Relation to the State. Closely related to the understanding of Baptists concerning individual and church freedom is their conviction that there must be a basic separation between church and state. It is recognized that God has given legitimate roles to church and state which both must carry out in the world of men and women. The state's primary responsibility is to people as citizens. The church's primary responsibility is to those who are its members. The state's primary functions are to exercise civil authority, maintain law and order, and promote public welfare. The church's primary functions are to witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to build up believers in their faith. Since the constituencies and functions of the church and the state respectively are not identical, each must maintain separate administrations, separate sources of support, and separate educational programs.

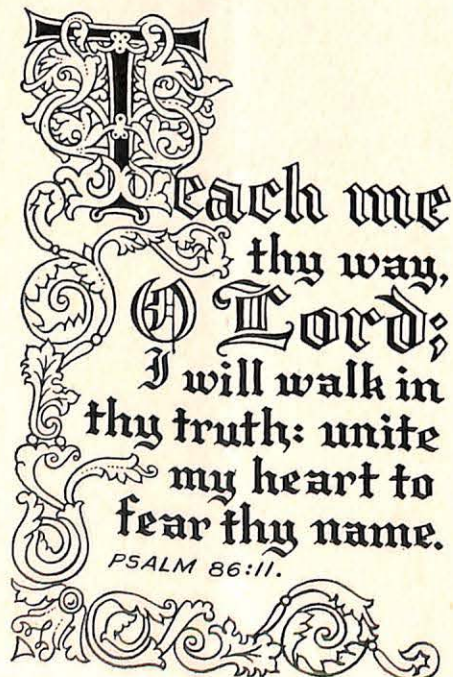
MISSION

Proclamation of the Gospel. Baptists declare that the proclamation of the Gospel is central to their task in the world. They recognize the Gospel to be God's good news to man. This good news touches the whole man. It bears upon intellectual, emotional, physical and social needs. It offers forgiveness for past failures, strength for present testings, and hope for life's future experiences. Baptists realize that proclaiming the Gospel involves more than speaking of its truths. It means allowing the Holy Spirit to work creatively through one's total personality so that the dynamic power of Jesus Christ impinges upon men in their need.

Missionary Outreach. Recognizing the relevancy of the Gospel for all men, Baptists have demonstrated a missionary passion that has carried them to the ends of the earth. The knowledge of human need and God's provision to meet it have offered sufficient motivation for missionaries to endure hardship and death in their efforts to serve as ambassadors of Jesus Christ. The daring faith of these men and women has so inspired Baptists, that they find it easier to rally to the support of this aspect of their Christian responsibility than to almost any other. Baptists believe that the Gospel of Christ "is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth."

Committee on Baptist Distinctives:

Dr. Russell F. Aldwinckle, Chairman,
Canadian Baptist Convention.
Rev. David J. Draewell, North American Baptists.
Rev. Melvin G. Nida, Seventh Day Baptists.
Dr. E. S. James, Southern Baptist Convention.
Rev. C. M. Smith, American Baptist Convention.



California's Wonderlands Near Sacramento

Feast your eyes on the glory of God's handiwork in California in connection with the General Conference at Sacramento, Calif., July 13 to 19, 1964.

By Mr. E. M. Howen
of Lodi, California



The Waterfall Spectacle in Yosemite National Park is the greatest in the world. Here Yosemite Falls plunge down 1430 feet (Upper Fall) followed by another drop of 320 feet in the Lower Fall.

SACRAMENTO, the capital of California, with a metropolitan population of 300,000, embraces the site at which Captain John A. Sutter arrived in 1839 and began the erection of an adobe house, now widely known as Sutter's Fort. This was the first outpost of white civilization in the interior of California. The adobe house has been restored and now houses a collection of relics of pioneer and gold rush days.

Sacramento has been the state capital since 1854. The capitol building was erected between 1861-74. It is noted for beauty of construction, fine proportions and a lofty dome constructed 237 feet above street level. More than a thousand varieties of trees, shrubs and plants from all parts of the world are found in the park surrounding the building.

Sacramento is at the center of the great Central Valley, one of the most fertile growing regions on earth. Situated between the Sierra Nevada and Coast Range Mountains, it extends from the Redding area in the north to just south of Bakersfield, 425 miles long, from 40 to 80 miles wide, containing two-thirds of California's agricultural lands. Virtually every fruit, vegetable and field crop of temperate and sub-tropical zones is grown.

There are many wonderful places to visit within a few hours driving time from Sacramento: Shasta Dam, Lassen Volcanic Park, Lake Tahoe, Calaveras Big Trees, San Francisco, Yosemite, Donner, Sequoia. The roads to these places pass through wonderlands, too. In succession you drive through palm and pine forests, groves of oranges and oaks, valleys and mountains, vineyards

and orchards.

In a brief two hours you can reach the blue Pacific—or climb the summit of the towering Sierras—or browse through an abandoned gold mine in the byways of the Mother Lode. Where else can you enjoy yourself so well, so easily, so completely, as in the Sacramento area?

A STORYBOOK CITY

San Francisco is one of the most beautiful cities in the world. It rises on a hilly peninsula between the Bay of San Francisco and the Pacific Ocean and it is filled with excitement and rich experiences for the visitor. It is a cosmopolitan world-city, tolerant, creative and gay—a storybook city where West meets East in endless fascination. Once you have visited San Francisco, it will always have a place in your heart.

Among the city's wonders are the hilltop views, bay and islands, the world's greatest bridges, Chinatown—the largest outside Asia, a great harbor and world port, superb cuisine and atmosphere of many lands. Founded as an outpost of New Spain in 1776, it sprang into being as a city in the Gold Rush of 1849 and the 50's. Men came to it from every quarter of the globe. They brought to it their cultures and established traditions.

San Francisco is the metropolis of northern and central California, a region almost twice the size of New York State. The city has an area of 45 square miles and a population of 745,000. Around the 450 square mile bay live an additional 3,200,000 people.

Good eating is "law" in San Francisco and you can dine here in just about every language—English, Swedish, German, Austrian, French, Russian, Spanish, Kosher, Japanese, Filipino, East Indian, Moroccan, Armenian, Latin-

American, Mexican, American, American-Italian, French, Polynesian, Chinese, Basque.

GOLDEN GATE PARK

San Francisco's Golden Gate Park is the largest man-made park in the world and one of the most beautiful. Three miles long and a half mile wide, it is 1,017 acres of beautiful garden. Points of interest include the Academy of Sciences with hour long sky shows of spectacular beauty at the planetarium. The Science Museum displays North America's most magnificent birds and animals against backgrounds depicting natural surroundings. African Hall is devoted exclusively to outstanding mammals from Africa.

Steinhart Aquarium was reopened this year following extensive remodeling. Thousands of fishes from the oceans, lakes and rivers of the world swim in glass-fronted exhibition tanks. The Arboretum covers some 40 acres and has about 3,000 species and varieties of plants from all over the world. The Conservatory, erected in 1878, is a block long glass building containing rare tropical plants and flowers, including many varieties of orchids.

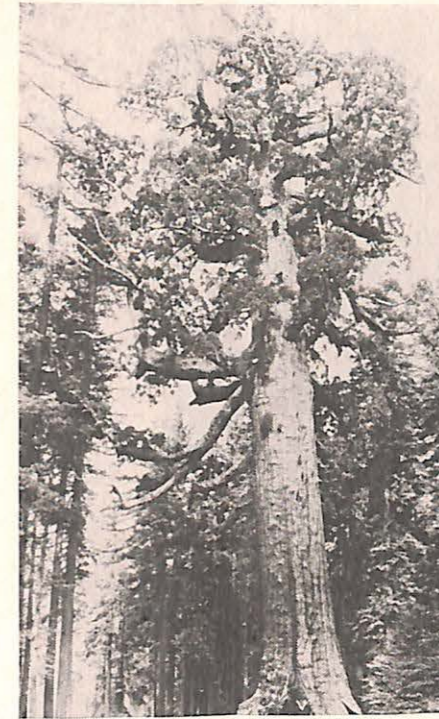
The De Young Museum contains a large permanent collection of European and American Art, with an attendance approaching one million persons each year. A bit of transplanted old Japan is the Japanese Tea Garden, established in 1894. An area of storybook beauty, bamboo-fenced walks wind through the landscaped grounds, beside sparkling lakes with goldfish, miniature waterfalls and dwarfed, twisted conifers.

YOSEMITE PARK

Nearby is Fleishhacker Zoo, with an animal population well over 1,000, in surroundings as near to their natural habitat as is possible. Fleishhacker Pool, with a length of 1,000 feet and containing 6,000,000 gallons of warmed sea water, is one of the largest swimming pools in the world. Storyland, in the Fleishhacker group, is for the children. This recreational area covers 3½ acres and is a playground where illustrations for children's stories come to life.

Yosemite National Park is a mountainous region of unusual beauty, a short four hours from Sacramento. The main route is through Merced on U. S. Highway 99. The park contains 1,189 square miles with Yosemite Valley stretching seven miles in length and averaging one mile in width. Visitors, even when familiar with its main features through pictures, are surprised by the sheer immensity of the precipices on each side of the valley floor, the loftiness of the numerous waterfalls, the majesty of the granite walls, and the apparent unreality of the whole picture.

The valley is particularly well-known for spectacular waterfalls. Upper Yosemite Fall drops 1,430 feet in one sheer drop. In Mariposa Grove is one of



GRIZZLY GIANT

These giant redwoods in Mariposa Grove rise arrow straight to heights over 300 feet, monstrous in girth and thousands of years old.

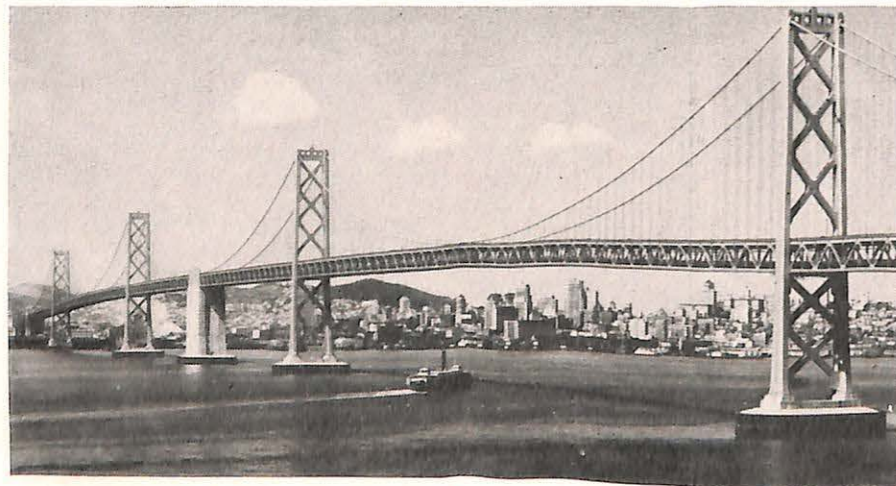
the finest sequoia groves outside the Sequoia National Park, further south. These redwoods are hard to believe even when you see them. Rising arrow straight to known heights over 300 feet, monstrous in girth and thousands of years old, adults of the species have no equals on earth.

GIGANTIC REDWOODS

The chronology of mature trees of the two redwood species reads like a cross-section from the annals of human civilization. A typical specimen could have sprouted as a seedling at the time when Egyptian overseers were driving hundreds of slaves to the task of building the fabled Temple of Karnak. As the children of Israel went to Egypt and a life of bondage, the tree would have reached its 600th year. When the beautiful Parthenon of Greece was being constructed, the tree reached a height of 300 feet and a diameter of 25 feet. Its 2,000th year occurred at the time of the birth of Jesus Christ. Today, that same tree, and others like it, with a circumference of 100 feet or more, still flourish, vigorous and healthy.

The largest of these forest monarchs, though not the highest, is the General Sherman Tree of Sequoia National Park. It is nearly 102 feet around with a base diameter of 36½ feet. A single branch is 104 feet long and 7 feet in diameter where it joins the trunk of the tree. Estimated age is 3,500 years. There is no evidence that any tree of the species has ever died by simply being too old to live.

Here in Northern California live venerable forest kings in reveries that carry back a thousand years before Jesus Christ walked the shores of Galilee, and in their presence man is overpowered by a sense of his own insignificance. All of this scenic glory and beauty can easily be seen by you before or after the General Conference sessions in Sacramento, Calif., July 13 to 19, 1964.



SAN FRANCISCO SKYLINE FROM THE OAKLAND BAY BRIDGE
San Francisco, known as one of the most beautiful cities in the world, is filled with excitement for every visitor. Once you have visited San Francisco, it will always have a place of affection in your heart.



BLACKSMITH SHOP AT SUTTER'S FORT, SACRAMENTO
Here in this reconstructed Blacksmith Shop in Sutter's Fort, one can see many old tools of the California pioneers, a forge with its great hand-made bellows, and the innumerable sooty objects to be found in these old shops.



CONGRATULATIONS FOR THE NEW LAKESHORE BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. B. A. Itterman (3rd from left), pastor of the newly organized Lakeshore Church, Stevensville, Mich., receives the congratulations from other NAB pastors (left to right): Rev. R. Shepley, Rev. Rubin Kern, Rev. David J. Draewell, Rev. L. H. Broeker and Mr. Kenneth Fenner.

Church Charter Signed by 78 Members

The official beginning on March 1st of the Lakeshore Baptist Church, Stevensville, Michigan with Rev. B. A. Itterman, Pastor, as reported by Mrs. Herbert Seel.

THE MEMBERS of the new Lakeshore Baptist Church, Stevensville, Mich., under the pastorate of Rev. B. A. Itterman, have so many blessings for which to be thankful. Since the first of March 1964, we have signed the church charter, put ourselves wholly into the work here at Lakeshore, and have re-dedicated our lives to the service of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Testimonies were given on three Sunday evenings in February resulting in ten more persons being baptized on the Wednesday evening prior to the charter signing. This was the second time we had used the baptistry at St. Joseph's First Baptist Church, our mother church. In all, there were 78 persons who signed the charter of the New Lakeshore Church.

On Charter Sunday, March 1, our attendance was 154 in the morning worship hour. Rev. Rubin Kern, Eastern District Secretary, spoke on "The Church Defined." The charter signing was held in the afternoon and three other N.A.B. churches were invited to attend: St. Joseph's First Baptist, Napier Parkview and First German Baptist Churches of Benton Harbor. Remarks were given by Rev. Norman Vernon of Napier Parkview and Rev. L. H. Broeker of St. Joseph. The address, "Challenge to the Church," was presented by Rev. David Draewell, Secretary of Stewardship and Higher Education.

Mr. Doyle Barkmeier, chairman of the Advisory Board of Lakeshore, gave

the response to the challenge, after which we signed the charter. The dedicatory prayer by Rev. Reginald Shepley, was followed by the Lakeshore Choir singing "Sing Praises" by Glarum. Congregational singing was directed by Mr. Kenneth Fenner, Associate Pastor of First Baptist, and each church presented a musical number by its choir.



Mrs. Alma Henderson, Cameroon missionary, is honored by the Napier Parkview Baptist Church, Benton Harbor, Mich., with Dr. John McDonald, asst. Sunday school superintendent (right) making the presentation of a gift, and with Rev. N. Vernon, pastor, (left), expressing the thanks of the church.

RIDGEWOOD, N. Y. The 96th anniversary of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Ridgewood Baptist Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., will be a long remembered occasion. Under the able leadership of the president, Mrs. Ella Beck, the program offered spiritual enrichment and happy fellowship. Mrs. Edwin Marklein read the Scripture and Rev. Alphonz Lamprecht led in prayer. The adult choir sang and then Mr. Edwin Marklein, moderator of our General Conference, introduced our distinguished guest, Missionary Laura E. Reddig. On Easter Sunday Miss Reddig joined our worship "fresh" from the ship which brought her from Africa. We were greatly honored by her presence and participation. She responded characteristically to the verbal flowers bestowed upon her by saying they belonged only at one place—at the feet of Jesus. Miss Reddig showed slides of Cameroon activities. Mrs. A. Lamprecht beautifully expressed the essence of this happy evening with her violin. Finally, there was a lovely vocal solo by Mildred Marklein of the Evergreen Church.

BENTON HARBOR, MICH. The Woman's Missionary Society of the Napier Parkview Baptist Church, Benton Harbor, Mich., recently sponsored a dinner meeting in the church's dining parlors honoring Mrs. George Henderson, our missionary to Cameroon, Africa. Mrs. Joyce Effa, chairman of the gathering, was loyally supported by a corps of women in the kitchen. The young people of the church waited on the tables. A capacity crowd, estimated at 500, filled the beautifully decorated dining hall. Many personal gifts were presented to Mrs. Henderson and hampered of supplies to be used on the mission field were also given her.—(R. Shepley, Reporter).

● The 25th anniversary of the beginning of the ministry of Rev. John Goetze, pastor of the German Zion Baptist Church of Milwaukee, Wis., was celebrated by the church on Sunday, April 19. On that Sunday the 25th wedding anniversary of Rev. and Mrs. John Goetze was also observed by the church with a festive program, honoring the pastor and his wife.

● The Bismarck Baptist Church, Bismarck, N. Dak., experienced the joy on Sunday, March 15, of seeing their pastor, Rev. Allan Strohschein, assisted by Rev. Walter Sukut lead nine candidates through the waters of baptism on confession of their faith in Christ as Savior. A communion service was held on April 5 when 19 persons were received into the membership of the church.

● From April 19 to 26 special evangelistic meetings were held at Grosse Pointe Baptist Church, Grosse Pointe Woods, Mich., with Dr. John Linton serving as evangelist. A volunteer choir sang each night at the Crusade. The Spring Choir Concert was held on Sunday evening, May 3, with a capacity crowd in attendance. The church held its annual meeting and election of officers on April 28. Dr. A. Dale Ihrie is pastor of the church.

● Miss Barbara Kieper, missionary nurse stationed at the Bamenda New Hope Settlement for leprosy patients in Cameroon, Africa, returned to the United States by plane about the middle of May. No deputation trips have been planned for her, since she will need some medical attention and rest. However it is hoped that she will be able to attend the sessions of the 34th General Conference in Sacramento and to bring her testimony there.

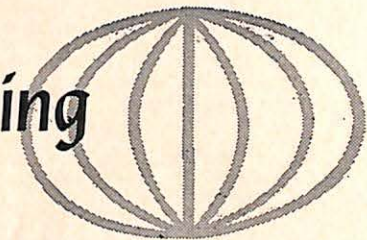
● The Baptist Churches of Anamoose, N. Dak., and of nearby Lincoln Valley have extended a call to Rev. Alvin Auch of Rapid City, S. Dak., to which a favorable response has been given. For several years since his graduation from the North American Baptist Seminary in Sioux Falls, S. Dak., Mr. Auch has been engaged in social service work for South Dakota. He began his ministry at the Anamoose and Lincoln Valley churches on April 15, succeeding Rev. Arnold M. Friez.

● The Central Baptist Church of Waco, Texas experienced many rich blessings during the week of April 5-12, when special meetings were held. The guest speaker, Dr. A. J. Harms of Pomona, Calif., brought challenging messages from God's Word. A spiritually warm atmosphere prevailed throughout the meetings, and "the church is grateful to the Lord for all the blessings he has given us" as reported by Mrs. R. E. Engelbrecht. Rev. L. B. Hinz is pastor of the church.

● The Sunday morning services on Easter Sunday at the Redeemer Baptist Church, Warren, Mich., recorded an attendance of 942 in spite of cold

weather and snow, the second highest in the history of the church. The church members recently voted to send their pastor, Rev. Adolph Braun, on a trip to the Holy Land as an anniversary gift in honor of ten years of faithful and dedicated service to Redeemer Church (formerly the First Baptist Church of Center Line, Mich.) Due to previous commitments, the date of the trip has not yet been chosen.

what's happening



● The Bethel Baptist Church of St. Clair Shores, Mich., began its 1964 Centennial Celebrations with a message by a former pastor, Dr. Owen Miller of Riverside, Calif., on Sunday morning, May 17; and with Dr. Lester Harnish, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Portland, Ore., speaking on Sunday morning, May 24. On June 21 Rev. S. Sommerschild, former pastor, will speak and on June 23 at the Centennial Banquet Dr. Charles W. Koller of Chicago, Ill., will be guest speaker. Rev. H. H. Riffel is pastor of the Bethel Church.

● Rev. H. Lohr has been serving as the interim pastor of the Grace Baptist Church, Sheffield, Iowa since Oct. 11, 1963. The Iowa Young People's Retreat was held in Sheffield late in November with Rev. Harry Haas of Sumner, Iowa serving as dean, with Flavius Martin of Africa and Herbert Jaksteit of Germany as speakers, and with Mr. Ahlquist of St. Paul, Minn., ministering as the principal teacher. On March 18 the church had the privilege of hearing Mrs. Alma Henderson and Miss Gertrude Schatz, Cameroon missionaries.

● On Sunday, April 12, the First Baptist Church of Norridge, Ill., dedicated its new outside bulletin boards that have been donated by Mr. Herbert Siemund and observed its 4th anniversary of services held in the church building. Rev. Walter Schmidt, pastor, spoke on "A Living Memorial." Mr. Herman Siemund brought appropriate remarks and Miss Ann Luedke read the list of contributions to various church memorials for the Memorial Repository. A new garage has also been built for the parsonage as a gift by Mr. Herman Siemund.

● The 25 voice choir of the First Baptist Church, Linton, N. Dak., directed by the pastor, Rev. Herman Effa, rendered the cantata, "Alleluia" by Lida S. Leech and Floyd W. Hawkins, at the

6:00 A.M. sunrise service on Easter Sunday morning at which time friends from the local Evangelical United Brethren Church were guests. This was followed by an Easter breakfast. Then on Easter Sunday evening the choir presented the cantata, "Hallelujah, What A Savior" by John W. Peterson. Mrs. Gottlieb Kremer was the pianist. The offering received went toward the purchase of choir gowns.

● At the communion service held on Maunday Thursday during Holy Week by the Oak Street Church, Burlington, Iowa, Rev. Howard Johnson, pastor, welcomed 21 new members into the church: 16 by baptism, three by experience and two by letter. Recent highlights of the Family Hour program on Sunday evenings have been a provocative message on "Races and Nationalities" by a guest speaker, Mr. De Edwin White, and a guest panel on the subject of divorce. Other topics to be discussed at these Sunday evening programs are Common Honesty, Social Justice, Christians and Labor, and the Liquor Problem.

● On Wednesday, April 1, the Faith Baptist Church of Regina, Sask., was host to the Jubilee Choristers of the Christian Training Institute of Edmonton, Alta. Friends from the community and from the neighboring churches joined the church members for this inspiring program. The sacred concert and religious drama directed by Prof. E. B. Link and entitled, "Truth is Immortal," tell the story of the faith and martyrdom of Balthasar Hubmaier, Baptist pioneer. Mrs. Lester Kuehl reported that "these young people of the CTI are to be commended for their excellent presentation of this musical drama on the life of Hubmaier."

● The Donation Day program at the Central Baptist Home, Norridge, Ill., was held by the Women's Baptist Service Union of Chicago and vicinity on Monday evening, April 6, before a large audience that taxed the seating capacity of the chapel and adjoining dining hall. The Chicago Area Ladies' Chorus of 25 voices under the direction of Mrs. Herbert R. Pankratz sang six selections of praise to God including "Thanks Be to God." Dr. R. Schilke of Forest Park, Ill., presented a series of colored pictures on Latin America

(Continued on page 19)

"A Little Bit of Heaven"

An abundance of spiritual riches await the women of our churches at the women's sessions and activities during the 34th General Conference in Sacramento, July 13 to 19.

By Mrs. Harm Sherman, President of the Woman's Missionary Union

HOW OFTEN we have heard someone use this phrase, "A little bit of heaven," when they have attended a conference or experienced some spiritual highlight! We can truly say with confidence, "A little bit of Heaven" awaits all those who are planning to attend the General Conference in Sacramento, Calif., July 13-19.

The summer months are usually thought of as vacation months. Families are bubbling with the expectation of seeing new horizons, exploring new highways, and making new friends. Dining room tables are cluttered with road maps. The desire to see as much

questions of importance; to receive instruction and plans for the next triennium; and to enjoy the fellowship of others. Then there are "fringe benefits" too numerous to mention. For many months the women on the west coast have been in the process of planning the women's activities to fulfill the purpose of a great conference. What a storehouse of spiritual riches awaits us!

The chairmen of our activities are as follows: Mrs. Ella Schmiedt, Program Chairman and co-ordinator of our activities; Mrs. Ann Fandrich, Chairman of the Luncheon Committee; Mrs.

tables. The deadline for the purchase of tickets will be Tuesday noon, July 14. In case you cannot be there when the Conference opens, be sure to have your pastor or a friend get a ticket for you.

You will be interested in a new Special Project which will be introduced at our business meeting. Through a dramatic presentation you will become acquainted as to how this project will operate. Following the presentation, you will be given an opportunity to vote on this project. You will be thrilled to see how we as women can do even greater things for the Lord by advances that can be made on the mission fields, what added power will be received because of concentrated prayer concern and what changes can occur in our lives as we discipline ourselves in the denial of self.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON PROGRAM

The program on Friday afternoon, July 17, at the Memorial Auditorium will be one that will live long in our memories. This program is entitled "Go Ye"—Our Challenge! The entire Conference is invited to share the blessings of this meeting. As we listen to our beloved missionaries, the inspiring music of the Ministers' Wives Chorus, the challenge of the dramatization, "Each One—Win One," you will realize that "a little bit of heaven" has actually become a reality.

As a climax of such an afternoon of inspiration, a delightful Missionary Reception and Tea has been planned. Everyone is invited to this time of fellowship and you will have an opportunity to meet the missionaries, your national officers and a great host of friends.

Since Mrs. Hisashi Murakami will be with us during the days of the General Conference, you will have an opportunity to meet her. It will be a real thrill to meet her and see tangible evidence of what our monetary contributions have achieved. As you know, our Special Project for this year has been to contribute \$2,000 for her passage and keep at the Seminary at Sioux Falls, S. Dak. We are making excellent progress on this project and the deadline for contributions will be June 30. These contributions are to be sent to NORTH AMERICAN BAPTISTS, INC., 7308 Madison Street, Forest Park, Illinois. Be sure to mark your offering: MRS. MURAKAMI PROJECT.

DISPLAYS AND EXHIBITS

Our Woman's Missionary Union Display and Exhibit will be one of inter-

(Continued on page 8)



sunday school lessons

REV. B. C. SCHREIBER, FOREST PARK, ILLINOIS

A TEACHING GUIDE

Date: May 31, 1964

Theme: ALL NATIONS UNDER GOD

Scripture: Amos 2:4-7; Acts 17:24-26

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT: Everybody ought to be proud of one's country, but not at the expense of other nations.

INTRODUCTION: There is an extreme nationalistic feeling in the world today which is based very often, not so much on the love of one's country, but on the hate and hostility of other countries. More and more nations are aroused by the desire to be independent, as though this is a panacea for all the troubles and ills of people.

The Christian must apply the teachings and principles of the Bible interpersonal relationships which will influence his attitude and loyalty to his own country and toward other nations. We are ambassadors for Jesus Christ wherever we are. A missionary in a foreign land represents Christ, but what he is and what he does will also reflect on the nation from which he comes.

As you study the context of this lesson, do not close your eyes to the faults of your own country while looking upon other nations as backward and below our standards. If God so loved the world, then he must have the whole world in his plan.

I. NATIONALISM AND GOD'S LAWS. Amos 2:4-5.

Although we look upon the Jewish nation as a chosen people there is a sense in which every nation has an obligation and a mission to fulfill in the program of God in history.

The call of Abraham and the covenant with Israel gave promise of a great nation with a wonderful mission. But they failed. The first Pilgrims who came to America had the call of God and made a covenant which gave great promise as a nation. But in many respects we too are failing. We need prophets today to remind us of our promise which should be engraved on our hearts rather than on our coins: "In God We Trust." If God's laws are broken, we will suffer just as Israel had to suffer for their transgressions.

II. NATIONALISM AND POVERTY. Amos 2:6-7.

For a similar prophetic message which was addressed to Israel and their sins see Isaiah 10:5-11.

Notice how Amos got the attention of his audience. First, he pronounced judgment on the heathen nations, and they applauded his speech. Then he condemned Judah, and they cheered

louder and longer. But when he began to criticize Israel, there was silence and then anger. He mentioned every conceivable sin such as drunkenness, theft, immorality, greed and injustice. But he emphasized disregard for the poor and the defrauding of the helpless. He pictured them as outstanding examples of hypocrites who attended the proper ceremonies, made necessary offerings, appeared outwardly religious, but inwardly they were selfish, cruel and worldly.

III. NATIONALISM AND WORSHIP. Acts 17:24-26.

Our lesson now refers us to the New Testament and Paul's sermon on Mars' Hill. It was a strange doctrine to these Greeks who had so many gods that it was difficult to imagine one God who was the Creator of all.

We worship the Lord in temples and churches, but God is not confined to a building made with hands. He goes with us to our homes and to our places of employment, in our travels and wherever we may be. His real dwelling place is in the human heart and not in temples of stone.

Questions for Discussion:

1. What should the church's attitude be toward the Peace Corps and the War on Poverty program?
2. What are the Christians doing to make America a better country? What are you doing?

A TEACHING GUIDE

Date: June 7, 1964

Theme: CHRISTIANS FACE A NEEDY WORLD

Scripture: Matthew 25:31-40

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT: Righteous words are meaningless unless they are undergirded by righteous works.

INTRODUCTION: Many church members are ideal negative Christians. They are always ready and willing to tell you what they do not do, where they do not go and what they do not believe. They are good Christians, but their goodness consists only in the fact that they do nothing evil.

Two other groups of Christians are also in many of our churches. One group is positive in its faith. It knows exactly what it believes and is strong in its religious convictions. In its Christian doctrine, it is clear and to the point.

The other group is strong in its practical application of the Gospel. It is full of good works and it sincerely believes that this is the primary essential in being good Christians.

Both positions are extreme and both necessary, for faith and works are essential for Christian living. Jesus was concerned about the needs of both soul and body, and we can become Christ-like only if we follow his example in word and in deed. Christianity without loving service would be meaningless.

I. GOD'S TIME OF JUDGMENT. Matthew 25:31-33.

This is a magnificent parable of the last judgment, but it also has a terrible implication for those who are on the wrong side. The central figure in the judgment is Christ himself. When Jesus related this parable, he was still in the flesh; he was meek and lowly; he was still on his way to Calvary as the Lamb slain in shame. But on the judgment day he will come in glory and sit on his throne where all men will stand before him.

There will be a distinct separation, and, although before him "shall be gathered all nations," there is evidence of separate individual judgment. According to Romans 14:10ff everyone shall give account of himself to God.

II. THE NEEDY WORLD AND THE RIGHTEOUS. Matthew 25:34-36.

Loving service is not all that is needed in becoming a Christian. Some who are saved late in life will have little or no opportunity to practice the fruit of their faith. Whether there can be a loving service for Christ without a saving faith in Christ is certainly not according to Scripture.

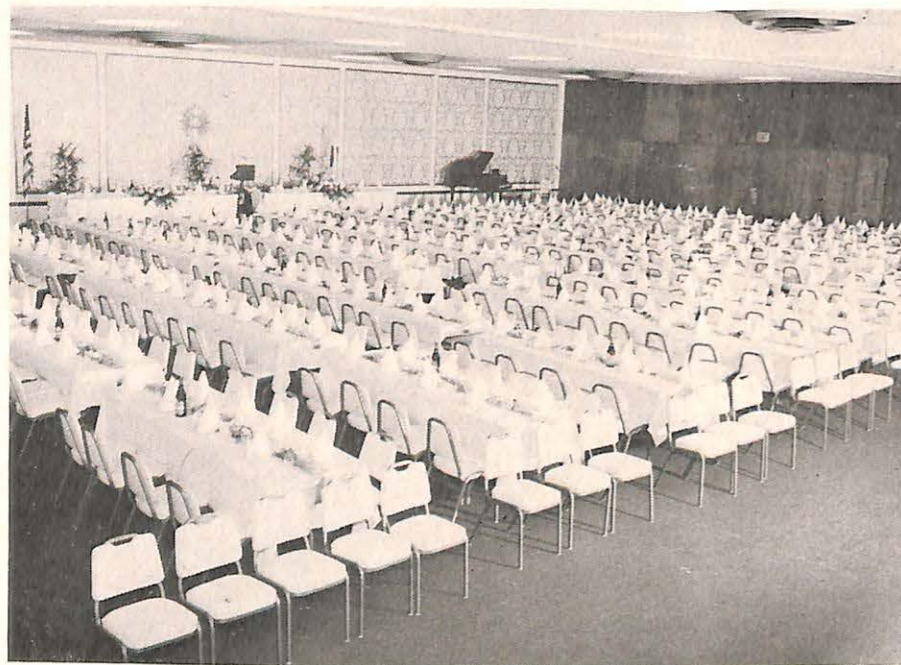
The needs which the righteous supplied were well known in the land of Palestine in Jesus' time. Feeding the hungry, giving water to the thirsty, welcoming strangers, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and those in prison are all needs which are evident in our country where many live in abundance. There are also those who need a friendly visit more than they need charity. The warmth and love of fellowship cannot be supplied by money.

III. THE MEEK SPIRIT OF THE RIGHTEOUS. Matthew 25:37-40.

Both those on the left and those on the right did what was natural for them to do. Those who served the needy were totally unaware that they had done anything unusual or that deserved special reward. The genuine saint of God forgets himself in loving service.

Questions for Discussion:

1. Is it possible to be so unconscious of the good we do that we do not even remember it?
2. Was Jesus proclaiming a social gospel in the parable of the judgment?



MAGNIFICENT EMPIRE ROOM—SENATOR HOTEL

Newly enlarged and decorated, this 1000 guest ballroom in the Senator Hotel will be the colorful setting for the Women's Missionary Tea (Friday afternoon) and for the Conference Banquet (Saturday night).

as possible and doing something new is uppermost in our minds as we think of the time which will be our own. But what about re-creation which means "making new again"? Of most importance in planning a vacation is to do something and to go somewhere so that we can return to our daily routine with new vitality. The trip to Sacramento and attendance at the General Conference will fill this order to the "letter."

STOREHOUSE OF RICHES

Have you ever stopped to think about the purpose of a conference? Included would be the following: To hear spirit-filled messages; to hear reports of work completed; to vote on

Wanda Lippert, Chairman of the Tea Committee; and Mrs. Irene Colburn, Chairman of the Decorating Committee. These women and their committee members are indeed "jewels" who are sparing neither time nor effort to make our activities blessed and inspirational.

Our luncheon and business meeting will be held at the El Dorado Hotel, July 16. This is a fabulous place, and it has been described as a place "where fine food is an art, good service a habit, and hospitality a reputation." We urge each of you to purchase your tickets as soon as possible after you arrive in Sacramento, so that we will know exactly how many to plan for and so that you will be assured of a place at the

OUR DENOMINATION IN ACTION

SPECIAL EVENTS

COMMUNITY SERVICES, STAFFORD, KANSAS. The Calvary Baptist Church of Stafford, Kansas participated in a week of cooperative community pre-Easter services, March 21 to 27. Dr. Charles W. Koller of Chicago, Ill., was the guest speaker for these services which were held in the Stafford High School auditorium. Eight churches cooperated in this inspiring endeavor. The pre-Easter services were preceded by a week of 40 interdenominational cottage prayer meetings held three times daily in various homes throughout the community. It was a joy to see the churches of Stafford working together for Christ. Rev. Edgar B. Wesner of Calvary Baptist had a large part in implementing and promoting these pre-Easter services.

BETHANY, PORTLAND, ORE. From March 16 to 19 Bethany Baptist Church of Portland, Ore., held Leadership Training Classes which were set up by the Board of Christian Training Assn. Three courses were offered: Youth Counseling, Teaching Adults, and Bible Introduction. On Friday night, March 13, a Guild Birthday Dinner Banquet was held, the highlight of which was a program centered around the 85th anniversary of our church. This night will long be remembered by the many precious memories brought back to us. On Easter Sunday our young people attended the Sunrise Service at the Memorial Coliseum in Portland followed by an Easter breakfast. A special program was held Sunday night with the dedication of the new chimes followed by an Easter Musical presented by the Senior and Junior Choirs. Our Bible Conference was held April 5 to 10 with Rev. Dwight Custis as our guest speaker. —(Evelyn Keehn, Reporter).

ST. CATHARINES, ONT. We of the Immanuel Baptist Church, St. Catharines, Ont., held an outdoor baptism in Lake Ontario last summer, when Rev. A. Hart, pastor, baptized five young people. In September we were privileged to have our denominational evangelist, Rev. H. Palfenier, in our church. We were blessed and uplifted by his inspiring messages. At the Christmas Season, a Musical Program along with the Sunday school program was held. In February of this year, Miss Gertrude Schatz, one of our missionaries, gave us an interesting talk with pictures on the work being done on our mission field in Africa. —(Mrs. Alvina Jeschke, Reporter).

EBENEZER, VANCOUVER, B. C. On Palm Sunday evening, the choirs of the Ebenezer Baptist Church of Vancouver, B.C., presented the wonder-

ful Easter story in song. Participating were the following choirs: Church Choir, Intermediate Choir, Junior Choir and Male Chorus. All choirs combined in a grand finale of 100 voices to sing, "When He Shall Come" and the "Hallelujah Chorus." The Church Choir is under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sauer who together have served this church for a combined total of 60 years in the field of music: Mr. Sauer as director, and Mrs. Sauer as organist. Previously at the Candlelight Christmas Concert, the church choir chose to honor their services. A presentation bouquet of red roses was made to Mrs. Sauer by Marlene Bayer of the Junior Choir. As a remembrance of this occasion, a bust of Beethoven was presented to Mrs. Sauer. An engraved silver-tipped baton was given to Mr. Sauer as a momento of the expression of appreciation. The milestones in Christian service do not afford them opportunity for rest. We trust the Lord will give grace for his servants to serve as faithfully in the future as they have in the past. —(Wm. Konnert, Reporter)

Woman's missionary societies

TEMPLE, LODI, CALIF. A very impressive candlelight installation service at the Temple Church, Lodi, Calif., conducted by our pastor's wife, Mrs. Ramona Schroeder, marked the beginning of a new year for the Woman's Missionary Society. She chose various Scripture passages to challenge each

evangelistic services & baptisms

WILLOW RANCHO, SACRAMENTO. Our hearts were filled with gladness on Easter Sunday at the Willow Rancho Church, Sacramento, Calif., as we listened again to the story of the empty tomb. As a capacity crowd filled the auditorium for the worship service, we rejoiced anew in singing, "Hallelujah, What a Saviour!" and were blessed by Rev. Eric Kuhn's message, "The Broken Seal." We praise the Lord for 17 young people who, upon confession of faith, were baptized by our pastor in

CHILDREN'S DAY SUNDAY, JUNE 14

Bulletin inserts with the illustrated story of the Chapel Building Fund of the denomination and program materials for children's recitations have been sent to all churches.

OFFERING FOR THE CHAPEL BUILDING FUND

officer as she lighted her candle from a large white candle. The officers installed are: Mrs. Vera Gaskill, president; Mrs. Ella Schmiedt, vice president; Mrs. Rose Bohnet, recording secretary; Mrs. Emma Lohr, treasurer; and Mrs. Jackie Nix, corresponding secretary. At the close of the service Mrs. Margie Joens sang, "I Would Be True," accompanied by Mrs. Evelyn Curtis. This past year has been filled with many blessings as we have done "our little bit" for the glory of God. —(Mrs. Thelma Fischer, Reporter).

WILLOW RANCHO, SACRAMENTO. Eight years have passed since the Woman's Missionary Society of the Willow Rancho Baptist Church, Sacramento, Calif., was organized. This occasion was observed on Palm Sunday evening at an anniversary program. Our newly-elected president, Mrs. Virginia Mauch, took charge of the program. The ladies presented a soul searching musical reading, "The Hidden Motto," narrated by Mrs. Vivian Oliver and interspersed with vocal and instrumental selections by individuals and the Women's Chorus. As our Society has grown to the present active membership of 56, the need was felt recently to reorganize the General Society in order to encourage participation by more of the members and to stimulate interest in the mission activities and projects. The membership has been divided into four circles which meet monthly in various homes, with quarterly general meetings held in the church. —(Mrs. James Gossen, Reporter).

the evening service. Later Mr. Kuhn extended the hand of fellowship to the 17 new members, and the Lord's Supper was observed, reminding us again of our Lord's death and resurrection. —(Mrs. James Gossen, Reporter).

ERIN AVENUE, CLEVELAND. Beautiful and moving services were held on Easter Sunday at the Erin Avenue Baptist Church, Cleveland, Ohio. The day started with a Sunrise Service at which our young people presenting an Easter play, "The Breaking of the Bread," which was followed by a breakfast sponsored by our CBYF and prepared by the ladies of the church. At the worship service our pastor, Rev. Edw. Pritzkau, brought the Easter message, "Our Living Hope." It was concluded by a solo "Open the Gates of the Temple" by Mrs. Edw. Pritzkau. On Easter Sunday evening a baptismal service was held at which seven candidates followed their Lord in obedience into the baptismal waters.



Baptism at the Erin Ave. Baptist Church, Cleveland, Ohio with Rev. Edward J. Pritzkau, pastor (left) and seven candidates who were baptized.

On the following Sunday at the Lord's Table these baptized candidates were received into the church. This makes a total of eleven new members since January of this year. A special Easter offering was received during these days which, including the regular tithes, amounted almost to \$1500. —(Marian Perez, Reporter).

LINTON, N. DAK. On Easter Sunday morning, Rev. Herman Effa, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Linton, N. Dak., had the privilege of baptizing 8 converts: 4 children, 2 young people, and 2 young married women, and these together with two others who came by testimony were received into the membership of the church at the evening communion service. Each baptismal candidate was given a special Bible promise, and during and after the baptism of each candidate, the choir sang a stanza of an appropriate hymn. Several of the baptismal candidates were converted during the meetings with "God's Volunteers" last October.

CALVARY, STAFFORD, KANSAS. Rev. Edgar B. Wesner, pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church of Stafford, Kansas, had the joy of baptizing eight young people who recently received Christ as Savior during services with God's Volunteers (Team II) and Rev. Daniel Fuchs. These eight young people and three adults were extended the hand of fellowship at the Lord's Table on Sunday, April 5. On Sunday evening, April 5th, the Senior C.B.Y.F. presented a very inspiring program consisting of request numbers that had been suggested by various members of the church two weeks preceding the program. The Calvary Baptist Church is rejoicing in the many blessings that the Lord has sent to it in recent days.

RIVERVIEW, WEST ST. PAUL, MINN. The Easter season was a time of spiritual blessings for the Riverview Baptist Church of West Saint Paul, Minn. On Palm Sunday the choir of the Union Gospel Mission joined with our Chancel Choir in presenting "The Crucifixion" by Stainer. The following Tuesday we were privileged to have

was held in our church on March 21 and the film, "Playing for Keeps," was shown. The team provided the music for this meeting. Easter Sunday dawned bright and cold but this did not stop the people from going to the Sunrise Service presented by the Junior Hi group. The Men's Brotherhood sponsored the Easter breakfast. That evening our choir presented the Cantata, "Hallelujah What a Savior" by John W. Peterson. —(Mrs. Charles Balogh, Reporter).



Rev. Eric Kuhn, pastor of the Willow Rancho Baptist Church, Sacramento, Calif., and 17 young people who were baptized on Easter Sunday.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

BISMARCK, N. DAK. The Bismarck Baptist Church, Bismarck, N. Dak., had a blessed week of spiritual enlightenment from March 11 to 14. Two classes were taught by Dr. Towns, president of the Bible Institute of Winnipeg, Manitoba, on the subjects: "The Principles and Methods of Teaching" and "Understanding the Child." The Sunday school teachers, officers and potential teachers benefitted greatly by this series of services. All classes were well attended with approximately 65 people. —(Mrs. Robert Cooper, Reporter).



Eighteen new members received into the Riverview Baptist Church, West St. Paul, Minn., by Rev. Harold E. Weiss, pastor (right), 14 of whom were baptized on Easter Sunday

STEP-UP STEWARDSHIP WITH STEP

Scriptural Tithing Education Program for North American Baptist Churches by Rev. David J. Draewell,
Secretary of Stewardship

IN RESPONSE to the interest indicated by North American Baptist General Conference pastors and laymen, the General Conference Stewardship Committee has formulated a program of tithing education and commitment for use in the local church. The program is called **STEP**. The letters of this name stand for: Scriptural Tithing Education Program.

Some time ago a questionnaire was sent to all conference churches about their stewardship practices and procedures. The questionnaire response revealed several interesting facts concerning our churches and their relationship to the practice of tithing. Seventy-five per cent of the pastors responding indicated that tithing was specifically advocated in their churches. Eighty-seven per cent stated that a denomination-wide program of tithing education and commitment would be helpful. Eighty-four per cent estimated that their churches would be interested in promoting such a program. The result is—**STEP!**

BIBLICALLY BASED PROGRAM

STEP puts the hearts of church members in the church. It is a stated Scriptural fact that, where men's treasures are, there will their hearts be also (Matt. 6:21). **STEP** leads church members to invest in the church by sharing in the joyous Christian experience of tithing.

Tithing is not new. It has been practiced by godly men since the days of Abraham. Its value, however, must be discovered anew by each generation of believers. This discovery comes only through an individual's response of faith to the teachings of God's Word.

STEP is a Biblically based program. It confronts men today with the truths and challenges of Scripture written

centuries ago. It emphasizes the fact that though times change, principles of godly living remain constant.

STEP is a program designed to benefit the local church. The General Conference Stewardship Committee makes **STEP** available at cost to the churches of the North American Baptist General Conference with the prayer that it will serve to strengthen the spiritual lives of all our people. **STEP** is not a denominational promotional idea!

STEP reveals a particular Christian perspective of tithing. This perspective is found in all **STEP** ideas and materials. This perspective is seen clearly in the following basic statement about tithing adopted by the General Conference Stewardship Committee:

Tithing is a Biblically revealed pattern of systematic and proportionate giving practiced by devout men of all ages who desired to honor God with their substance (Genesis 28:20-22; Leviticus 27:30; II Chronicles 31:5; Hebrews 7:1, 4). It is more basically an activity of faith than of finance. Though it is not specifically advocated as either a minimum or a maximum standard of Christian giving, it does nevertheless have Christ's commendation (Luke 11:42) and is accompanied with God's promised blessing (Mal. 3:10).

Through **STEP**, the Stewardship Committee seeks to stimulate God-honoring faith in a Christian's stewardship of possessions.

STEP is a long range program. It must be this if it is to bring the desired results. Growth is seldom achieved overnight in stewardship. **STEP** is designed for a three-year period. Each year's program, however, will be a complete unit by itself. It is possible for a church to use **STEP** for only one year if it wishes. The greatest

benefits, of course, will come only when the total three-year program is put into action.

TITHING COMMITMENT

STEP combines tithing education with tithing commitment. Both are essential to its effectiveness. Tithing education without tithing commitment is incomplete. Tithing commitment without tithing education is unfair. The suggested educational program is carried on throughout each year. The commitment opportunity is given at the end of each year's educational program.

STEP's educational program offers tithing instruction and inspiration. **STEP** educates through stewardship sermons by the pastor, specially prepared Sunday school materials, posters, bulletin inserts, helpful congregational letters, audio visual aids, tithing tracts, leaflets, and personal testimonies. **STEP's** commitment emphasis involves meaningful Tithing Commitment Cards which can be used in three different ways at the discretion of the local church. The entire **STEP** program is cradled in prayer.

STEP reaches all ages. Some of its educational materials are especially planned for youngsters. One of the two available commitment cards is designed for use with elementary age children.

STEP is a complete and correlated tithing program. Though it is possible to use only portions of **STEP**, maximum results will come to the local church when all of its helpful facets are implemented.

One complete kit of STEP materials is available to every North American Baptist General Conference church FREE of charge. All quantity materials are available at cost—through the Roger Williams Press, Box 6, Forest Park, Illinois. The program with its materials is being presented in detail to pastors at most local conference meetings this year.

REPORT - STARTUP, WASH.

(Continued from page 22)

age. That evening we held our welcome service for our new pastor and his family. The following people extended a warm welcome to our pastor and his family: Jake Keck for the Board of Deacons, Hereld Erdman in behalf of the trustees, Eric Ganstrom for the Music Committee, Mike Loke for the young people, Mrs. Rappuhn and Mrs. Lotz for the women's groups, Building Committee represented by Don Witte, the Brotherhood by Don Witte, the Sunday school by Ed Lentz, and the Junior Church by Mrs. Hereld Erdman. —(Mrs. Lester Albery, Reporter).

IF YOU:

Examine **STEP** and

Adopt **STEP** and

Use **STEP**

you will find that **STEP** will help your church and its members step-up to new heights of spiritual accomplishment.

Remember: you **CAN** step-up stewardship with **STEP**.