

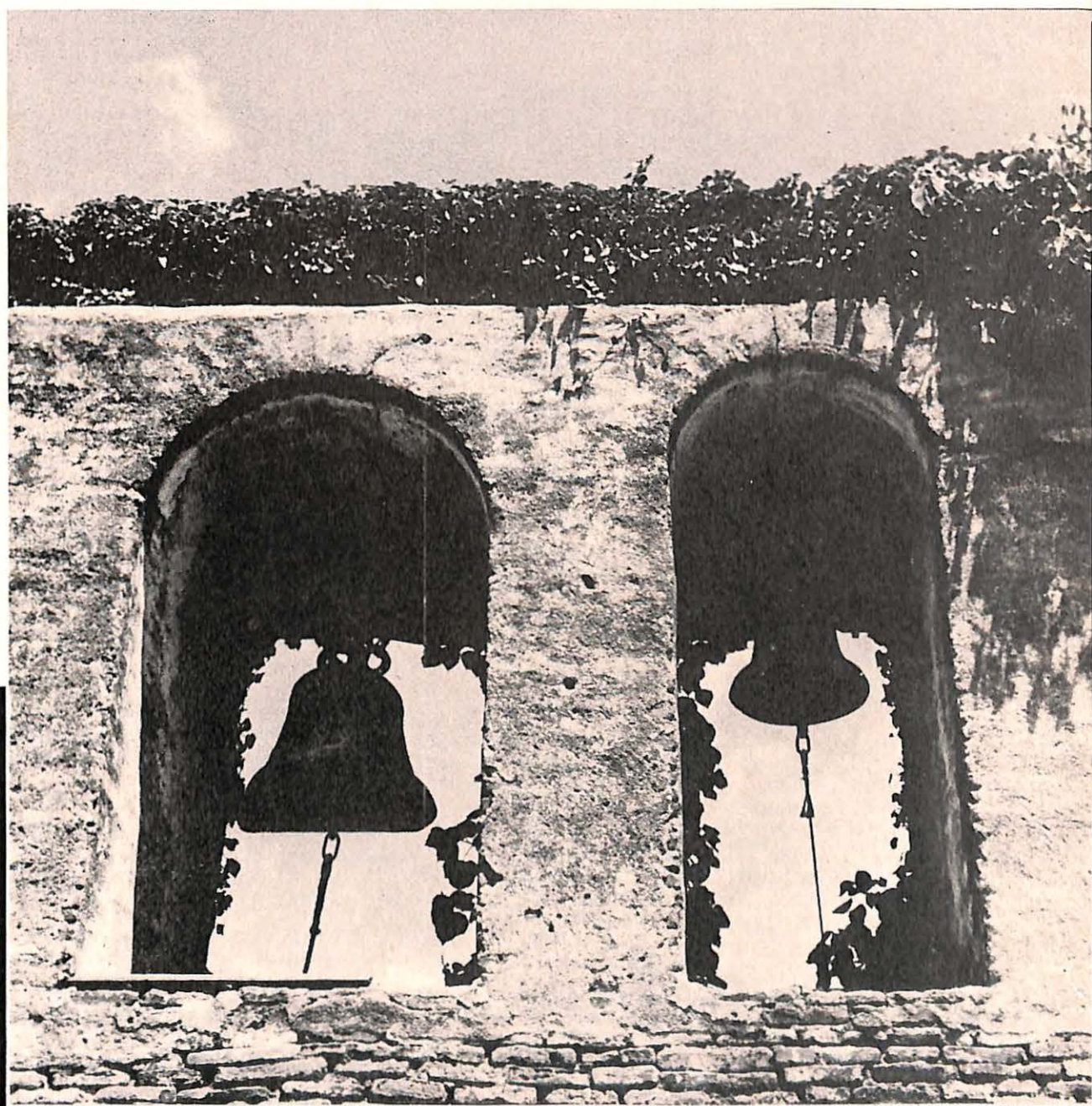
DECEMBER 30, 1965

NUMBER 26

THE OLD AND THE NEW

THE HANDS OF A CLOCK

# BAPTIST HERALD



NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE

# MY CREDO

Dr. Samuel Moor Shoemaker

Evangelical pastor of New York City and Pittsburgh, Pa.; author of 26 books; radio minister over station WJZ in New York City, "Your Life Today," and counselor with students. He died in 1963.

"As I sit in the study on a beautiful, cool August afternoon, I look back with many thanks. It has been a great run. I wouldn't have missed it for anything. Much could and should have been better, and I have, by no means, done what I should have done with all that I have been given. But the overall experience of being alive has been a thrilling experience. I believe that death is a doorway to more of it; clearer, cleaner, better, with more of the secret opened than locked. I do not feel much confidence in myself as regards all this, for very few have ever "deserved" eternal life. But with Christ's atonement and him gone in before, I have neither doubt nor fear whether I am left here a brief time or long one. I believe that I shall see him and know him, and that eternity will be an endless opportunity to consort with the great souls and the lesser ones who have entered into the freedom of the heavenly city. It is his forgiveness and grace that give confidence and not merits of our own. But again I say, it's been a great run. I'm thankful for it and for all the people who have helped to make it so, and especially those closest and dearest to me.

—From "Extraordinary Living for Ordinary Men" (Zondervan Publishing House, 1965, \$2.95).

## PREPARATION — Grace Noll Crowell

WHAT shall I take into the coming year? And what shall I leave behind? I asked my heart, And quick came the answer: "Lay all doubt and fear And anxious care aside before you start. Take life's stark necessities along: The Word of God, and daily study it, The staff of faith, the lamp of hope, a song Oh high and dauntless courage; fill your kit With laughter, and take happiness to wear, 'Twill cloak you on the bleakest, coldest day; And take an apple and a loaf to share With one who may be hungry on the way. Fill your canteen from a wayside well, You may grow thirsty," said my cautious heart, "And Hark! Across the world a midnight bell Peals out a summons—it is time to start!"

### A NEW YEAR

He came to my desk with quivering lip,  
The lesson was done.  
"Have you a new leaf for me, dear Teacher?  
I have spoiled this one!"  
I took his leaf, all soiled and blotted  
And gave him a new one all unspotted,  
Then into his tired heart I smiled:  
"Do better now, my Child!"  
I went to the throne with trembling heart,  
The year was done.  
"Have you a New Year for me, dear Master?  
I have spoiled this one!"  
He took my year, all soiled and blotted  
And gave me a new one, all unspotted,  
Then, into my tired heart he smiled:  
"Do better now, my Child!"  
—Selected

# NEWS and NEEDS...

INTRODUCTION. Missionaries' letters are always interesting and revealing. They describe with deep feeling the spiritual victories that have been won and the pressing needs facing them. Read the following letters and praise God for our faithful missionaries.

TRAINING COLLEGE, GREAT SOPPO. "Teacher training is needed in West Cameroon, Africa. The government estimates that more than two-thirds of the teachers teaching in the primary schools are untrained—that is, they have only received a primary school education before being employed as teachers. So it seems that as trainers of teachers we have an almost endless task. With the opening of school we now have 270 students and 18 staff members at the Baptist Teacher Training College in Great Soppo. We are especially grateful for the new dormitories, classrooms, and houses which have been built while we were gone. It means that our facilities are somewhat adequate to do what we need to do, although the dormitories are still very overcrowded and we are about to begin construction of the new dining hall. Pray for us and the college staff as we begin this new year of instruction." (Dr. Ernest A. Zimbelman, Principal).

KUMBA AREA. "The Lord is building his Kingdom in the Kumba area also in West Cameroon, Africa. Bai Sombe in the rubber estate has so many children in Sunday school that the benches groan. The half wall of the school building is draped with dangling feet all keeping time to "Come to Sunday School" enthusiastically sung by the children. Big Bekondo Church sings out praises to God from a beautiful new thatched roof building. At Kumba on the west edge of town the accelerator lets up and the driver carefully sticks his head out of the window to gaze and listen as the song, "What a Friend We have in Jesus," captures the air. The attraction is the new Berean Baptist Church meeting on the veranda of the deacon's home. Keep praying for your work in Kumba area." (Missionaries Kenneth and June Goodman).

NDU BAPTIST COLLEGE. "A number of our students at the Ndu Baptist College in West Cameroon have come to know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior throughout this past year. Some of these are outstanding (Continued on page 23)

## NEXT ISSUE

YOUTH WEEK NUMBER  
"How the Bible Has Helped Me."—Youth Testimonies

# Editorial

## The Hands Of A Clock

Unquestionably, the most frequently asked question is, "What time is it?" As we look at the hands of a clock to find the answer to the question, we realize the overpowering importance of time in our lives. We cannot turn back the clock. Each tick of the second hand is charted on our life-scale. We grow older whether we like it or not. And the clock of life just keeps ticking along.

At the end of the year, the hands of the clock loom ominously big and dramatically important. We become gravely concerned with questions that deal with the meaning of life. "Where have we come from? What opportunities were by-passed by us during the past year? Where are we going? What is in store for us in 1966? When will the clock strike 12 with God's judgment on each of our lives?" Honest to God, face up to these questions in the closing days of this year.

For the hands of a clock should now remind you of the lateness of the hour, of the swift passing of the days. Time holds a different meaning to each of us, but for all time speeds relentlessly onward. It cannot be recalled; it cannot be stopped. Each tick of the clock adds another moment to our life-span.

The seriousness of our times—and of this hour—should be reflected in our individual inventory and in our outlook upon the world. The editorial in the Dec. 1965 issue of "The Moody Monthly" called attention to this fact: "This is no time to be mere bystanders in a world of need nor to live as those who have no inkling of the future. If the world is growing darker, if the difficulties of living for Christ are greater, we should not be discouraged. In some respects, the very darkness of our times increases the opportunities."

Again we look at the hands of the clock and praise God for this present moment to be alive—vibrant with potential activity. Time, indeed, is a precious commodity. We are exhorted to redeem the time. How tragic are the neglected opportunities of life as we look back upon the past year or years! But this inner remorse should stir us to action in 1966 to give a good and faithful account before God of every moment of time in the year ahead of us. That, and that supremely, characterizes the victorious Christian life.

Have you ever thought how time rigidly disciplines our lives? It is a governing force for all of us. Our daily schedules, our business activities, and our plans for the future are governed by the hands of the clock. But even more importantly, we realize that behind all of these activities, behind the clock of time, stands God whose purposes are revealed to us in "his good time." Joseph learned that "because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass" (Genesis 41:32).

Even though time has a way of rigidly disciplining us by difficulties and seemingly endless delays, we see God's eternal purposes revealed to us in his will and experience his goodness in the land of the living. Remember the hands of the clock as the hour strikes "twelve" at the close of 1965!

December 30, 1965

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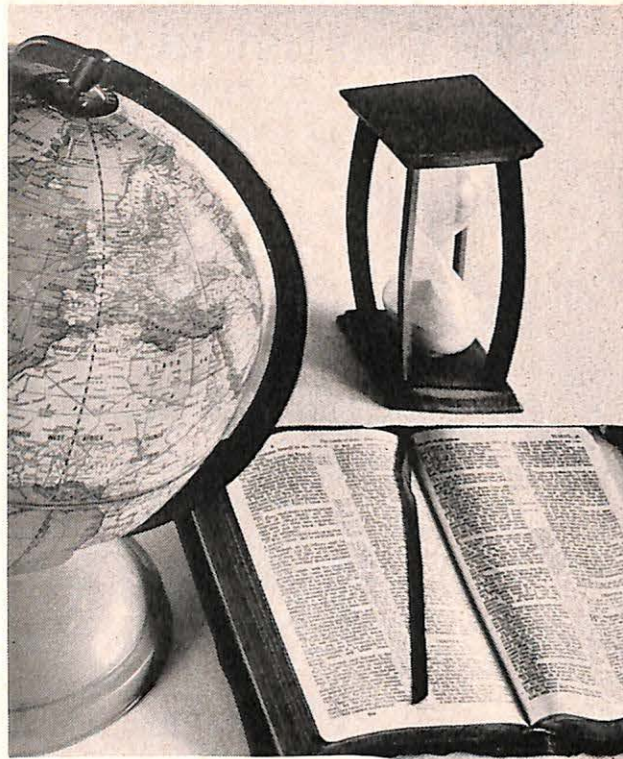
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# THE OLD AND THE NEW

As we face the new year, let us resolve under God to keep that which is wholesome and well tested and let us cast out that which is unwholesome and irksome!

By Rev. John E. Grygo  
of Forest Park, Illinois,  
Editor of German Publications

"We should note that the Word of Life received into the human heart will not cease its working until it has brought the whole man into obedience to it, sanctifying him wholly." (Photo by Harold M. Lambert).

"Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us."  
(I Corinthians 5:7).

**THE CUSTOM** of celebrating the New Year is very old. Some accord it to the Hebrews; some to the Romans; some to the Chinese; and some to the ancient Germans. On the American continent advanced Indian tribes had their own peculiar celebrations.

## NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Civilized people look upon the New Year as the putting aside of an old life and the taking up of a new. Man puts away old troubles and old worries and welcomes cheerfully new duties and the promise of new bounties. Europeans, especially the early English and Mid-Europeans, loved to clean their chimneys on New Year's Day believing that good luck would descend on them and remain all year. The Cherokees would build huge fires and burn all the old clothes and utensils. Cabins were made scrupulously clean. Old fires were extinguished and new fires built in their place. The Japanese have always made of their New Year an elaborate celebration with the shooting of firecrackers.

Americans talk about cleaning the slate or turning over a new leaf. On New Year's Eve one concentrates in earnest; the new year spreads out like a golden vista. One soon finds him-

self making solemn avowals concerning what one would do with the next year of life. The New Year's resolution undoubtedly had its origin in the notion that the coming year represented an entirely new period of life to the individual.

Churches have their Watch Night services while the world revels and entertains.

## THE OLD LEAVEN

The name *New Year* is not found in the Bible. For the Jews it is the Feast of Trumpets or Rosh-Hashona. It falls on the first day of Tishri or September. On the day previous to the feast, the pious Jews assemble for confession of sin and to remind God of his covenant with Abraham.

The Passover, also called the Feast of the Unleavened Bread, lasted seven days and is celebrated as a memorial of the deliverance of the Jews out of Egypt. It also ushered in the new season or the new year. Weeks before the Passover, unleavened cakes were made. Matzos are composed of flour and water only. It is also the bread of affliction.

During the preparation for the Passover Feast, great care is taken to rid the house of leaven and leavened bread. Leaven is an indication of fermentation and contamination. In making the unleavened bread, great care is again observed that no crumb of leavened bread should fall into the dough.

Leaven is a piece of dough, salted and soured, to ferment and relish a

mass of dough for bread. It was excluded from the Israelite meal offering but it was permitted especially in the offerings of thanks. Its quality is its secretly penetrating and diffusive influence. "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump."

Jesus warned of the leaven of the Pharisees. He also taught that "the kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened" (Matt. 13:33). The parable relates to the marvelous increase of the Kingdom of God. Jesus was saying that the active working of the leaven has been from the moment that it was hidden in the lump.

The parable is concerned with the diffusion of the Gospel. We have seen "that the women took the leaven from elsewhere to mingle with the lump." It was not the unfolding of any powers already existing in the world, but a new power brought from above. The renovation which God effects is from the inward to the outward. The Word of God, which in its highest sense is Christ himself, touches on all sides. The unbeliever is totally ignorant of all that which is going on below the surface of society.

## PURGE OUT THE OLD

Goldsmith wrote: "I love everything that's old: old friends, old times, old manners, old books." Some people are so eager to praise what is old and scorn what is new. They belong to the Old Guard. They hold tenaciously to

## MRS. MARIAN WALLACE

The author is a free lance writer of East Moline, Ill., a member of a Baptist church. She is a widow, the mother of four grown children. She is employed by a local toy company and is taking a course in Creative Writing at the United Township High School of East Moline. A sermon by her minister inspired her to write this article.

antiquated customs and manners. At times even their dress and appearance seem to be out of date. We must admit, that some things are still admired when they are old.

The Apostle Paul found that there was much in the church of Corinth that was vulgar and sinful. The old leaven had not been purged. Pagan practices had left the Corinthians in their carnal state. What's more, the attitude of the church toward these things simply shocked Paul. They had complacently accepted the situation and had done nothing about it. Were they not aware of the fact that the old leaven was secretly penetrating the whole church? When a church ceases to take a serious view of sin, the teaching and preaching of the Word will have but little effect.

Christians ought to search their hearts and purge out every corruption. It can be done if one is sincere, because now the believer has a remedy. Those belonging to the spiritual Israel are partakers of the blessings which Christ, the Passover Sacrifice, has secured for all who believe and who wish to live the new life.

Old ways are not always God's ways. Old practices may be decidedly sinful in the eyes of God. Old prejudices are injurious to the cause of Christ. Old foundations might be unreliable. Old religious customs might be unbiblical—utterly worthless.

## WE ARE UNLEAVENED

Chrysostom once remarked: "He said 'Let us keep the feast' as pointing out that the whole time is a festival unto Christians because of the excellence of the good things which have been given."

Paul advises the Corinthians that they must take care that no moral leaven remain in the sacred household of the church. We read in Luke 13: 20-21: "Whereunto shall I liken the kingdom of God? It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened." Paul speaks of the "unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." The Gospel of Christ is capable of permeating itself, but believers must promote and propagate the good news. They must also live the Gospel. They are a symbol of good influence wherever they are: at home or abroad, in the office or on the farm, in civilian life or army life, in the sanctuary or outside the sanctuary. They belong to

(Continued on page 7)

December 30, 1965

# Five Minutes for Thee!

As the year 1965 comes to a close and the clock strikes "12," this brief message will challenge you to redeem the time and to set aside "Moments With God" for fellowship with him.

By Marian Wallace of East Moline, Illinois

**T**HE MINISTER was drawing his message to a close, but I was only half listening.

I was thinking about my roast in the oven when he made a statement that made me stop and think. He was speaking of the complacency of the Christian people, and he said most of us only spend about five minutes a day in prayer.

Only five minutes out of twenty-four hours when each of those twenty-four hours have sixty minutes! It sounded fantastic. I couldn't believe I did this until I did some checking on myself. I found it was true, though it was hard to admit.

I wonder if it isn't due in part to the age in which we live. We are always in a hurry. We pride ourselves on being efficient, planning our work from day to day with lists and schedules.

But where does God fit in? In most cases he doesn't even make the list, and if he does it's at the bottom. I don't mean to imply we don't pray at all. We do—at the end of the day when we have retired for the night, over-exhausted and ready for sleep. We are asleep before we can say "Amen." We think nothing of doing this to God, but if a friend ended a conversation abruptly we would think him rude.

With all the modern conveniences designed to save us time, we give very



little of it to God. With all the modern conveniences designed to save us time, we give very little of it to God. How about you? (Photo by A. Devaney).

little of it to God.

But isn't it strange that grandmother with her washboard, cookstove, and lamp with meager supply of oil always had time to read and pray?

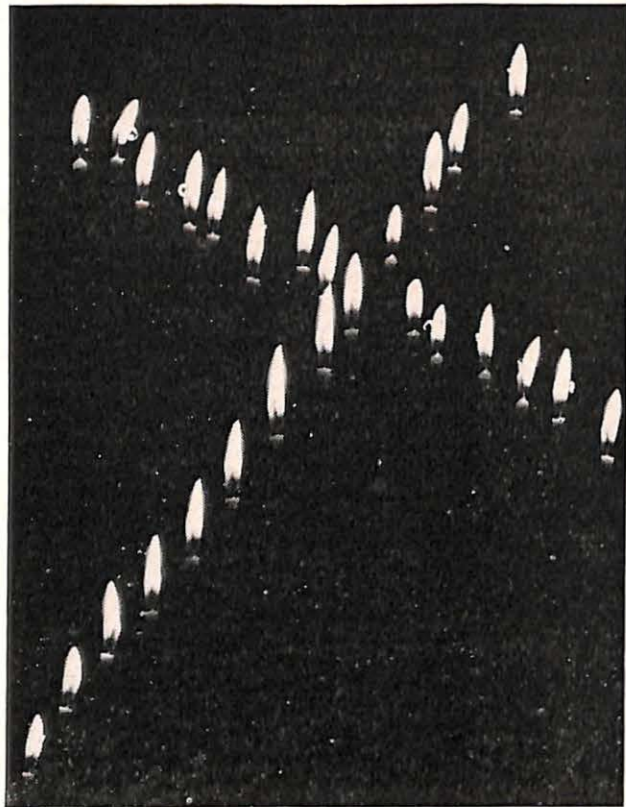
# EXPLORE GOD'S WORD!



## AD - VANGELISM

Two Gospel advertisements were placed in "Mainichi Simbun," an evening newspaper in Japan which goes to 1,200,000 Japanese in Osaka. In response, 2,596 people wrote accepting the offer of a free New Testament and enrollment in a Bible correspondence course. Several were converted to Christ and now attend a church regularly. An Easter "ad" printed in a magazine reaching 12 million people helped to bring a thousand to the roof of a Toyko department store, where 70 made decisions for Christ. Tokyo alone has four major newspapers, three of them with a circulation of more than four million. The project was organized by members of The Evangelical Missionary Alliance.

In India, the Bible Society periodically inserts Scripture passages in newspapers. In a leading Telugu daily, for example, the Bible Society ran the Gospel of Luke in serial form, followed by John's Gospel. Another time, the Sayings of Jesus were used. The passages always end with the offer of a Gospel and a number of letters are received weekly while the announcements are running. The use of newspapers provides an opportunity of reaching the man who never attends a church service, who never meets a Christian. But he does read his newspaper.



# VITAL STATISTICS

Lights can stand for a great variety of statistics and data, but they can also become "a lighted Cross" sending forth the message of Christ as "the Light of the world." Every dedicated Christian who lets his light shine for Christ can be one of the church's "Vital Statistics."

By Thomas W. Klewin,  
42nd Combat Support Group,  
Loring Air Force Base, Maine

If the Christian Church is to fulfill its obligation to witness to all men, every individual who claims allegiance to Christ must take the Gospel as "a shining light" with him wherever he goes. (Photo by Harold M. Lambert).

LATELY I've taken to reading statistics. It sounds almost as dull, dry and uninteresting as memorizing zip code numbers or mastering all the intricacies of the new telephone dialing system. But today statistics are an integral part of our modern complex industrial and governmental world. Entire computer systems have been devised quickly to analyze figures, to glean from them information for the present and to project the future potential of any specific industry or market.

Church officials have also come to recognize the potential value of numbers and figures. For statistics are one of the few available methods by which the Church can compute its own assets and debts in relationship to the present world conditions and its future potential in an ever expanding world.

But the average Christian seldom relates any of these statistics to himself or his family. Somehow, large masses of figures seem to bear little relationship to us as individual Christians.

## WORLD POPULATION EXPLOSION

World population experts have already studied and produced an endless supply of vital statistics on the current "population explosion" and its projected impact on an overcrowded globe. Prophets of gloom read the tabulations and immediately forecast dire predictions of mass hunger, famine, revolution and a crushing overpowering poverty for the vast bulk of the world's

people. Astute businessmen reading these same statistics are already formulating plans to capitalize on the unlimited market potential this projected "human population explosion" will offer to the alert industry.

Yet I seldom hear any Christian in any denomination speak in terms of the wonderful opportunity and challenge this offers to the Church. Perhaps few are aware of the tremendous impact this population growth will have on the Church and its present organizational structure. If my statistical computations are correct, the Christian Church is currently facing a twofold crisis—a shortage of trained workers and insufficient funds to meet its mushrooming opportunities. Even in the United States these chronic shortages

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are making it difficult for the Christian faith to reach its full potential.

But the problem confronting the Church in America pales into insignificance when viewed in the light of the world population explosion. Again my statistics tell me there are more Christians inhabiting this earth than at any other time in human history, yet even this numerical increase cannot keep pace with the number being born into the world every day.

## GOD'S RESOURCES

I've often asked myself how the Christian Church will ever obtain the necessary resources to send out enough people to reach this constantly increasing flood of human beings. The cost-accounting sheet of any Biblical college, institute, or Seminary gives me nightmares. Then when I've added the cost of new building programs, building maintenance, salaries for bigger faculties and throw in the rising expenses involved in sending and maintaining missionaries overseas—I quickly reach for my bottle of aspirin.

At times I've listened to experts expound on the necessity for the indigenous churches to assume a greater responsibility for the evangelization of their own country. Whenever this suggestion is presented, a set of statistics automatically flashes into my mind concerning Japan—a nation of approximately 92,000,000 people and less than 500,000 Protestants. I keep asking myself how this handful of Christians will ever find the necessary resources

of men and money to recruit, train, and support enough trained workers to reach all of their fellow countrymen with the Gospel?

## OUR WITNESS FOR CHRIST

What is true in Japan is also applicable to the rest of the Orient. Nowhere is the Christian Church sufficiently strong, wealthy or numerous enough to touch all those for whom it is responsible.

All of this merely sets the stage and scene for what these statistics imply in the lives of every Christian in America. With English rapidly becoming a universal language, it is possible for every American Christian traveling overseas to be a "vital statistic" for the Church. Whenever I begin to despair because of population figures in ratio to the Church's resources of men and money, I remember the inexhaustible supply of individuals belonging to the "universal priesthood of believers" who stand ready to take the Gospel with them wherever they go.

Even in America where the Church possesses dedicated Christians and consecrated financial contributions, we do not possess the necessary resources to evangelize the world in the traditional way. There are too many countries with too great a need for the Gospel to allow us the luxury of sending them a few missionaries to face insurmountable challenges. If the Christian Church is to fulfill its obligation to witness to all men, every individual who claims allegiance to Christ must take the Gospel with him in his travels.

Statistics tell me that several million Americans will travel overseas each year, several hundred thousand will remain to live and work in a foreign land for a few years. Some of these will be Christians devoted to the cause of Christ and filled with the desire to witness to God's love for all men. These individuals are the Church's great potential for the future.

## "AN ANGEL FROM HEAVEN"

One dedicated Christian filled with the desire to obey the command of Christ, "Go ye into all the world. . .", can perform miracles. One who did was Sgt. Bill Ontjes, an Air Force sergeant stationed in Japan. The lepers at Tama-genshoen, Japan, call Bill "their angel from heaven." His concern for these forgotten, neglected people led him to the leprosarium where he ministered to the physical and spiritual needs of the lepers for three years. Untouched by the Church, forgotten by their own countrymen, they responded to a Christian love motivated by faith in Christ. Today Christian services are regularly conducted, taped programs are broadcast over the hospital radio station, and the nucleus of a tiny Christian Church has taken form in an isolated community.

When asked why he chose to work at Tama-genshoen and make this his mission contribution to the Church, Sgt. Ontjes quietly replied: "I knew they needed the Gospel, and I also

knew there weren't enough missionaries in Japan to get there—so I stepped in. I discovered it costs little to bring the love of Christ to others. All it takes is time and Christian love."

Another who is quietly reaching out with the Gospel is Tom Patrie in Bangkok, Thailand. Land in the city is expensive and property is beyond the reach of the few Christians who meet when and where they can. Tom, with a knowledge of the native language which was cultivated from his business contacts with the Thais, conducts a Bible class in his home—in two languages. When pressed for reasons, Tom merely says: "I'm in a position to reach out with the Gospel. If I didn't, I'd be failing the Christ who loved me. I see the need, and the few missionaries desperately struggling to be the light of the Gospel. They can't do it alone, and maybe I can make my small contribution."

Men like Bill Ontjes and Tom Patrie are the Church's "vital statistics" in the struggle to evangelize the world. Every dedicated child of God who travels overseas must consider himself one of the Church's secret assets in the fight to keep the Christian faith from being overwhelmed by an exploding world population.

## THE OLD AND THE NEW

(Continued from page 5)

the church. They are the light of the world, the salt of the earth, the good

leaven, and doers of the word.

We should also note that the Word of Life received into the human heart will not cease its working until it has brought the whole man into obedience to it, sanctifying him wholly, so that he will be a new creation in Christ Jesus. The Holy Spirit working as the leaven will continue the work of grace to the glory of God and not man. But we must not shut our eyes to the blemishes in our lives. Self-discipline is a wholesome thing for the inner man.

Above all, Paul wants us to lay aside malice and wickedness and put on sincerity and truth. Sincerity signifies truth and uprightness; the heart and tongue agree together. There should be no more double-mindedness or deceit.

## FACING THE NEW YEAR

Truth is opposed to falsehood. It means also the true doctrine of the Gospel. Jesus said: "I am the truth." His truth is opposed to hypocrisy or formality.

Many years ago Jeremiah beseeched his people: "Ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls" (Jer. 6:16). Also let us remember the words: "Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set" (Prov. 22:28).

As we face the new year, let us resolve under God to keep that which is wholesome and well tested and let us cast out that which is unwholesome and irksome!



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- Who are "Japan's Tormented Generation"?
- What are the prospects of bringing Christ to the Japanese with saving power?

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Generally speaking, the busiest people get by far the most out of life. They are the happiest! (Photo by Harold M. Lambert).

## ARE YOU RETIRED . . . AND LONELY?

If so, here are some workable tips that should brighten your life. You can fill your life with goodness and interest long after your working days are over.

By Henry H. Graham  
of Twin Falls, Idaho

NOT LONG AGO I met on the street an elderly man whom I had known for many years. He appeared sad and unhappy as he sort of slumped along with his hands in his pockets.

During the course of our conversation he remarked, "I'm surely miserable. The company for which I worked forced me to retire because I had reached the age limit. I just don't know what to do with myself. My wife and I don't have enough income to travel or do anything else that costs very much. I hate to see morning come because it means another long, drab day for me."

### "WHAT CAN I DO?"

I felt sorry for him. "Why don't you take up golf?" I suggested. "There are many hobbies like photography, fishing, nature study, stamp collecting and woodworking in which you could indulge. All are relatively inexpensive. Perhaps you and your wife could do more entertaining in your home. Informal little gatherings with refreshments wouldn't set you back very much financially, and I'm sure you would enjoy them."

"Maybe you've got something there," he admitted, looking pleased. "You see, most of my life has been devoted almost exclusively to work. I don't know anything else. I'll try your plan and see if it helps. Thanks."

A few weeks later I saw this man again, and now he was all smiles.

"I've fixed up a little shop in my basement and have been making things with tools I had on hand," he told

me. "My wife and I mingle with friends quite a bit too. It's all pretty wonderful. We're going to broaden the scope of our activities still more, however."

"Good for you!" I declared. "You're right. It is pretty wonderful."

There was a big change in his attitude and outlook toward life. It was written all over him.

### INTERESTS AND HOBBIES

Some of the most miserable and unhappy people in the world are the people who are retired. They are lonesome, blue and bored. It would have helped if these individuals had taken up a hobby or two earlier in life. Then they would have had something to fall back on during the years of their retirement. Unfortunately, not everybody is wise enough to do this.

Such a retired man comes to mind. After quitting work he just walked the streets by himself. I would often see him downtown. He spent a lot of his time having coffee at various places because he found someone to talk to at such times. He was lost without a regular job.

This fellow finally went back to work, not at his old job but at an establishment that was new to him. Now he is much more contented, for his days are filled with useful tasks. One day he said to me, "You know, I think the person who stops working when it isn't necessary stops living too." There is much sense and logic to his conclusions. Of course, some people are unable physically to take

the grind of regular employment.

Some folks have lived such a varied, well-rounded life that when they retire from a business or profession they still have plenty of interests. They develop their hobbies, have a lot of social life, travel and perhaps indulge in certain sports that require only a moderate expenditure of energy but which still enable them to utilize their time to good advantage. But these cases are not as numerous as they should be.

One retired man of my acquaintance nearly drives his friends crazy by asking them to do so many things and go places with him. He seizes every opportunity to invite them to accompany him here and there. While accepting some of them, they grow weary of politely refusing his offers and giving excuses. Some of these men are busy, with few leisure intervals. They are not retired but work a five day week. This friend makes so many demands on them that it is embarrassing for them. He has never learned to do things by himself—to entertain himself, in other words.

### TACTFUL SUGGESTIONS

There is a woman in my town who was a highly-paid private secretary to a big executive for many years. Now retired, she just sits and twiddles her thumbs, window shops or calls on friends, often at most inconvenient hours, even in the early morning. Several of her sympathetic associates have made tactful suggestions as to how she could spend her time more interestingly and profitably, but thus

far she has not taken their advice. She is "missing the boat." Intelligent and fairly healthy, there are many things she could do.

Many retired people would find happiness only in returning to some kind of work, at least part time, particularly if they are reasonably well, whether they need the money or not.

Those unable to hold down a job are often well enough to indulge in pursuits that are not too exhaustive. There is a crying need in many communities for more welfare workers. One can intensify and broaden his church activities. He can join a club or two. All of these endeavors will help him to pass the time. Religious and charitable activities cause a person to feel needed and useful—that his services are really benefitting others as well as himself. It is truly sad when one feels that he does not belong anywhere anymore.

A retired woman I know gives free piano lessons to young boys and girls of her neighborhood and looks forward to them. Another teaches youngsters how to sing. Almost every man and woman has some kind of talent that would enable him to give a lift to some youth who is ambitious along this line.

### THE HELPING HAND

Every retired person who finds time dragging owes it to himself to get into some pursuit that gives him a reason for living and brings joy to his heart. Any worthwhile endeavor will benefit him and others. There is today a great need for the helping hand, community service and constructive efforts. No church ever has too many competent, conscientious and dependable workers. Various charitable organizations also require volunteers from time to time. These activities are of the greatest importance and there are innumerable people with free time who could take part with profit to themselves and their benefactors. There are many civic enterprises.

No one in fair health needs to remain idle. It is up to him to discover some pursuit, which he finds fascinating and at the same time worthwhile. There are many of them. They may vary as to type in different parts of the country. But there is always something.

I know a retired nurse beloved by everybody who is acquainted with her. Now in her late seventies, she has recaptured much of the happiness of her active years. How? By rediscovering the joy of church work. After a long absence from any house of worship, she began attending divine services again at the suggestion of friends who were concerned about her because of her pitiful attitude of dejection and despondency.

At first she went in a spirit of disinterest and almost open hostility. But gradually she got into the swing of things and now devotes many hours a week to matters religious. She attends virtually all church meetings. She has recaptured the joy of close

**HE'LL NEVER LEAVE THEE**  
By Mrs. Milly Skinner  
of San Bernardino, California

"I will not fail thee nor forsake thee"  
(Joshua 1:5).

He'll never leave thee nor forsake thee,  
No matter how dark the way;  
He'll hold to thy hand and guide thee  
Through the night and all of the day.

Thy footsteps need never falter,  
Thy faith need never fail;  
Just trust in him and his teachings,  
Then his great love will prevail.

His love is sufficient for everyone,  
His grace abundant and free;  
Thine eyes should never leave his face  
Until filled with God's glory they be.

Dear friend, why can't we trust him?  
Why not give him our burdens to bear?

He'll take all our load and give glory,  
Then we will have blessings to spare.

religious affiliation and is lonely no longer. Religion has filled the void in her life just as it has done for so many others.

Sometime ago she said to me, "Nursing used to be my whole world. I thought of little else. When forced to quit this wonderful profession because of my age and declining health, I was wretched. I didn't know what to do. The church has solved that problem. Through it I've made many fine new friends and we get together a great deal for social fun. I feel a lot better too. I've learned that just because one is deep in his seventies it doesn't mean that life is over. Not by any means. I'm still enjoying it immensely. The person who backslides where church is concerned has really stopped living. I was very foolish to relax my religious interests."

### THE HAPPIEST PEOPLE

Yes, it can be done. The retired individual does not need to be bored, lonesome and unhappy. There are many things in which he can engage, filling his life with goodness and interest long after his working days are over. Even if for one reason or another, usually because of physical infirmities, he can no longer accept commercially-gainful employment, he can still keep himself well occupied. If such a wise plan were followed on a wide scale it would be a much happier and sunnier world for millions.

People who just give up and make little if any use of their minds and bodies are apt to go downhill rapidly. One should make continued use of his mental and physical resources; otherwise they may deteriorate rapidly. Some retired people do not live very long after getting out of harness. Perhaps sheer boredom and inactivity had something to do with their shortened lives.

Boredom, idleness, worry and similar factors have been known to result in actual illness or at least predispose

## BIBLE NEWS AROUND the WORLD

**B**EGINNING the 150th year of the American Bible Society, the Rev. Dr. Laton E. Holmgren, General Secretary, says "the task ahead is to see that every man on earth shall have the opportunity and, if necessary, repeated opportunities, to possess for himself in the language he speaks a copy of the written Word, which bears witness to the living Word, Jesus Christ, the hope of that man and the hope of the world."

### OUR WITNESS TO 50 MILLION

Of the nearly 200 million people in the United States, approximately 50 million have yet to be confronted with the Word of God, according to latest figures from the American Bible Society, which is now in the 150th year of its work of translating, publishing, distributing, and encouraging the reading of the Holy Scriptures.

### "SOWING" IN ECUADOR

Painted on the truck of Sr. Vicente Valencia in Ecuador, South America are the words "The Sower." When passengers ask him what this means, he hands them a copy of the Gospel of St. Mark entitled "A Sower Went out to Sow" and then tells them about Christ. People know his truck so well that whenever it approaches, they say, "Here comes the Sower." Many have purchased Bibles and New Testaments from him.

### DISTRIBUTION OF THE SCRIPTURES

Approaching the 150th Anniversary of its founding in May, 1966, the American Bible Society still distributes more copies of Holy Scripture in the United States than in any of the 130 other nations it serves. Scripture distribution in the United States in 1964 was a record 25,341,912 copies, will be higher this year, and will rise again in 1966. The Society's distribution outside the United States in 1964 was 23,333,705 copies.

to it. Every doctor is aware of this fact. By keeping busy such unfortunate persons could have done much to preserve or even regain their health as well as their contentment and peace of mind. Generally speaking, the busiest people get by far the most out of life! They are the happiest!

# God's Volunteers Face Many Open Doors

Reports of recent activities and programs by God's Volunteers Teams I and II

## AN OPEN DOOR OF UTTERANCE FOR TEAM NO. I

By Wenzel Hanik, Reporter

"THIS is Ricky Loewer, and I'm Wenzel Hanik. We're members of the God's Volunteer team, a gospel team who are working in this community for the Baptist church. We are holding services every evening and we would like to invite you to these meetings."

This is heard many times as we as team members go from door to door taking a religious canvass. Why bother with a canvass? Because through this we find unchurched people who are in need of salvation and a church home. After finding these people, we give their names to the local pastor. Then he can follow up these people. Many of the people called upon come to our services where God's Word and the way of salvation are brought to them.

## CANVASSING AND WITNESSING

After the Northside Baptist Church in Sioux Falls, S. Dak., we went to the First Baptist Church, Eureka, S. Dak. With expectant hearts we came to Eureka but still not knowing what to expect. Rev. Fred Fuchs and his family welcomed us warmly and made us feel right at home.

Canvassing started the following day and this was continued until every home was covered. A local Home for Aged was visited by the team and a program presented.

At Eureka we had record attendances with the church filled every evening with visitors from the surrounding churches and local people. At our concluding service 665 people crowded into the high school auditorium. That evening we as team members were thrilled to see ten re-dedications for the Lord.

Because we did not have our station wagon as yet, Mr. Jake Schlafmann of Turtle Lake and Rev. A. W. Weisser of the Bismarck Home took us from Eureka to Turtle Lake, N. Dak. En route we had the joy to present a program to our senior citizens at the Home. For most of us, this was the first time we had seen the Home and we were quite impressed by the size and beauty of the place.

At Turtle Lake Rev. Orville Meth prepared us for the work waiting for us. We did prospect calling and many of the members joined us in our calls. As we presented the programs, we could feel the Holy Spirit talking to the people. We had the joy of seeing Mr. Meth's son accept the Lord as his Savior. Our greatest joy in working with the young people was to see ten of them re-dedicate their lives for



Ricky Loewer (right) and Wenzel Hanik with their Bibles visit homes and canvass a community as members of the God's Volunteers Team.

the Lord and say, "I'm willing to do whatever the Lord wants me to do."

Anamoose, N. Dak., brought new challenges to us. Rev. A. Auch and his wife had planned a busy schedule for us. Because Rev. E. W. Klatt, our Director, could not be with us, we had Rev. W. Dachtler from Rapid City, S. Dak., as guest evangelist. On Youth Night we had ten re-dedications.

At Anamoose the members planned several socials for us. One evening the young people held a progressive supper.

We as team members especially hold the young people dear to our hearts. We have a tremendous potential in our churches in our young people. If the Lord would receive all this talent, we can be a driving force in our nation in this era. We have met dedicated young people in our campaigns who have been an inspiration to us. We as a team would covet your prayers so that we can be a help to our young people and also to the older people. Also pray for us that "the Lord would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ" (Col. 4:3).

## AN OPEN DOOR OF BLESSING FOR TEAM NO II

By Marlene Bender, Reporter

We would like to share with you as readers some of our experiences in our first campaign. Our first crusade was held Oct. 3 to 10 at the Bethany Baptist Church in Hutchinson, Minn. Here with Rev. Etan Pelzer and his congregation we canvassed the community, made hospital calls and visited shut-ins. One morning we had the opportunity of singing and giving our testimonies over radio.

We were very happy to see a good attendance at each evening service and are grateful for the faithfulness

of the people in the church.

After two days of travel, we arrived in Rapid City, S. Dak. Here we worked together with Rev. W. D. Dachtler, and were engaged in prospect calling. We found a real need for this type of visitation in this city. Our team was challenged to do our all in winning lost souls for Christ. We found many prospects for salvation and also for church membership.

Public services were held from Oct. 16 to 22, with an average attendance of 75. We held two children's meetings and were very happy to see about 25-30 children each time. As a team, we had a first time television appearance during this crusade.

Our time in Billings, Montana at the Calvary Baptist Church was filled to capacity. Rev. Richard Grenz and his congregation have a real concern for reaching out for the lost. Our visitation was done with many willing hands, and on Sunday afternoon 20 members came out to help us.

Opportunities to witness for Christ came every day. We sang in a rest home, a rescue mission, a Bible school, Youth for Christ meeting and also on radio. We are thankful to the Lord for the well attended meetings and for the souls won to Christ.

## WETASKIWIN, ALBERTA

Crossing the border into Canada, we met our first winter conditions. Our Dodge, which was christened "Sh'-Costa" (lots of money), was given a test of endurance. But the Lord was with us and we were able to start our next Crusade in Wetaskiwin, Alberta on Nov. 10. Rev. Jake Leverette and the people of Calvary Church had a full schedule of visitation and services for us.

With members of the church we carried out a canvass of the Sunday school bus route which the church has planned. While doing this, we came upon prospects for salvation and church membership. We saw decisions made for Christ, re-dedications and a re-assurance of salvation.

In closing, I would like to describe two incidents which we encountered. One day while calling, the lady of one house was so very glad to have us come. She told us that the Lord had directed us to her house. We were happy to know that we had helped her along the way.

During another canvass, we came upon an elderly couple who were unable to get out. Our team went to sing for them again and gave our witness. The gentleman, who was 85 years old, told us that he had lots of time to make a decision for Christ. We are praying for him, as well as for others, that they may come to know our Savior and Lord.

BAPTIST HERALD

# Esterhazy, Sask., a Booming Potash Center

The new Baptist Church Extension project in Esterhazy is also going forward with an organized church, a fine Sunday school, and building plans. Church Extension Builders will make their contributions in January 1966 for this new church.

By Rev. Peter Schroeder, Church Extension Pastor.

EIGHT YEARS ago Esterhazy, Saskatchewan was a small town in the agricultural area just north of the Qu'Appelle Valley, no different from hundreds of other small Saskatchewan towns. The population was about 350 people. Business establishments included the usual number of stores, elevators, service stations, hotel, etc.

Eight years ago an oil well test crew drilled an exploratory hole 12 miles northeast from here and found not oil but potash. Subsequently exploration revealed a tremendous field of high grade potash. This is a deposit 450 miles long and 50 miles wide, in fact, the world's largest known potash reserve.

## A TREMENDOUS BOOM

With the decision to sink a shaft northeast of Esterhazy, the town began to boom. The population has multiplied about 15 times in the past eight years and is now approaching 4,000. The town's facilities have been unable to keep up with the demand. Housing is at a premium. Hundreds of new units are under construction and building goes on, regardless of the weather. A tour of the town last week showed six new apartment buildings under construction containing 12 or more suites each, and most of the suites are reserved by prospective tenants before the building is even begun.

Hundreds of families live the year round in trailers. A new trailer court, to hold 250 units, opened only two weeks ago and is rapidly filling up. To illustrate the seriousness of the housing shortage allow me to relate one incident. A worker came from the north to seek employment at the mine and was immediately hired. Then he came to the Church Extension pastor for assistance in search of a boarding place. After phoning for half an hour, we could not find so much as a bed for the night in Esterhazy. Finally accommodation was arranged 8½ miles west and 20 miles from the job site with a local farmer.

This expansion, which is continuing at an ever increasing crescendo, came to the attention of the North American Baptist pastors of the Yorkton area. They organized a local Church Extension Committee to investigate the possibility of establishing a church here. The need was immediately obvious. Harry Hiller, summer student worker and a son of Rev. and Mrs. H. Hiller of New York, N. Y., was engaged to investigate further and to take a religious census of the town. Although



THE PASTOR'S FAMILY  
Left to right: Peter Timothy, Susan, Mrs. Schroeder, Rev. Peter Schroeder, Church Extension pastor, Donna and Karen.

no North American Baptists were found, the prospects for establishing an evangelical work were encouraging. Upon Brother Hiller's recommendation the local Church Extension Committee was in contact with Rev. D. Fuchs and arrangements were made to call a Church Extension pastor.

In the meantime, Mr. Bill Arndt, layman of Springside, Sask., accepted the obligation of carrying on the Sunday services. He was assisted in this work by the talented young people from the three parent churches, namely, Springside, Central of Yorkton, and Ebenezer.

## ENCOURAGING GROWTH

The three sponsoring churches just mentioned also volunteered to provide housing for the Esterhazy Church Extension pastor. Accordingly a house



ESTERHAZY BAPTIST CHURCH, SASK.  
The congregation of the Baptist Church, Esterhazy, Sask., after the worship service on Nov. 14, 1965 (left). Susan, Timmy and Karen Schroeder (right) with their musical instruments contribute regularly to the ministry of the church.



DECISIONS IN THE DOME

More than 1,500 inquirers stand before Billy Graham (standing on round platform) in the Astrodome during the first Sunday's service of the Greater Houston Crusade. Nearly 44,000 people filled five tiers of seats in the famed domed sports arena.

**E**VANGELIST Billy Graham drew 106,286 people during the first three days of the Greater Houston Crusade in Houston, Texas being held here in the famed Astrodome—"sports arena turned cathedral." "Inquirers" numbered 3,948 for the trio of opening services.

Graham, who postponed the crusade twice because of illness, began the meeting seven weeks later than originally planned. Observers said he looked tanned and healthy as he "preached with the same enthusiasm" for which he is known.

The largest single service was Sunday afternoon when the near-capacity crowd clicked the turnstiles 43,691 times. They heard the evangelist warn that "there is a day of judgment coming" and it could be any time.

#### "A WORLD ON FIRE"

The Sunday sermon—"A World On Fire"—was preached following Graham's arrival from LBJ Ranch immediately prior to the service.

During his third sermon since his operation Sept. 9, Graham declared that God is a God of judgment. "America is not God's pet," Graham declared. "It will be judged too."

Previously, the famed North Carolina preacher had charged that parents, the church and the educational

## Billy Graham Preaches in Houston's Famed Astrodome

In this "8th wonder of the world," the Astrodome of Houston, Texas, Billy Graham preached to hundreds of thousands of people, including the governor of Texas and the President of the United States, calling on them to "let Christ have control of your lives."

By Crusade Information Service.

system have failed today's youth.

Bored teen-agers riot and when asked why replied, "Just for the hell of it," the evangelist said. And one of the biggest problems among students, even those under age 13, is attempted suicide, he added.

Sexual stimuli are directed at youth from all directions—music, movies, even advertising, he said. "There is only one way you can live clean and resist temptation, and that is by letting Christ have control of your life."

The world-wide evangelist was introduced at the opening service Friday night by Texas Gov. John Connally.

"No man in the Christian world has brought the Christian message to as many people," said the governor. Connally, who considers Graham "a personal friend," praised the preacher for preaching "the truth of God," and for "his personal courage." Special groups from more than 80 Texas cities formed bus and car caravans to journey to the crusade.

President Lyndon B. Johnson joined 61,000 fellow Texans on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 28, to hear Evangelist Billy Graham preach in this city's famed domed stadium. The President and Mrs. Johnson flew the 250 miles from the LBJ ranch near Austin.

Noting the President's presence, Graham said that an evangelistic service

was not new to Johnson. The President, he said, was "reared in the deep religious faith that has prevailed in this great southwest country since the beginning."

This service was the last of a 10-day crusade in Houston. Officials said the total attendance has been almost 400,000.

Graham's subject was "The Great Judgment Day." He took his text from the account of the Apostle Paul's sermon at Mars hill in Athens, the cultural center of the ancient world.

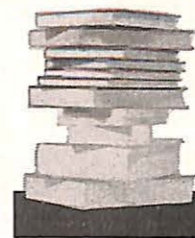
Graham said that Paul was "stirred and shocked" to see the "immorality, the injustice, and the hundreds of idols in Athens."

#### IDOLS OF AMERICA

"If Paul could come and walk the streets of an American city," the evangelist said, "he would see immorality, crime, and even more idols than in Athens. Our idols today are not made of marble, but are chrome plated and ultra-modern.

"The American god is technology, and our goddess is sex. Whether we know it or not, we are becoming more and more a secularistic nation, where man himself is becoming an idol. We are humanizing God and deifying man."

As Johnson listened intently, Graham said the only solution is found in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



## BOOK REVIEWS

By Rev. B. C. Schreiber, Promotional Assistant

**PLEASE GIVE ANOTHER DEVOTION** by Amy Bolding. Baker—1964—102 pages—\$1.95.

This is a companion book to **PLEASE GIVE A DEVOTION** reviewed in this column some time ago. The wife of a Baptist minister, Mrs. Bolding, suggests some excellent topics and ready made devotions which can be used in their entirety or as help and inspiration for those who have the genius for being original.

**LIVING ABOVE** by Betty Carlson. Zondervan—1964—120 pages—\$2.50.

Even though the book is recommended for women's groups these devotional talks can be just as helpful and inspiring for men. These short messages were written at the foot of the Swiss Alps, against a background of natural inspiration. Nevertheless, Miss Carlson makes them meaningful enough so that the reader can live more joyfully within four walls and above the kitchen sink.

**LIFE BY THE SPIRIT** by Skevington Wood. Zondervan—1963—144 pages—\$2.50.

Dr. Wood develops and follows the work of the Holy Spirit through Paul's letter to the Romans. Although it is to a large extent devotional in nature, the various chapters are replete with references to great spiritual saints whose lives became spiritually enriched through the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

**THE HIGH COST OF HOLY LIVING** by Dwight Hervey Small. Revell—1964—189 pages—\$3.50.

One of the greatest weaknesses of the Christian life is that little or nothing happens to the Christian after conversion. The new birth is not always followed by a growing and maturing life. These studies on the holy life are easily readable. They are biblical and inspirational, but unless the reader feels and develops a hunger and thirst for the more abundant life he will have read in vain. There must be a sincere effort through surrender, prayer, dedication and obedience to Christ to strive for a more victorious life.

The author has tried to point the way, first of all, through an honest look at our failures and then on to victory. Brokenness, as Mr. Small indicates, is not an end in itself. It is

only the means to a higher end—a life filled with God.

**THE EPISTLES TO THE CORINTHIANS** by Julian C. McPheeters. Baker Book House—1964—154 pages—\$2.95.

This is volume number seven of the series, **PROCLAIMING THE NEW TESTAMENT**, edited by Ralph G. Turnbull. The Corinthian church was far from ideal. Yet the worst in this church brought out the best in Paul. His chapters on love and the resurrection are sheer peaks of divine inspiration.

Dr. McPheeters, President Emeritus of Asbury Theological Seminary, suggests some practical preaching helps on these two epistles. The basic outline remains the same as in other volumes: Historical Setting, Expository Meaning; Doctrinal Value; Practical Aim; Homiletical Form.

**SPECIAL OCCASION HELPS** by C. M. O'Guin. Baker—1965—87 pages—\$1.95.

**48 SIMPLE SERMON OUTLINES** by Croft M. Pentz. Baker—1965—82 pages—\$1.00 (paper).

In addition to special days of the year, the author has included helps for funerals, wedding anniversaries, ordination, church dedications and other events. An inspirational thought or two is often stimulating when the minister has periods of intellectual and spiritual dryness. Mr. Pentz has tried to make his outlines as simple and as Scriptural as possible. On occasion when the pastor is crowded for time, these can be used as quick thought starters for sermons.

**CHRISTIAN CALLING AND VOCATION** by Henlee H. Barnette. Baker—1965—83 pages—\$1.50.

This is a spiritual, Scriptural, intellectual and practical examination

#### BOOK ORDERS

All books reviewed on these pages, as well as others, can be ordered for you by the Roger Williams Book Store. These orders of yours will receive prompt attention.

**ROGER WILLIAMS PRESS**  
7308 Madison Street  
Forest Park, Illinois

of a Christian's calling and vocation. It is a solemn and realistic approach. There is no superficial phraseology in which a Christian calling is equated with full-time Christian service. This inference often implies that all other Christians are part-time servants of Christ, possessing something of the status of a second-class citizen in the Kingdom of God. The author's purpose in this volume is to help the Christian regain the original meaning of "calling" as revealed in the Bible. It includes being called to salvation, righteousness, service, for a definite purpose, for sainthood and for daily work.

**EXTRAORDINARY LIVING FOR ORDINARY MEN** by Sam Shoemaker. Zondervan—1965—160 pages—\$2.95.

Just to read the author's *Credo* and his poem, "So I Stay Near the Door," is worth the price of the book. (See page 2, Dec. 30, 1965 issue of the "Baptist Herald.")

The excerpts selected for this volume reveal Dr. Shoemaker at his best. Whether he is talking about faith, about God's will, about the Cross, about witnessing or about forgiveness and the new life, you have the feeling that he is expressing himself in terms that are understood by both the mind and the heart. Although he was a Canon in the Episcopal Church, he was thought of more as an evangelist than a high churchman. His warm spiritual presence seems to pervade the book and touch the reader even though he is no longer among the living.

The title is particularly appropriate because Sam Shoemaker made ordinary men feel extraordinary when he spoke to them personally and unhurriedly about the power of Jesus Christ.

**THE BURDEN OF SOREN KIERKEGAARD** by Edward John Cornell. Eerdmans—1965—174 pages—\$3.50.

The reader literally feels the burden of this solemn Dane in the first chapter. His emotional and physical handicaps are most vividly described when the author quotes from Kierkegaard's own books. He was a neurotic genius who desperately sought a way of escape but never fully found one. His existentialism is most simply explained in the fact that he did the best he could under the circumstances. Only his transcendent faith in God gave him a measure of relief. Never was he able to grasp a practical faith with which to overcome his deep and abiding melancholy dread which he bore to the end of his short life.

His strong desire to be an individual Christian and his insistence that others follow the same pattern seems to be partly due to the fact that he was unable to relate with other people. Naturally the spiritual apathy of the state church intensified his position.

Dr. Cornell must be credited with a more objective and fair treatment of

(Continued on page 22)

yes,  
1 Tithē!

# SPEAK UP!

An Open Forum for communication among North American Baptists moderated by **Dr. A. Dale Ihrie**, minister of the Grosse Pointe Baptist Church, Grosse Pointe Woods, Mich., and General Conference Moderator.

## THE RURAL CHURCHES ARE NOT DEAD!

Dear Dr. Ihrie:

Our denomination contains a large number of rural churches and so we constantly hear great despair expressed for their future. Now it may be a sociological fact that there is an overwhelming population trend from the farm to the city, but objective study would probably reveal that small towns and their churches exhibit a fierce tenacity in their struggle to survive. Perhaps rural churches are dying, but many will perseveringly linger for ten years as yet.

Why are these churches not encouraged to be creative—instead of the prevailing mood of lamentation and feeling sorry for them? Why do not the churches themselves take their determination to "continue Sunday services" and channel it into a concern to serve the surrounding community?

Of course, in a small town the outward prospects for soul winning are quite limited. But are there not other important challenges? If this is where God has put them, why is it not possible to apply a little ingenuity toward adapting to this situation? Examples of service endeavors could include special efforts to minister to the mentally retarded in the community, county jail inmates, nursing home residents, providing college and seminary scholarships, youth center, home Bible classes (for unchurched children), Golden Age Club, adopting a ward in a mental hospital (some institutions are requesting such aid), "sending out" (or sponsoring as church missionaries) a family which has already decided to move to a larger city, especially where our denomination has a Church Extension work. Could not some churches take it upon themselves to attempt "pilot-projects" which could be an example

We thank God that he saw fit to use us and for us to have a small part in this great endeavor.

Does God hold us responsible for the other nine-tenths which he has entrusted to us? The more we save and invest of the nine-tenths, the more his Kingdom will grow. We heartily invite you to join us in giving God, at least the tithe of our income. The bountiful blessings in a material and physical way have been ours. God's promise is to us and all people in Malachi 3:10-12. If all of God's people would tithe, we would not hear these words, "No funds to send them," for we cannot out-give God!

and a stimulus to sister churches in similar circumstances?

Is it not true that Jesus' call to self-denial, sacrificial discipleship and spiritually-centered compassion ought to elicit an active response by all 20th Century Christians in every area of life? Is this not a valid topic of discussion for our Associations and Conferences?

Sincerely,  
(Name withheld by request)

### COMMENT BY DR. IHRIE

Sometimes the request to withhold the name of a writer seems to be an injustice to the author of a fine letter like this. We will respect his request but echo his convictions with strong approval.

Certainly, we all recognize that the ministry of our rural churches is not an easy one. It requires all the grace a man and his family can muster to maintain enthusiasm for a work that seems to be declining in its numerical strength and losing its leadership potential every time a young man or woman goes away to college. The very things most 20th Century Christians assume to be vital to Christian success seem to be absent from more and more of our smaller country churches: musical talent, youth, financial resources, and organizational leadership.

Many fine families have put their time and money into their church for decades and are sad to see their church home grow weaker because of sociological factors beyond anybody's control. Their spirit of discouragement is understandable. The maintenance of patterns inherited from former years proves to be insurmountably difficult, yet the habits which have been built up cannot be sloughed off without regret and even pain. In these situations, much of the weight falls on the pastor.

Praise God for the pastor and congregation which brings itself to deal with reality in a creative and challenging way! The brother who wrote this letter has recognized that the real essence of Christianity is service rendered and love expressed. Where there are human beings within living range, there will indeed be multiplied opportunities for loving expression of genuine service. These will be directed to individuals as well as groups. Aesthetics and organizational structure may be important, but they are certainly not the essence of Christianity.

"Free and fair discussion will ever be found the firmest friend to truth."  
—G. Campbell.

• **The Forest Baptist Church of Munson, Pa.**, has extended a call to Rev. Oliver L. Exley of Union City, Pa., to which he has replied favorably. He is already on the field, serving the church and succeeding Rev. Laurence R. Prast.

• **Rev. and Mrs. Fred C. Folkerts of Bamenda, Cameroon** have announced the birth of a son on Nov. 3, 1965 who has been named David Reynold. This is the fourth son in their family. Mr. Folkerts is the acting field secretary of the Cameroons Baptist Mission.

• **The Trinity Baptist Church of Warren, Mich.**, has announced that its pastor, Rev. Jack Fullard, recently resigned and has accepted the call of the First Baptist Church of Trenton, Ontario, Canada. He served as the pastor of Trinity Church since 1955. The church is prayerfully considering the calling of a successor.

• **The Salem Baptist Church of Kitchener, Ontario** has called Rev. Eduard Hornbacher as interim pastor to serve the church until a minister arrives on the field. He began his interim ministry in October 1965. Rev. Waldemar E. Ertis, the former pastor, is now serving the Bethel Baptist Church of Prince George, B. C.

• **The Wiesenthal Baptist Church of Millet, Alberta** has called Rev. Morley E. Schultz as its new pastor. He and his wife and their four children were welcomed by the church at a reception on Sunday, Nov. 7. A more detailed report appears elsewhere in this issue. Mr. Schultz has succeeded the late Rev. Ernest Hahn who was killed in an auto accident.

• **Rev. John C. Schweitzer, assistant pastor of the Bethany Baptist Church, Vancouver, British Columbia**, has presented his resignation effective Dec. 31, 1965. He has announced his retirement from the active ministry. He and his wife plan to go to Florida, where he hopes to render a supply and interim ministry in Baptist churches. Rev. Ernie Rogalski is pastor of Vancouver's Bethany Church.

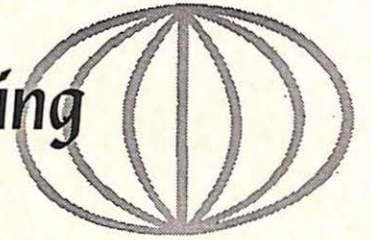
• **A group of about 25 young people from the First Baptist Church of St. Joseph, Mich.**, visited the N.A.B. Headquarters building on Friday, Nov. 26. They were accompanied by Mr. Robert T. Parks, director of youth at the church, and other youth sponsors. The young people were taken on a tour of the building by Rev. David J. Draewell. Their enthusiastic comments revealed that the trip had been very successful.

• **The First Baptist Church of Arnprior, Ontario** has extended a call to Rev. Loren Weber of Isabel, South Dakota, pastor of the Isabel Baptist Church since 1962. He has accepted the call and has announced that he would begin his ministry in Arnprior on Jan. 1, 1966 where he will succeed Rev. Eldon Janzen, at present the business manager of the Roger Williams Press, Forest Park, Ill.

• **The First Baptist Church, Durham, Kansas** held its Harvest Mission Festival on Sunday, Oct. 10, with Rev. Edgar Wesner of Stafford, Kansas as guest speaker. The mission offering was over \$1400. Then a series of Deeper Life Meetings was held, Oct. 24-31. Rev. Le Roy Schauer of Columbus, Nebraska was the visiting evangelist who with the resident pastor, Rev. Henry Lang, provided able leadership. There was an average attendance of 91 persons at the meetings.

• **The Ebenezer Baptist Sunday School, Detroit, Mich.**, won the state-wide Sunday School Contest in Class B Division. Over a period of five weeks, the Sunday school at the Ebenezer Church averaged an attendance of 699 with a record setting attendance of 830 on the final Sunday. Mr. Marvin Skubick gave dynamic leadership to the contest at the Ebenezer Sunday school. In addition, the general superintendent, Mr. Ted Winters, was recognized as "The Superintendent of the Year" by

what's happening



MR. EDWIN GUMMELT  
of Waco, Texas

A member of the Central Baptist Church of Waco.

Mr Gummelt is engaged in the Wholesale and Retail Gasoline business; also in real estate.

I BEGAN tithing in 1921 when I was 21 years of age. This was under the ministry of Rev. H. G. Ekzut, at the Cottonwood Baptist Church near Lorena, Texas. My pastor convinced me that tithing was the minimum in our stewardship for our Lord. Rev. H. G. Ekzut not only taught and preached on tithing, but he lived it as a testimony to others. After our marriage in 1923, my wife and I continued to tithe.

Why do we tithe? It is scriptural! In Genesis 28:20 to 22 Jacob promised God he would tithe. In Leviticus 27:30 in God's law given to Moses, he commanded his people to tithe. In II Chronicles 31:5, all of Judah and Jerusalem were asked to tithe. Some may say, "That's the Old Testament." Don't we still have the same God? Then in the New Testament, (Luke 11:42), Jesus said to the Pharisees that it was good because they tithe, but reprimanded them for not being faithful in all things.

We feel that through tithing we are in God's will, here and now, when we see God's work progress, see new mission fields open, old mission fields expand, and new Extension churches established in our home mission work.

• **Dr. R. Schilke, general missionary secretary**, has announced the resignation of Rev. and Mrs. G. Ben Lawrence, Cameroon missionaries since 1952. The education of their five children was an important factor in their decision to present their resignation. No immediate plans for the future were announced. Mr. Lawrence will continue his work and studies toward a Ph.D. degree at Eugene, Oregon. The resignation, effective immediately, was accepted with regrets by the Board of Missions.

• **Five persons were baptized at North Sheridan Baptist Church, Peoria, Ill.**, at the Sunday morning worship service on Oct. 24. They are Kathlene Stocksiek, Karen and Debra Piersall, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Heller. Rev. Richard W. Paetzel, pastor of the church, conducted the baptismal service. Revival services were conducted at the Peoria Church, Nov. 2-7. The guest evangelist was Rev. Floyd Ankerberg of Chicago, Ill. More than 20 decisions were recorded, with half of them being first time decisions for Christ.

### RESIGNATION OF DR. MARTHA M. LEYPOLDT

Dr. Frank Veninga, NAB Seminary president, has announced the resignation of Dr. Martha M. Leypoldt, Professor of Christian Education and Registrar at the seminary since 1955. Dr. Leypoldt has accepted the call extended to her by the Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, Pa., to become Professor of Christian Education, August 1, 1966. A more detailed statement by the seminary will appear in the next issue of the "Baptist Herald."

the Michigan Sunday School Association.

• **Rev. Herman G. Kuhl, pastor of the Willow Ave. Baptist Church of Hoboken, N. J.**, was instrumental in arranging for the showing of the religious film, "The Magnificent Heritage," from our NAB office at the mid-year meeting of the Hudson Baptist Association. The sessions were held at the Monumental Baptist Church, a Negro church, with 1500 members. The film was enthusiastically received by the large congregation. Mr. Kuhl wrote: "It was a wonderful treat for us since it is a fine color rendition of outstanding events in the early history of Baptists in this country."

• **The Glenbard Baptist Church of Glen Ellyn, Ill.**, held a reception for its new pastor, Rev. Robert L. Roxburgh, and his family on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 31 with Rev. David J. Draewell in charge. The induction sermon was given by Dr. H. T. Amerding, president of Wheaton College. The prayer of dedication was offered by Dr. Vincent Brushwyler of the First Baptist Church of Glen Ellyn, Ill. Rev. Eldon Janzen of the NAB Headquarters staff brought a brief welcome. Mr. Frank Flack, chairman of the Board of Deacons, introduced the new pastor and his family to the congregation and declared Rev. Robert L. Roxburgh to have been installed as the pastor.

• **Donna Helmar, a North American Baptist sophomore student from Marion, Kansas** at Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas accompanied three other college representatives to Nebraska over the November 26-27 week end where they participated in the Baptist Senior Youth Fall Rally held in the Shell Creek Baptist Church.





BY MRS. DELMAR WESSELER  
of Lorraine, Kansas  
President of the Woman's Missionary Union

### GIVE OF OUR BEST!

As we are thinking of a new year in our Lord's work, shall we retreat a moment to view the foundation on which our women's work is based?

Recently as our Ladies' Missionary Society in Lorraine, Kansas celebrated the 75th year of its organization, I was deeply challenged with the many incidents of real significance which I discovered when writing a history of these eventful years.

First of all, these women met together with real opposition from the men who thought their organization was very unnecessary, that it was a "Klatsch Klub" (gossip club), so that they could meet only in the parsonage rooms of the newly built stone church. These meetings were held while the men carried on the business of the church, for the women had no voice in business nor did they have any other means of transportation.

After organizing, the women's very first item of business was not for hymn books or for any of the many needed items for their own building, but it was decided to send two dollars to furnish a room in the Home for the Aged in Chicago. During those first pioneer years when the very necessities of life were needed, they gave like the widow gave her mite. Their vision, their love for the Lord and for spreading the Gospel, along with their desire to share their extremely limited money, showed how closely they listened to the Master.

Do these items of business sound as though they were approved this year or over 70 years ago when it was actually transacted?

Voted: 1. To send a delegate to Conference and pay expenses from the treasury;

2. To send offerings to the Cameroons, to Brazil, Austria, etc., to immigrants, to our Seminary, Deaconess Home, Home for the Aged, Orphanages, and many other causes.

3. To give a number of one dollar offerings to churches who requested that sum. (This is modern Church Extension, for these churches were building new buildings, were greatly in debt, or had requested funds because of a disastrous fire. This one dollar paid for a number of items those days.)

4. At two o'clock each day, stop working and pray for the unsaved.

5. To furnish communion linens,

## From the Professor's Desk

By Professor Ralph E. Powell, North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

*How does existentialism contribute to our understanding of the relation between faith and reason?*

Characteristically, existentialism constitutes a protest against all forms of rationalism which make reason the source and test of knowledge in itself, superior to or independent of experience. It is inhospitable to a rationalism which finds it easy to assume that reality can be grasped primarily or exclusively by intellectual means. This does not at all mean that existentialism depreciates a legitimate and necessary use of reason, as any study of the highly sophisticated works of Kierkegaard, Heidegger, Sartre, Tillich, and a dozen others will show in the most impressive way possible. These intellectual giants are capable of the most disciplined thinking and careful reasoning.

When matters call for systematic knowledge, they do not pretend to be able to deal with them by faith or by any other special sort of insight or intuition. Their main thesis is not that faith conflicts with reason as such, but rather with reason which has forgotten its proper limits. Reason simply has its own boundaries; there are some things that are beyond its competence. Yet, as Gabriel Marcel reminds us, whenever faith *breaks away* from knowledge, in this sense it tends to degenerate into idolatry. Detachment from factual reality is insanity. Existentialists generally wish to avoid two extremes: the exclusion of reason on the one hand, and the admission of reason alone or supreme, on the other.

### PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT

What is most typical of their approach is the insistence that rationalism is patently incapable of coping with existence. Reality is not such that it can be forced into neat, logically precise and perfect explanations. Life just is not that way; but is often, and some may find it most usually, chaotic, erratic, unsystematic, enigmatic, and sometimes even irrational. That is the way life is: "So ist das Leben." And it is useless to wish that it were otherwise.

Reality does not come nicely packaged in readily explainable experiences, Existentialism therefore protests easy, "pat" answers, complete explanations, and ready-made formulas to problems. And you cannot simply take the answers from someone else. Each individual must wrestle with his own problems in his own concrete situation un-

communion set with individual services, pulpit, etc.

We realize as Christian women to-

(Continued on page 22)

til he has grown into personal authenticity—there is no vicarious character and there is no vicarious faith. One must experience the way for himself through personal participation and involvement, through the decision of faith.

Existentialism does not buy the assumption that the construction of a logical system is the most adequate way to reach the truth, especially if the system is based on abstract speculation or theoretical metaphysics. Truth is not known so readily by objective, dispassionate reasoning; but rather by radical decision, by faith which involves decisive personal commitment—especially is this so of the truth most worth knowing, that which is worth living and dying for, where the meaning of life is at stake, the truth of God, Jesus Christ, and salvation.

The change of life which man desperately needs is not one which is accomplished by careful reasoning, theoretical thought, or proofs of God's existence, but by the saving decision of faith in the Son of God. This does not mean that there is not an important place for careful reasoning and theoretical thought, but so long as God is merely an idea to be understood or some ethical ideal to be cultivated, we are dealing with a philosophical idol, not with the God of Abraham, Moses, Isaiah, John and Paul.

### THE LEAP OF FAITH

Profound implications for apologetics grow out of this line of thinking. God is not a premise, the validity of which is to be demonstrated; he is not an argument to be proved. Often has it been only too painfully shown that the more he has been proved and demonstrated, the less he has been believed and trusted. A man's whole nature must be transformed by God before such truths can be grasped (I Cor. 2:14). Until one has taken the leap of faith, the kind of evidence put forth in the defense of Christianity will not be convincing.

One could learn the facts and reasons for God's nature and existence without making one step toward trusting him in such a way as to experience his love and life. Rational proofs fail to convince the unbeliever, because they do not arouse that awareness of need which, in turn, gives rise to a passionate search for fellowship with God. Kierkegaard reminds us that what Christ really means cannot be apprehended through knowledge of historical facts or theological truths, for faith is essentially related not so much to the teaching but to the Teacher; not to a system of thought but to the Savior of souls.

## ASSOCIATIONS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Reports from the Field

**OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION SESSIONS.** The West Broadway Baptist Church of Enid, Okla., hosted the 1965 Oklahoma Association, Nov. 4-5. The theme was "GROWING IN GRACE AND KNOWLEDGE," based on II Peter 3:18. Guest speakers for our Association included: Dr. Richard Schilke, General Missionary Secretary; Dr. J. C. Gunst, Central District Secretary; and Miss Esther Schultz, Missionary to Cameroon, West Africa. Devotional services each morning were conducted by Mr. Adolph Kosanke and Rev. Martin DeBoer. Mr. Archie Franz served as moderator for the Association.

The highlight of the Association was the blessed privilege of welcoming the West Broadway Baptist Church of Enid into the fellowship of our Oklahoma Association. A panel discussion centered on the theme, "LAYMEN WITHIN THE CHURCH," was conducted Thursday afternoon. The young people were in charge of the Thursday evening service with Miss Sandra Geis, the president, presiding and with Miss Schultz speaking on "CONTINUING IN THE GRACE AND GOODNESS OF GOD." (Carl E. Bieber, Reporter).

### CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION.

There is an urgent question, especially pertinent for our day, which the hymn-writer posed long ago: "Peace, perfect peace, in this dark world of sin?" Delegates to the 56th annual session of the California Association sought the answer to this question by considering the promise of Christ in John 14:27: "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you."

Bethel Baptist Church in Anaheim and Rev. William Hoover, pastor, graciously hosted the annual affair from Nov. 4-7. Rev. Aaron Buhler served as moderator. The moderator of the General Conference, Dr. A. Dale Ihrie, was able to be present and capably shared what God had given to him. Missionary Geraldine Glasenapp spoke concerning the need for peace in a changing Africa and Rev. Joseph Sonnenberg, Western District secretary, told of peace for the Christian businessman and the Christian's role for peace in the community. Other speakers included Rev. Eldon G. Schroeder, who spoke about the One who is the Source of true peace, and Dr. Louis Johnson, who spoke about the false concepts of peace. The Youth Banquet speaker was the Rev. Harvey Mehlhaff. A very interesting feature of the Association was the panel discussion on "Preserving Peace in the Christian Home."

The new officers of the Association are as follows: moderator, William Hoover; vice-moderator, William Acton; secretary, Robert Radcliffe; treasurer, David Weigum; Pacific Conference Nominating Committee, Kenneth

Fischer; Camp Board of Directors, Louis Johnson, G. G. Rauser, Ben Willis, Paul Jungkeit, Jim Turner, John Wolff. The new officers of the Woman's Missionary Society are: president, Mrs. Virginia Mauch; vice president, Mrs. Madelene Taylor; and secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Ann Fandrick. It was decided to hold the next Association at Temple Baptist Church of Lodi, Calif., Oct. 27-30, 1966. (Robert Radcliffe, Reporter).

### 80TH ANNIVERSARY, FAITH,

**MINNEAPOLIS.** In the Spring of 1884 Rev. and Mrs. Frederick August Petereit were received into the German Baptist Church of St. Paul, Minn., by letter of transfer from Quincy, Illinois, having been called to serve as "Church Extension" pastor and to help organize the "Minneapolis Station" into a church. On March 1, 1885 the First German (now Faith) Baptist Church, Minneapolis, Minn., was organized with 35 charter members (29 from St. Paul, 2 from Hastings and 4 from Sharon, Minn.). Many persons have come to know their Savior through the years and many have found strength and comfort in the preaching of God's Word in our church.

On Friday evening, Oct. 29, a delicious ham dinner was served to about 200 members and guests for the 80th anniversary celebration of the Faith Church, Minneapolis, Minn., with the moderator, Mr. Ted Hirsch, serving as the Master of Ceremonies. The program featured "Reflections—Looking back over the 80 years" with pictures and script by Mrs. Flora H. Woyke and response by Pastor D. N. Miller; and "Projections—Looking ahead to the years" with the Church Planning Committee outlining building of future educational wing by Karl B. Duemke, and a brief challenge by Dr. J. C. Gunst. An offering amounting to \$1,020.06 for the Building Fund was received as well as \$50 additional in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Friedrich T. Presler, second church clerk, Sunday school teacher, etc. Barbara Ann Hirsch sang the offertory solo and the thanksgiving prayer was offered by Rev. Herman Palfenier.

Dr. Frank H. Woyke, denominational Executive Secretary and son of our church, was guest speaker on Sunday, Oct. 31. His topic in the morning was "God's Message to the Churches" (Rev. 3:6-13) and in the evening "The Lord is Gracious" (Psalm 103:1-22). The choir beautified the services by rendering "Lord of Love Unfailing" and "The Hand of God." We are grateful that God still has placed an Open Door of Opportunity before us—and it is for us to hear what the Spirit saith and to use our talents in witnessing that Jesus Christ is the only means of salvation. (Mrs. Flora H. Woyke, Church Historian).

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# sunday school lessons

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

## A TEACHING GUIDE

Date: January 9, 1966

Theme: THE SOURCE OF OUR FAITH

Scripture: John 20:24-31; Romans 10:8b-14, 17

**THE CENTRAL THOUGHT:** The source of our faith can be found only through a sincere seeking on our part and a revelation on God's part.

**INTRODUCTION:** There is an intense desire among scientists and educators to find the source of everything. They have the conviction that the truth, the cure, the cause can all be revealed if they can discover how it all began. Even an explorer is not satisfied until he finds the source of a river. A mountain climber is not content until he has scaled the highest peak. The unknown is a magnet that draws men in all ages. But it takes courage and dedication to seek and to discover the unknown and the unknowable.

This is the kind of dedication God would like to see in the lives of his followers. Jesus said, "Seek and ye shall find." Those who have followed his admonition have made marvelous discoveries and have had wonderful truths revealed to them.

The source of the Christian's faith is no secret. It is the Lord Jesus Christ. What we have come to believe is centered on a Person and not on a philosophy. A Christ-centered faith is a life-centered faith! He lives; therefore we live.

**I. THE REASON FOR DOUBT.** John 20:24-25.

At first glance, it seems that Thomas gave up too easily. It is strange that he should be the only one who was missing. Perhaps Thomas felt that his former companions were too dismal and mournful and decided to seek other company. Nevertheless, by his absence he missed a great blessing. When the writer to the Hebrews said, "Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together, as the manner of some is," he knew what he was talking about.

The witness of the disciples that they had seen the Lord was too much for Thomas. Such a wonderful and marvelous truth is not to be trifled with. He must have proof positive.

**II. THE BASIS FOR BELIEF.** John 20:26-31.

Here is revealed the great love and mercy of Christ. He does not wait for us to develop a mature faith before he makes himself known unto us. Faith like a tiny mustard seed is not dis-

carded. Perhaps Thomas' words did not fully convey what his heart felt. If so, then he would not have returned to join his fellow disciples. There must have been an element of sincerity beneath his skepticism, and a thought of hope in his hopeless heart.

To the credit of Thomas it must be said that he did not need all the proof which he demanded. Seeing was enough for him to cry out spontaneously, "My Lord and my God!"

**III. THE BASIS FOR FAITH—GOD'S WORD.** Romans 10:8-17.

Jesus said, "Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed." But he did not say, "Blessed are they that have not heard, and yet have believed." Unless you are deaf, this is the most common way of God's Word getting into the mind and heart. Faithful hearing leads to faithful speaking. The person who confesses Christ with his mouth and manner of life, and is conscious of the Spirit's working in his heart is saved from sin and destruction. The word of faith leads to faith in a Person—Jesus Christ.

### Questions for Discussion:

1. Why is it so difficult to have faith without seeing some evidence?
2. Why does Christ not always give us evidence when we refuse to believe like Thomas?
3. In how far is the Gospel preached in all the world?

## A TEACHING GUIDE

Date: January 16, 1966

Theme: GOD IS HOLY

Scripture: I Chronicles 29:10-13; Revelation 4:8-11; Romans 11:33-36

**THE CENTRAL THOUGHT:** Through Jesus Christ we not only see the holiness of God but we also see the possibility of man's holiness.

**INTRODUCTION:** It is sometimes difficult to know how to approach a holy God. Some find it impossible because of fear. This is how the children of Israel felt in the wilderness near Mt. Siani. This is the way the sinner has felt in all ages when once he has become conscious of his sin. He is painfully aware of the great contrast—man's awful sinfulness over against God's awful holiness. It is difficult for him to believe that God can take away his sin and make him worthy of dwelling in his presence.

However, when once we come to God through repentance, confession and forgiveness, we will learn to know him, through Jesus Christ, as our heavenly Father and personal Friend who wants

to walk and talk and live with us.

The church may also hinder from finding a holy and yet friendly God. One may have an atmosphere and liturgy which are so awesome and liturgical which are so awesome and untouched; another may have a service so informal that the worshipers are unaware that there is a holy and reverent God present.

**I. GOD'S HOLINESS IN BLESSING.** I Chronicles 29:10-13.

David began his magnificent anthem of praise when he became aware of the willingness of his people to bring their best in order to build a worthy dwelling place for God. This was an indication of David's humility. Some of the lessons which he learned later in life were not easy. But in his prayer he is careful to give God the credit for all the greatness, honor and glory. Never again will he be tempted to exalt himself and the nation. His expression of thanksgiving and praise indicates a true spirit of worship.

This is what we owe to God—a heart filled with gratitude for life and for the privilege of serving him who has chosen us to be his servants and witnesses here on earth.

**II. GOD'S HOLINESS IN VICTORY.** Revelation 4:8-11.

Although much in the book of Revelation is symbolic and mysterious, God's holiness is apparent throughout. The winged creatures recognize his power and his eternity. He was in the beginning and is now, but he is also the Coming One who will bless us throughout eternity. The very fact of his coming is an indication that we are part of his eternal plan. It is the glorious hope of the redeemed to be forever with the Lord.

**III. GOD'S HOLINESS IN INFINITY.** Romans 11:33-36.

Paul was a very wise man, and possessed an education which surpassed that of ordinary men. Yet he was often at a loss for words when he spoke about God. His own wisdom and knowledge seemed so limited when compared with the unlimited wisdom and knowledge of God. What Paul was trying to express was the fact that God is so great that all of the universe cannot contain him, and yet he is so small that he can dwell in the human heart. Someone said that even if there is an iron curtain, there is no iron ceiling. The glory and the holiness of God can penetrate the darkest cell.

### Questions for Discussion:

1. How is it possible for God to be so far above us and yet dwell in us?

(Continued on page 23)

# OUR denomination in action

## special events

**TEMPLE, LEDUC, ALTA.** The Junior Choir of the Temple Baptist Church, Leduc, Alta., has again resumed its place in the Sunday school programs with Mrs. Eldon Bienert as director and Dale Dickau as pianist. Our Ladies Mission Circle held its election of officers on Nov. 5. This is our new executive: Mrs. D. Kuhnert, Mrs. L. Schamuhn, Mrs. M. Dickau, Mrs. G. Schamuhn, Mrs. E. Bohlman and Mrs. Esther Kresier. Our young people are being led in some very thought provoking subjects for discussion by our pastor, Rev. L. Kresier. May they continue to grow in grace and in knowledge! We thank God for the man in our pulpit who is breaking the Bread of Life so faithfully. Our prayer is that we may be worthy of our name as Christians even as were those first disciples. (Mrs. Tillie Waidman, Reporter).

**NORTH FREEDOM, WIS.** On Monday afternoon, Nov. 1, the ladies of the Rock Springs and North Freedom Baptist Church, Wis., met at the Rock Springs Church for the Baptist Women's Day of Prayer. On Saturday, Nov. 6, the Wisconsin Pastor-Deacon-Deaconess Clinic was held at the North Freedom Baptist Church. The guest speaker was Dr. George A. Lang from our Seminary in Sioux Falls, S. Dak. The topics of discussion led by Dr. Lang were as follows: 1. "Crises in the Pastoral Ministry" 2. "Crises in Church Leadership" On Sunday, Nov. 14, the Sauk County Male Chorus gave a concert at the North Freedom Church. Their music was very inspirational and enjoyed by all who were in attendance. (Mrs. Carl Faivre, Reporter).

**ODESSA, WASH.** The Baptist Church of Odessa, Wash., decided to hold its annual Harvest Mission Festival in conjunction with our Pacific Northwest Association sessions to which we were the host church this year. Serving as host church created need for some house-cleaning and fixing in preparation for the expected company. Our small group of ladies did a remarkable job of feeding the association delegates and visitors during their stay. At both the Saturday evening banquet and the Sunday dinner over 150 people were served a delicious meal. Without question these extra expenses cut into our mission giving this year, but we are happy to report that our two offerings brought \$1300. Of this amount \$400 went to our Pacific Northwest Church Extension projects and \$900 for our General Conference missions. Rev. Joe Sonnenberg and Prof Roy Seibel brought very appropriate messages for the occasion.

In the morning the Sierra Heights Church of Spokane brought two lovely choir numbers for us and in the afternoon they furnished a trio number and our ladies' quartet also sang. (Vern Slater, Pastor).

**DICKINSON COUNTY CHURCH, KANSAS.** From Oct. 31 to Nov. 7 special "Deeper Life" services were conducted at the Dickinson County Baptist Church, Elmo, Kansas. Rev. Henry Lang of Durham, Kansas was our guest speaker. On Sunday, Oct. 31, our annual Harvest Mission Festival was observed with a fellowship dinner at noon. The sanctuary was decorated with beautiful flowers, vegetables and grain, some of which came from God's Garden sponsored by the junior department. Our missionary offerings amounted to over \$800. Mr. Lang faithfully preached the Word each night and hearts were blessed and our faith was strengthened. For the boys and girls he gave lessons from the "Buzzing Bee" and the dressing of the Christian Soldier. On Nov. 4 and 5 our senior C.B.Y. sponsored "Slave Days" in which they raised money for their state missionary project. They also helped us meet our goal and quota of \$400 for the Enid Church Extension project. (Edwin F. Walter, Pastor).

**TRINITY, SIOUX FALLS, S. DAK.** The Sioux Falls Trinity Church CCF-ers of Sioux Falls, S. Dak., continue to

## MOMENTS WITH GOD

Printing of 10,500 copies for the "Jan. Feb. March 1966" issue is almost exhausted. A few orders can still be filled. Send your order immediately for the next issue.

### PRICES:

\$1.00 a year—single subscription  
60c a year—Five or more copies sent quarterly to same address.  
25 cents—single copy.

### CORRECTION

The announcement of Bible Studies (page 3) in the "Jan. Feb. March 1966" issue refers to the next "April May June 1966" number. The Bible Studies in the current issue are:

**Prayers of the Bible,** Jan. 2-8, Rev. Harold W. Gieseke of Bethlehem, Pa.

**Studies in Philippians,** Feb. 7-13, by Dr. M. A. Darroch of Detroit, Michigan.

**The Christian Life,** March 6-12, by Rev. Howard Johnson of Burlington, Iowa.

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be on the go and growing as another month comes near. A visitation program has therefore been set up, with concentration in the last weeks on the older folks of Trinity Church and later, the Home for the Aged in Madison, S. Dak. It is challenging to us as youth to talk with these people who have known the Lord for perhaps many years. Many of us had the privilege to counsel with others during the days of Nov. 1 to 3 at the film showing of "The Restless Ones" by Billy Graham. It was a thrill to talk with young people who wanted to take the vital step in accepting Christ as their personal Savior. We praise the Lord for these opportunities of service. (Jarene Gunst, Reporter).

## sunday school programs & events

**FIRST, EMERY, S. DAK.** On Sunday, Sept. 26, at the First Baptist Church, Emery, S. Dak., the Sunday school held its Rally and Promotion services in the morning and the Leadership Training Classes in the evening. Dr. Ralph E. Powell of our Seminary in Sioux Falls, S. Dak., spoke at both services. Our Woman's Missionary Union observed Guest Day in September and invited the women of the neighboring churches to hear missionary Lucille Wipf of Japan. The King's Daughters group appropriately observed their 35th anniversary in October. They had a musical program and the first president, Mrs. Art Edzards, spoke. The Men's Brotherhood had the South Dakota Attorney General Frank Farrar speak to them in October and in November the men from the Tyndall and Danzig churches presented a program. From Oct. 31 to Nov. 7 we had special evangelistic services with Rev. Fred E. Klein of St. Bonifacius, Minn., bringing the messages. He truly exalted the Lord Jesus Christ in these inspiring services. (Mrs. Walter Heitzman, Reporter).

## woman's missionary societies

**DETROIT WMU BANQUET.** The Detroit Baptist Women's Missionary Union, Detroit, Mich., held its Fall Banquet at the Grosse Pointe Baptist Church on Friday, Nov. 5th. Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Witt of Cameroon, West Africa, served as guest speakers. Mrs. Witt encouraged the ladies in their White Cross work by describing how "nice" the African babies looked in the layettes that we send them. Mr. Witt gave us an interesting insight into the difficulties and rewards of his work as teacher and builder. A fine crowd

attended the banquet. (Freda Klassen, Reporter).

**SHELL CREEK, NEBRASKA.** The Shell Creek Baptist Church women of Columbus, Nebr., were hosts to the annual Baptist Women's Day of Prayer. The Redeemer and Creston Baptist Church women also participated in the program. Mrs. Lester Scheffler of Creston gave the devotional message, "The Multitudes," and Mrs. George Behlen from Shell Creek presented "The Compassion of Jesus." An interpretation of "The Commandment to Pray" was given by Mrs. Louis Meissner from the Redeemer Church. Prayer periods were led by Mrs. Orton Hulsebus of Creston, Mrs. Elmer Behlen of Shell Creek and Mrs. Louis Messner of Redeemer. Each group contributed to the program with special musical numbers. (Mrs. Milton Menke, Reporter).

**ASHLEY, N. DAK.** The Woman's Missionary Society of the Ashley Baptist Church, Ashley, N. Dak., was host to a "Missionary Tea" on Oct. 26, with Miss Lucille Wipf of Japan as the guest speaker. In attendance were the ladies of the local church as well as members of the Berlin, Lehr, Eureka, Ventura and Leola Mission Societies. Mrs. Reuben Grueneich of Martin, N. Dak., was an additional guest. Mrs. I. A. Faszer was in charge of the program with members of the local society as well as a trio from Berlin and a quartet from Leola participating. A fellowship hour in the social hall with appropriate appointments in the Japanese theme concluded the afternoon meeting. (Mrs. Jacob Wageman, Secretary).

**OKLAHOMA WMU SESSION.** The Oklahoma Woman's Missionary Union met for its annual meeting Nov. 5 in the Broadway Baptist Church of Enid with president, Mrs. Ada Goeken, presiding. Devotionals taken from Isaiah 6:1-8 were conducted by Mrs. Victor Klein of Shattuck. During the business

session the Broadway Church of Enid was received into the fellowship of our Union. A total of \$375.00 was designated as our goal for the ensuing year. The following officers were elected: president, Mrs. Henry Goeken, Cherokee; vice president, Mrs. Wesley Gerber, Enid; secretary, Mrs. Elvern Nikkel, Corn; treasurer, Mrs. Schoenhals, Shattuck. Miss Esther Schultz, teacher at the Saker College in Cameroon, Africa, spoke to us from Proverbs 31:20-30, "A Virtuous Woman." She challenged us anew as graciously she shared many things with us concerning her work among the African college students. (Mrs. Weldon Leisher, Secretary).

**LORRAINE, KANSAS.** The Dorcas and King's Daughters Societies of the First Baptist Church, Lorraine, Kansas held a program and tea to honor the 75th Anniversary of the Ladies' Missionary Society on Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 9. Mrs. Wm. Sies acted as leader of the program and Mrs. Myrtle Bronleewe gave the devotionals. A mother, daughter and granddaughter trio, Mrs. Margret Kruse, Helen Wilkens and Grace Johnson, sang, "Gott ist die Liebe." "Seventy-five Years of Memories" was orated by Mrs. Delmar Wesseler and pantomimed by ten ladies of the societies. These ten ladies represented the original ten who organized a "Schwestern-Verein" on Dec. 1, 1890. The ladies were in appropriate attire with sun bonnets, lace and ribbons to enhance their beautiful, long dresses and high hair-do's.

Moving pictures and slides shown by Mrs. Harold Wilkens and Mrs. Ralph Rolfs provided "A Glimpse of Later Years." Letters of congratulations were read from the former pastors' wives: Mesdames George Lang, Pieter Smit, Fred Ferris, H. W. Gieseke and Douglas Gallagher. Mrs. Frieda Borgman was in charge of an exhibit table that held "Treasures of the Past" in the form of pictures and other mementos. (Mrs. Delmar Williamson, Reporter).

## evangelistic services & baptisms

**CALVARY, BILLINGS, MONTANA.** From Oct. 27—Nov. 1 we of the Calvary Baptist Church, Billings, Montana were privileged to have God's Volunteers Team No. II with us with Rev. Connie Salios serving as director. During these Crusade for Christ meetings, the Lord spoke to us through his Word. Visitation work was carried on in addition to the nightly meetings. We are happy to report a substantial increase in our church's giving to "Missions." In times like these we are encouraged to know that there are dedicated young people doing the Lord's work. (Mrs. Raymond Koch, Reporter).

**STEAMBOAT ROCK, IOWA.** The First Baptist Church of Steamboat Rock, Iowa held a week of "Spiritual Emphasis" meetings from Oct. 4 to 10. Our speaker for the meetings was

Rev. Wesley Hustad of the First Baptist Church of Marshalltown, Iowa. Meetings were well attended and Mr. Hustad's love for the Word of God and his pleasing personality won the hearts and attention of his listeners. Truly, the Holy Spirit moved among us as souls were saved and decisions were made in rededication and consecration of life. We praise the Lord for his faithfulness. Rev. Elton Kirstein is the pastor of our church. (Mrs. Henry Trittlen, Reporter).

**NORTHSIDE, SIOUX FALLS, S. DAK.** At the end of November, Rev. J. R. Kruegel completed one year of ministry at the Northside Baptist Church, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. During this time he baptized and received into membership six young people. On Nov. 7th a baptismal service was combined

with that of the Baptist Church of Dell Rapids, S. Dak., of which Mr. Eugene Kern, senior at our Seminary, is the student pastor. Mr. Kern baptized two young people at that time. Baptisms at Northside are much more convenient now than in former years. A friend of the church gave us a 2500 Watt electric, 55 gallon, domestic water heater which the trustees connected to the baptistry. God's Volunteers Team No. I was with us Oct. 3-10, and several decisions were made for Christ, first time and reconsecrations.

**LEOLA, S. DAK.** The First Baptist church of Leola, S. Dak., had the joy once again to have Rev. Herman Palfenier as guest speaker for our revival time from Oct. 31 to Nov. 7. Brother Palfenier has endeared himself to the hearts of our people. We had the joy of having two youth accept the Lord as Savior, besides others who had previously been converted, but who stepped out to continue in the steps given by Holy Writ. We are anticipating a baptismal service in the near future. We thank the Lord for his wonderful Spirit that he still strives with the souls of mankind. At the last service of our meetings, at the invitation time, the members of the church joined the pastor in front of the auditorium to pledge anew our desire to be faithful unto the Lord. We rejoice that this visible dedication unto the Lord was almost 100%. (E. R. Oster, Pastor).



Rev. Erhard Knull (right), pastor of the Missionary Baptist Church, Cleveland, Ohio with 9 baptismal candidates. (Lilly Laich is missing in the picture).

**MISSIONARY, CLEVELAND, OHIO.** Sunday, August 29, 1965, was a great occasion for the Missionary Church, a Church Extension project, when at 4:00 P.M., at the Erin Avenue Church, over 120 members and friends were present for a baptismal service. The ten baptismal candidates were the visible fruits of our Vacation School effort, which the Lord blessed beyond planning and comprehension. The church choir and the instrumental youth group, under the direction of Mr. Alex Molzan, were a great asset both to the service and the message by the pastor, Rev. Erhard Knull, "One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism." The ten young people baptized were: Lilly,

Alvin, and Walter Laich, Wally Junak, Marleen Semmler, Wilfred Born, Harold and Wolfgang Buchroeder, David Molzan, and Donald Kuhn. More recent blessings became evident when the church decided to purchase a tract of land with parsonage and another building, which will serve as a temporary meeting place for church and Sunday school. (Erhard Knull, Pastor).

**MINITONAS, MANITBOA.** A week of evangelistic meetings was held at the First Baptist Church of Minitonas, Man., Nov. 10-17. About two hundred people came out nightly to hear the message of salvation in Christ Jesus that was presented with great joy in fine co-operation with the various organizations of the church by Rev. C. T. Remple, evangelist from Calgary, Alta. Mr. Henry Grieger, deacon, was in charge of the prayer sessions preceding every service. On Sunday, Nov. 21, the "Homebuilders" of the church with Mr. Art Sonnenberg, president, traveled by chartered bus 170 miles southwest to support our denominational Church Extension work under the leadership of Rev. P. Schroeder at Esterhazy, Sask., and presented a program at the evening service. Besides several vocal numbers, a mixed choir of 35 voices and a male choir of 16 voices, directed by Mr. Ed Hart and accompanied on the organ by Mrs. Arnold Betcher, underlined the personal testimonies given by Homebuilders and the sermonette by our pastor, Rev. H. A. Pohl. We praise God for the dedicated people of our growing Church Extension work in the booming potash centre town on the Canadian prairies. (Mrs. H. A. Pohl).

**FOSTER AVE., CHICAGO, ILL.** Members of the Foster Avenue Baptist Church, Chicago, Ill., are praising God for nine young people who were baptized in that church Oct. 17. A solemn baptismal service began as the choir prayerfully sang "Lead Me, Savior." Rev. Clarence Walth, pastor, then reminded the church members and bap-

tismal candidates of the *Prerequisites in Baptism* (Acts 8:36-39). On Communion Sunday, Nov. 7, these nine young people and 11 others were welcomed into the fellowship of the church.

We wish to thank God for these members who were recently joined to the Foster Avenue Baptist Church: (Left to right, top row in picture): Mr. and Mrs. David Levy, Mr. and Mrs.

## ANNIVERSARIES & RECEPTIONS



Scripture Memory sponsors and grand award winners at Avon, S. Dak.

Left to right: Mrs. Mabel Meyer, co-sponsor; James Wiens, Sandra Eben, Arlis Voigt, Lennis Lukkes, and Mrs. Irvin Finck, sponsor.

**AVON, SOUTH DAKOTA.** On Oct. 10, during the opening worship service in the Sunday school of the Baptist Church, Avon, S. Dak., the sponsors of our Scripture Memory program awarded the Grand Award to four young people. On Oct. 23 and 24 the Avon Baptist Church commemorated its 75th anniversary. The Lord granted us a wonderful day. The event began with a Youth Rally on Saturday night at which Dr. J. C. Gunst brought the message. The messages on Sunday were brought by Rev. Harry Haas of Sumner, Iowa, a former pastor; Dr. Rich-

ard Schilke, and Rev. Leland Friesen. The church was organized in 1890 with 24 charter members. During these years 624 persons have been baptized, 235 added by letter, and 53 by confession and restoration. The present membership stands at 293. The members have given a total of \$325,193.15 for local causes and \$192,649.45 for Missions. During these years the church has had 13 pastorates including the present one. We praise the Lord for his goodness to us. (Peter J. Wiens, Pastor).

## ANNIVERSARIES & RECEPTIONS

**WIESENTHAL, MILLET, ALTA.** On Sunday, Nov. 7, the Wiesenthal Baptist Church of Millet, Alberta held a reception to welcome its new pastor, Rev. Morley E. Schultz, his wife, and their four children. Representatives of the various organizations of the church expressed words of welcome and Dr. E. P. Wahl was our guest speaker for the evening. On Friday, Nov. 12, a grocery shower and fellowship lunch were held in the church basement to extend a further welcome to our new pastor and family. From Nov. 8 to 14, we held our Deeper Life Meetings with Rev. John Wollenberg of Kelowna, B.C. as our evangelist. Our hearts were truly spiritually blessed by his challenging words. (Mrs. Warren Lessing, Reporter).

## DEDICATION—RECOGNITION SERVICES

**RECOGNITION OF N.A.B. CHURCH, ENID, OKLA.** Delegates representing the churches of the Oklahoma Association met as a council at the West Broadway Baptist Church of Enid, Okla., on Nov. 3, 1965 for the purpose of recognizing the church as an N.A.B. church. Rev. Karl Bieber of Okeene was elected moderator and Rev. Lyle Wacker of Corn was elected as secretary. The pastor, Rev. Wesley Gerber, presented the purpose of the church as well as the articles of faith. After hearing these reports, the council agreed to recognize the West Broadway Baptist Church and that the church be recommended for membership in the Oklahoma Association and the Southwestern Conference. At the evening Recognition Service, Dr. Richard Schilke spoke on the subject, "And I Will Build My Church." Various pastors of the Oklahoma Association participated in the festive service. (Lyle Wacker, Secretary).



Rev. Clarence Walth (left, center row), pastor of the Foster Ave. Baptist Church Chicago, Illinois and 20 new members received into the church's fellowship on Communion Sunday, Nov. 7th.

December 16, 1965

**DEDICATION, CYPRESS CHURCH, NORTH SEATTLE.** The new sanctuary was filled to witness the formal dedication of the Cypress Baptist Church in Alderwood Manor (North Seattle), Wash., so that the adjoining fellowship hall also was well filled. The building was designed by Carl Bullock, a charter member of the church and now in France. Sam Bredin succeeded him as building committee chairman. The cost of the building and contents is approximately \$33,000, but much of that was saved by experienced volunteer labour. Rev. David Draewell served as our guest speaker for the day and brought words of encouragement to all present. Other pastors present and participating in the service were Rev. Robert Hoffman, Rev. Donald Ganstrom, Rev. Mark Fey, Rev. Erwin Gerlitz and Rev. Allan Krantz, chairman of the Pacific Northwest Associational Church Extension Committee.

The Cypress Church Choir under the direction of Sam Bredin accompanied by Mrs. Leslie Chaffee on the organ and Mrs. R. Grabke at the piano sang, "Great Is the Lord" and "I Am Bound for the Promised Land." The prayer of dedication was brought by Rev. Mark Fey, pastor of the Portland Ave. Baptist Church of Tacoma. We pray that this was not only a dedication of the new building but also of ourselves to the task of winning the lost in North Seattle for Christ. (R. E. Grabke, Pastor).

## WE THE WOMEN

(Continued from page 16)

day what a tremendous heritage is ours and thus what a responsibility we have on which to build for what has been done for us. We humbly recognize that opportunities which we have for Christian service today are largely because of our forefather's response to the needs of presenting Christ at that time. What is our portion of faith today?

At the threshold of a new year are we going to continue as we are presently, or will we accept the challenge of giving "first place" to many opportunities of service for our Master? Let's honor our great-grandmothers' sacrifices by being a living testimony to Christ and by being consecrated women of today. Indeed, let's "Give of our Best to the Master."

## A WEAVING

My life is but a weaving  
Between my Lord and me,  
I cannot choose the colors  
He worketh steadily.

Oft times he weaveth sorrow  
And I, in foolish pride,  
Forget he sees the upper,  
And I, the under side.

Not till the loom is silent  
And the shuttles cease to fly,  
Shall God unroll the canvas  
And explain the reason why.



**CYPRESS BAPTIST CHURCH CHOIR**

The choir of the Cypress Church, North Seattle, Wash., on Dedication Sunday with Mrs. Leslie M. Chaffee in front row (left to right), Mr. Sam Bredin and Mrs. R. E. Grabke.

## BOOK REVIEWS

(Continued from page 13)

Kierkegaard. Interpretation and critical comments are kept at a minimum. In his preface he regards his approach as affirmative rather than negative, and the reader will discover this to be true.

**NEW TESTAMENT TIMES** by Merrill C. Tenney. Eerdmans—1965—396 pages—\$5.95.

At first glance one may get the impression that this is a picture story of New Testament times. Over 130 illustrations are included in the volume. A few, like the one of the Appian Way, look as if they were old photographs, but on the whole the pictures are interesting and informative. After a leisurely examination of the illustrations, which is an education in itself, the reader will soon discover a wealth of Biblical historical material beginning with the Hasmonian uprising to the close of the sub-apostolic age after the reign of Hadrian, a period of about 300 years.

Dr. Tenney's smooth, flowing literary style is easily followed. He writes history as if it were an exciting novel. Three hundred years are not easily condensed into a few hundred pages, but his careful choice of names, places and events gives a comprehensive account of what happened before, during and after Christ.

The inter-Testament period is filled with fast-moving events in which kingdoms rise and fall with unprecedented rapidity. Outside of a little repetition

And dark threads are as needful  
In the weaver's skillful hand  
As the threads of gold and silver  
In the pattern he has planned.

—"The Informer," First Baptist Church, Lorraine, Kansas

the author has placed the complicated pieces into a concise, coherent whole. In the chapters which relate directly to Christ, the reader will find the message of the Gospel more meaningful when seen in the perspective of so-called secular history. Throughout the volume he will be conscious of the truth that "God moves in mysterious ways his wonders to perform."

The book should have a wide and an enthusiastic reception.

**THE INTERPRETATION OF THE NEW TESTAMENT 1861-1961** by Stephen Neill. Oxford—1964—360 pages—\$7.00.

Beginning with the challenge to orthodoxy Dr. Neill presents the main stream of philosophy and theology which first began to make an impact on the interpretation of the New Testament through intense critical study. Special attention is given to Strauss' Life of Jesus and to Baur and the Tuebingen school.

Hampered by presuppositions, the German schools were followed by a more minute and objective investigation. Lightfoot, Westcott and Hort thereafter ruled the world of biblical scholarship for forty years and established a school of criticism which was more compatible with the known facts. But Biblical research and exegesis do not always clarify the problems of inspiration, revelation and faith. As the problem of interpretation increased other men were raised up to fulfill the tasks which were beyond their reach.

Since then the pendulum has been swinging continually, with the radical wing contributing the most shocks to theological thought. Albert Schweitzer's *Quest of the Historical Jesus* and Rudolf Bultmann's radical demythologization of the New Testament are getting far more critical attention than the more conservative works such as Hoskyns' *The Riddle of the New Testament*.

The Spanish mystic, St. John of the Cross said: "If a man wishes to be sure of the road he travels on, he must close his eyes and walk in the dark." Dr. Neill has no such pietistic illusions. He meets every critical approach with eyes open. New generations will have new questions and will not be satisfied with old answers. But there is a door through which every human spirit must pass alone. One question is forever relevant, upon which every individual must make his own decision. The power of the Gospel is felt most strongly when he is challenged by the words of Jesus Christ: "Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again."

To condense one hundred years of New Testament interpretation into one volume is no simple task. The author does not claim exhaustiveness, but his studies are chosen with care and scholarly insight. Dr. Stephen Neill is presently visiting Professor of Missions at the University of Hamburg.

# Obituary

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

**MR. HERBERT KUMMERFELT**  
of Moosehorn, Manitoba

Mr. Herbert Kummerfelt of Moosehorn, Manitoba was born on Dec. 20, 1912 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and passed away on Nov. 5 at the age of 52 years, 10 months and 15 days. He was engaged in farming up to the time of his illness. On Oct. 12, 1938 he was united in marriage to Martha Meissner. Mr. Kummerfelt was predeceased by his parents. At an early age he received Christ as his Savior and was baptized. From his youth he served in the church choir as long as he was able.

He leaves to mourn his passing: his wife Martha; two daughters, Marcella and Mrs. Frank Ashley; two grandchildren; two foster children, David and Rosemary; two sisters, Clara and Alma and two brothers, Otto and Bill.

First Baptist Church  
Moosehorn, Manitoba

K. H. TONN, Pastor

**MRS. JOHANNA HEIN**  
of Leduc, Alberta

Mrs. Johanna Hein, nee Wise, of Leduc, Alta., was born Jan. 18, 1889 in Wohlyniien, Russia and went home to be with her Lord on Oct. 20, 1965 having reached the age of 76 years, 9 months and 2 days. She came to Canada with her parents in July 1899 settling near Leduc. In 1907 she was united in marriage to Mr. August Hein. She was a devoted mother, maintaining a testimony of faithfulness. Most of her life was spent on a farm in the Fredrickshelm district, but after moving into town she transferred her membership to the Temple Baptist Church in 1950.

She leaves to mourn her loss two sons: Wilbert of Vancouver, B.C.; Milton of Leduc; two daughters: Mrs. Wm. (Elsie) Patz of Winnipeg, Man.; and Mrs. Jack (Myrtle) Funnell of Horsham, England; besides 11 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren. Her husband predeceased her in 1956. Funeral services were held at Temple Church on Oct. 23 with our pastor, Rev. L. Kresler, and Dr. E. P. Wahl participating.

Temple Baptist Church  
Leduc, Alberta

MRS. M. WAIDMAN, Correspondent

**MR. WILLIAM SPECHT**  
of Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Mr. William Specht of Milwaukee, Wis., was born at Manitowoc, Wis., on Dec. 9, 1881. He came to Milwaukee as a young man, and in 1906 he was united in marriage to Gretchen Puls. This union was blessed with two daughters: Hazel and Dorothy. Hazel (Mrs. Elmer Wengel) preceded her father in death several years ago, and Mrs. Specht passed away in Nov. 1959. Mr. Specht served on the Board of Trustees of the Immanuel Baptist Church for many years. In 1960, he entered the Central Baptist Home for the Aged in Chicago, Ill., where he passed away on Nov. 9, 1965. He reached the age of 83 years and 11 months. Mr. Specht's favorite verse of scripture was: "Fear not, for I am with you."

Mr. Specht is survived by: one daughter: Mrs. Dorothy Reise; 2 sisters: Martha Schielke of Milwaukee; and Clara Benedict of Wausau, Wis.; 4 brothers: Herman of Green Bay, Wis.; Henry, George, and Richard Specht, all of Manitowoc, Wis.; sons-in-law, nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

Immanuel Baptist Church  
Brookfield, Wisconsin

J. J. RENZ, Pastor

**MR. VICTOR RAMBERG**  
of Hutchinson, Minnesota

Mr. Victor Ramberg of Hutchinson, Minn., was born in Sweden on April 8, 1879. At the age of 13 he came to this country and settled in Hastings, Minn. In 1902 he was united in marriage with Clara Fredine at Maynard, Minn. God blessed them with

seven children: Russell who passed away in 1964, Mildred (Mrs. Paul) Fratzke who passed away in 1961, Gordon who passed away in 1948, Wallace who passed away in 1914, Edna (Mrs. Alfred) Welsch who is now living in Minneapolis, Minn., Dorothy Pier who is now living in Grand Forks, N. Dak., and Jean (Mrs. Larry) Merrick in Hutchinson, Minn. He also had 17 grandchildren and 28 great grandchildren. Also preceding him in death in 1947 was his wife Clara.

Mr. Ramberg came to Hutchinson in 1920 and operated an International Harvester farm implement business until 1964. While in Hutchinson he was also a city alderman, assistant fire chief, etc. After he was married he started attending the Baptist church of which his wife was a member. In Hutchinson he attended the Northside Baptist Church, now called Bethany Baptist Church. Victor Ramberg passed away on Nov. 3, 1965.

Bethany Baptist Church  
Hutchinson, Minnesota

ETAN PELZER, Pastor

**MRS. SOPHIA WEISSER**  
of Vancouver, British Columbia

Mrs. Sophia Weisser of Vancouver, B. C., was born on April 1, 1878 at Scotland, S. Dak. She was called home to be with her Lord, whom she served faithfully and well, on Oct. 28, 1965. At an early age she accepted Christ as her personal Savior, was baptized, and joined the local Baptist church. Wherever she went, she served with fine Christian spirit and full devotion to Christ. She was married to Christian B. Weisser on Nov. 15, 1896. Their families came to the Tyndall, S. Dak., area from overseas in May 1875 as pioneers. In 1893 they moved to Turner, Oregon and then into newly opened territory at Camrose, Alberta. Mrs. Weisser moved to Vancouver, B.C., to live with her daughter Frieda in 1951.

Her husband, Christian, and one daughter, Mrs. Hannah Diekau, passed on before her. She leaves, looking for the Great Reunion: 5 sons, Benjamin of Olds, Alberta; Rev. Arthur of Granville, N. Y.; Rev. Alfred of Bismarck, N. Dak.; Rev. Carl of Wishek, N. Dak.; Clarence of Buckley, Wash.; four daughters: Mrs. Frieda L. Brown and Mrs. Esther Henriksen, Vancouver, B. C.; Mrs. Kurt (Helen) Mueller, St. Mary, Kansas; Mrs. Lillian Glenow, Calgary, Alberta; 21 grandchildren and 32 great grandchildren; four brothers and four sisters. The Rev. F. Arnold Wescott, D.D., of the First Baptist Church conducted the funeral services in the Mount Pleasant Chapel.

ALFRED WEISSER, for the Family

**MRS. MINNIE KIEFERLE**  
of Elmo, Kansas

Mrs. Minnie Augusta Kieferle of Elmo, Kansas was born Oct. 6, 1890, and passed away after a lingering illness on November 16, 1965 at the age of 75 years, one month, and 10 days. She was converted and baptized into the First Baptist Church of Dickinson County near Elmo, Kansas on July 3, 1900. On June 29, 1910 she was united in marriage to Louis C. Kieferle. Later her membership was transferred to the Ebenezer Baptist Church. She is remembered for her singing, teaching, and warmth of hospitality. In 1960 she and her husband celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

She leaves to mourn four daughters and their husbands: Vera and Mr. Clarence Riekman of Abilene, Kansas; Geraldine and Mr. Edward Sherraden of Salina, Kansas; Betty and Mr. Marvin Hartmann of Buena Park, Calif.; Delores and Mr. Marvin Lawson of the home. Also, there are one son-in-law, Carl Kirk of Colby; two sisters: Mrs. Lillian Hankerson and Mrs. Bertha Wilkerson of Herington, Kansas; a sister-in-law Mrs. Lillian Hyde of Abilene; 15 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Louis C. Kieferle on February 22, 1965, and one daughter Irene Kirk.

Ebenezer Baptist Church  
Elmo, Kansas

O. K. RINGERING, Pastor

## C. OSCAR JOHNSON, "MISTER BAPTIST," IS CALLED HOME TO GLORY

Dr. C. Oscar Johnson, a big man with a bouyant spirit and a sincere dedication to Christian causes, died Nov. 24 after a short illness in Oakland, Calif. He was president of the Baptist World Alliance 1947-50 and led in the purchase of a Baptist building in Washington, D.C., and in an intensified program for the relief of suffering people following World War II.

Dr. Johnson, who was 79 years of age, brought the coronation address at the closing session of the Baptist World Congress in Miami Beach last June. It was the last in a series of masterful orations the beloved minister had delivered to church groups around the world.

The basis for Christian unity can be found only in the Person, the purpose and the program of Christ, he told the Miami gathering. And he ended his address with the exclamation, "Lead on, O King Eternal, the day of march has come."

Dr. Johnson traveled widely and was known in many parts of the world as "Mister Baptist." His speeches were marked with humor that added to the effectiveness of his warm, sincere and courageous presentation of the Gospel message.

Born in Tennessee, in the American South, Dr. Johnson spent most of his pastoral ministry in St. Louis, a booming city in the heart of the United States. He was pastor of the Third Baptist Church in that city for 27 years, cooperating with both the American and Southern Baptist Conventions. He was president of the American Baptist Convention 1932-33. Following his retirement in 1957, he became lecturer at the Berkeley Baptist Divinity School.

Funeral services were held at the First Baptist Church, Oakland, Calif., on Monday, November 29.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

(Continued from page 18)

2. What is the difference between the holiness of God and our holiness? Are we fearful of speaking of ourselves as being holy?

3. How can we bless God, as David did, when he has all things?

## NEWS AND NEEDS

(Continued from page 2)

students in the college. Again this next year my parish is the Ndu Baptist College with its 200 boys as well as a dozen staff members. The task of directing a program of spiritual activities for such a group is very challenging. Many students come from pagan or Moslem homes and are first generation Christians. Many have gone through the motions of church membership but Christ has not moved in them. Pray that the students will experience new life in Christ and growth in his way." (Missionary Oryn Meinerts).

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# The Gospel According to John

Introduction to John's Gospel which is the suggested *Daily Bible Reading* for North American Baptists in January 1966. (See "Moments With God," devotional quarterly).

**T**HE GOSPEL According to John has been compared to the garment of the Lord, which was so carefully woven into one piece that the Roman soldiers about the cross were unwilling to tear it apart, but cast lots for it (19:23-24). It begins with a prologue (1:1-18), which lays the logical basis or thesis for the Gospel, presented pointedly in its closing verses, *God's revelation in Christ Jesus*. This revelation experienced two stages of development. It is very obvious that the first 12 chapters of the book deal with Jesus' contact with the Jewish people and their leaders. From chapter 13 to the record of the Passion at the beginning of chapter 18, Jesus devoted his entire attention to the apostles.

Hence in the main body of the Gospel we have two divisions: the revelation to Israel, and the revelation to the twelve. This structure of the Gospel has been observed by many interpreters. Paul Feine says: "The Gospel falls into two parts: Jesus working in the world, chapters 1-12; and Jesus' admonition of his disciples before his departure to the Father, passion-narrative and resurrection, chapters 13-21."

We are not left to inference or speculation relative to John's purpose

in the writing of his Gospel. He himself states it in quite specific terms. Toward the close of his Gospel he declares to his readers that he has written "that ye may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye may have life in his name" (20:31). We may discern by this declaration that his purpose was doctrinal and practical.

(1) Doctrinally his aim was to prove the Messiahship and divine Sonship of Jesus. Some have suggested that he wrote about the Messiahship for Jews and the divine Sonship for Gentiles, but this inference is highly fanciful.

(2) Practically his design was the production of genuine Christian experience. Both these ends were to be attained by a single method. The entire process revolves about the Person of the Incarnate Christ. His readers are to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah and Son of God, and experience a new life as the fruitage of this faith, because of the vision of him disclosed in the Gospel. Therefore the ultimate object before John was to unveil in his divine and redemptive character the incarnate Son of God. He would have his readers see God in Christ saving a lost world (3:16).

## A WONDERFUL GIFT FOR MISSIONARIES

By Miss Gertrude Schatz

*Nurse at the Bansa Baptist Hospital, Cameroon, West Africa.*

I have been wanting to write since "Moments With God" came out. It's just the nicest inspirational help I've ever seen. Knowing many of the individuals who have contributed to the quarterly makes it that "extra special" Devotional Guide.

I have used some of the meditations with our new class of Preliminary students and they seem to have enjoyed them. The letter to Rev. Fred Folkerts came the other day and how pleased we at the Bansa Baptist Hospital are to read that the headquarters secretarial staff is sending us "Moments With God" by air mail.

"Thank you plenty, thank you too much," as our African friends would say. The Lord bless you richly for this wonderful gift!

## The Holy Book . . .

*I open it, my fingers trace the lines  
That Wesley's, Moody's, Spurgeon's eyes have scanned.  
Beneath my fingertips a promise shines,  
A diamond unearthed by my seeking hand,  
A gem that countless saints have touched before  
And left among this jewel casket's store.*

*I searched as one who searches long for gold,  
And oh, what gleaming nuggets I unearthed.  
All that my seeking heart and hands can hold  
I gather, and I know their precious worth,  
And strange, the vein has never failed, though man  
Has mined its channel since the world began.*

*The Holy Book, that gives its wealth unpriced  
To every seeker after God and Christ.*

—GRACE NOLL CROWELL

## IMPORTANT DEADLINE ON MEDICARE IN THE UNITED STATES

Help your 65-year-old relatives and friends by passing on the following information.

Practically everyone now 65 or over is covered by Medicare—regardless of whether they have ever worked under Social Security. There is no charge for the hospital insurance portion, *but individuals must apply for it*. The medical insurance portion costs \$3 a month, and is voluntary. Individuals who will be 65 by January 1, 1966 must sign up before March 31, 1966, but it is to their advantage to do it promptly—NOW. Get in touch with your local Social Security office.

## ESTERHAZY, SASK.

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chewan Baptist Association and in the Northern Conference of the North American Baptist General Conference.

The new church has purchased .85 acres of land (4 lots) for a church site in the heart of a new residential area and near one of the two new schools. The church is presently meeting in the basement of the Legion Hall for Sunday school and worship on Sunday mornings. Evening and weekday meetings are being held in the parsonage where an assembly room has been arranged in the basement. Definite plans concerning a church building have not yet been made but a building committee will soon be set up to get building plans under way.

The population is largely Roman Catholic and United Church. There is also a small Anglican church. Besides the Baptist church, two other groups have also begun a work here, the Lutherans and the Pentecostal people.

The beginning is not easy but with God all things are possible. The Lord called us to this field, and we know that he will carry the work to completion, since an evangelical witness is desperately needed in this place. May the Lord use us to his honor and glory to the salvation of souls!

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