

BAPTIST HERALD

OUR MISSION TO BRAZIL ISSUE

FEBRUARY 1, 1968



BRAZIL—

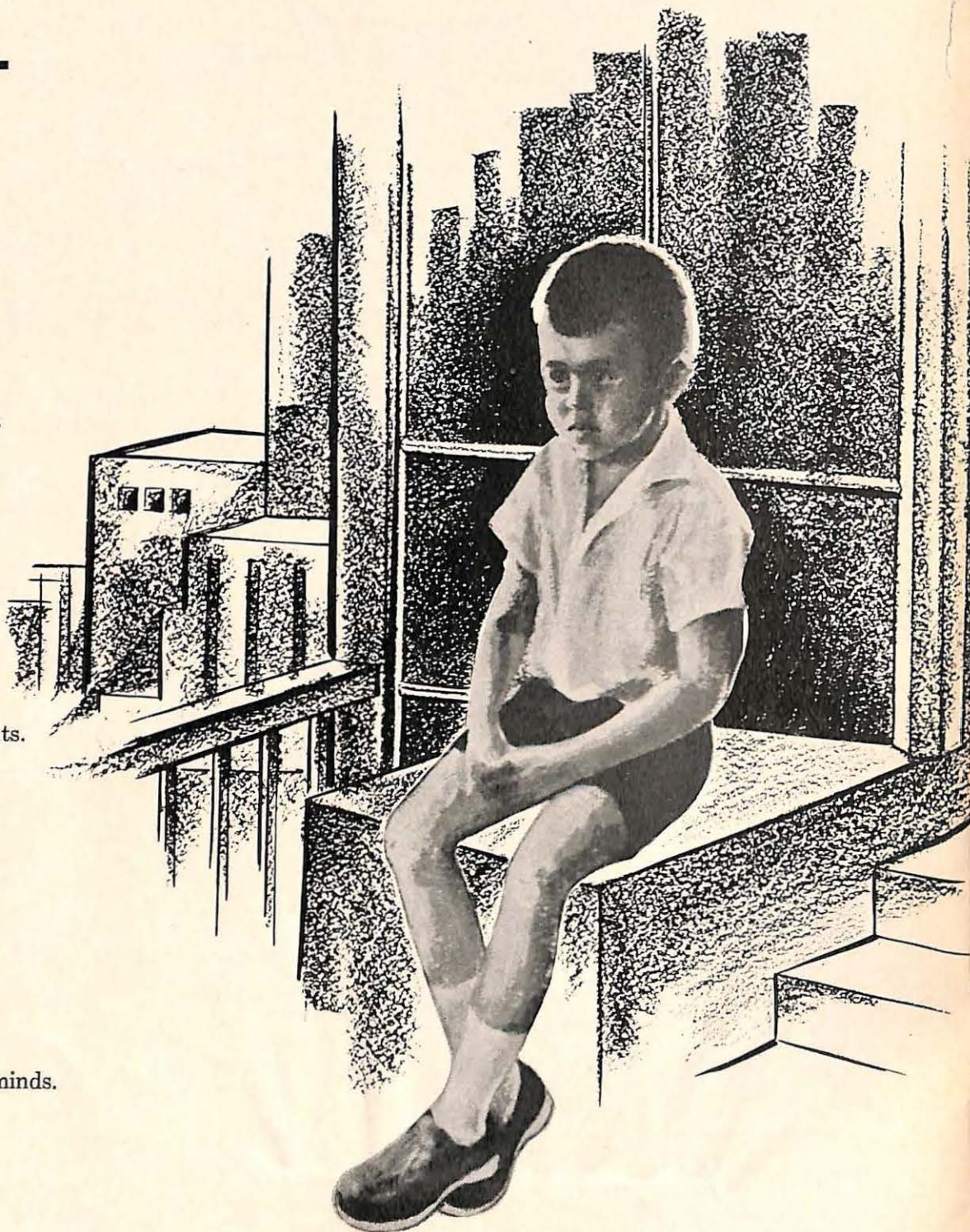
"Land of tomorrow"—
In the south
your cities
cloud the skies
with white buildings.
Slums crawl up
the hillsides.
Waves glide into
your great harbor,
Rio de Janeiro.
Industry thrives in
Sao Paulo,
Campinas.
But between
concrete and glass towers
there are children
in your streets.
Laughing at life,
crying with fear,
playing,
learning from
people and days.
Children of every shade—
dark to light—
caught in the maze
of cities' press
sit on shaky slum steps,
hang on crowded busses,
skip to wealthy apartments.

Burgeoning cities,
when tomorrow comes
you will need
politicians,
doctors,
ministers.
These future leaders
are claimed by
dark superstitions
of the past;
while rising atheism
of the present
contests for their young minds.
Yet from a few churches
a living Christ calls,
offering wisdom to those
who must lead someday.

Child of this land,
who will you be?
Will you know Him
when tomorrow dawns today?

by Nancy Nordstrom

Used by permission, Conservative Baptist magazine, Impact.



Editorial

BENTO AND CAXIAS

All of us who have supported and prayed for our mission work abroad in Africa and Japan have become intimately acquainted with such localities as Banso, Victoria, Mbingo, Ndu, Belo, Kyoto, Osaka, and Tsu.

We now have at least two new localities in Brazil with which we need to become familiar. In short they are *Bento* and *Caxias*. However, the full name of these cities is Bento Goncalves and Caxias do Sul. Some of us may need to check the dictionary for the proper pronunciation of these names. Rev. and Mrs. Richard Rabenhorst, our missionaries, are now located in Bento and Rev. and Mrs. Herman Effa and family are located 25 miles away in Caxias. Both of these cities are in the state of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.

In a recent letter the Rabenhorsts reported that "we prayed for God's leading to a particular place of service, and He led us here to Bento Goncalves. Now that we are here in Bento we know why the Lord directed us to this place. There are great opportunities for evangelism.

"Bento Goncalves, a city of 35,000, is located in the rolling hills of the major grape growing area of Brazil. The people, largely of Italian and German backgrounds, have already proven to be very friendly. Of course, since we are the only Americans living here, this provides an added attraction for them.

"We are enjoying the fellowship of the few Baptist believers in Bento. There's a new Baptist church building with only two members (the Brazilian pastor and wife), but about 30 people attend. Pastor Regeani and his wife, Dulcilea, have already helped us a great deal with the Portuguese language—for here we must speak Portuguese.

"Not only do we wish to help the small group of believers in Bento, but we also desire to begin many preaching points in the area. The people do not know much about the "Good News" of the Gospel but are eager to listen whenever given an opportunity.

"We give thanks for your prayers in finding a home, getting settled and adjusted."

The Herman Effa's reported the following in a recent letter from Caxias do Sul: "We have been here on our field of service for two months now and can truly say that this field is 'white unto harvest.' We praise the Lord for the many souls we have seen come to Christ already. We hesitate to give numbers; for in this land, the fact that people have come forward indicating their desire to accept Christ does not mean they have made a decision, but that they show an interest and feel a need. Often, opposition from family and friends or the fear of their church stands in their way from taking a firm stand for Christ. But to show how ready this field is for harvest and how open the people are to the Gospel, we can say we have already seen over 300 respond to the Gospel invitation during these two months. It is especially thrilling to see many of these taking very active interest in the church. Considering their background, they have much to learn, much superstition and fear to overcome and much opposition to face."

The Effa's children, Allan and Jerilyn, help the parents in the evangelistic work by singing and handing out tracts at open-air meetings. Upon returning from another evening of strenuous evangelistic activity their son, Allan, said, "I just love this kind of work."

Let us have the same kind of enthusiasm and devotion.

John Binder

BAPTIST HERALD CONTENTS

Volume 46

No. 3

February 1, 1968

★

COVER PICTURE

After much prayer and seeking God's guidance, our missionaries, Rabenhorsts (l. to r.) and Effas, were led to begin our mission work at Bento Goncalves and Caxias do Sul in the state of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.

"Brazil" by Nancy Nordstrom	2
Editorial "Bento and Caxias"	3
"Brazil Rio Grande Baptist Mission" by Richard Schilke	4
"Brazil the Land of Great Possibilities for Christ" by Hugo Laeck	7
We the Women "Greater Works Shall Ye Do" by Mrs. Paul Kohman	8
"Leadership Giving" by David Dracwell	9
"Encounter . . . Response" by Mrs. Fred Paul	10
Buckingham Life Insurance Company "February Church Extension Builders' Project" by LeRoy Kiemle	12
"The Department Superintendent" by Edward McKeehan	14
"Sunday School Lessons" by B. C. Schreiber	15
What's Happening	17
News & Views	18
Our Denomination in Action	19
Obituary	23
"Message for Baptist World Alliance Sunday"	24

★

Semi-monthly Publication of the
NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST
GENERAL CONFERENCE

7308 Madison Street
Forest Park, Illinois 60130
John Binder, Editor

★

THE BAPTIST HERALD is a publication of the North American Baptist General Conference with headquarters at 7308 Madison St., Forest Park, Illinois. It also maintains an active membership in the Associated Church Press.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$3.50 per year in the United States or Canada (\$4.00 in foreign countries).—\$3.00 per year for "Church Family Subscription Plan," and for ministers and missionaries.—\$2.00 per year for students, and residents in homes for the aging.—\$1.50 servicemen.—35 cents for single copies.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Six weeks notice required for change of address. When ordering a change, please furnish an address stencil impression from a recent issue if you can.

ADVERTISING RATES: \$4.00 per inch single column, 2 1/4 inches wide.

ALL EDITORIAL correspondence is to be addressed to John Binder, 7308 Madison St., Forest Park, Ill., 60130.

ALL BUSINESS correspondence is to be addressed to the Roger Williams Press, 7308 Madison Street, Forest Park, Illinois 60130.

Second class postage paid at Forest Park, Illinois 60130 and at additional mailing offices.

(Printed in U.S.A.)



Dr. Richard Schilke, General Missionary Secretary, (center) arrives at Curitiba, Brazil and is greeted by missionaries Richard C. Rabenhorst (l.) and Herman L. Effa (r.).

Brazil Rio Grande Baptist Mission Field Committee in session at Caxias Do Sul: Rev. and Mrs. H. L. Effa (l. to r.), Rev. and Mrs. R. C. Rabenhorst, with Dr. R. Schilke.



DURING THE past decade considerable thought and prayer were given to the needs of South America and the possibility for North American Baptists to have a mission field

BRAZIL RIO



Our missionaries in language study.

The Baptist Chapel in Bento Goncalves with the Pastor and Mrs. Jose Regeani and children on the left and Rev. R. C. Rabenhorst on the right.



on the continent to the south. The question of such a possibility was raised during the days of our General Conference session in Edmonton, Alberta, in 1958. The question was then referred to our Board of Missions and a study was undertaken in the following years.

Few of our people may remember that our Conference already had an interest in South America in the early part of this 20th century. Our denominational evangelist, Heinrich Schwendner, visited Brazil in the first decade of this century which resulted in a mission undertaking over a period of more than a decade. Unfortunately this early beginning came to an abrupt ending due to a misunderstanding between the field and the home office. Had we continued we could belong to one of the older missions in Brazil. But the pages of history cannot be turned back.

CHOOSING SOUTH BRAZIL

The new interest in South America gave cause for an intensive study which resulted in a survey trip by the general missionary secretary early in 1964. The report of that trip appeared in three consecutive issues of the *Baptist Herald* in March and April, 1964, covering some eight countries in South America. In a further report to the Board of Missions at the time of its annual session in April, 1964, several recommendations were prayer-

fully considered. This resulted in choosing South Brazil as a possible mission field for our North American Baptist General Conference. The exact place could naturally not be selected but our attention was focused on the two southern states of Rio Grande do Sul and Santa Catarina, both of which seemed to have fewer Baptist missionaries than some of the other states in Brazil.

It was the hope of the Board that this undertaking could have its beginning by the following year. However, budget problems necessitated a slight postponement, and the goal was set by our General Council for 1966. Furthermore, it also turned out that qualified candidates for such a new undertaking were not available until 1966. Thus the timing seemed to coincide with the provision of God both in giving us the necessary candidates as well as the required funds. The selection of a new mission field also coincided with another event. For some time it was felt that our former Austrian mission field should be transferred to the Baptist Union of Ger-

many. This transfer was fully completed about the time that we entered Brazil.

SENDING OUR FIRST MISSIONARIES

The resolution to begin a work in Brazil called for the sending forth of two missionary couples as a beginning. This call of God was answered by Rev. and Mrs. Herman L. Effa, then pastoring our church at Linton, North Dakota, and by Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Rabenhorst. Brother Rabenhorst was just completing his studies at our Seminary in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, in the spring of 1966. The story of these two couples appeared in the issue of the *Baptist Herald* of October 1, 1966, under the heading, "Our First Missionaries to Brazil."

Brazil has Portuguese as its national language. It is necessary that missionaries going to Brazil first obtain a knowledge of the language in order to minister to the people in their own tongue. Thus the first assignment to our missionaries was that of an intensive study of the Portuguese language. The language study course was taken at a very fine Portuguese Language School located in the city of Campinas, in the state of Sao Paulo. The course was of one year duration from August, 1966 to August, 1967. It must be realized that one year of language study does not in any way give a

February 1, 1968

mastery of the intricacies of a foreign language but it does give the basics on which self-study must continue. During the year of language study at Campinas our missionaries already had ample opportunity to participate in various meetings and to give forth their testimony.

ORIENTATION AND FURTHER SURVEY

A more detailed survey to determine the exact location had been planned from the beginning. This became an assignment to our missionaries during the middle of their language course. It was felt that a partial orientation to the country was necessary before such a further survey should be undertaken. The first semester of language study gave them this partial orientation. It also brought to them several invitations from the Brazilian Baptist Convention to look into specific areas of need.

The month of February, 1967 was taken for this survey. It was for the greater part the semester break but a little more time was needed by the

community where the Baptist witness had been for sometime but with little progress. The report stated that the ratio of Baptists to the Brazilian population is about as follows: 1 to 266 for all of Brazil, 1 to 2,000 for the state of Rio Grande do Sul, 1 to 8,000 for the area of Caxias do Sul and neighboring cities where the predominant faith is Catholic of Italian background.

LOCATING IN RIO GRANDE DO SUL

Based on the survey and recommendations of our missionaries the area selected was that of Caxias do Sul in the state of Rio Grande do Sul both from the viewpoint of need as well as opportunity. An invitation to consider that area had been received from the Brazilian Baptist Convention of the state of Rio Grande do Sul as well as from the only Baptist church in Caxias do Sul. These invitations were welcomed for they gave further evidence of a Macedonian call.

Early in August our missionaries made another trip to this area to find living quarters before moving down by the end of August. Housing is dif-

ficult to find yet within a week, almost miraculously, the Lord opened the door so that rented quarters were found to be occupied by the beginning of September. Rev. and Mrs. Herman L. Effa and their two children located in Caxias do Sul, renting the home of the chief of police of the city. They will be working together with the pastor of the Baptist church in establishing preaching points in other parts of the city and in nearby neighboring towns and cities. Rev. and Mrs. Richard C. Rabenhorst located in the city of Bento Goncalves, about 40 kilometers from Caxias do Sul, a city of about 35,000 people. They rented an apartment which was just under construction. In this city a Baptist witness has just recently been established with a chapel built and a pastor placed but a church has not yet been organized. Thus Rev. and Mrs. Rabenhorst will have the opportunity to work together with the pastor in reaching out and establishing preaching points in other nearby areas. Both missionary couples consider this as a real opportunity to be able to work under the guidance of a national pastor while they still struggle to learn the language and the culture of the people.

It was at this juncture that my visit to Brazil took place in order to be of assistance to our missionaries in setting some guidelines in the early stages of our mission. A visit to Africa had been planned for the late fall of

by Richard Schilke

1967 and so Brazil was included on the way to Africa. October 6 to 19 was given to this visit to Brazil of which nine days were spent with our missionaries. Sunday, October 8, was spent with the First Baptist Church in Rio de Janeiro, the German Baptist Church in Sao Paulo and the Mariana Baptist Church in Sao Paulo, preaching in the latter two by invitations of the pastors, Rev. Helmuth Fuerstenau and Rev. Rubens Lopez. Rev. Lopez is the chairman of the Crusade of the Americas. The following day was spent in fellowship with several missionaries of the Baptist General Conference and of the Southern Baptist Convention in Sao Paulo, speaking also to the student body of the Baptist Seminary in Sao Paulo.

By Tuesday morning, October 10, I



Prayer meeting in the Baptist church at Caxias Do Sul: Rev. and Mrs. Effa (seated 1. to r.) with the Pastor Rev. Wanderley J. Alvaras. Allan and Jerilyn Effa are in the second row behind their parents.

was met at the Curitiba Airport by the Brethren Effa and Rabenhorst, accompanied by Rev. Marshall Flournoy, Southern Baptist missionary at Florianopolis, Santa Catarina. We traveled together by car to Lajes where a meeting with the Baptist Church had been arranged. This gave me an opportunity to see the Lajes area also. The next day we arrived in the area of our location. Other areas were also visited during my stay including Porto Alegre on Saturday, October 14, and the German Baptist Church at Ijuí, in the western part of the state, on Monday, October 16, where a meeting with the church had also been arranged. This gave me an opportunity to visit the new Bible School at Ijuí where Prof. Hugo Lueck spent six months of his sabbatical year in 1967.

ASSOCIATIONAL AREA OF OUTREACH

On Sunday, October 15, I had the privilege of preaching at Bento Gonçalves in the morning and at Caxias do Sul in the evening. Southern Baptist missionary and state secretary of

the Brazilian Baptist State Convention, Rev. Daniel Sharpley, had come up from Porto Alegre and acted as interpreter for me. This also gave us an opportunity to discuss various matters with him. The other days were used in getting acquainted with the total area of the 75 mile radius and in discussions, planning and prayer.

As mentioned above, there is no other Baptist missionary in this total area. We had prayed for and hoped to find an area which could be considered an associational area for our Conference. Our findings far exceed our expectations along this line. We now have a tremendous responsibility to place more missionaries in strategical centers and thus evangelize the area. In prayerful discussion with our missionaries we sought the guidance of

come part of a greater fellowship and enjoy the benefits of what such fellowship provides in literature, in organization, and in encouragement.

Since the area is wide open, it affords us the opportunity to seek an associational area of churches within the Brazilian Baptist State Convention which for mission promotional purposes we need and must have. In fact, this very idea was not only welcomed but also suggested to us by the Convention officials. For this purpose we have chosen, for identification purposes, the name of "Brazil Rio Grande Baptist Mission." This name identifies to our people at home our mission to Brazil and localizes it geographically to the state of Rio Grande do Sul though it need not be limited to the state. However, we may find the opportunities greater than what we can fulfill in the next several years. Should the Lord so lead, we could still branch out to the bordering state of Santa Catarina.

NEED FOR STRENGTHENING THE BAPTIST WITNESS

Brazil is the greatest country in South America with a population of over 70,000,000. It also has the largest Baptist population, now over 260,000. The Baptist witness has made a tremendous impact since 1960 when the Baptist World Congress convened in Rio de Janeiro. But there are areas in this large country where the Baptist witness is still very weak. The southernmost part of Brazil is weaker in the Baptist witness than many other areas in Brazil. Some have reported that the ground was harder and the response thus weaker. We were led to choose this area in order to help in strengthening the Baptist witness under the guidance of God. It now must be our prayer that we be found faithful in our ministry and that we take hold of the opportunities.

Caxias do Sul could well become the stronghold of Baptist witness for the whole area. The small church could become the mother church for many churches round about. It does have a dedicated, aggressive national pastor who is strong in evangelism, who reaches out in every opportunity including a radio ministry. It does need a larger, more attractive and more spacious church building. Perhaps God can use our mission and our missionaries to assist and through this humble beginning reach out into the whole area of surrounding towns and cities to bring the gospel of salvation to thousands who should be won for Christ.

Dr. Richard Schilke is the General Missionary Secretary, North American Baptist General Conference. In December 1967 he returned from a two and one-half month tour of several of our foreign mission fields.

BAPTIST HERALD

BRAZIL THE LAND OF GREAT POSSIBILITIES FOR CHRIST

by HUGO LUECK



Markers in a vineyard near Flores da Cunha, Rio Grande Do Sul.



Missionaries Effa and Rabenhorst speaking to a Brazilian policeman.

February 1, 1968

IF YOU GLANCE at the map of South America you will find that almost half of it is taken up by Brazil. Indeed Brazil is one of the five largest countries of our world together with Russia, China, the United States of America and Canada.

THE LAND

Like all large countries it has a variety of climate and people, and because it lies south of the equator many things are in reverse from our point of view. The constellations in the sky are different; the orion is seen too in this hemisphere, but it stands on its head and so does the moon. The sun at noon stands in the north. The Christmas Season falls in the time when days are the longest and hottest. It is difficult to light a Christmas tree as it does not get dark till late and the candles melt with the heat. For Brazilians the north is hot and the south is cold. The sun porches are built on the north side of the houses. Through the north of the land the big Amazon river flows through dense and much unexplored jungle. It holds 14 times as much water as the Mississippi and 17 times as much as the Nile, has 500 tributaries, 15 of which are over 1,000 miles long. Its "northern" climate is too hot and humid for white men to live. Primitive Indian tribes, many still unreached, live along the river banks. The south is much cooler with a temperate climate.

The Eastern part of Brazil along the Atlantic coast is the most populated and has the best climate: not too hot and not too cold, with sufficient rainfall. Here are the large cities like Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Recife, with several million inhabitants and with many skyscrapers. Most of the country's culture and civilization is found here: luxurious hotels, visited by tourists and businessmen from all over the world, world-wide trade and paved roads.

In the South are the three states of Parana, Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul. Here the climate is moderate and here the most European



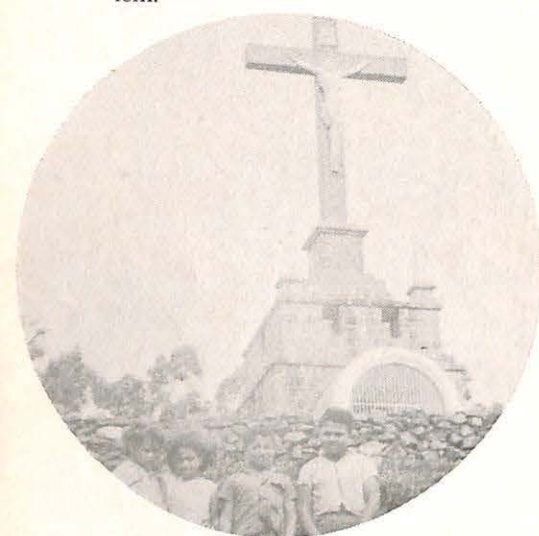
Photo by A. Devaney, Inc.

Corcovado (Statue of Christ) in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil.

immigrants settled, chiefly Italians and Germans. The German immigrants from Russia, Poland and Germany cultivated their farms, raised cattle and built many towns, in which German is still spoken in practically every store in town. It is said that in some areas of Rio Grande do Sul even the Negroes speak German. The Italian immigrants are more in the hilly country planting vineyards and producing wine.

THE PEOPLE

Brazil, like the United States of America, consists of many races, but unlike the United States its people freely intermingle without any racial barriers. The first Portuguese settlers did not hesitate to marry Indians and Negro slaves and started to produce the Brazilian race, an amalgum of Indian, Negro, European and even Asian stock. Till this day no attention is paid to the color of the skin and consequently Brazil has no race problem.



Brazilian children, shrines and crucifixes in San Marcus, Rio Grande do Sul.

Most of the common people are very poor and 70% of the population of Brazil is still illiterate. In the warm climate men need little housing and clothing and not much work is required for survival. The proverbial "paciencia" (patience) of South America is well known. There is no hurry about work. It is said that the true Brazilian only works when he gets hungry. But the very low salaries and lack of suitable work also contribute to this apathy about work; it does not pay to work; one manages to survive without it just as well. Perhaps for these reasons stealing has become very common.

Daily food consists mainly of rice, black beans and maniok (a potato-like vegetable). Green vegetables were unknown and are but slowly being introduced by some immigrants, lately also by the Japanese. The need for vitamins is supplied by the many citrus fruits like oranges, tangerines, pineapples and also avocados, grapes, bananas and others. Almost every

family in town and country "sits under its own vine and orange tree," or even fig tree.

Another reason for the slow development is the fact that the Portuguese discoverers of Brazil were looking for gold and not for permanent homes. This is one of the great differences from the United States, where the English Puritans were seeking a place to live and to worship God according to the dictates of their conscience.

THE RELIGION

Portuguese monks brought the Roman Catholic religion into Brazil, but not very successfully. Much pagan superstition survived to which spirit worship was added through African slaves. But even apart from paganism most people are but nominally Roman Catholics. When the Brazilians gained their political freedom from their Roman Catholic Portuguese overlords, they practically also gained religious freedom. The government of the Brazilian Republic, though officially Roman Catholic, is not prejudiced against Protestant Christianity. Baptist missionaries and others have all the freedom to preach the Gospel wherever they choose to do so.

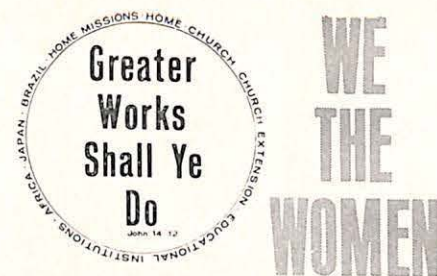
THE NEED OF CHRIST

Brazil is a large, rich and beautiful country: rich in gold, silver, precious stones and many material resources. Its countryside is full of flowers and blossoming trees all the year round. Sowing, growing and harvesting goes on through every month of the year. Yet this rich land is full of poor people: ignorant and poverty stricken, but also friendly by nature.

Nowadays attempts are being made to improve the conditions of life. But the one thing that is needed above everything else to help the people out of their apathetic life is Jesus Christ. At present the people are eager to receive the Gospel. Places of worship are easily filled with hearers when a missionary comes. Television is the possession of a few well-to-do and does not yet distract people from the Gospel. The radio, on the other hand, is open for the Gospel ministry.

Our two missionary families in that country are willing and busy in proclaiming the Good News in the state of Rio Grande do Sul. They have conquered the greatest part of the language barrier and are beginning to make an impact upon the people. Are we as willing and busy to undergird their efforts by our prayers and our gifts, so that others could follow until the great land of Brazil with its many fine people will find peace and joy in the freedom of Christ?

Rev. Hugo Lueck is professor of church history, North American Baptist Seminary. A year ago, during his sabbatical leave, Professor Lueck taught for six months at the new Bible School at Ijuí, Rio Grande do Sul, and visited our missionaries in Brazil.



BY MRS. HERBERT HILLER,
Woodside, New York,
President Woman's Missionary Union

We welcome to our executive as English Program Packet editor a capable and busy housewife, mother and school teacher, Mrs. Paul Kohman of the First Baptist Church of Dickinson County, Hope, Kansas.

She will whet your appetite for the 1968 packet. Order yours early!

GREATER WORKS SHALL YE DO by Mrs. Paul Kohman

Hannah prayed, Ruth gleaned, and Martha served. Dorcas made coats and garments; Mary Magdalene went to the sepulcher; and Mary sat at the feet of Jesus. Some of these actions were highly significant deeds while others were familiar routine. But each woman was doing.

As a part of real satisfaction in living, women must be doing. Each needs to experience a definite sense of accomplishment. The goals for the next triennium and the accompanying theme, Greater Works Shall Ye Do, phrased from John 14:12, suggest unlimited opportunity for achievement.

Two thousand years ago Christ thrust this challenging promise before a group of questioning disciples who were very uncertain about the future. In the midst of the questions of our day we accept this challenge—a progressive challenge of doing, of doing even greater works than Christ did, and the promise of accomplishment from Christ Himself.

The English Program Packet for 1968 purposes to acquaint us further with this triennial theme. The devotionals present the requisites which precede and the results which follow the claiming of this promise—all relevant phrases from John 14 and 15. The programs cite our individual lives, homes, churches, communities, and mission fields—home and foreign—as challenge areas for seeing the reality of "greater works". Our missionaries, conference presidents, wives of pastors, and laywomen have prepared devotionals and programs which will be valuable aids and resource material for program planning. We are hopeful that we will take these and develop them according to the specific needs of each society.

Effective programming should in itself become "a greater work." May

(Continued on page 11)

BAPTIST HERALD



THE POWERFUL influence of example is noted time and again in Scripture. Peter cites Jesus' example of suffering to encourage Christians in patient endurance. James praises the example of the prophets. Paul encourages Timothy to be "an example of the believers." The Thessalonians were examples to those who lived in Achaia. The Macedonians gave a two-fold example to the Corinthians: They were examples of personal devotion to God. They also were examples in Christian giving. Even though poverty stricken, they gave liberally to God's work in meeting human needs.

Our Mission Advance Program, the \$1,000,000 denominational capital funds drive, will seek to encourage a number of North American Baptists to be stimulating examples to the rest of us through their leadership giving. A leadership gift, by definition, is a gift of \$1,000 or more. It is the judgment of the MAP Committee that both the example of such donors and the actual value of their large contributions are of vital importance in the attainment of the goal adopted by the General Conference in Detroit last summer. In the coming months, therefore, in advance of congregational involvement in MAP, a limited number of contacts will be made with individuals inviting their participation on a leadership gift level. Gifts from \$1,000 to \$50,000 and more will be sought. An average of one person or family per N.A.B. church will be asked to share in this kind of example giving.

It is a joy to note that God's Spirit is already working in the hearts of North American Baptists concerning

LEADERSHIP GIVING

by DAVID J. DRAEWELL

leadership giving, even in advance of any formal contacting made by MAP solicitors. The largest single gift ever received by the denomination was recently donated by a Chicago area layman and his wife. Their gift consisting of two apartment buildings with equities totalling \$127,000 will eventually become a needed addition to the Seminary's Endowment Fund. The income of \$45,000 realized from these properties above mortgage amortization payments for the next five years, will be designated for the Seminary's portion in the Mission Advance Program. Those making this contribution have indicated that next year they may be able to add more to this already generous gift.

A second leadership gift already received, though smaller in amount, is equal in example to that noted above. This gift was given by one of our faithful pastors and his wife. Though having never served churches which offered top salaries and facing medical bills of unknown quantity, last October they sent a check for \$5,000 designated for the Foreign Missions phase of MAP. In an accompanying letter they indicated their desire to increase this gift in the coming months if at all possible. The second week in January, they sent another check for \$5,000 and asked that the \$10,000 be used to secure a home for one of our missionary families in Brazil.

Learning of these two gifts—each outstanding in its own way—I made brief visits to the offices of some of my co-workers in Forest Park to learn of their personal interest and ability in making leadership gifts. As of this date, nine have indicated their intention to make contributions of \$1,000 and more. Others said that they may do so during the actual period of leadership gift solicitation.

In one of our smaller churches of approximately 100 members, four individuals have already decided to make leadership gifts. Others in this church no doubt will wish to do the same in the future.

All leadership gift donors will have the privilege of designating their gifts to one or more of the following projects in the Mission Advance Program:

North American Baptist College
Home and Foreign Mission Needs
Church Extension
North American Baptist Seminary

Specific designations within each of these four projects may also be made if the donor so desires. All leadership gift solicitors will have lists of such projects available upon request. The names of leadership gift donors will be inscribed upon appropriate plaques located at the Forest Park office, the Seminary, and the College.

United States residents who will be making leadership gifts in the coming weeks should realize that they will receive additional income tax benefits if they contribute gifts of appreciated property such as stocks, real estate, etc. Leadership gift donors should also learn if their contributions may be doubled in value through the "Matching Gift Programs" of their employers. The Department of Stewardship and all leadership gift solicitors are able to give more specific information and counsel on these points.

Does this special emphasis on larger gifts mean that smaller gifts are of little significance to God or to the Mission Advance Program? No! The widow's mite still remains as one of the most challenging examples of giving to be found in the Bible. The five and ten dollar bills, given into my hands by four of our missionaries in the Ford Auditorium in Detroit during the General Conference, have a meaning which goes far beyond the monetary size of their gifts. As they gave me their money, they said: "We want to make the first gifts to the \$1,000,000 capital funds drive."

Who will be next?

Rev. David J. Draewell is the Secretary of Stewardship and Higher Education, North American Baptist General Conference.

These two apartment buildings were recently donated to the denomination for the Seminary's Endowment Fund and the Mission Advance Program.



February 1, 1968



The Baptist women's witness of Christ throughout the North American continent is dramatized by this presentation of flags from the various states and provinces.



ENCOUNTER... RESPONSE

by Mrs. Fred L. Paul

THESE WILL be days of ENCOUNTER—deeper understandings of who God is, keener sensitivity to the needs of others, new insights about who I am.

My RESPONSE will be an individual matter, dependent upon the measure of my faith and the degree of my commitment to Christ." (Billie Pate)

This was the overall theme for the Fourth Continental Assembly of the North American Baptist Women's Union (B.W.A.) held in Washington, D. C. on November 16-18, 1967, which brought more than 1200 women from 14 Baptist Conventions in attendance, including eight from our North American Baptist General Conference.

The inspirational backdrop in our general meeting room was an enlarged copy of Michelangelo's "Hand of God and Hand of Man" on a blue background, and underneath was a round world with focus on the Western Hemisphere. This striking picture also served as a cover for the program.

The devotional leaders, speakers, and missionaries used the theme most effectively as, in concert, they gave encouragement to all assembled to become involved in the affairs of the world around us.

The opening session centered around the activities of the city in which we



Mrs. Delmar L. Wessler (l. to r.), Mrs. Elton Kirstein, Mrs. Herbert Hiller, Mrs. H. J. Waltereit, Mrs. Willy Herke, Mrs. Paul Kohman, Mrs. Fred L. Paul and Mrs. Ernest A. Hoffman represented our North American Baptist General Conference at this assembly of various Baptist women in Washington, D. C.

met, Washington, D. C. Dr. C. Emanuel Carlson, executive director, Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, explained in detail the workings of this committee. It serves Christ and the Baptist cause in governmental affairs in this "nerve center" of the world.

Senator Jennings Randolph, Democrat from West Virginia, and a Seventh-Day Baptist, challenged the audience that "the need now is for women to become more involved in civic, church, and governmental affairs." The involvement he called for was "not just hit and miss workers, and so-called nice people"—but women—"who are stimulating, informed, competent, self-disciplined, and Christian-centered citizens."

Dr. Howard Thurman, a Negro theologian and dean emeritus of Marsh Chapel, Boston University, led the assembly in three unforgettable, inspirational worship periods. In his soft spoken voice he called our "encounter with the living God the greatest event of life." He stated that "the things we prefer will leave their essence in our lives and we grow into their likeness." Dr. Thurman pleaded earnestly for us to come to a complete yielding of the "inner intimacy, nerve center, and will to God" and added that "the name of the One you serve will be written on your brow."

The theme for Friday's sessions being "Communicating with The World," it was fitting for Dr. Josef Nordenhaug, general secretary of the B.W.A. to select as his theme, "The World as I See It." In his look at the world, he senses "a growing awareness that the church is the people of God, a growing understanding of the meaning of religious liberty, and a growing interest in evangelistic co-operation." His challenge to the assembly was loud and clear: develop a concern for all the world's people!

Dr. Earl Peacock, co-ordinator, Hemisphere Committee of the "Crusade of the Americas," told the assembly that 18 million Baptists in 27 countries have agreed to join in this simultaneous evangelistic effort. He exhorted women to prayer, service, and stewardship for this program.

Mrs. R. L. Mathis, vice-president of B.W.A., outlined plans for the Woman's Missionary Unions' "Pact"—a prayer partner plan that will be promoted in our own W.M.U. in 1968.

The first session on Friday afternoon was one of participation for all present, an experiment in group dynamics. A challenging message by Dr. Kenneth Chapin, professor of evangelism, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., addressed to the theme, "Responding to Human Need." He expressed concern that non-Christians may be taking over the work of the church, and he encouraged us to expose ourselves to the needs of human beings about us. He stated that "Baptist women are often guilty of long distance compas-

sion. They have compassion for poverty in Nigeria, Hong Kong, and Manila. They look at slides a missionary shows and feel great sympathy. You can't smell poverty on a slide, but you can in your own community!" Then, again, he pointed out that some of the needs of people are so basic that we overlook them, while some problems are so complex that we are overwhelmed by them. Following his message the assembly divided into eight discussion groups to consider ways and means people of the church could help meet the needs of others. Mrs. Delmar Wessler was one of the discussion group leaders. The summarization at the conclusion gave evidence that the women present received new insights in ways to help the cause of Christ in ministering to others at home as well as abroad.

A very exciting message was given at another session by a medical doctor, Dr. Robert A. Hingson, chairman of the Department of Anesthesia, Western Reserve University, Cleveland. He very dramatically explained the vast immunization projects he was involved in, which helped protect peoples of the Middle Americas against epidemic diseases. He demonstrated a jet inoculator he had invented, capable of vaccinating 1200 persons an hour, which has saved thousands of lives in Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Honduras. His work is indeed worthy of our prayer support.

The concluding session on Saturday began with the assembly dividing into five groups for a season of prayer, in line with one phase of the day's theme: "Responding through Prayer."

The second phase was "Extending Fellowship around the World." Dr. V. Carney Hargroves, chairman, General Committee, North American Baptist Fellowship, explained the work of this Committee of which our NABG Conference is a member. Its basic purpose is to "draw together the Baptists of the North American continent on the basis of their common interest, and to inspire them to work together in keeping the directive of Jesus Christ."

Mrs. Edgar Bates, president, Women's Department, B.W.A., told the women that each member of their fellowship, involving 14 million women in Baptist churches throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Jamaica, "must be involved personally, if we are to be effective instruments in service to the world." She went on to say that such involvement calls for securing and disseminating knowledge of "conditions and problems both of the people next door and your family around the world." And in such knowledge, women must become involved through giving, through prayer, and finally by surrender of self.

Officers for the ensuing five years were elected and installed at the final session. Mrs. I. Judson Levy, from Wolfville, Nova Scotia, was elected to serve as president. We are indeed

blessed to have two members of our Conference serve on the Executive Committee. Mrs. Herbert Hiller, as president of our W.M.U., automatically serves, and Mrs. Delmar Wessler was elected as member-at-large for a five year term. We should remember these worthy representatives in our prayers, as they engage in the wider ministry of Christ's work in this manner.

Miss Alma Hunt, acting president, N.A.B. Women's Union, graciously presided at all sessions of the Assembly. She gave every encouragement to "get our hands into the dirt to meet the needs of the day." She noted that "we need to find more women to bridge the gap that separates Christians and non-Christians, and also that gap that so often separates the honest differences between Baptists." This same thought was expressed by Senator Randolph earlier when he said, "There is a unity under the Baptist umbrella that does not lead to uniformity. Our differences do not weaken the Baptist movement, but strengthen it."

More than 1200 women met together for two and one-half days to consider the theme, "ENCOUNTER—RESPONSE." In a most effective way, God used the speakers, singers, and devotional leaders to motivate and encourage us to involve ourselves in the world about us in the name of Christ. Will we do it? God give us the strength, courage, wisdom, and will to do just that!

Mrs. Fred L. Paul is a public school teacher and housewife in St. Paul, Minn. She attended the Fourth Continental Assembly of the North American Baptist Women's Union, Washington, D. C.

WE THE WOMEN

(Continued from page 8)

our manner of doing it be as important as the doing; may our desire to edify others transcend any selfish purposes of accomplishment; may our experience of fellowship with the Lord Jesus and our dependence upon His guidance exceed previous levels of relationship. Like the Apostle Paul may we so desire to live that we may perpetually remind God of the obedience, sacrifice, and devotion of His Son so that our words and works may recall to His heart similar ones in the earthly life of the Lord Jesus.

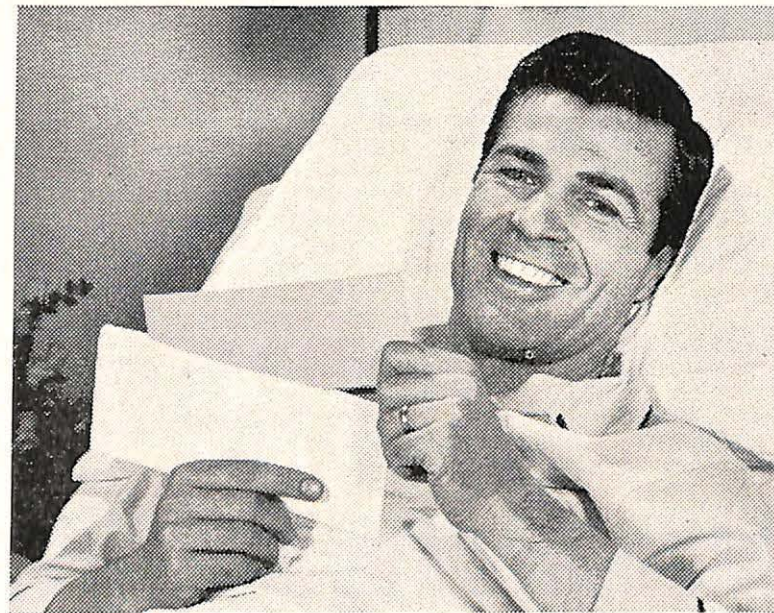
The Program Packets will be available February 15th for \$1.75 each. The German packet costs \$1.25. Send orders to:

Woman's Missionary Union
7308 Madison Street
Forest Park, Ill. 60130

Up to \$5200 paid direct to you (not to hospital)

NEW PLAN FOR WHOLE FAMILY PAYS YOU \$100 A WEEK

for up to 52 weeks of Hospitalization



Specially developed to cover what Medicare leaves out

WE INVITE YOU TO COMPARE RATES

We pass savings on to you. The new Buckingham Family Hospitalization Plan saves you money in lower rates 2 ways: (1) Salesmen's charges and physical examinations are omitted. (2) Costly one, two and three day claims are omitted. Your benefits start with the fourth day of hospitalization in case of sickness. NOTE, however, that benefits begin the first day in case of injury.

COMPARE BENEFITS— ESPECIALLY WITH MEDICARE

1. Our Plan covers everyone in family, old and young. This is a Plan that helps free you from worry about your entire family. We send \$100 TAX-FREE CASH direct to you every week—up to 52 weeks (\$5200)—of hospitalization for each covered member of your family over 18 paying full rates. Half rates and half benefits apply to family members under 18.

So our Plan fills the big gap in Medicare which provides only for the elderly.

2. We cover both sickness and injury. Our Plan covers hospitalization for every conceivable kind of accident and sickness except: pregnancy, childbirth or complications of either; pre-existing conditions; intoxication (of a covered person); unauthorized use of narcotic drugs; mental conditions; injury or sickness due to war or any act incident to war. Hernia is considered a sickness, not an injury. Confinement in a government hospital is not covered, nor is any person covered while in armed services of any country (but in such cases, a pro-rata refund of the premium would be made).

3. We pay \$5000 auto accident death benefit. If you die within 60 days as the result of an accident to any automobile, in which you are riding or driving, we pay \$5000 to your beneficiary.

DO THIS TODAY!

(Don't delay. 50,000 people enter hospitals daily.)

Start your protection immediately. Fill out application below. (Make close comparison of these amazingly low rates.) Then mail application right away. Upon approval, your policy will be promptly mailed. Coverage begins at noon on effective date of your policy. No salesman will call. No physical examination needed for this plan, you will be paid \$14.28 a day.

IF YOU PAY PREMIUMS IN ADVANCE FOR 11 MONTHS,
YOU GET THE 12th FREE!

	PAY MONTHLY	PAY YEARLY
Each Adult 18 to 65	\$2.40	\$26.40
Each Adult 65 to 75	4.15	45.65
Each Child 17 and under	1.15	12.65

HERE ARE TYPICAL FAMILY COMBINATIONS:

Man and Wife 18 to 65	4.80	52.80
Man and Wife 65 to 75	8.30	91.30
Man and Wife 18 to 65 and 1 Child	5.95	65.45
Man and Wife 18 to 65 and 2 Children	7.10	78.10
Either Parent 18 to 65 and 1 Child	3.55	39.05

NOTE: For children under 18, you pay half rates—and get half benefits. When they reach 18, simply write us to change to full rates and full benefits that apply for conditions contracted after that time.

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

Read over your policy carefully. Ask your lawyer, doctor or hospital administrator to examine it. Be sure it provides exactly what we say it does. Then, if for any reason at all you are not satisfied, just mail your policy back to us within 10 days and we will immediately refund your entire premium. No questions asked. You can gain up to \$5200—you risk nothing.

Selling direct by mail... Every premium dollar buys protection!



25¢ is all you send
with application below
for first 30 days coverage

Buckingham
Life Insurance Company

Executive Offices: Libertyville, Illinois

.....TEAR OUT AND MAIL TODAY BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.....

340

APPLICATION FOR HOSPITAL INCOME
for family or individual—covering hospitalization from sickness or injury with \$5000 auto accident death benefit
BUCKINGHAM LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, Executive Offices: Libertyville, Illinois

30 DAYS COVERAGE ONLY 25¢

I'm enclosing 25¢ in coin. Please send me your Hospital Income Policy in force for 30 days—just as soon as my application is approved

Please Print
Name of Applicant: First Name Middle Initial Last Name Occupation _____
Address: _____ Height: Feet _____ Inches _____ Weight: _____ Pounds _____ Sex: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Beneficiary: First Name Middle Initial Last Name
Date of Birth: _____ Relationship of Beneficiary to Applicant: _____
Month _____ Day _____ Year _____ Age _____
LIST NAME AND ALL REQUESTED INFORMATION FOR OTHER PERSONS TO BE INSURED
First Name Initial Last Name HEIGHT Ft.-In. WEIGHT Lbs. Age Month BIRTH DATE Day Year RELATION To Applicant

NEXT—PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS—THEN SIGN THE APPLICATION

To the best of your knowledge, have you or any other family member listed above ever had or been treated for any of the following:
Arthritis, hernia, venereal disease, apoplexy? ☐ YES ☐ NO
Epilepsy, mental disorder, cancer, diabetes? ☐ YES ☐ NO
Tuberculosis, paralysis, prostate trouble? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Heart trouble, eye cataract, disease of female organs, sciatica? If "yes" explain fully. ☐ YES ☐ NO
Have you or any other Family Member listed above had medical or surgical care or advice during the past two years? If "yes" explain fully. ☐ YES ☐ NO

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, I and all Family Members listed above are in sound condition mentally and physically and free from impairment except: _____

Date _____
Applicant's Signature _____
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

Mail this application with 25¢ right away to:
BUCKINGHAM LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, 1008 No. Milwaukee Ave., Libertyville, Illinois

In March of 1967 the Baptist Herald carried the first article about our Church Extension Project. Much has happened since that time, as we have seen many things come to pass. I mentioned in the article that during '67 we hoped, not only to be out of the school and meeting in the parsonage basement for services upon its completion, but also that we could be in our first unit by Christmas. All but the latter have now become a reality.

Our lovely parsonage was completed in early June and on June 11th we held our dedication service in the basement, just one day after moving in. Ever since that time all of our Church and Sunday School activities have been held in the parsonage basement, and this procedure will continue until we can occupy our church building. We trust that by the time you read this article we will be in our new church.

FEBRUARY

CHURCH EXTENSION BUILDERS' PROJECT

EVERGREEN BAPTIST, RENTON, WASH.

by LeRoy Kiemele

Our church is located on a plot of land almost three acres in size at the only entrance to Maple Hills Estates, as is the parsonage. We feel that the location is very strategic in that all residents of the area must pass by our site, both in coming into the area and in leaving it as well. Our church building, which should be completed by early February, will be a tremendous asset to the work here as it is greatly needed. The basement of the parsonage is no longer adequate with 6 classes meeting simultaneously, not including the pastor's membership class which has been meeting in our living room.

Upon completion, our first church unit consisting of a two-level structure, will be very adequate—at least for the present. The lower level is comprised of 3 classrooms, kitchen, washrooms, pastor's study, and a multi-purpose

room which can be divided into 2 or 3 more classrooms. Our chapel is on the second level and has a seating capacity of over 150 plus a nursery, baptistry and a good sized choir loft and platform. How we look forward to the use of these excellent facilities, and all of it costing less than \$30,000.

Since moving from the Briarwood School to our parsonage basement in June, many changes have taken place and signs of encouragement are seen. July was a weak month with many on vacation, etc., but since August we have seen real progress. For example, our S. S. and Worship attendance during May and June averaged only 30 and 23 respectively; now, in November and December, we are averaging 50 and 35 for S. S. and morning worship. August 14-18 we held our first V.B.S. with a total enrollment of 61 pupils and 10 teachers and helpers. Every inch of feasible space in the parsonage

was put to use, with one class of 16 having to meet on the sunporch. A missionary offering was received each morning which came to a total of \$29.84 for the week. We thank God for such a response!

Each month has added new activities to our church program since moving into the parsonage and using the basement facilities for all services of the church. In September we began conducting evening services for the first time. In October the women met together for the purpose of organizing into a Woman's Missionary Society and now they are meeting monthly. Also our young people, though few in number, have taken a real interest in getting a youth group started. So in November a Junior High C.B.Y. was organized and now about 8-10 meet each Sunday night. These are but some of the activities which are being provided for those who have been reached through our work, giving opportunity for service and participation in many areas and for all age groups.

Just recently I completed an 8-week adult class for prospective church members. A class for children interested in becoming members of the church is now underway and upon completion of this class, a baptismal service will be held at which time approximately 18 new members will be added to our church. We praise and thank God for each one, as this will be the first baptismal service ever held in our new church.

In conclusion, may I take this opportunity in behalf of the Evergreen Baptist Church, to say thank you to



About the pictures: (top to bottom) Vacation Bible School group; parsonage; Primary Class.

all of you for your response to the Builders Program of our denomination, with this month's appeal to go towards our project here in Renton. I assure you that it will be a real aid to our work as we seek to complete the building and also to furnish it with the necessary equipment. It is through your \$1.00 contributions that each month new churches are started and even more—lost souls are given opportunity to come to know and receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour! May God bless you richly for your prayers and your faithfulness.

Rev. LeRoy Kiemele is the pastor of the Evergreen Baptist Church, Renton, Washington.

The Department Superintendent

By
Edward C. McKeehan

If you are a superintendent of a department in your Sunday School, you have probably wondered at one time or another if you are doing an effective job. Perhaps your office is not clearly defined and therefore you do not know how to evaluate the superintendency. Test yourself with these questions for self-evaluation. Read each question and mark the "yes," "no," or "sometime" square.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO YOUR TEACHERS

Some-
Yes No time

- ☐ ☐ ☐ Do you set a good example for your teachers?
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Are you there early enough to see that your department is completely set up and ready for the pupils? You can't expect your teachers to be early if you aren't.
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Are you prepared when you come? Or do you have to quickly grab a hymn book, book pick out some songs and then decide on some scripture?
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Are you sure there will be someone to play the piano? Or is that a last-minute arrangement.

Opening Worship Service: Help or hindrance to your teachers.

- ☐ ☐ ☐ Is it different and interesting?
- ☐ ☐ ☐ If your department consists of children, does it tend to settle them down instead of making them restless and bored so that the teacher must overcome the boredom before he can begin to teach?
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Do the pupils participate? Or do you do all the talking.
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Is the atmosphere orderly and worshipful with a minimum of confusion?
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Does the material supplement and not detract from the teacher's lesson? You must not teach the lesson during the opening!
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Do you close promptly on time? You are responsible for those first few minutes of every Sunday morning and they set the tone for the entire program.

Are you helping your teachers improve their teaching skills?

- ☐ ☐ ☐ Do you know the teachers who need help?
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Are you aware of books, records, filmstrips and other aids which they can use to improve themselves?
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Do you encourage them to take advantage of leadership training courses?
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Do you take these courses yourself?

Teaching Assistants:

- ☐ ☐ ☐ Do you provide prepared substitutes for your classes when your teachers are not able to be there? You should have several who are prepared every Sunday and can step in at the last minute so there will be no break in the instructional process.

This is by no means an exhaustive list of the responsibilities of the Sunday School Department Superintendent, but if you are one of these Very Important People, let this serve as a guide to the major areas which are yours to administer. Yours is a vital role in the effective Christian Education program of your church.

Mr. Edward C. McKeehan is Director of Christian Education at the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Detroit, Michigan.

February 1, 1968

Some-
Yes No time

Absentees:

- ☐ ☐ ☐ Do you check to see if your teachers are keeping in contact with their absentees?
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Do you offer to help by making some calls on delinquent children or parents? These pupils are your responsibility as well as the teacher's.

Teaching Aids:

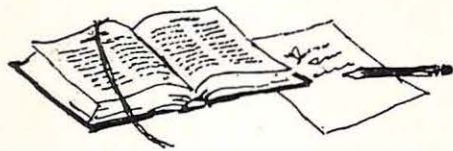
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Do you see to it that your teachers have adequate teaching materials including visual aids?
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Are you familiar with the lessons for the entire quarter so that adequate planning can be done?

Do you communicate with your teachers?

- ☐ ☐ ☐ Do you meet often with your teachers to discuss the needs of the department? This is the time to share common problems, the needs of particular pupils and make plans for future improvement and growth of the department. A meeting with the teachers should be scheduled at least once each month and especially before the beginning of each new quarter.
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Do you take time to pray in a definite way for the needs of your department?

YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO THE GENERAL SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

- ☐ ☐ ☐ Do you cooperate fully with the program which he administers? This is your responsibility even if you don't fully agree with every part of the program. It can be effective only when everyone works together to carry it out.
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Do you keep the general superintendent informed of your department's needs? It is his responsibility to see that all your needs are met, but he can only do what he knows about.
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Do you tell him about departmental projects and plans? This should be done at all times so that these can be approved and so that there will be no duplication.
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Do you keep accurate records for your department? This is vitally important to the growth of your Sunday School.



sunday school lessons

B. C. SCHREIBER

A TEACHING GUIDE

DATE: February 18, 1968

THEME: The Light of the World

SCRIPTURE: John 9:1-7, 35-41

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT. Jesus as the light of the world will have little effect upon you unless you let him light up your life.

INTRODUCTION. We come now to one of the most important "I am's" of Jesus. Understanding, insight, knowledge, wisdom and revelation are all various aspects of light. When Jesus said, "I am the light of the world," he meant that he would give full expression of light in all the dark areas of the individual as well as of the world. Light enables us to see, to know, to find our way. It brings warmth and life. It stands out in stark contrast to darkness, death and cold.

The beautiful and meaningful symbol of light was clearly understood by people in Jesus' time. In the Old Testament Scriptures the law or torah was thought of as giving light. The psalmist was aware of this when he said, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Ps. 119:105).

Jesus' difficulty, however, was not with those who believed in the light of God's word in the Old Testament, but with those who thought they had the light which came down by tradition and through ceremonial rituals. They became blind leaders of the blind. Being blind to the light which was available they failed to see the brighter light in Jesus Christ. In trying to defend the faith of their fathers they became blind to the faith in their heavenly Father through Jesus Christ.

I. LIGHT DISPELS IGNORANCE. John 9:1-4.

The disciples asked a very foolish question because it is impossible to sin before you are born. But sin and punishment were so synonymous in the lives of Jewish people that this was the only way they were able to understand God's dealings with men. Since the poor, blind man could not have sinned before he was born then it must have been his parents.

When Jesus said that neither sinned he did not mean that the blind man and his parents were sinless, for "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Jesus was trying to break down old beliefs that were carried down from generation to generation.

II. LIGHT DISPELS DARKNESS. John 9:5-7.

Jesus did not philosophize as to how the man became blind. His first concern was to do something about it. His blindness was a challenge to the

power of God. He drew the disciples attention away from the theological theories to the man's immediate need.

It seems strange that Jesus should take so much trouble to heal the blind man when it would have taken only a word and he would have received his sight. But this contact with Jesus was necessary to arouse faith in his heart. The fact that he obeyed and walked alone to the pool of Siloam indicated that he had unquestionable trust in Jesus.

III. LIGHT CHALLENGES PREJUDICE. John 9:35-41.

His sight cost him his membership in the synagogue. He was excommunicated. It is strange that he should lose his religious standing in the community because he believed in the one who gave him what the religious leaders were never able to give—light and life. The Pharisees refused to confess their blindness and therefore they were guilty of sin—the sin of spiritual pride.

Questions for Discussion

- (1) How can a person know whether his affliction is the result of sin or not?
- (2) How is physical blindness and sight related to spiritual blindness and sight?
- (3) Do you think transplanting a cornea from a dead person into the eye of a blind person should be considered a miracle?

A TEACHING GUIDE

DATE: February 25, 1968

THEME: The Good Shepherd

SCRIPTURE: John 10:7-18

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT. The Good Shepherd always finds his work easier and more enjoyable when he has loving and obedient sheep.

INTRODUCTION. There are probably more songs sung, more poems and stories written, more pictures painted and more sermons preached about Jesus, the good Shepherd, than about any other aspect of his nature. The good Shepherd appeals to people of all ages.

Although we more frequently refer to ministers as "reverend," many prefer to be called "pastor." The word comes to us from the Latin. "Pastor" in Latin means shepherd, and to call a minister "pastor" is more in keeping with the New Testament thought in which the leader of a Christian church is a shepherd, a defender and a feeder of the flock of God. He is an under-shepherd of Jesus Christ who is the great Shepherd of the sheep. It should therefore be the greatest honor to be called a pastor. Remember that with

this honor also goes the greatest of responsibilities. A pastor is in charge of priceless souls whose eternal salvation is at stake. For such a task he needs infinite patience, perseverance and the love of Jesus Christ to deal with unlovely and unloving people.

The pastor is often a lonely man in need of the same things he is trying to provide for his congregation. He is also one of the sheep who is in need of the comfort, the help and the leading of the Good Shepherd.

I. OUR NEED FOR THE SHEPHERD'S CARE. John 10:7-10.

When Jesus referred to himself as the door of the sheep he wanted us to realize that we need him when we come into the world and when we leave the world as well as during the time between these two points. We need him also because there are so many shepherds which cannot be trusted. (Read Ezekiel 34:1-4 and Zechariah 11:7). False shepherds do not come to give life but to take it. They are selfishly interested in their own welfare and safety. He came to lead us into an abundant life which can be found only through fellowship with God through Jesus Christ.

II. THE SHEPHERD'S CONCERN FOR US. John 10:11-14.

Artists have too often portrayed Jesus as too well-dressed in his shepherd's role. A shepherd does not spend all his time fondling baby lambs. Much of the time he is a man with bruised feet and ragged clothing, bushwacking the hills for lost sheep or fighting wild animals.

It is comforting to know that in this day of the computer age in which we are all given numbers, that Jesus knows everyone of his sheep individually by name. Such a close, personal relationship gives us a sense of value and worth. We are only one among millions but in the sight of God that one soul is worth more than all the world.

III. THE SHEPHERD'S FOLD. John 10:15-18.

Most of us get stuck at this verse because we see the multitude of denominations and sects and wonder how it is possible to make one fold out of them all. Yet no one can deny that God has some sheep in all of them. No denomination has a corner on the saints. There is a unity of spirit among many when they worship together. Unity of organization is another thing. Because of our human limitations it is impossible, from our point of view, to gather all denominations under one roof. Yet even here we must

(Continued on page 24)

REINHOLD KERSTAN, EDITOR-ELECT OF GERMAN PUBLICATIONS



Rev. Reinhold J. Kerstan has been appointed by The Board of Trustees of the Roger Williams Press to the position of Editor of German Publications, effective April 1, 1968. He will succeed Rev. John Grygo who has served in this capacity since 1961.

Rev. Kerstan comes to this position with a broad background of experience and education. He was born in 1931 in Schwentainen, East Prussia, Germany. His father was then pastor of the Baptist Church in Schwentainen. After taking his high school in Germany and Czechoslovakia he took some pharmaceutical studies in Berlin and completed five years of study at the University of Frankfurt. He graduated in 1957 with the equivalent of the Master of Science degree. He married Inger Nilsson of Sweden in 1958. After working as a pharmacist for one year he sensed the call to the gospel ministry and decided to begin his theological studies at the Baptist Theological Seminary, Rueschlikon, Switzerland in 1959. He completed the third year of his theological studies at the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, S. D., in 1962, graduating with the Bachelor of Divinity degree.

Rev. Kerstan has had considerable pastoral experience by serving as a student pastor 1960-1961 in Zurich, Switzerland; assistant pastor 1962-1965 at the McDermot Avenue Baptist Church, Winnipeg, Man., and since 1965 as pastor of the German Zion Baptist Church, Milwaukee, Wis. Since 1955 he has been a free lance writer for a daily newspaper in Frankfurt, Germany and for several German Baptist periodicals. For several years he has been a contributing editor of the "Jugendecke" in DER SENDBOTE.

We look forward to the coming of

February 1, 1968

Rev. Kerstan to the Forest Park office as Editor of German Publications. We are confident that he will give very competent leadership in this position. He needs our prayers and support so that he might be effective in communicating the Gospel of Jesus Christ and related Christian concerns through the printed page.

• Dr. John Wobig is serving as interim pastor at the First Baptist Church, Lodi, Calif.

• One of our military chaplains, Rev. David A. Samf, stationed at Little Rock Air Force Base, Jacksonville, Ark., was promoted to the position of Captain on Jan. 9, 1968.

• Rev. and Mrs. M. D. Wolff, Emery, S. D., announce the birth of a daughter, Kristy Marie, born Dec. 19, 1967.

• Rev. Norman Berkan is continuing to serve as the pastor of the Round Lake Baptist Church, Gladwin, Mich., even though he has had surgery and will have to undergo more surgery.

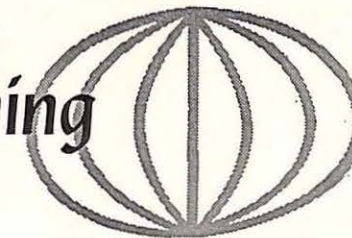
church at Startup, Wash., has been appointed chaplain in the army reserve commission, Fort Lawton, Wash. He will continue to serve as pastor of the church at Startup.

• Rev. David Little has resigned as pastor of the Berlin Baptist Church, Fredonia, N. D., which he served for seven years. He has accepted the call to become the pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church, Cherokee, Okla., beginning Jan. 7, 1968.

• Rev. William Copeland of Dodge City, Kan., has accepted the call from the First Baptist Church, Lodi, Calif., and became the Minister of Music and Education in December 1967.

• Rev. John von Harten has resigned from the German Immanuel Baptist Church, St. Catharines, Ont., effective July 1, 1968. He is waiting on the Lord for a call to another field of ministry. During November and December, 1967 he was hospitalized because of a heart attack and nervous breakdown. Before Christmas he was

what's happening



• Miss Ruth Rabenhorst, our missionary nurse in the Cameroons, returned to the United States on January 17 for surgery and medical treatment. Miss Laura Reddig returned for her furlough at the same time.

• Dr. Richard Schilke arrived home safely on Dec. 16 from his two and one-half month trip abroad visiting our mission fields in Brazil, Nigeria and Cameroon.

• Rev. Robert Hess has resigned as pastor of the Harbor Trinity Baptist Church, Costa Mesa, Calif., and accepted the call to become the pastor of the Ripley Blvd. Baptist Church, Alpena, Mich., effective March 3, 1968.

• Rev. and Mrs. Ray Niederer, Cleveland, Ohio, announce the birth of a son, David Ray, born Dec. 4, 1967.

• The following are the missionaries of the week for the month of February: Feb. 4—Dr. and Mrs. Peter E. Fehr; Feb. 11—Dr. and Mrs. Jerome C. Fluth; Feb. 18—Rev. and Mrs. Fred C. Folkerts; Feb. 25—Miss Ida Forsch.

• Rev. Kendrick Gould, pastor of our

released from the hospital and is making very good progress toward full recovery.

• On December 27, 1967 Mr. Curtis Lengefeld was ordained to the ministry by the Immanuel Baptist Church, Kyle, Texas. He is attending Midwestern Seminary, Kansas City, Kansas and serves as student pastor of the Baptist church at Browning, Missouri.

• Chaplain (Maj.) Clinton E. Grenz and Dr. Gerald Borchert participated with others as leaders and speakers at the military Religious Retreat, Jan. 14-Feb. 9, 1968, Fort Riley, Kansas.

• Dr. M. Vanderbeck has discontinued serving as interim pastor at the First Baptist Church, Sumner, Iowa, and became the interim pastor at the Baptist Church, Ashley, N. D., on Jan. 14, 1968.

• Mr. Howard David is the new Director of Christian Education at the Colonial Village Baptist Church, Lansing, Mich. Miss Bonnie Morgan continues to serve at the church in a new position as Director of Visitation and Women's Work.



NEWS & VIEWS

SYRIA CONFISCATES SCHOOLS, PROCLAIMS MISSION WORK ENDED

Damascus (EP) "The era of missionary work in Syria has ended for good," Minister of Education Sulayman al-Khush said in a statement announcing the confiscation of all private, largely church-sponsored, schools. Although his remarks were directed against Christian educational activity, observers believe that his announcement indicates a campaign against all religious education, including that of Islam, Syria's predominant religion and a source of continuing resistance to many policies of the Socialist government. All education in Syria will now be secular, Mr. al-Khush announced.

BILLY GRAHAM IDLED TILL APRIL BY DOCTOR

Atlanta, Ga. Evangelist Billy Graham, on strict orders from his doctor, announced in December through his Director of Crusades, Dr. Walter H. Smyth, the cancellation of all engagements, including major Crusades, until mid-April of 1968.

CHAPLAIN SAYS U. S. TROOPS' MORALE HIGH IN VIETNAM

Vicenza, Italy. (EP) The former chief of chaplains in Vietnam held here that the morale of United States military men there is the highest of any war in which he has served.

Chaplain (Col.) Harold O. Pudell made his observations as he arrived to assume his duties as the leading chaplain of the U. S. Army Southern European Task Force.

The Roman Catholic monsignor, in addition to his tour of duty in Vietnam, also served during World War II and in the Korean War.

GREEK CHURCH TO PUBLISH 100,000 NEW TESTAMENTS

Athens. (EP) The Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church in Greece will publish 100,000 copies of the New Testament in the ancient Greek text.

'MOBILITY RATE' OF PASTORS —60 PER CENT IN 4 YEARS

New York. (EP) A report on the mobility of pastors of the Lutheran Church in America, since 1963—when the church was established by merger of four Lutheran denominations—shows at least 4,400 or 60 per cent, have had some change in status. Of the denomination's more than 7,000 pastors, only 110 resigned during the period. Accounting for most of the changes were pastoral transfers among

synods (1,486) and changing parishes within the home synods (1,407). There were 405 clergy deaths in the period.

LUTHERAN TEENS SEEN BUCKING FOR FULL PARTICIPATION

Seattle. (EP) Lutheran teens meeting here voted to abolish their Luther League and served notice that they are ready for adult participation and responsibility in the church. The Synod Youth, meeting in Bellevue and Redmond suburban churches, adopted a resolution calling for the formation of the Pacific Synod Ministry Committee, a uniting of the Synod Youth Committee and Pacific Northwest Luther League Executive Committee. The new committee will be composed of both youth and adults. No longer will there be a separate youth auxiliary in the Pacific Northwest Synod of the Lutheran Church in America. Luther Leagues—a time-honored organization among Lutherans—may continue an option in local congregations.

MOST 'TURNED-IN' DRAFT CARDS ARE BOGUS, SAYS GEN. HERSHEY

Washington, D. C. (EP) The vast majority of the draft cards turned in late in October by a group known as the Resistance turned out to be bogus, according to Selective Service Director Lewis B. Hershey. Gen. Hershey said that nearly 3 of every 4 cards turned in recently when 1,500 members of the Resistance and its sympathizers marched on the Justice Department were either business calling cards, drivers' licenses or membership cards. Of 996 turned in when the Rev. William Coffin Sloane, Jr., Yale's Protestant chaplain, led the march, only 297, according to Gen. Hershey, were valid draft cards. Gen. Hershey reasoned that many of the protesters at the Justice Department were "kids in a group," who, being expected to turn in their cards by the group's organizers, feigned the act.

SEES FUNERAL RITES CHANGING

Chicago. (EP) As the nation becomes more depersonalized and crowded, the American way of funerals is changing. "For instance," said Elwyn Gipson of the National Selected Morticians Convention, "funeral processions to cemeteries are becoming impossible in the face of traffic. This could mean friends will disperse after services at the funeral home and only the family will attend private committal services at the cemetery." Gip-

son also said that funeral services are generally attended by fewer people now. "That's partly because the average person has fewer friends. Most of our acquaintances are business acquaintances these days," he said. "Our original friends have dispersed throughout the nation and the world."

Funeral rites are also becoming more depersonalized and shorter, Gipson said. "Modern ministers are more concerned with comforting the family than in preaching the gospel," he said. "Besides, people won't listen to a 90-minute talk as they once did."

TIMES TALLIED

NEW YORK. (EP) A recent check of 365 editorials published in the New York Times revealed 466 Biblical verses, references or allusions to Holy Writ.

65 PER CENT OF TRAFFIC FATALITIES PUT THE QUART BEFORE THE HURSE

San Francisco. (EP) Among the endless surveys on the subject of the relation between drinking and automobile deaths appears another: The Mobil Oil Company says a survey of fatal accidents in California showed that 65 per cent of the drivers killed had been drinking. In Chicago the figure was 76 per cent, and it was 38 per cent in New York. These drivers were not necessarily drunk, but merely people who were not completely sober, the report said.

PASTOR RE-ENACTS PARABLE OF TALENTS

Sidney, B. C. (EP) A United Church minister here looked to the Bible for inspiration in raising funds for a building project and several other church projects. Rev. Howard McDiarmid, pastor of St. Paul's United Church here, borrowed \$1,000 from the bank and handed out \$10 each to 100 members of the congregation. Six months later on Canadian Thanksgiving Day (Oct. 9) the congregation returned with \$5,000.

In the Biblical parable related in the New Testament, a master entrusted money to three servants. Two doubled their money, but the third buried his share and made no profit. Their modern Canadian counterparts bettered the original version by two and a half times. Pastor McDiarmid said each member of the congregation made a profit on the original \$10.

G. H. ASQUITH RESIGNS ACCEPTS PASTORATE

Valley Forge, Pa. (ABNS) Dr. Glenn H. Asquith, executive director, division of Christian publications, American Baptist Board of Education and Publication, has resigned to accept an invitation to become pastor of the First Baptist Church, Montclair, N. J. The resignation took effect Dec. 8.

our denomination in action

RELIGIOUS EMPHASIS AT FT. RILEY

FT. RILEY, KANSAS. Brig. Gen. Linton S. Boatwright signed a proclamation designating Jan. 14 through Feb. 9 as religious emphasis weeks at Ft. Riley. During the week, the first series of postwide one-day religious retreats will be held for 13,000 soldiers. Shown (above) at the signing of the proclamation are: (l. to r.) Chaplain P. Wallace, Brig. Gen. Boatwright, commanding general of Ft. Riley, and Chaplain Clinton E. Grenz, who is the North American Baptist Chaplain and coordinator and projects officer for the retreats.

Dr. W. Robert Smith, chairman of philosophy and religion at Bethel College and Seminary in St. Paul, Minn., will be the keynote Rally Day speaker Jan. 14. Maj. Gen. Benjamin O. Turnage, Jr., fifth Army Chief of Staff at Ft. Sheridan, Ill., will be the Rally Day dinner speaker.

Protestant retreatmasters for the four week period will be: Dr. Gerald L. Borchert, North American Baptist Seminary, Chaplain Douglas O. Jones, Pastor Paul D. Olson, Chaplain William A. Martin, Pastor Edgar M. Cooper, Chaplain Joseph H. Beasley, Dr. Roger L. Fredrikson and Dr. Ben Ladner.



CHRISTMAS HYMNS THEME

LEHR, N. D. A Harvest Mission Festival was held in the Ebenezer Baptist Church at Lehr, N. D., Oct. 1, with Rev. Jacob Ehman of Steamboat Rock, Iowa as the guest speaker in both services.

Rev. W. Dachtler of Minot, N. D., was the guest speaker for the recent evangelistic services, Oct. 2 through Oct. 13 in the church at Lehr. The meetings were well attended and one decision was made for Christ.

The Women's Missionary Society met in the church Friday evening, Dec. 1, for their annual Christmas party. Mrs. Ted Kranzler brought devotions—"Is There Still No Room?" The program theme was "Christmas in Song, Story and Picture." Mrs. Raymond Kessler was in charge. Mrs. Rudeow Ulmer sang "O Holy Night." The story of how various Christmas hymns came to be written was interspersed with group singing of several verses of each song. Illustrations of the hymns were flashed on a screen. Refreshments were served following the program. (Mrs. John Kranzler, reporter.)

SCHUENKE AND BERSTERIVELD MARRIED

MILWAUKEE, WIS. On Friday evening, Sept. 29, Airman Michael Schuenke and Miss Patricia Bersteriveld were united in marriage at Bethany Baptist Church, Milwaukee, Wis.

The groom is stationed in Iowa, where Mr. and Mrs. Michael Schuenke plan on making their home. (Barbara Meier, reporter.)

EVANGELIZE DURING HOSPITALITY WEEK

GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MICH. The evangelism committee of Grosse Pointe Baptist Church is looking forward to an unusual kind of effort for this coming spring. Instead of the usual services (which are not very well attended by people who are not Christians) we will have a Hospitality Week. On two successive Sundays the outside speaker will preach regular evangelistic sermons. On each of the week nights in between those Sundays the various fellowship groups will sponsor evangelistic suppers with a good program of music and fellowship, and the outside speaker will present the gospel right there at the tables.

These suppers will be occasions where every family in the sponsoring group is to bring guests. Hospitality Week will be our concentrated effort in winning our friends for Christ.

The advantage is this: time after time our evangelists have brought good sermons but the congregation was only the "faithful core of believers" with very few non-believers present. Unconcerned people simply will not come to "revival meetings." But they will come as guests of their friends to a nice supper and a good program. This was proved at our "Operation Andrew" functions. (Rev. Dale Ihrie, reporter.)

MINISTER TO PATIENTS

ANAHEIM, CALIF., BETHEL. On Nov. 21, the Women's Missionary Society held their general meeting at the Orange County Hospital. They brought gifts for the patients of the children's and psychiatry wards. They also played games with the patients and served refreshments. This program was a part of the year's theme: "The Added Touch." Ladies in charge of this program were Mrs. Donna Stevens, Mrs. Joyce Blake, and Mrs. Verna Ganstrom, chairman of the program committee. Several of the high school and the college girls also assisted with the games and entertainment in the children's ward. Mrs. Herbert Stabbert is this year's president. (Henry Hirsch, reporter.)

CHURCH MARKS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

JEFFERS, MINN. The Jeffers Baptist Church observed its 50th Anniversary Nov. 19 during morning and afternoon services. Former pastors who took part in the observance are Rev. Irving Conradson, now of St. Paul, and Rev. Howard Winkler of Lennox, S. D. Albert DeVries of Windom, only active charter member still living, was honored as king of the day.

The church history can be traced to the year 1907. The families of Abe DeVries and John F. Reinders moved to farms about four miles from Jeffers. They joined with another Baptist family, the Henry Smith's, and Christian families from other denominational backgrounds for German Bible studies in their homes. In 1909 the group began meeting in the new school house. Abe DeVries became the leader and preacher. In 1912 the Baptist families moved their worship services to another school house. They were soon joined by other Baptist families who had recently moved into the area: Claus Smith from Iowa, William Van Gempen from South Dakota, Claus Dooyen from Illinois and Jacob DeVries from Iowa.

Formal organization, identification with the German Baptist Conference, and initiation of a building program all took place in 1916. Land for the church structure was donated by Abe DeVries and John Reinders. Financial

assistance was given by churches in Iowa, Illinois and South Dakota. The church was dedicated in the summer of 1917. Rev. H. A. Stoughton, who was pastor of the Windom church, conducted evening services at Jeffers until the arrival of Rev. Irving Conradson, the church's first full-time pastor.

Three young men from the church have entered the ministry: Carl DeVries, John Dikkers and Cecil Siefkes. (Mrs. Jack Potter, reporter.)



THREE FINISH MEMORY COURSE

MILWAUKEE, WIS., BETHANY. On Scripture Memory Sunday in September, grand awards were presented to Carla Dudek, Raymond Lick and Christine Erbach, (l. to r. above). These three young people have completed the nine-year course and have received a picture of Christ. During the course they have stored the Word of God in their hearts so that in future years they will be able to recall these verses. (Barbara Meier, reporter.)

NINETEEN NEW MEMBERS

ANAHEIM, CALIF., BETHEL. In July Rev. Don Ganstrom baptized two young adults upon confession of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. On Dec. 3 two more young people followed the Lord in Baptism. Nineteen members have been given the hand of fellowship the last 11 months; eight have been received by letter and 11 by baptism. (Henry Hirsch, reporter.)

YOUTH STUDY LEADERSHIP

ANAHEIM, CALIF., BETHEL. On November 17-19, the senior high school youth participated in a Southern California Leadership Convention held at Forest Home, Calif. Over 400 youth shared in the inspirational seminars and discussion groups for three days. Jerry Hackett, youth director at Bethel, served as counselor. Eight Bethel high school youth participated. They returned to their church better prepared to serve as leaders among the youth and in the service of the Lord. (Henry Hirsch, reporter.)

SPECIAL EVENTS FILL BISON SCHEDULE

BISON, KAN., FIRST. We were hosts to the Kansas Christian Educational Workshop Oct. 26. The team consisted of Rev. G. K. Zimmerman, Rev. Karl Bieber, Rev. Donald Decker, and Rev. Bill Cowell. We had a very good turnout from almost all of our churches.

The first week of November we were hosts to God's Volunteers Team I, Rev. Edgar Klatt, director. We were greatly blessed and strengthened of the Lord through their songs and testimonies. Mr. Klatt's messages were very good and inspiring. One made a decision for Christ, and two indicated a desire to join the church. A number of our people made a public decision for a closer walk with the Lord. We thank the dear Lord for the many blessings he has given us the past year.

We closed the month of Nov. by taking part in a Missionary Conference. Our guests were Miss Patricia Heller, Rev. Harold Lang, Dr. J. C. Fluth and Mrs. Barbara Glewwe. We were blessed as we enjoyed everyone as they told us of their work and experiences in the mission fields. May God's blessings rest upon them. (Mrs. Edward Sell, reporter.)

STOCKTON HEARS DISTRICT SECRETARY

STOCKTON, CALIF. We at Swain Oaks Church, Stockton, were privileged to have Rev. Joe Sonnenberg our District Secretary with us Nov. 26. Mr. Sonnenberg's sermon topic for the morning worship service was "Enter His Courts With Praise." Following the service, a pot-luck dinner, planned by our church hostess Miss Anne Jantzen, was served by the ladies of the church. After the dinner Rev. Sonnenberg gave a devotional entitled "Enter Your Treasures In Heaven." It is always an inspiration and real blessing to have this dedicated servant of our Lord with us. (Walter Claypool, reporter.)

COLONIAL VILLAGE REMODELS

LANSING, MICH. Here at Colonial Village we are experiencing the blessings of the Lord. Our church edifice is being remodeled and redecorated. New 90 per cent sound proof folding doors are being installed. The entire church is being redecorated. New class room walls have been installed and wall to wall carpeting will cover 70 per cent of our church floor area. An additional church bus has been purchased and various pieces of equipment have been purchased to assist us in caring for the exterior of the church building, shrubs and lawn. We are thankful for God's leading and know these new additions will greatly assist us in our ministry here in our community. (Melba Penner, reporter.)

BAPTIZE TWELVE YOUTH

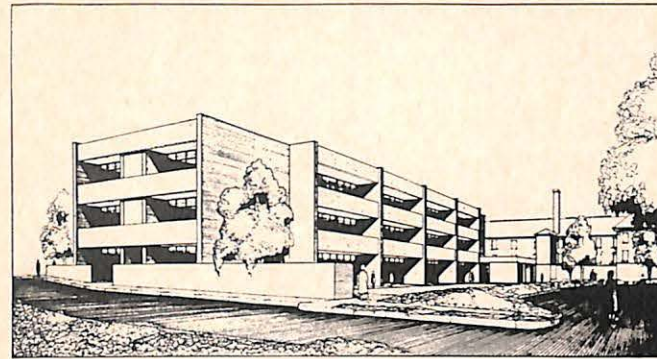
RAYMORE, SASK. The Raymore Baptist Church had the joy of witnessing the baptism of 12 of their young people on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 24. Those baptized by the pastor, Rev. Paul Mohninger, were Jerry Orthner, Barbara Orthner, Judy Berkan, Lorne Orthner, Donna Nicolson, Joyce Orthner, Dennis Jordan, Myrna Orthner, Beverly Jordan, Lloyd Orthner, Brian Jordan, Carolyn Stockdale. The hand of fellowship was extended to these young people the following Sunday morning, Oct. 1. (Mrs. Lois Mohninger, reporter.)



GERMAN WOMEN HAVE PRAYER MEETING

WINNIPEG MAN. November 6, 1967 the women of the German Baptist Churches of Winnipeg gathered for a prayer meeting at the Baptist Brethren Church in Winnipeg. The theme was "Our Beloved Dr. Luke" which was based on Colossians 4:14. Various women gave their interpretation of this passage which promoted reflection and a spirit of prayer. Also, the various musical selections and the warm fellowship led each one to express gratitude to God for such an opportunity. All joined in intercessory prayer to God.

The group also conducted some business. Upon the suggestion of Mrs. J. Stein of the McDermot Ave. Baptist Church the women decided to organize as a Woman's Missionary Union. The following officers pictured above were elected: (Seated from left to right) Mrs. J. Stein, President; Mrs. L. Kokot, Secretary (Standing from left to right) Mrs. Gottschling, Vice President; Mrs. G. Kaplun, Treasurer; Mrs. O. Hart, Committee Member; Mrs. L. Friesen, Committee Member. (Mrs. Lucy Kokot, reporter.)



HOME FOR AGED PLANS EXPANSION

PORTLAND, ORE. The Baptist Home for the Aged, Portland, Ore., recently signed a contract with John F. Jensen & Associate, architects in Portland, to complete working plans and specifications for a \$1,000,000 addition to the home. Construction is scheduled to begin in the spring of 1968. The architects' sketch is pictured above.

The new building will be 64' wide by 204' long, with three full floors and basement space to accommodate heating, laundry and storage needs. Each floor of the nursing home section will include a solarium, treatment room, dispensary, receptionist's desk and a walk-in bath for bedridden patients. All rooms and wards will have separate toilet facilities. Ground floor wards will have access to patios, second floor wards to balconies.

The third floor will provide 18 one-and two-bed apartments, each with kitchenette and bath facilities. In addition to balconies for each apartment there will be a day room.

With the much needed new addition, the home will be able to provide for up to 94 nursing home guests and from 135 to 150 retirement guests. (Samuel J. Rich, reporter.)



HOME FOR AGED DIRECTORS HONOR EARL MARKS

PORTLAND ORE. Earl Marks, for 30 years a member of the board of directors of the Baptist Home for the Aged was honored at the annual meeting of the corporation with a plaque recognizing his outstanding contribution to the home and certifying his honorary life membership on the board.

Sam Rich, chairman of the publicity committee, presented Mrs. Marks to receive the recognition on behalf of Mr. Marks, who retired from active membership because of failing health. President of the board, Victor Steinfeld, made the presentation. It reads in part: "In recognition of his dedicated leadership on the board of directors of the Baptist Home for the Aged as president, vice-president, trustee and committee member, we hereby

lovingly present to Mr. Earl A. Marks, Christian layman, respected business leader, youth leader, camp enthusiast, teacher, deacon, church moderator, man among men, an honorary membership on the board of directors of the Baptist Home for the Aged." (Samuel J. Rich, reporter.)

CHURCHES JOIN FOR TRAINING

SWAN RIVER, MAN. We of the Temple Baptist Church, Swan River, Man., were privileged to have Rev. Bruce Rich with us for an informative "Teacher Training Course." We used as our textbook "Preparing to Teach the Bible." The Minnetonka Baptist Church joined with us in studying this course. (Mrs. Dave Binder, reporter.)



SCRIPTURE MEMORY AWARDS GIVEN AT EBENEZER, VANCOUVER. At the regular Sunday School hour of the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Vancouver, B. C., on Sept. 10, 1967, it was our joy to present Scripture Memory Course awards to 127 scholars. Of this number, 85 also learned the extra honor verses. Nine of the Junior High scholars completed the course this year and are pictured above (l. to r.) Mrs. Frieda Zilke, sponsor; Douglas Sauer, Brenda Tiede, Douglas Maas, Ruth Witt, Wayne Semrau, Lorraine Hepting, Steven Klassen, Marlene Bayer, and Wayne Krause. For the children who participated in the course, attended Sunday School regularly, the Sunday School honored their faithfulness as follows: For participants of the Primary Department an all-day outing was held, and for those of the Junior and Junior High Departments a week of free camp was arranged for at our site at Westbank, B. C.

FIRST SERVICE AT HOUSTON

KYLE, TEX. Sunday, Dec. 3, presented a rare and special privilege to the members of the Immanuel Baptist Church of Kyle, when in a body they traveled 170 miles to attend the first service in the beautiful new extension church in Houston, Anderson Road Baptist Church, of which Kyle is the parent church. We were welcomed by the extension pastor, Rev. Elton Kirstein and family.

Lyle Grenz led the congregational singing. Children of the local group sang several choruses under the direction of Mrs. Kirstein, Mr. and Mrs. Grenz sang a duet, the Immanuel Choir, under the direction of Mrs. Walter Hill, sang "Surely Goodness and Mercy." Dr. William H. Barsh responded to the welcome extended to us and led in prayer. The morning message was delivered by Dr. J. C. Gunst, district secretary, on "The Church—Subject to Jesus Christ," Eph. 5:24.

Our hearts were thrilled to see this project almost completed, and we look forward to the day of dedication, when all furnishings will have arrived. We praise and thank God for His guidance in this outreach. A special thank you to the Southern Conference for undergirding this project so faithfully. Pray with us that this first extension church in the Southern Conference might grow and that other projects such as this will come about. To God be the glory.

A picnic lunch was enjoyed in the vacant house on the church property by over 100 well wishers in attendance. (Mrs. Emil Schmeltekopf, reporter.)

OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION MEETS

LOYAL, OKLA., ASSOCIATION. The Immanuel Baptist

tist Church of Loyal, Oklahoma was the host church of the annual session of the Oklahoma churches. The meetings opened on Friday, Nov. 3, with Rev. John Grygo as our guest speaker. We were privileged to have as our other guest speaker, Dr. J. C. Fluth, missionary doctor to the Cameroons. The theme developed by the speakers and our Oklahoma pastors was, "The Ministry of Reconciliation."

On Saturday morning, Adolph Kosanke, our moderator, conducted a business meeting to discuss adoption of a revised constitution that had been prepared by a committee with Rev. Karl Bieber, Okeene, as chairman. Officers selected for the 1968 Association are as follows: Archie Franz, moderator; Albert Hill, vice-moderator, and Mrs. Russell Winters, secretary.

After lunch served by the host church the Women's Missionary Union and Men's Fellowship had their meetings. We then met together in the sanctuary and listened as Dr. J. C. Fluth presented some of the varied problems that face the missionaries. During the evening meeting Dr. Fluth showed us some interesting pictures of his work in the Cameroons.

On Sunday afternoon the Oklahoma C.B.Y.F. was in charge of the meeting. Danny Geis, president, gave the welcome and introduced the speaker. Rita Gayle Franz, secretary, led the song service. Monte Laubach, vice-president, read the scripture and led in prayer. Dr. Fluth told of the urgent needs of the field. The young people were served supper and enjoyed a time of fellowship.

We, as a small group of churches, enjoyed many blessings during our association and are indeed thankful for this time of instruction and Christian fellowship. (Mrs. Russell Winters, reporter.)

LEARN OF AFRICAN CUSTOMS

EDMONTON, ALTA., MCKERNAN. The first church members and friends fellowship service for the McKernan Baptist Church was held Dec. 3, in the evening, to coincide with the visit of Miss Trudi Schatz, our Missionary to the Cameroons, Africa. Miss Schatz' resume of her three years' tour in Bansa challenged hearts and set the pace for the fellowship hour held in the social room for approximately 250 people. Our pastor Rev. C. Littman welcomed many friends and visitors to this special fellowship hour. Miss Schatz told us of fellowship customs among the African people. A presen-

MR. AND MRS. EUGENE MOHR HONORED ON GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

More than 300 members and friends gathered on November 24 to honor Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Mohr on their 50th Anniversary.

Kenneth Krueger, grandson of the pair, served as emcee for a short program. Mrs. Will Hardin, Sunday school teacher, adult class, gave a tribute to Mrs. Mohr. Marshall Miller, one of the deacons, spoke for the men

and pointed out some of the activities of Mr. Mohr as he has served the church and community.

Mr. Mohr served as a deacon of First Baptist Church for 21 years, as choir director for many years and, in the community, served on the school board for a number of years, many of these as chairman during an extensive building program. Pastor Bernard Edinger brought a brief message.

Mr. and Mrs. Mohr were married in Spokane, Wash., Dec. 14, 1917, by Rev. Chris Edinger (related to the present pastor) and have lived in the Colfax area all their married life. Two children were born to them, Irma Jean (Mrs. Paul Krueger) and Gerald, deceased.

Ending the program was a trio by the grandsons: Kenneth, Eugene, and Keith Krueger. All of the nine brothers and sisters of Mr. Mohr were present as also were the four brothers and sisters of Mrs. Mohr, coming from as far as Portland, Ore.

Congratulatory telegrams were received from American Baptist offices in Seattle, and from North American Baptist headquarters in Forest Park, Illinois. (Virginia Huber, secretary.)

tation was made to Miss Schatz by the Ladies Missionary Society. The Christmas gift was accepted toward the purchase of new equipment she would need on her return to the field. (L. Korella, reporter.)

COLLEGE STUDENTS GIVE PROGRAM

ABERDEEN, S. D., On Dec. 10, the Calvary Baptist Church was privileged to have about 25 college students of N.S.C. of Aberdeen, also Presentation College, who attend our church, put on a Christmas program. We praise the Lord for the growth of our church. We are thankful that our church can be a witness to our college students while they are attending school in the city. (Willard Tesky, reporter.)



CHARLES JOHNSONS MARRIED 65 YEARS

MILWAUKEE, WIS., BETHANY. On Sunday evening, Sept. 10, members of Bethany Baptist Church joined with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Johnson (above) in celebrating their 65th wedding Anniversary. A supper was given by the members of the church in honor of this occasion.

After supper there was a special program for Mr. and Mrs. Johnson. Mrs. Louise Erbach sang "Together." Our pastor, Rev. Walter Schmidt, read a poem on memories of married life. The church presented Mr. and Mrs. Johnson with a fruit basket as a remembrance of this milestone in their life together. (Barbara Meier, reporter.)



Mr. and Mrs. Eugene M. Mohr



Linda Radack and David Voigt completed the nine year Scripture Memory course and received the grand prize award at the Danzig Baptist Church, South Dakota. The presentation was made by the pastor, Rev. David Zimmerman. Miss Helen Bucholz is the chairman of the memorization program in the Danzig Baptist Sunday School. (Mrs. David Zimmerman, reporter.)

Obituary

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

ARTHUR JESKE

of Edmonton, Alberta

Arthur Jeske was called to his heavenly reward Dec. 2, 1967 at the age of 70 years. He was born and raised in the home of his godly parents in Lodz, Poland. As a teenager he responded to the invitation of Jesus and accepted him as personal Saviour. He was baptized by the late Rev. John Luebeck and received into the membership of the First Baptist Church of Lodz, Poland.

In 1921 he was united with Gisela Sturm in marriage. This union was blessed with four children, one of which preceded our brother into eternity.

Brother Jeske was a faithful member of the Central Baptist Church of Edmonton, ever since his immigration to Canada in 1926. He dedicated his time and talent to the Lord, singing the praises of Jesus in both the mixed and male choirs. He was a member of the board of deacons until the time of his death.

His mourning family members are: his wife, Mrs. Gisela Jeske; his two sons, Kurt and Harry and their wives; his daughter, Mrs. Ericka Brickenden and her husband; his 10 grandchildren; his sister and husband: Mr. and Mrs. Richard Zapf; and other relatives and friends.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."

Central Baptist Church

Edmonton, Alberta

RICHARD HOHENSEE, pastor

JOHN O. DISTLER

of Buffalo, New York

John O. Distler was born in Philadelphia, Pa. on Dec. 24, 1894, and died in his home on Oct. 1, 1967, after a long illness.

In 1922 Mr. Distler came to the Buffalo area as a Christian business man. His faithfulness to the Lord and his church is best revealed in the fact that he served as a most personable chief usher in the Bethel Baptist Church for 35 years. During this time he also served as chairman of the board of trustees, deacon, Sunday school superintendent, and men's Bible class teacher. Another of his interests was the Baptist Life Association of which he served as treasurer for many years. He faithfully guided the association's financial affairs during the depression days and until his death.

Mr. Distler's funeral was held privately Oct. 3 and a memorial service in Bethel Baptist Church was held on Sunday, Oct. 8.

Surviving are his wife, the former Irma B. Stumpf, a son Jack, and a daughter, Mrs. Kenneth Graham, all of Buffalo, and five grandchildren. Two brothers and four sisters also survive, residing in various parts of the United States.

Bethel Baptist Church

Buffalo, New York

W. E. CHRISTENSEN, pastor

MRS. DORIS KINGDON SCRIBNER

of Buffalo, New York

Mrs. Doris Kingdon Scribner was born in Batavia, New York, on Sept. 12, 1921, and died in Buffalo on Nov. 3, 1967 following an emergency operation.

Mrs. Scribner became a member of Bethel Baptist Church in 1963 and faithfully served as Sunday school teacher, devotional leader for both women's groups of the church, and church clerk until her death.

She is survived by her husband, Oliver D. Scribner, four daughters, Susan and Elaine of Buffalo, Mrs. Ellen Ruth of Bloomington, Indiana, and Mrs. Laurence Whitehead of Houghton, New York. Also surviving are her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Kingdon of Batavia, and one brother.

Bethel Baptist Church

Buffalo, New York

W. E. CHRISTENSEN, pastor

MRS. KATHERINE BACHERT

of Minneapolis, Minnesota

For 88 years, Mrs. Katherine Bachert, born of German parentage in Austria, was permitted to walk this earth before the

angel of death, knowing that her body was weak, tapped her on the shoulder and insisted that her time to go had come. Quietly, on Dec. 20, 1967, she slipped out of this life into the fullness of God's glory.

We are grateful for Mrs. Bachert's faith and trust in Christ; also, her many contributions in the life of the Faith Baptist Church where she was a faithful member. Mrs. Bachert talked a great deal of going to her Heavenly home. Now, we can very appropriately, say that she is "Home for Christmas."

She leaves to mourn her passing, six daughters, one son, five grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild, and, of course, a host of relatives and friends.

Faith Baptist Church

Minneapolis, Minnesota

DONALD N. MILLER, pastor

WILLIAM H. LOOF

of Santa Clara, California

William H. Loof was born the only son of Mr. and Mrs. August Loof on Dec. 11, 1886 near Holloway, Minnesota.

On June 25, 1911 Brother Loof was baptized in the first baptismal service held by the First Baptist Church of Corona, South Dakota, where he was a member for 48 years. He moved his membership to the First Baptist Church of Menlo Park, California in 1959. This was changed again, at his second marriage, when he joined the First Baptist Church of Monta Vista, California. A memorial service was held by his pastor, Rev. Joseph Green, in Monta Vista on the same day that his funeral was held in Corona.

Recently Mr. Loof suffered a series of heart attacks and was taken peacefully to his eternal reward on Dec. 17, 1967, at the age of 81 years and 6 days.

On October 9, 1912 William Loof married Miss Minnie Seabrandts. God blessed this marriage with seven children; twin daughters preceded their parents in death. On June 20, 1951 Mr. Loof suffered the death of his first wife. On August 1, 1959 he was married to Mrs. Elizabeth Pennington.

Left to mourn his passing are: his beloved wife, Elizabeth; his three daughters: Lola, Mrs. Henry Hoeke of Milbank, S. D.; Mable, Mrs. Jack Giesen of Aberdeen, S. D.; and Marie, Mrs. Louis DeBoer of Twin Brooks, S. D.; his twin sons: Herman of Milbank, S. D., and Harold of Corona, S. D.; 12 grandchildren; one great-grandchild; many other relatives and friends. May God bless all who miss Brother Loof's presence with the renewed assurance of His Divine Love.

First Baptist Church

Corona, South Dakota

LORIMER POTRATZ, pastor

LOUIS ENGELBRECHT

of Crawford, Texas

Louis Engelbrecht was born Nov. 12, 1900, near Crawford, Texas, and passed away Dec. 13, 1967, at the age of 67 years, one month, and one day. His life was lived on the farm of Prairie Chapel. On Aug. 29, 1915 he was baptized at the Canaan Baptist Church. He gave years of service as deacon, trustee, and even custodian of the church and graveyard in a peaceful, graceful way.

On Dec. 12, 1928, he married Miss Adelia Jacobs. She survives him. They were blessed with four children: Lt. Col. Louis E. Engelbrecht of Dayton, Ohio; Clarence H. Engelbrecht of Crawford; Frances, wife of Rev. Karl Bieber of Okeene, Okla.; and Angela, Mrs. Robert Polley of Lorena, Tex. He further leaves to mourn his nearly 93 year old father Henry; four sisters, Mrs. Lillie Niebuhr of Abilene, Tex.; Ella, Mrs. Henry Hodel, McGregor; Meta, Mrs. Arthur Schmettkopf of Kyle; and Marie, Mrs. Reinhardt Bieber of Mamou, La.; four brothers: Henry T., Marvin, Benny F. of Crawford; and Raymond of Waco; and nine grandchildren besides a host of relatives and friends.

Canaan Baptist Church

Crawford, Texas

OLIVER K. RINGERING, pastor

ROBERT GIEDD

of Washburn, North Dakota

Robert Giedd was born May 12, 1899 at Avon, South Dakota, and departed this life Nov. 12, 1967 as a result of a heart attack at the age of 68 years and 7 months. In 1915 he came with his parents to the Washburn community.

On Oct. 3, 1930 he married Natalie Gehring. They were blessed with three children: Roger, of Bismarck; Norman, who passed away in 1952; and Marco, Mrs. Harvey Wanner of Wishek.

Mr. Giedd came to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ in 1952 shortly after which he followed the Lord in baptism at the Washburn Baptist Church. He served as trustee. Preceding him in death were his son, his

parents, two sisters and one brother.

Mourning his passing are his wife, Natalie; one son, one daughter, four brothers: John of Lodi, Calif.; Albert and Fred of Washburn and Rudolph of Regan; three sisters: Emma, Mrs. Henry Pudwill; Bertha, Mrs. Matt Rothman; and Hulda, Mrs. John Rothman all of Washburn and 3 grandchildren.

May God grant to those who remain the comfort and presence of the Lord during this time of bereavement.

Washburn Baptist Church

Washburn, North Dakota

HARRY HAAS, pastor

MRS. BEN C. FRICK

of Durham, Kansas

Mrs. Ben C. Frick, nee Anna Socolofsky, was born in rural Tampa, Kansas Dec. 23, 1887, and passed away Dec. 9, 1967 at the age of 79 years, 11 months and 9 days.

She was united in marriage to Ben C. Frick September 6, 1911. This union was blessed with two daughters and one son.

Mrs. Frick accepted Christ as her personal Saviour in 1909 and was baptized in the Tampa Baptist Church, later transferring her membership to the First Baptist Church of Durham where she has remained faithful and active for many years. She was president of the Ladies' Missionary Society for 12 years. She was pre-school and first grade Sunday school teacher for over 25 years, besides many other duties. She will long be remembered for supplying many flowers for the church from her garden, and for her hospitality to guest speakers and pastors' families for whom she joyously provided lodging.

She leaves to mourn, her husband Ben, two daughters, Mrs. Virgil Sloan of Jackson, Wyo.; and Mrs. Lloyd Hein of Reedsport, Ore.; and one son Melvin of Durham, Kan.; six grandchildren; two sisters, Mrs. Julia Haas of Eston, Sask., Canada and Mrs. Amelia Gant of Turlock, Calif., besides a host of other relatives and friends.

Of her the Scripture is true, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them." Rev. 14:13.

First Baptist Church

Durham, Kansas

HENRY LANG, pastor

MRS. EMIL KOLASHEFSKY

of Madison, South Dakota

Mrs. Mathilda Kolashefsky was born in South Dakota May 6, 1882 and died at the home of her son in Brighton, Colorado.

She married Emil Kolashefsky in March 1915. She lived in Madison, South Dakota 53 years and was a member of the West Center Street Baptist Church, Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary and Spanish American War Veterans Auxiliary of which she was a past department president.

She was preceded in death by her husband and a stepson, Herman. Survivors are: two sons, Walter of Brighton, Colo., and Harold Koth of Poplar, Minn.; two daughters, Mrs. Eunice Southwick of Jamestown, N. D. and Mrs. Helen Spiering of Waterloo, Iowa, and step-daughter, Myrtle of California; 20 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

West Center Street Church

Madison, South Dakota

H. R. SCHROEDER, officiating pastor

RUTH CAROLINE KRUEGER

of Washington, D. C.

Ruth Caroline Krueger died unexpectedly Nov. 24, 1967. Miss Krueger was born Dec. 1, 1901 in Lake County, S. Dakota. She graduated from Madison High School, received a bachelor of science degree from General Beadle State College and a master's degree in library science from the University of Illinois in 1932. She held librarian and teaching positions in a number of state universities in this country before she accepted a position with the State Department as U.S. Information Agency librarian in 1950. She served in many foreign countries before returning to her last position in Washington, D. C.

Miss Krueger was a member of the West Center Street Baptist Church, Madison, S. D., Kappa Sigma Iota, American Library Association and American Association of University Women.

Survivors include a sister, Evelyn of Washington, D. C. and two brothers: George and Frederick of Madison. Her parents preceded her in death.

Funeral services were held in Washington, D.C. and in Madison.

West Center Street Church

Madison, South Dakota

H. R. SCHROEDER, officiating pastor

Message for BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE SUNDAY

February 4, 1968

As Baptists of all nations observe this Baptist World Alliance Sunday 1968, in their churches, their homes, in their private devotions, we are reminded that "there is one body and one Spirit, just as there is one hope to which God has called you. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: there is one God and Father of all men, who is Lord of all, works through all, and is in all" (Ephesians 4:4-6 TEV).

"Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love" has become the international anthem of the Baptists of the world. As we walk together and meet together we become increasingly aware of our oneness in the Lord Jesus Christ. But there is more to the function of our Baptist world fellowship than to meet together, as important and inspiring as that is. Our hymn continues: "We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear."

As a worldwide fellowship of Baptists, we are called to be Christ's ambassadors of reconciliation in our lost world filled with injustice, suffering, and strife.

Let us, therefore, continue to say that race prejudice is wrong in the sight of God. But let us also find practical ways to uproot it and end the discrimination it breeds.

Let us continue to say that war is an unchristian way to settle international problems and disputes. But let us also seek practical ways in which we can fulfill our ministry of reconciliation.

Let us continue to say it is not the will of God that one human being should perish. But let us also use the avenues we have to send bread to the hungry, give shelter to the homeless, and extend medical aid to those who are ill.

Let us continue to cry out against the moral decay which is eroding the foundations of our civilization. But let judgement begin with our own household.

Let us continue to lend support to crusades of evangelism. But let us also incorporate in them God's concern for the whole man.

Let us continue to recognize that Christ has earnest followers in other church bodies. But let us also hear their testimony and share with them our own.

On this significant day for Baptists, let us resolve to follow the counsel of the apostle Paul: "Fill your mind with those things that are good and deserve praise: things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and honorable. Put into practice what you have learned and received from me, both from my words and from my deeds. And the God who gives us peace will be with you" (Philippians 4:8, 9 TEV).

WILLIAM R. TOLBERT, JR., President
JOSEF NORDENHAUG, General Secretary
ROBERT S. DENNY, Associate Secretary
C. RONALD GOULDING, Associate Secretary
BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE

REPRINTED FROM THE BAPTIST WORLD

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

(Continued from page 16)

believe that with God all things are possible.

Questions for Discussion

(1) Can we recognize the false shepherds today? How can they be prevented from pretending to do Christ's work?

(2) Do you think that God is working through these ecumenical movements to bring about one fold?

(3) Are you experiencing all the blessings which the Shepherd provides? Have you more responsibilities than a sheep?

A TEACHING GUIDE

DATE: March 3, 1968

THEME: The Lord of Life and Death

SCRIPTURE: John 11:20-27, 38-44

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT: It is

not how long you live, but the quality of life you live that counts.

INTRODUCTION. At one time or another ministers have quoted a Quaker who said, "I'm going to live until I die, and then I'm going to live forever." This is a very simple Christian philosophy which is felt as well as expressed by every child of God. The Apostle Paul said, "If in this life only we have hope in God then we are of all men most miserable." Faith would be meaningless, for even the most paganized people in the world have some hope of eternal life. It is expressed by the Indians who dream of the Happy Hunting Grounds, the Buddhists of their Nirvana or the Mohammedans of their senuous heaven.

There are many people who lived to a ripe old age, found satisfaction in

life and were able to contribute much to the life of others. But there are others who had great talent and ability and were suddenly cut off before the world was aware of what they were able to do. These are the countless "unfinished symphonies," the "lost chords" who never heard the sound of a great "amen." Their best dreams and highest aspirations could never be fulfilled on earth. What a tragedy it would be if they had no other opportunity.

I. THE QUESTION OF LIFE OR DEATH. John 11:20-24.

The home in Bethany was made up of a loving trio until Lazarus died. The sorrow of the two sisters was unbearable because they were convinced that their brother's death could have been prevented if Jesus had been there. Martha's words sound almost like a rebuke. Of all the times for Jesus to be gone, this was the most inopportune. There may have even been a little feeling of resentment because they dispatched a messenger to Jesus who informed him that "he whom thou lovest is sick." No word of encouragement was sent back to Mary and Martha, and Jesus deliberately delayed his return for two more days even though he had no pressing problems to keep him away. All this time the two sisters were convinced that their brother's death was due to Jesus' absence.

II. THE ASSURANCE OF ETERNAL LIFE. John 11:25-27.

Martha's faith in Jesus was born of experience, and even now when he returned there was a hint of a request in her statement: "Whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee." She believed that the situation was not beyond the Master's control, but she was not ready to accept fully the dramatic statement which Jesus made. Ultimate salvation included the resurrection in the last day which Jesus as well as the Pharisees believed. An immediate resurrection was strange and improbable to her.

III. THE LORD OF LIFE AND DEATH. John 11:38-44.

Jesus added something more which included both a physical and spiritual resurrection. It included the present and the future. Wherever Christ is present then death is overcome and life flows in. This happens here and now in the experience of Christians. Lazarus, like all men, must make his exit from this world. His physical resurrection was only temporary, but his spiritual resurrection everlasting.

Questions for Discussion

(1) What is the difference between the teaching on the resurrection and the teaching on immortality?

(2) Does it make much difference whether we live a few years more or less on the earth?

(3) Jesus said to his disciples, "Greater works shall ye do." What is greater than bringing a man back to life?

SCANDINAVIA

Amsterdam, Berlin (West & EAST), Copenhagen, Stockholm, Oslo, Bergen, Wonderful 3 Day Norwegian Fjord Excursion—17 Days, Lv. July 29—Almost All Expense.

HOLY LAND & EUROPE

Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Hebron, Jericho, Bethany, Megiddo, Nazareth, Cana, Tiberias, Capernaum, Acre, Haifa, Tel Aviv, Jaffa etc., Istanbul, Ephesus, Athens, Rome, Venice, Milan, Lucerne, Paris, London. 3 Weeks, Lv. July 9, Deluxe & First Class Hotels, Most Meals.

Write: Berger Christian Tours, 5636 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, Calif. 91401