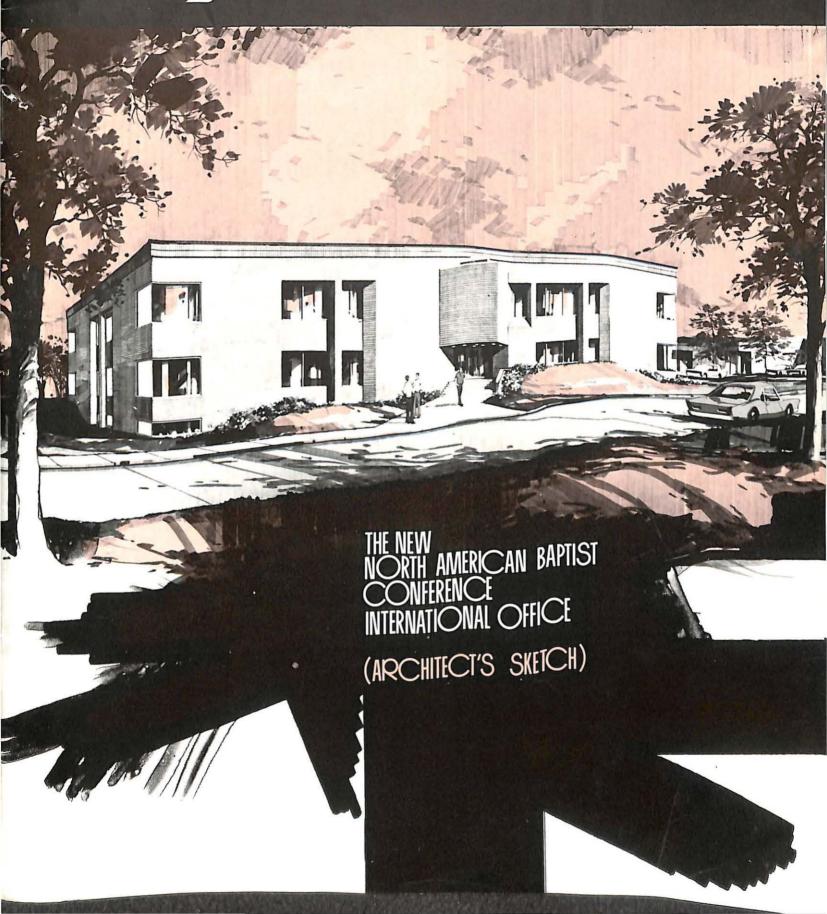
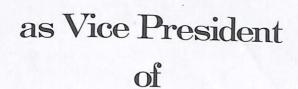
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MRS. THELEA (PELMAR) WOSSO O R

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Baptist World Alliance

Among twelve vice presidents, the delegates to the 13th Baptist World Congress elected a North American Baptist, Mrs. Thelea Wesseler, wife of the Conference moderator Delmar Wesseler.

Mr. David Y. K. Wong, an architect and engineer of Hong Kong, was elected as the first lay president in the history of the Baptist World Alliance. Wong succeeds V. Carney Hargroves of Philadelphia, Pa., an ABC clergyman, and will serve a five year term.

The twelve chosen vice presidents are from the following countries: Australia, Brazil, Jamaica, Japan. Liberia, Kenya, Sweden, USA and USSR.

Mrs. Wesseler, of Lorraine, Kansas, is well qualified for the position to which she has been elected. She served as the president of the Women's Missionary Union of the N.A.B. during the years 1964-1967. She also was the chairperson of all WMU activities during the Triennial Conference at Wichita, Kansas.

Mrs. Wesseler's involvement in Conference affairs dates back to 1958, when she assumed the role as WMU Program Packet editor (1958-61). From 1961-64 she was the editor of BROADCAST. During her WMU presidency from 1964-67 she served also on the Long Range Planning Committee and on the General Council. From 1967-73 she was simultaneously a member of the Merger Study Committee and of the Board of Missions.

When the North American Baptist Women's Union of the Baptist World Alliance met in Toronto in 1972, Mrs. Wesseler was the program chairperson. In Toronto she was elected as Woman at Large (1967-72). For the pre-Congress Women's Union sessions of the BWA she served as the leader of a symposium.

Mrs. Wesseler, a mother of two boys, is also quite actively involved in her own church, the First Baptist Church of Lorraine, where she has been a member of the Board of Christian Education.

The BAPTIST HERALD readers congratulate Mrs. Thelea Wesseler to the new position and wish her God's guidance and wisdom, as she will be representing North American Baptists in the Baptist World Alliance. R.J.K.



Mrs. Thelea Wesseler



Mr. David Y. K. Wong, BWA President

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FIRST BAPTIST COLLEGE CHARTERED BY RHODE ISLAND

PROVIDENCE, R.I., March 1, 1764 (BP)-Rhode Island College, Baptists' first institution of higher learning, has been granted a charter by the state legislature. The school will be a Christian college open to students "of all denominations or no denomination."

Because Baptists have seldom been received in other colleges, it is gratifying that they should welcome students of other denominations, a spokesman said. It was to be expected that Baptists should turn to Rhode Island in seeking a charter as this state has been a haven of religious liberty since the days of Roger Williams.

While the charter stipulates that the president and a majority of the trustees shall be Baptists, other officials will be selected from representative denominations in the state. A number of professors also will be selected "indifferently of any or of all denominations."

The charter said that religious tests "shall never be admitted" into the institution. "On the contrary, all members shall enjoy free absolute and uninterrupted liberty of conscience," it declares. "The places of professors and all other officers, the president alone excepted, shall be open for all denominations of Protestants. Youths of all religious denominations shall be admitted to equal advantages and honors."

The first Baptist college is expected to be located at Warren with Manning likely to be named the first president. [(A Bicentennial Feature by the S.B. Historical Commission.)

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by Gideon K. Zimmerman

Why do we need a new N.A.B. Conference office building? This is a very valid question for any North American Baptist to ask at a time when other mission needs are so great here at home and overseas. This is the same question that many church members ask about the old church building which still looks good and is useful, but is being sold and funds are expended for new facilities because circumstances required it. Just as with a church we have a lot of sentimental connections, so also with the present office building. If you try to visualize what I plan to state in the next few paragraphs, you may understand better why the General Council decided a year ago that we move forward with plans to acquire a new Conference office, and why the General Council in June 1975 voted overwhelmingly to proceed with the construction.

When I became executive secretary seven years ago it would have seemed ridiculous for anyone to even suggest that within seven years we would break ground for a new office. Such plans seemed decades away! Not so. Community changes came about so rapidly that persons who came to the office for meetings from out of town had to point out these changes to us who lived and worked there. I remember one layman, who two years ago said

Dr. Gideon K. Zimmerman is executive secretary of the North American Baptist Conference. He is also chairman of the Conference Building Committee.

to me, "It's later than we think." Furthermore he pointed out, "we can't keep putting money into the present building when we know the limitations of our facilities and how rapidly the services formerly provided in the community are being reduced or are disappearing." You have heard that the office is relocating but have not been given much information about the why. This article seeks to give you some of the information.

Lodging in Forest Park for the many committee members who come to our office have been rapidly decreasing. Hotels which were known nationwide for lodging and business conferences have suddenly been losing their customers to new facilities in other areas of Greater Chicago, in particular to the airport area. Our local hotels in the Forest Park—Oak Park area are now majoring on having permanent guests, which has lessened the usual services provided. The services of public transportation to and from the airport, which at one time were very excellent, have almost totally been discontinued. Some committee members of recent years could help fill a small booklet on frustrating taxicab rides from the airport to and from our office, let alone the hassle over the meter and one-half fare, because our office is located two blocks away from the straight-fare boundary.

Our present facilities are located on land measuring 100 x 120 feet. On so limited an area of 12000 sq. ft. of land you can readily see that parking is very, very limited. In fact, it would meet only 25% of the required

parking area if the present office building were to be erected in a new community.

Those of you who have been to our Forest Park office know that there are really two buildings joined together. The old building, which was a Chinese laundry and restaurant up until 1944, was purchased at that time by our Conference and converted into office facilities. I personally recall visiting our office in 1943 when it was still located above a bank building one block away. It consisted of about four or five rooms, and were they small! Relocation was really a must. In 1946 I was at our office for some meetings, and I walked through the area of the newly purchased building which was being partitioned for the new Conference office. These facilities served us quite well until 1958 when it was decided to erect a new addition right next door. This building measures 50 x 100 ft. with room for six cars behind the building. One wonders now why the village fathers did not have more vision about parking codes. All-day nonmetered street parking was still available then compared to 10¢ an hour meter parking presently.

Another factor which I have already alluded to was the need to spend money on renovating our present facilities. While that section of our office which was built in 1959 is still a very good building, the older section would require very extensive repair. To provide the needed additional parking space would cost considerable money. Furthermore, if we anticipate growth in the Conference, as we have experienced it in the past several decades, additional office space is needed.

One further directive which came to the Grand Council was from several associations which adopted resolutions asking the General Council to make a feasibility study regarding relocation of the office. These resolutions were considered by the General Council in 1973 with the result that the Conference Property Committee was appointed to act as the Relocation Study Committee. This committee began a feasibility study as to the relocation of the Conference office. There were numerous meetings and consultations with agencies, such as the Area Development Department of Continental Bank of Chicago. This agency was chosen since North American Baptists have been served by Continental Bank for decades. We were provided with information based on research regarding trends of business and office centers in the Greater Chicago area as well as trends in changing communities, which will affect the availability of adequate hotel facilities and access to public out-of-town transportation.

The Relocation Committee proposed a study of several areas outside of Forest Park, which included the western suburbs of Chicago; Minneapolis (St. Paul), Minnesota; Sioux Falls, South Dakota; and Denver, Colorado. The committee investigated comparisons of cost of living, cost of services, cost of commercial real estate and construction, the availability of transportation and other related needs which would be peculiar to our international office operation. The results of this study revealed that there was not a great deal of difference in the total cost factors, such as land, construction cost, service costs and employees' salaries. Several other factors were identified as pertinent to our relocation plans. We considered factors

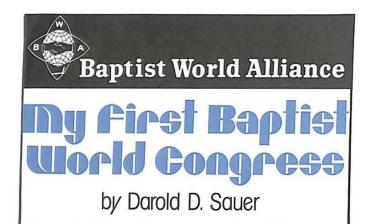
such as our centrality to churches of the North American Baptist General Conference; the relations between our Conference office and our educational institutions, the North American Baptist College and Seminary; constituency involvement, the ability to draw talents from the surrounding areas without hardship of travel; relationships with other similar organizations; the availability of international sources; socio-economic trends of the area; availability of educational and cultural opportunities; integration of relocating North American Baptist staff into local churches; transportation for staff or committee members and missionaries; and operational cost in the respective areas. Additional factors being considered with respect to the choice of the site were accessibility to airport facilities and highways, transportation for guests, hotel and motel facilities, restaurants, mail service, trucking services and parking facilities.

There were many meetings of the Relocation Committee where the various possible locations were discussed in relationship to the factors listed above. The Relocation Committee as a whole as well as subcommittees inspected properties, including vacant land, buildings for sale and offices for leasing. After weighing carefully and prayerfully the needs for our office, which serves as an international office, it was agreed to recommend that the Chicago area continue to be the location of our Conference office. Information on more than 100 possible sites in the Chicago area was secured, including personal visits to many of these locations. After much discussion and continued evaluation it was recommended to the General Council via the Finance and Stewardship Committee that the property located at 14th Street and Summit Avenue in Oakbrook Terrace be purchased. The action of the Relocation Committee was by unanimous vote. The recommendation to purchase this site and to engage an architect was voted upon by the General Council in January of 1975. The General Council also appointed the Relocation Committee members to become the Building Committee. An architect was engaged to design plans for the new office facility.

The detailed planning by the Building Committee and the subcommittee of the Building Committee resulted in the completion of architectural drawings and specifications which were submitted to seven carefully selected building contractors for bids. These bids were received just prior to the General Council sessions in June 1975. We were very pleased that the bids came to a much lower figure than we had originally estimated basing our projections on building costs of a year ago. It is very evident that, had we received bids on the proposed building 12 to 18 months ago, the cost would have been between 20 and 30% higher.

The General Council in session on June 14, 1975, approved the recommendation of the Building Committee to proceed with the construction of the new building based on the total cost of approximately \$830,000. The land had previously been purchased for \$197,000. With the additional cost for legal fees, architect fees, furnishings and moving, the total project will cost about \$1,175,000. However, only \$875,000 will be needed in new monies since about \$300,000 is available from the

(Continued on page 31)



"If any man be in Christ he is a new creature, old things are passed away behold all things are become new" (II Cor. 5:17).

"New people for a new world through Jesus Christ." The above mentioned scripture verse and the theme derived from it greeted delegates and visitors to the 13th Baptist World Congress in Stockholm, Sweden, July 8-13, 1975.

The site for the Congress proper was St. Erik's Mässan at Älvsjö, a suburb of Stockholm. This massive Center for cultural activities and fairs was reached by most delegates by train, which meant a ride of approximately seven minutes duration from the Central Station in Stockholm. We gradually came to enjoy this trip to and from the Mässan more, once we learned to use proper timing to avoid crowding and long queues. It seemed that all 10,000 delegates wanted to catch the first train back to Stockholm after the sessions or at lunch hour. It was, I'm certain, an interesting and novel experience for the Swedes, who normally use these trains, to see the crowds of "foreigners" and hear them speaking many different languages, yet all wearing the Baptist World Congress pins and name tags and all joining in the hymn singing as we made our way to our hotel.

First on the agenda for newly arrived delegates was familiarizing of oneself to the Central Station, then to the Mässan where Congress Packets were given to all who registered. These packets were invaluable in providing much information relative to the Congress. Also at the Mässan one found banking facilities, tourist information, souvenirs, a book and craft shop, a variety of eating places, the Congress hall where the major sessions were held, and all the areas where study and discussion sessions took place.

The Congress officially opened at 7:30 P.M. on Tuesday, July 8th, when thousands of delegates and guests crowded the auditorium. The initial gathering was graced by the presence of His Royal Highness Prince Bertil of Sweden who sat among the congregation. Also present and addressing the congregation were the Prime Minister of Sweden, Mr. Olaf Palme; the president of the Stockholm City Council, Mr. Ewald Johanneson; Archbishop Olof

Mr. Darold D. Sauer is pastor of the Balgonie Baptist Church, Balgonie, Saskatchewan. He is also principal of Thomson School in Regina, Saskatchewan.



Sundby of Uppsala, representing the State Church of Sweden (Lutheran); and Mr. David Lagergren, general secretary of the Baptist Union of Sweden. Each of these men made very fitting remarks.

On opening night, as in all the services throughout the Congress the music of the Swedish Choir, the Congress Choir, the guest choirs, the other guest musicians and, of course, the congregation was outstandingly beautiful, artistic and uplifting. The songs were all sung with intensity and fervor that comes from not only knowing the words but the subject of which one is singing.

The roll call of nations was done alphabetically by continents, whereupon the representative of each country named came forward, usually in national dress and, in his or her native language, recited the theme verse from II Cor. 5:17. This presentation was enhanced by two large screens, one on each side of the platform at the front, on which were pictured the geographical locations of the countries named. Just under ten thousand delegates had registered before that service and more arrived on the following days. I counted seventy-seven countries whose representatives came forward; responding to the roll call.

I was impressed that Baptists have representation in more countries and territories than any other Protestant denomination. What an opportunity and challenge our Lord has given to us!

Our Baptist World Alliance President, V. Carney Hargroves, then gave the keynote address. The session was lengthy, but well-planned and of excellent quality. It was an exhilerating beginning to a wonderful Christian experience!

I shall continue chronologically because that is how most of my impressions were formed and I am really not interested in being a "disorganized saint."

Wednesday, July 9th set the basic pattern for the four full day sessions, beginning with the 9:00 A.M. Bible Studies conducted by leaders and teachers from the various Baptist groups around the world. There was a Bible class for everyone, for while the Congress was conducted in English, with simultaneous translation into five major languages, the Bible studies were conducted in English, French, German, Portuguese, Swedish, Russian and Spanish. The messages, discussions, prayers and the singing were enlightening and uplifting. The groups were small enough so that all who wished could take part in



An exciting view of an exciting city, Stockholm

the discussion and the prayers.

During the next session that morning, Dr. Richard Schilke, chairman of the Commission on Evangelism and Missions, together with his committee, very capably outlined for the Congress, by means of interviews, the work

A panel discussion followed; and the afternoon disof the Commission. cussion groups divided up as they had for the Bible studies to discuss the topics of the morning.

The evening session provided a full and informative program—one area was called "Celebration and Commitment," presented by the World Mission of Reconciliation. Dr. E. Hill of the U.S.A. brought a stirring message from God's Word after which a masterpiece of musical drama entitled, "Reconciliation," written by Ed Seabough, inspired each one, as it unfolded the Christian message

I felt the highlight of Thursday was the eye-witness report on Baptist Relief in the World, given in the evening service through testimonies and slide presentations, which left indelible impressions on most in attendance. The subsequent call for action in the face of ever increasing need and our spiritual responsibility to those in need around us together with the receiving of and offering for Baptist World Relief culminated this gripping service.

As a member of the North American Baptist General Conference, I was proud to be associated with the Rev. John Binder and Dr. R. Kerstan who so ably led an English and a German Bible study session (respectively) on Friday morning. That noon, many of the North American Baptist General Conference delegates met together for fellowship in an Old Town restaurant.

In the evening we were given two choices—to spend an evening in a Swedish home or to attend a musical concert at the Mässan. My wife and I chose to visit a Swedish home and we were not disappointed. A warm welcome, smorgasbord, fellowship (there were 16 other guests as well), musical entertainment by local talent and an opportunity for each to share God's love in his life. Our host was a patent inspector for the Swedish government, and his wife the personnel director for a large firm. They owned a lovely two bedroom apartment which was modern, spacious and tastefully decorated. Both were radiant Christians and invited us to extend our visit beyond the suggested two hours. We then enjoyed a short Bible study on the Congress theme followed by a season

of prayer. We were particularly enjoined to remember our Baptist brethren in lands where religious liberty was denied them. Truly, we found that Christ removes the barriers which could be natural and normal in separating us. What a fellowship! Those who attended the concert came home singing its praises—so, no matter what choice one made-it was a good one.

Saturday's highlight, and perhaps the highlight of the entire Congress for me, was the Communion Service conducted from 2:00-4:00 P.M. in all of Stockholm's seven Baptist churches. All delegates were invited to share this witness of unity in Jesus Christ. The message of Christ's love was given simply and seemed to bind together the theme of the past five years, "Reconciliation", and that of the next five years: "New People . . . through Jesus Christ." After some beautiful musical numbers both by congregation and soloist and the presentation of the Communion passage of Paul in I Cor. 11 we prayerfully waited on the Lord. As we shared the common loaf and the common cup, the messages we had shared in word and song came to new vitality. We parted assured we were "new people for a new word, through Jesus Christ"—and Him alone!

Open air meetings were also conducted during the evenings of the Congress in the city parks and squares as an act of witness for Jesus Christ. Saturday evening the Swedish television coverage of the open air service was carried live on national television as a public service. Excellent coverage of the entire Congress was given by the Swedish media. For this I praise God, for in the Scandinavian countries as in most of Europe relatively little is known of Baptist Christians; so, I am certain, a very positive witness was left wherever the delegates visited—and all because of the Baptist World Congress in Stockholm!

We who attended the Congress truly feasted at a Smorgasbord of spiritual opportunities. I am pleased that the theme was Christ, the messages were Christ-centered, the music was Christ-honoring and all the praise and the glory for the Congress and what it accomplished are His too. I am grateful that my wife and I were privileged to attend.

Impressions of the Congress would be incomplete if I did not mention the fine group with whom we attended the Congress and spent three exciting weeks in six countries of Europe. This group was led by the Rev. John Binder and included a total of 25 persons whom we came to know and love in the Lord.

The theme from II Cor. 5:17 has become ever more meaningful as I continue to contemplate it.

New People—because of Jesus Christ!

New World—through Jesus Christ!

All Glory—to Jesus Christ!

The Congress did not solve all, or even many of the problems confronting mankind, nor did it purport to do so, but it did strengthen our faith in and our allegiance to him who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. It also helped us to witness to one another and to encourage our lonelier, weaker or more isolated and persecuted brethren. It was also a mighty witness to an unsaved world; a witness that there is hope, an answer to man's dilemma—a new man and a new world—through Jesus Christ!

Church om the Ship by William M. Sturhahn

From the moment we heard of the planned charter cruise by German Baptists by ship on the Baltic Sea, we realized that considerable excitement would await us, if we could join. The cruise, which is now history, surpassed our expectations in Christian joy, and probably also in disappointments, but the latter we shall keep to ourselves.

Whoever originated the concept of "Church on the Ship" in connection with the cruise must have been Godinspired, for it was this Church on the Ship (Gemeinde auf dem Schiff), which gave substance and control to the entire venture. The ultimate purpose of the cruise being convenient attendance of the Baptist World Congress in Stockholm, Sweden, it will seem to me that there were other experiences and factors which surpassed Stockholm in excitement and spiritual joys; although by this I will in no wise minimize the magnificent program and meetings of the Baptist World Congress.

The MV "Estonia", a Russian cruise ship, our home for the full two weeks, was also to serve as our hotel while in Stockholm. Unfortunately the ship docked at least a mile from the nearest public transportation place. The walk over rough terrain to the nearest subway (T) station, called "Slussen", and the change at Central station to another train were not only time consuming, but until we had found our bearing in the many subterranean tunnels and passageways, it was hard on feet, nerves and patience. This inconvenience distracted from the great gatherings of the B.W.A. Congress at "St. Erik's Mässan."

Before telling of various incidents and experiences let me give you a short background report of our participation—since, after all, we were not German Baptists. A year ago a relative from Germany told us of plans and programs which by that time were well advanced. In October 1974, in Vancouver, my brother Herbert and two sisters, Hanna Blessin of Chelan, Wash., and Agnes Hiller with spouses decided to join to a travelling octette and seek participation on the cruise "Gemeinde auf dem

Dr. William H. Sturhahn is the former Northern Area Secretary. He lives in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Schiff." The German Baptist travel agent, H. Plikkert of Hamburg, was kind enough to accept our booking, and on July 2 the eight Canad-americans boarded the MV "Estonia" in Travemuende, Germany, for an adventurous trip. We were surprised and pleased to greet two additional Canadians, the Rev. H. Gartmann of Kitchener, Ont., and the Rev. W. Wieschollek of St. Catharines, Ont., as fellow travellers.

How did we ten visitors fit into the Church on the Ship for the two weeks? After all, the members of the Sturhahn octette had been gone from Germany for 48 years. No doubt, our language betrayed us as "Auslaender", but the Spirit of Christ united us as brethren. But let no one think that this was an easy task! Not only did we Canadians differ in culture and interpretation, but among the German congregation were people of many "Laender" and with various dialects: They had come from Berlin, from Austria and from Westphalia; they were there from the southern part, Wuerttemberg, and from the north, Hamburg, Schleswig-Holstein; and among them were wide differences of temperament and dialect. In addition we had the pleasure of fellowship of the Rev. Otmar Wehr, pastor of a German Baptist congregation in Brazil.

The four men, who had been entrusted with the gigantic task of kneading a church—a body of Christ—out of this group of people, within a short time of two weeks, did a remarkable job. Herewith my personal gratitude to the Rev. Harold Eisenblaetter of Berlin, to the Rev. Horst Borkowski of Duesseldorf, to Prof. Siegfried Liebschner of the Hamburg Baptist Seminary and to Studienrat Alfred Mueller-Popkes for their prayerful efforts by preaching admonishing and counseling to make this church a witness before the ship's crew, people from the irreligious socialistic world. During the entire trip crew members not only observed the religious meetings, but above all, observed the behavior at tables, on the decks, in the lounges and in the shops. I believe that the communion service, held in the ship's lounge on the evening before the end, was not only a fitting climax to the church, but was observed by young crew members. One young man told me

after this service: "I hope that you were not disturbed by anti-religious propaganda. There are atheists on this ship who have spread the story that religious people are subnormal persons. We have learned differently." Incidentally, this young man accepted a Bible as farewell present.

What did this church on the ship do? During travel on sea, there were meetings with lively singing, short, but pungent messages and much prayer. Group Bible discussions proved helpful and character forming. We know of several examples where an attitude of selfish interest at table was changed to one of considerate and Christ-like humbleness.

Probably of unforgettable value were the tours undertaken by the church on the ship in the three ports: Gdynia-Gdansk, Leningrad and Helsinki. To former "Ostpreussens", the visit in former Danzing with an extended tour of the "Marienburg" was exciting if not a bit nostalgic. The city of Gdansk was rebuilt after the war, the land south of Gdansk, known as a rich agricultural area, formerly owned by large estate holders, was now under the socialist system, with a few small farmers still operating side by side to the communal farm operations.

A thirty-eight kilometer trip took us to the famous castle "Marienburg", erected in the twelfth century by German knights who returned from the Crusades, and here found lands to conquer. This fruitful soil has throughout the centuries absorbed much blood in wars and conflicts—vacillating from Russian to German to Polish political control.

The climax of our cruise came, however, on a Saturday and Sunday, when the church on the ship was invited to worship with the Baptist church in Leningrad. We had an option to attend one of the three regular worship services—Saturday evening, Sunday morning or Sunday afternoon. Our ship was to continue its voyage at 6 P.M., thereby eliminating attendance at the Sunday evening service. It is difficult, if not impossible to condense experience, emotions and happenings in a few sentences. In many respects it was so different from our western service, in other respects there was a deep kinship through the Spirit of Jesus Christ. The Leningrad church has a membership of 3,000, with an annual growth of 80-100 people, according to a summarizing report given by the pastor of the church. Since this is a state-registered

church, the state was obliged to assign a church building, which to us appeared to be a small, former Greek Orthodox church building, situated on the outskirts of the million city.

What a privilege we have to be able to drive an automobile, or at worst, to ride a bicycle to church. With the eighty to ninety visitors from the church on the ship, the little church was crowded even for standing room in the aisles. This was not an ordinary worship service because of visiting guests. Four visitors brought not only a short three minute greeting, but by definite request gave a short message from the Bible. Every message was interpreted either into Russian or into German. The choir of about thirty singers brought four heart-stirring anthems, most of which were in the typical soft, minor key, but sung with power and conviction. The congregation sang three times—no number was announced, since there were not more than a dozen hymnals in the congregation. Judging by sound and participation, we guessed that these were songs of praise and thanksgiving.

Prayer was not a sedate, well-versed presentation of a standing congregation, but seemed like cries of souls to the everpresent Lord, with people kneeling, sitting or standing. For two hours and 45 minutes we sat, listened and participated, and there was not one boring moment or wish that "it were over." My personal apologies to the three pastors and twenty assistants of the Leningrad Baptist church for my failure to secure their names, which are doubtlessly listed with the unknown millions of "heroes of the faith" in Hebrews 11.

Some interesting minor incidents in connection with this Leningrad church visit will better remain unsaid. Since our ship was our hotel and home while in Leningrad, there was strict military passport control in coming and going; and when on the following morning our ship docked in the Helsinki harbor of Finland, we were amazed to hear the announcement, "The ship has been cleared, all passengers are free to go on land."

The "Church on the Ship" disbanded after the final Communion Service. To us this venture by German Baptists gave vital and clear facts about the Body of Jesus Christ: The true church of the Lord is not confined by narrow ethnic or language bounds; it embraces people of many cultures, languages and personalities, bound together by the unfathomable grace in Jesus Christ.

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in memoriam



Martha M. Leypoldt 1918-1975

DR. MARTHA M. LEYPOLDT, friend and coworker with many North American Baptists, died on Tuesday, July 15, after a long illness. She had last served as professor of Christian Education at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, Pa.

Born on Oct. 2, 1918, in Hanover, Ontario, Canada, Martha was the twin daughter of the North American Baptist minister John Leypoldt. She grew up in parsonages in Hanover, Ont.; Winnipeg, Man.; Detroit, Mich.; Cleveland, Ohio; and Portland, Oregon. She took her B.A. at Linfield College in Oregon, received an M.R.E. degree from Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, Oak Brook, Ill.; and an M.A. degree from the University of Chicago. Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind., granted her the Ed.D. degree in the field of Adult Education.

During the past three decades, Martha's career spanned high school teaching, editorial work for Christian education publications; director of Christian education at Bethel Baptist Church, Anaheim, Calif.; professor of Christian Education and registrar at North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, S.D. (1955-66); and professor of Teaching Ministry at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

She was directly involved in numerous Adult Christian Education workshops and seminars, camps and conferences in many places across the United States and Canada.

Dr. Leypoldt belonged to several professional associations, and served the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches.

Among her writings are two books, published by Judson Press: "Forty Ways to Teach in Groups" and "Learning is Change."

She leaves three sisters, Ann L. Koppin, Esther M. Bourziel and Mary, who serves on the Board of International Ministries of the American Baptist Church/USA., and one brother, John.

The funeral took place on July 18 in Devon, Pa. The Rev. Chester T. Winters was the officiating minister.

Martha was known for her great joy of life and her untiring zeal in furthering the quality of Christian education. Her long sickness deepened her faith in her Heavenly Father in whom she trusted and who has now called her Home.

Memorial contributions may be sent to the North American Baptist Seminary, 1605 S. Euclid Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57105, designated for the Martha Leypoldt Memorial Fund. □

A Tribute to Dr. Martha Leypoldt by Gideon K. Zimmerman, executive secretary

An imaginative, creative and motivating spirit characterized Martha Leypoldt as a co-worker for Christ. Her participation in committees at the Conference office and N.A.B. Seminary were always valuable experiences. Sometimes she seemed ahead of conventional ways, a characteristic of persons who are forward-looking. Many constructive achievements in our Conference pertaining to Christian education came from Martha. She continues to minister through those whom she trained and worked with. We are greatly indebted to God that she could put into print her creative ideas such as the book "40 ways to Teaching in Groups". This book has received wide use even to the extent of being translated into the German language.

We are indebted to God for Martha's ministry within our Conference as well as her labors in other Christian circles. Her ideas in Christian education objectives will continue to influence those who had the opportunity to study under her. The impact of her creativity will also find expression in the lives she influenced. Her early departure from this life is a loss to all of us. We shall long remember Martha as a faithful, dedicated and devoted servant of God. \square

We Are Richer for Her Ministry

by Roy Seibel

Dr. Martha Leypoldt and I joined the Seminary faculty in the Fall of 1955. During the 11 years that followed I learned to know her well as a colleague and as a friend.

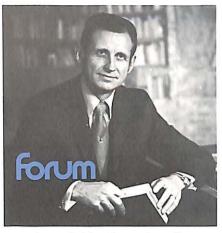
As our first woman faculty member, she demonstrated a pioneer spirit in her teaching, writing and community activities. Her gift of teaching was confirmed by her impact upon the world around her.

Persons were at the center of her life. What she taught was shaped by her own discipleship under Christ. The truths she shared were tried, proven and experienced in her own life before she brought them to the classroom. She was a perpetual student, not simply to gather information, but to assimulate new truth into a higher level of ministry.

She refused to yield to a spirit of pessimism. She realistically faced every situation with a quiet, disciplined concentration on her task, and the rest she submitted to God

We suffer a loss in her death but we are the richer for her ministry. $\hfill\Box$

Dr. Roy Seibel is professor of Pastoral Ministries of North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, S.D.



by Gerald L. Borchert

Dear Dr. Borchert:

I have heard varying reports about Christians in Russia. Do they have religious freedom and can they get Bibles? Somehow I got on the mailing list of a number of organizations and they keep asking for money to help Christians there to get Bibles. What really is the scoop? Should I donate money to . . . (name of organization)?

Dear T. D.

I have purposely held your letter because I wanted to check out these and other matters when I was at the Baptist World Congress this summer. Thank you for your patience.

Scarcely could I have had a better opportunity for gaining input into this question because one of the commission meetings was dealing with religious liberty and it erupted in an unplanned dispute between the Christians who

were visiting from behind the Iron Curtain and some so-called underground groups who put in an appearance and leveled their charges. A hostile forum like this of course, does not offer the best place to obtain information but it does provide a vehicle for getting at the most crucial questions. And these I followed up with the most trusted and knowledgeable people I know. I will try very briefly to summarize the situation.

It is clear to all of us that religious liberty as we know it in North America is not available behind the Iron Curtain. There is a kind of religious toleration, and the authorities permit only a very few churches the privilege of openly operating. Baptists as you know have been allotted only a few legitimate meeting houses. The total number of Baptists according to government statistics has not grown in the last ten years, but in actuality there are at least six times more the number of Baptists in the Soviet Union than is generally approved for publication.

As far as Bible publication is concerned, Bibles are printed behind the Iron Curtain but this is done under very close scrutiny. In fact some were brought to the Baptist Congress as proof of the publication. On the other hand, there have been a number of underground presses operating and one was located and the materials and machines were seized by the authorities after the paper was radio-actively treated and then followed by a helicopter and a ground force with tracking devices.

But the question which you are ask-

ing involves external smuggling operations of Bibles. These organizations frankly are not always the most honest with their reports. Their overhead is very high and they frequently blow up their statistics with distribution in places like Yugoslavia where there is very little restriction on Bible distribution. I must admit that when pressed with some penetrating questions those in these organizations in attendance at the BWA came off clearly wanting in respect to clear integrity and honesty.

This does not make the task easier for Christians in the West to help those in the East. Clearly Christians behind the Curtain are under great pressure. But even though there is pressure of persecution, we can be grateful that the Baptist churches are growing and exhibiting the power of God.

It was good for me once again to talk with my Russian Christian brothers and other Christians from behind the Iron Curtain. How meaningful to clasp hands again and how much I remember the way my brother from Moscow sang, "How Great Thou Art" with tears streaming down his cheeks a year ago. Moreover, how grateful I am to have had the privilege to visit his land this year after the Congress.

As far as your donation pattern, T. D., I must advise you to use great caution. But above all else we all need to pray daily for our brothers and sisters who suffer for being disciples of Jesus. G.L.B.

Address letters to Dean Gerald L. Borchert, North American Baptist Seminary, 1605 S. Euclid Ave., Sioux Falls, S.D. 57105.



New Testament

Dr. G. L. Borchert Vi

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Dr. J. G. Harris Old Testament



-76 by

Daniel Fuchs

On Monday, Sept. 1, 1975, the 1975-76 team of God's Volunteers began an intensive training period of four weeks at the Central Baptist Camp in Lansing, Iowa. These are enthusiastic Christian young people who have volunteered to help N.A.B. churches carry out a ministry of public and personal evangelism in their communities for more than eight months until May 16, 1976. Thousands of contacts for Christ will be made in nearly 50 crusades and rallies during the 1975-76 God's Volunteers season.

The ministry of God's Volunteers is being directed by the Rev. Ray Harsch and Mr. Bob Walther, assistant to the director. It is their responsibility to help our churches not only to canvas the communities and ring doorbells for Christ and the gospel, but also to inspire and train members of the churches to continue conducting their own most effective evangelism outreach. In this way, God's Volunteers are setting the example for our entire Conference.

God is touching the hearts of young people to respond to this call of service for him. Pray that the 1975-76 God's Volunteers team and its leaders may once again be used of the Lord in a mighty way in our churches. The members of this year's team are:

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Walther, First Baptist, Linton, N.D. Pamela Faul, Grace Baptist, Grand Forks, N.D. Pamela Kiemele, First Baptist, Linton, N.D. Luann Meissner, Redeemer Baptist, Columbus, Neb. Leona Miller, First Baptist, Hebron, N.D. Phyllis Schroeder, Temple Baptist, Swan River, Man. Kathryn Sharpe, First Baptist, Colfax, Wash. Linda Williams, Cypress Baptist, Alderwood Manor, Wash. Timothy Blackburn, Washburn Baptist, Washburn, N.D. Steven Burrell, First Baptist, Norridge, Ill. Randy Knutson, Temple Baptist, Lodi, Cal. Perry Kallis, New Leipzig Baptist, New Leipzig, N.D. Douglas Timm, Redeemer Baptist, Warren, Mich.

197			Dec. 2	Washburn Baptist, Washburn, North		Follow-up Witness Section, Feb. 28-
Sep	ot. 1-26	Training Period of Team, Central		Dakota		March 4
c	. 20	Baptist Camp, Lansing, Iowa		Music Witness Section, Dec. 2	March 2	Cypress Baptist, Alderwood Manor,
	t. 28- oct. 3	Zion Baptist, Milwaukee, Wisconsin Music Witness Section, Sept. 28-30	Dec. 3	First Baptist, Hebron, North Dakota		Washington
,	, ci. 0	Follow-up Witness Section, Sept. 28-Oct. 3	Dec. 4-10	Music Witness Section, Dec. 3 First Baptist, Linton, North Dakota	14	Music Witness Section, March 2
Oct	1-10	Bloomingdale Baptist Church, Bloomingdale		Music Witness Section, Dec. 4-7	March 3-11	Bethany Baptist, Vancouver, B.C. Music Witness Section, March 3-7
		Illinois		Follow-up Witness Section, Dec. 6-10		Follow-up Witness Section, March 6-11
		Music Witness Section, Oct. 1-5	Dec. 10-14	First Baptist, Emery, South Dakota	March 10	Bethel First Baptist, Prince Rupert, B.C.
Oct.	7	Follow-up Witness Section, Oct. 4-10 Village Green Baptist, Glen Ellyn, Illinois		Music Witness Section, Dec. 10-14		Music Witness Section, March 10
Oct.		Music Witness Section, Oct. 7		Follow-up Witness Section, Dec. 12-14	March 11-14	Zion Baptist, Terrace, B.C.
Oct.	8-16	First Baptist Church, Norridge, Illinois			March 1421	Music Witness Section, March 11-14
		Music Witness Section, Oct. 8-12	Dec. 15-	CHRISTMAS VACATION	March 14-21	Parkland Baptist, Spruce Grove, Alberta Music Witness Section, March 17-21
•		Follow-up Witness Section, Oct. 11-16	Jan. 2			Follow-up Witness Section, March 14-21
Oct.	15-24	Garfield Baptist Chapel, Mt. Clemens, Michigan	1976			Tonon op Trimess Seenen, That
		Music Witness Section, Oct. 15-19	Jan. 3-9	Memory Lane Baptist, Wichita, Kansas	March 22-26	SPRING BREAK AT NORTH
		Follow-up Witness Section, Oct. 18-24		Music Witness Section, Jan. 3-5		AMERICAN BAPTIST COLLEGE
Oct.	21	Ripley Boulevard Baptist, Alpena, Michigan	Jan. 6	Follow-up Witness Section, Jan. 3-9 North Highlands Baptist, Dallas, Texas		EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA
		Music Witness Section, Oct. 21	34 0	Music Witness Section, Jan. 6	March 27-	Meadowlark Baptist, Edmonton, Alberta
Oct.	22-30		Jan. 7-14	Mowata Baptist, Branch, Louisiana	April 2	Music Witness Section, March 27-30 Follow-up Witness Section, March 27-
		Music Witness Section, Oct. 22-26		Music Witness Section, Jan. 7-11		April 2
Oct.	29.	Follow-up Witness Section, Oct. 25-30 Bloomfield Hills Baptist, Bloomfield Hills,		Follow-up Witness Section, Inn. 10.14	March 31-	First Baptist, Leduc, Alberta
	v. 6	Michigan Michigan	Jan. 14-22	Anderson Road Baptist, Houston, Texas	April 8	Music Witness Section, March 21-April 4
		Music Witness Section, Oct. 29-Nov. 2		Music Witness Section, Jan. 14-18 Follow-up Witness Section, Jan. 16-22		Follow-up Witness Section, April 3-8
		Follow-up Witness Section, Nov. 1-6	Jan. 20	Greenvine Baptist, Burton, Texas	April 7-15	Trochu Baptist, Trochu, Alberta
Nov.	5-13	First Baptist, Ellinwood, Kansas Music Witness Section, Nov. 5-9		Music Witness Section, Jan. 20		Music Witness Section, April 7-11 Follow-up Witness Section, April 10-15
		Follow-up Witness Section, Nov. 8-13	Jan. 21-28	Immanuel Baptist, Kyle, Texas	April 14-16	Springside Baptist, Springside,
Nov.	11	Whispering Oaks Baptist, Kansas City,		Music Witness Section, Jan. 21-25		Saskatchewan
		Missouri	Jan. 29-	Follow-up Witness Section, Jan. 24-28		Music Witness Section, April 14-16
20%	Variation of Variation	Music Witness Section, Nov. 11	Feb. 5	Magnolia Baptist, Anaheim, California Music Witness Section, Jan. 29-Feb. 1	April 17-21	Ebenezer Baptist, Ebenezer, Saskatchewan
Nov.	12-13	First Baptist, Sumner, Iowa		Follow-up Witness Section, Jan. 31-		Music Witness Section, April 17-18
Nov	14.21	Music Witness Section, Nov. 12-13 Twin Pines Baptist, Cedar Rapids, Iowa		Feb. 5		Follow-up Witness Section, April 17-21 Calvary Baptist, Regina, Saskatchewan
,,,,,	1721	Music Witness Section, Nov. 14-16	Feb. 4-12	First Baptist, Elk Grove, California		Music Witness Section, April 21-25
		Follow-up Witness Section Nov 15.21		Music Witness Section, Feb. 4-8		Follow-up Witness Section, April 23-29
Nov.	18-20	First Baptist, Buffalo Center, Iowa	Feb. 11-19	Follow-up Witness Section, Feb. 7-12	April 28-	Oak Bank Baptist, Oak Bank, Manitoba
Mari	00.00	Music Witness Section, Nov. 18-20		Salt Creek Baptist, Dallas, Oregon Music Witness Section, Feb. 11-15	May 7	Music Witness Section, April 28-May 2
NOV.	22-28	Grace Baptist, West Fargo, North Dakota Music Witness Section, Nov. 22-23		Follow-up Witness Section, Feb. 14-10	May 4-13	Follow-up Witness Section, May 1-7 Fort Richmond Baptist, Winnipeg,
		Follow-up Witness Section, Nov. 22-28	reb. I/	Trinity Baptist, Portland, Oregon	may 4-15	Manitoba
Nov.	25	Temple Baptist, Jamestown, North Daketa		Music Witness Section, Feb. 17		Music Witness Section, May 4-9
N.		Music Witness Section, Nov. 25	160. 10-20	Glencullen Baptist, Portland, Oregon		Follow-up Witness Section, May 8-13
Nov. Dec	26-	Bismarck Baptist, Bismarck, North Dakota		Music Witness Section, Feb. 18-22 Follow-up Witness Section, Feb. 21-26	May 12-16	Apple Valley Baptist, Apple Valley,
-00		Music Witness Section, Nov. 26-30 Follow-up Witness Section, Nov. 29-Dec. 5	reb. 25-	rirst Baptist, Colfax, Washington		Minnesota
		7 miless Section, Nov. 29-Dec. 5	March 4	Music Witness Section, Feb. 25-29		Music Witness Section, May 12-16
						Follow-up Witness Section, May 15-16

LIVING WITH OTHERS by Ernie Zimbelman

People is where it's at! If you are happy, it is because you now have and have had good people relationships. If you are unhappy, it is because you have had or now have poor people relationships. Personal relationships-past and present-with God and people-is the key which determines who you are, what you have been and what you are becoming.

In Gen. 1:27 we read: "So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them." What is our likeness to God? How are we made in his image? The two main factors that I would call attention to are that we as people, as God, have the power of reflective thinking.

This means that I can think about myself. I have self-awareness, I can wonder about myself. Secondly, I have the ability to communicate my awareness to others. These qualities make me unique from all the rest of God's creation. Therefore, I must use these qualities and develop them or I will become stale, dull, unspontaneous. I may continue to live in my physical body, but as a person I cease to be!

So it is imperative that if I am to be an alive, aware and dynamic person I must utilize my distinctive qualities of self-awareness and relationships. This means, I must know how to communicate and share myself as a person-my joys and achievements; my sorrows and disappointments. If I do not communicate with others, if I do not have fellowship and stay in fellowship-I am not what God intended me to be.

In the 22nd chapter of Matthew, verse 37, Jesus says that the first com-

Dr. Ernie Zimbelman is associate professor of Pastoral Counseling at the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, S. D.

mandment is: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind." The second commandment is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Then I feel verse 40 says something very powerful, "on these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets." Love of God! Love of Self! Love of Neighbor! Everything depends on these basic principles!

How do I accomplish this? There is so much in me that doesn't want to be loving, giving and caring. My world is so threatening and competitive that if I'm not constantly fighting to keep afloat, I'm sure I'm going to go down the drain. No wonder the Apostle Paul cried, "Oh, wretched man that I am, who will deliver me . . ." (Rom. 7:24).

Yes, Paul understood the meaning of personal conflict very well, but in spite of that he said: "as far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men" (Rom. 12:18b). How can I be at



"I know she doesn't know as much as the Pastor, but she got what it takes to make me listen to the lesson!"

peace with my kid brother, or my impossible mother, or my domineering father, or that catty sister, or that stuffy preacher, nosy neighbor or my critical, unhappy self?

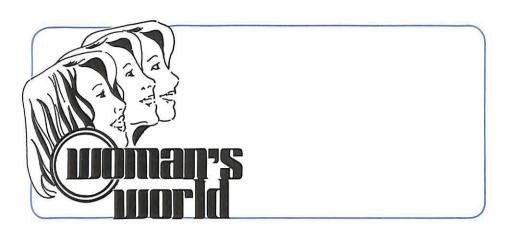
Yes, the conflict, threat and competition with other people is there for all of us. But "as far as it depends on us, we are to make for peace." In the whirl of the world, we are afraid we can be wiped out-and a sure way to be wiped out as a happy person is to become overly concerned with my own survival. If I become selfish and selfcentered I may gain my own ends in regard to power, control and material things—but if I control people they will not love me. If I grasp their possessions, they will resent me. If they do not love me and resent me, I cannot be accepted and loved. But I very much want the whole package. If I learn to live the Christian life-style, I really can have the whole package—I can have power, and friends and have my physical needs met. But this can only happen if I know myself and my needs and keep a proper perspective on life and all of its circumstances.

The over all controlling principle is that of love. How capable am I of giving love and receiving love? Who or what are my love objects? Do others see me as a love-giving person? Are others able to feel that they can give me love?

Asking these questions about love is just another way of asking you what your personal relationships are like. If you do not have deep personal relationships your life will be empty no matter how much you work or give. Is the living presence of a loving God a reality that you can experience and know? Is the love of people something that you have today? If these things are not present in your life then stop and take inventory.

Meaningful relationships with God and people, all kinds of people-family, relatives, friends, strangers-is like the "pearl of great price" that Christ spoke of. When the merchant discovered it, he sold all he had in order to possess it. I say to you-do not live in loneliness and alienation. God loves you, this I know. I wish I could say the same for people, we can't say it for all of them. But somewhere there is somebody you can relate to meaningfully. Find them!

"For God has not chosen to pour out his anger upon us, but to save us through our Lord Jesus Christ; He died for us so that we can live with Him forever, . . . So encourage each other to build each other up . . . " (1 Thess. 5:9-11).



Leaves



by Mrs. Jeanette Stein, president of the W.M.U. Winnipeg, Man.

In nature everything moves toward harvest time. Spring moves into summer and summer leads to autumn, the season of the year when fruit is ripe and grain is ready for harvest.

In life, children become young people and young people move toward middle and middle age moves toward old age. As life progresses it becomes richer and fuller with the fruits of living. Some fruit is sweet and luscious and abundant, some is not, but all will be harvested.

To the young person all roads seem open. There is school and a choice of careers. As a person gets older the harvest of life grows nearer and the fields of opportunity become fewer. A person of sixty does not want to start on a fresh career.

It could be that in our spiritual lives we land on a road that goes round in circles. We are moving but making no progress. We become like the Israelites who wandered in the desert for forty years, a distance that should have taken them only eleven days. The characteristic word in the wilderness is "wandering." It is possible that individuals and churches begin to wander. There can be plenty of activity, much of which seems to be good and healthy, but when it is examined for spiritual progress, there is nothing to report.

Plenty of leaves, a lot of pretty flowers, but no fruit. Much evangelistic activity, many lovely programs, but no spiritual growth. Jesus said that "by their fruits ye shall know them." As people we are often taken in by the size of the tree, or by the beautiful colors of the leaves or the glorious display of flowers. The Lord said, "by their fruits. . . ." Let us take time occasionally to examine our lives. Are we producing fruit or is there nothing but leaves?

Nothing but leaves for the Master. Oh, how His loving heart grieves, When instead of the fruit He is seeking,

We offer Him nothing but leaves.

He Touched /Me

by Mrs. Irene Gosse, Stone Park, III.

Do you believe in answered prayer? I do. You see, I am a living answer to

About 20 years ago I learned that I had breast cancer and would have to undergo major surgery. The operation was successful, but the doctor told my family afterwards that the cancer had spread and I would have another six months to a year to live.

Although the operation had been successful, my body was not healing. My temperature soared and they could not break the fever. They concluded that a stitch deep inside my body had become infected and an abcess had formed. There was doubt that I would leave the hospital alive.

As I lay in that hospital bed, I cried in my heart, "How long, O God." I was too weak to even speak.

My pastor had visited me that afternoon and tried to encourage me. "God makes no mistakes," he said. The pastor assured me that because I was a child of God, he would either give me healing or take me home to be with him. He assured me that the church would pray for me.

That evening, after the nurse had given me a sleeping pill, I lay very quietly, praying in my mind. Suddenly in that dark, quiet hospital room I felt a light touch on my feet that slowly crept upward, covering me as a blanket would. The last thing I remember before sleep overtook me was my quiet, "Thank you, God!"

When I awoke at daylight, I knew immediately that something was different. I threw back the covers and attempted to sit up-but was arrested in my effort mid-way by a loud scream from my roommate. She was pointing at me in horror and screaming. I looked down and realized for the first time that my gown was all bloodied.

Of course, the nurses all came running. When I was all cleaned up and resting quietly, I again went to the Lord in prayer. "I don't know what you did, Lord, but thank you for making me feel so well."

I soon found out that the abcess had broken and drained; the fever was down and my body was healing. Within a week I was at home.

It was not until much later that I found out that while I had experienced this strange feeling, my "church family" were on their knees in a special prayer meeting called by the pastor to pray for me.

That was 20 years ago and day by day, hour by hour, I live his grace. I will always love him, serve him, praise him and tell others about him. He touched me and made me whole!

And Then There Was One



by Marie Chance, Waco, Texas

It is not always easy living in a society geared for two when you are only one. Society doesn't know what to do with us; churches don't know what to do with us; and sometimes we don't even know what to do with ourselves. Fortunately, God knows what to do with us and I believe he has special opporfunities for us in his work.

Being single has taught me to be more dependent on God. He has promised that he will provide everything I need-not everything I want always, but what I need. He has told me he is sufficient in my life right now and expects me to trust him completely and let him help solve any problems. How many husbands could do all this for their wives!

Christian singles are sometimes hesitant to reach out to others fearing rejection, or we might be a little embarrassed at our single state. But, if this is what God has chosen for us, we should not be worried or embarrassed. After all, Christ was single so we are very Christ-like in that aspect! This gives us more opportunities to grow in our Christianity, taking advantage of all worship services, Bible studies and other church programs which can help us in his work. Being single should not give us an excuse to be Sunday-morning-only Christians.

"For such a time as this . . ." is very appropriate for all single women, whether divorced, widowed or nevermarried. At this time if we are only one we should make the most of our situation using every opportunity to be God's help-mate to do whatever he asks of us.

What Kind of Curls?

by Donna McFall, Stockington, Calif.

I am a church secretary. Sometimes it seems as if I take so many steps, write so many words, listen to so many directives and get absolutely nowhere! One Friday I was evaluating the week that had just passed. With this reflection came the realization that very little had been accomplished. I pulled the plug on the coffee pot, turned off the typewriter and slumped in my chair. "Lord, why do weeks like this have to happen?" As I sat there with my head bowed a graphic illustration came to my mind. It was something that had happened many years ago. My eight-year-old daughter had

waist-length hair. Each Saturday night was wash and curl time-to prepare for Sunday school the next morning. A friend suggested that I wrap her hair in old-fashioned rags to form long, tight curls. She told me the procedure and I worked very hard, spent lots of time and expected great results. The next morning I was shocked as I saw what I had done. Instead of wrapping the hair around the rags, I had wrapped the rags around the hair! Because I just had not listened properly to the instructions, there was a pile of curly rags lying in my lap?

In our Christian lives, how many times do we find a pile of curly rags instead of properly finished products? We cannot take away from the truth that God's work goes forward in the power of the Holy Spirit, but that should not create a slovenlyness in our ministry or in our life. He has chosen to use us. As with the first disciples, this call for discipline and order.

"Wherefore, gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, add hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 1:13). \square

1976 Program Packet Theme: Praise the Lord Continually (Psalm 34:1)

by Mrs. Barbara Sukut, program packet editor

I do praise the Lord for all things and especially for the exciting programs that he has led many ladies to write for our use.

Among those that have blessed my heart are the mission programs from Brazil, our schools of higher education in Cameroon and testimonies from our Spanish American fields.

General programs and devotions on praise, his wonderful name, fasting and White Cross will bless your life

A special section on inspirational and helpful holiday programs and devotionals deals with all the usual holidays with praise to Jesus as the theme plus helps to make our holidays blessed times. Another program tells how to include Christ in our vacation plans.

May Christ bless you as you adapt these to your own group of ladies.

I will soon begin work on the 1977 packet and would ask you to please send in helpful hints, ideas and programs. Please share your blessings with others.

KILO PACKETS

We have been informed by the post office that Kilo Packages must not weigh more than two pounds.

A CHRISTMAS SONG OF OLD BOSTON. 1852 replica, moral and historic; cloth bound, illustrated, \$3.50 postpaid.

Gauntlet Books, Box 341, Franklin, MA 02038

Good News



by LaVerna Mehlhaff, Womens work director The 1976 Program Packets in either German or English will be ready for mailing October 1, 1975. Send your order in early; the price is \$2.50 per packet. Order blanks have been sent to each local society.

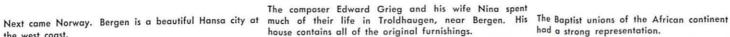


The N.A.B. Tour group visited six countries. The first stop was England. The picture shows the House of Parliament with its famous clock tower, "Big Ben."



Oslo, Norway's Capital, has the

famous Frogner Park with the numerous Vigeland sculptures. The "Human Obelisk" gives a





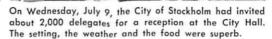
had a strong representation.

Dr. and Mrs. Frank H. Woyke have a quick orientation session with Dr. and Mrs. G. K. Zimmerman. Dr. Woyke

has served as Associate Secretary of the Baptist World









good impression of Vigeland's More than 10,000 delegates and visitors from 92 countries crowded the St. Erik's North American Baptists met one day for lunch in one of Stockholm's Old Town

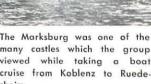


Maessan, Stockholm's huge exhibit hall, during the Congress opening session, July 9th. restaurants. From I. to r.: Mrs. Hanna Martin, Mrs. Frieda Ndzinwe, Dr. Helen Marie Schmidt (with back to camera), Mr. E. K. Martin, Dr. Gerald Borchert,





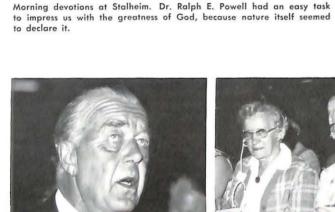
portunity to share their impressions of



gave the group participants an op-sheim.



The trip to the top of Mt. Pilatus was a crowning "mountain experience" to all group members. On the following day, July 21st, the group was in Toronto, Canada."



His Royal Highness, Prince Bertil of Sweden, Many delegates used the transistorized ear- Dr. and Mrs. G. K. Zimmerman listening Aura Dawkins of Panama was one of the

June 29-July 21, 1975



represented the Swedish King who was out phones which provided them with a simulattentively to one of the many speakers. 85 people who represented their nations at of the country at the time of the Congress. taneous translation in five languages.

This is what we experienced







People from Asia were noted for their intense participation-and their good



The Grossmuenster in Zuerich, Switzerland, dates

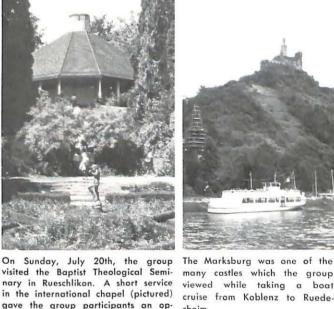
back before the Reformation. The Reformer Huldreich

Zwingli preached here through the entire Bible.

The picturesque city of Lucerne with its ancient wooden bridge was the last city to be visited by the group. In the background Mt. Pilatus.









The Baptist Church in Cologne, Germany, invited the tour group for supper and a joint bilingual service with testimonies and Con-

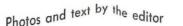


A typical house at Titisee in the Black Forest.





on its way back to U.S.A. and Canada. Gratitude filled the hearts of all for the many enriching experiences packed into three weeks. A number of them resulted right there on their flight home: "In 1980 we will meet again at the 14th Baptist World Congress





We are welcoming back Larry Bienert to our North American Baptist Conference after an absence of ten years to be an Estate Planning Counselor. Since 1965, he has been the assistant to the President of Illinois College, Jacksonville, Ill., which has provided excellent experience and background for his new ministry. In addition to assisting the president with alumni relations and a "Clubs" program to promote various levels of giving, Larry directed two capital funds campaigns. The first campaign successfully raised \$500,000 for a new student center and the second campaign was for a new library. In announcing Larry Bienert's resignation, Illinois College President, Donald Mundinger, issued the following statement about his service:

"Larry Bienert has been a very important person to Illinois College for ten years, especially the last two in his capacity as director of development. He has given us superb leadership in our library campaign. Our goal was \$1.25 million over a threeyear period. Under his direction, we already have received cash and pledges of \$1.29 million, and that in only two years of the three-year campaign. He will be sorely missed. His spirit, sense of dedication and skill will be hard to replace. Incidentally, we also will miss the warmth and assistance of his wife, Ruth, who helped the college in a myriad of ways. I am especially pleased that his daugter, Rachelan, will be completing her senior year at Illinois College. The campus community will benefit from her presence."

The Rev. Everett A. Barker is estate planning director of the North American Baptist Conference.

INTRODUCING LARRY BIENERT

Our Newest Estate Planning Counselor

by Everett A. Barker

During the past two years Larry has begun to develop the area of estate planning for the College. To qualify himself for his work in development, he has taken the following studies:

- Philanthropy Tax Institute, Chicago, Ill.
- 2. Workshop on College Development, Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind.
- 3. Fund Raising Workshop, sponsored by Syracuse University at Chautauqua, N.Y.
- 4. Resources Development Workshops, with Harvey DeVries, St. Paul, Minn.
- National Planned Giving Institute, School of Financial Development, Robert L. Sharpe & Company, Inc., Memphis, Tenn.

The training received has enabled Larry Bienert to understand the dimensions and intricacies of estate planning. It is our purpose as a Conference to provide a competent service in Personal Estate Planning for our N.A.B. constituency. Larry will be serving our people in the Pacific Northwest including Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Missoula, Montana and British Columbia. Larry Bienert is uniquely qualified to serve our Canadian and United States constituencies. Both he and Mrs. Bienert are Canadian by background, having been born and reared in Leduc and Vancouver respectively. Since the succession laws are different in Canada from those of the United States, we are presenting Mr. Bienert with a large challenge, and your prayers will be helpful in enabling him to provide an effective ministry.

Following the acceptance of the call, the Bienerts were fortunate to sell their house in Jacksonville quickly, and they (Continued on page 23)

HOW GOOD ARE YOUR RECORDS?



Where Are Your Papers Kept?

If you are like most people, you probably keep important information in your head, but this won't help your survivors.

Essential information and papers can affect your estate settlement. Such information as the location of your will, bank accounts, real estate papers, trusts, assets in joint names, gift tax returns, financial transactions, names of family members, etc., should be listed and readily available. Put the information in writing and specify where these records can be found.

Send today for the free booklet, "What Your Executor Will Need From You."

Name___

Address_____

Send to: Everett A. Barker, North American Baptist General Conference, 7308 Madison St., Forest Park, III. 60130. Phone (312) 771-8700

OBSTACLES TO FAMILY EDUCATION AND MINISTRY by William H. Genne

insight into christian education

It is a popular pastime to berate parents for their failure to cooperate with the church's educational programs for children and youth. Parents are often scolded for their lack of interest and their offspring. Sermons frequently deplore the lack of standards and discipling in the home.

But there is another side to the picture. There are parents who conscientiously try to set a proper example for their children and who do cooperate with the church's program. They attend and see that their children attend the various events on the church schedule. They try to be loyal supporters, but the more loyal they try to be, the more questions are generated in their minds. They have some real complaints.

1. The most common complaint is that the majority of the program events of the church fragment the family. The churches, aping the age-graded classrooms of the professional educator, have committed not only their educational work but also most of their other activities to age-graded groupings. This means that we have not only age-graded classes but youth fellowships, youth choirs and even youth worship services in some instances.

Granted there is some economy of effort in teaching those of similar experience and maturity (not necessarily the same age, however). It is not strange, however, that our churches have failed to take their clue from the Creator?

Reprinted from SPECTRUM/International Journal of Religious Education, Fall 1974 issue. Used by permission.

God entrusts babies not to closely age-graded classes but to families where there are at least two and sometimes three generations. (When there are adolescents and preschoolers in the family, that seems like two generations!)

Perhaps we need to rediscover the wisdom of allowing youth to rub shoulders and exchange ideas with more experienced persons. There is also a wisdom and therapy in allowing jaded and disillusioned adults to have some contact with the idealism and enthusiasm of youth.

When families feel torn apart and fragmented by the over-reliance on age-graded activities, our churches had better listen to them and begin to try to find ways of helping families find wholeness, understanding and a joy in being together.

2. A second complaint of many conscientious, church-going families is that churches really do not know them. Most churches are so eager to enroll new members that, once a person expresses a desire to join the church, all we ask is name, address and phone number.

If we are enrolling a child in the church school, we ask the same three questions with the addition of a request for the name of the parent. We do not ask and make a matter of the teacher's background material whether this child is the oldest of four, the younger of two or the middler of three. Nor do we know whether the child is adopted or a stepchild or a half orphan. How can we really minister to that child without knowing some of the hurts and some of the joys in the child's background?

And the same goes for adults. Do we know if they are single, living alone

or living with a partner of the same or differing sex? If the couple is married, how long have they been together? Were there any previous deaths or divorces? Which children are whose—his, hers or theirs? Where are they employed—both of them? What are some of the work pressures either or both of them face?

Behind each of the items listed in the foregoing paragraphs is the possibility of a traumatic experience. How can we minister to people if we don't know where they are hurting?

It should not surprise us that many are turning to groups outside the church that seem to be interested in them as persons. Those of us who have participated in various kinds of growth groups seeking to discover the potentialities within persons have sensed the hunger for meaningful personal relationships in so many couples and families.

Unless our churches build their ministries to meet the real needs of persons, we can expect more and more families to seek help, health and fellowship elsewhere. The churches forced alcoholics to find their help outside the church. They had to build their own organizations (A. A., Alanon and Alateen) to help each other. The churches forced Parents Without Partners to do the same thing. Are we going to continue to force the divorced, the handicapped and other needy or lonely persons to seek fellowship, meaning and ministry outside the church?

3. A third complaint is that, in addition to limiting their time together as a family and failing to know their real personal needs, many churches do

(Continued on page 20)



by Daniel Fuchs

Rev. Robert Radcliffe of our Sunkist Baptist Church in Anaheim, California writes: "We have begun to use the telephone to make contacts for Christ. In addition to our regular visitor followup and door-to-door surveys, we have begun a telephone survey and invitation letters for all new residents in our area."

Aside from a baby's cry, the telephone is the most demanding voice in the home. Everybody jumps when the telephone rings. Have you ever sat in an office talking to some businessman at his desk when suddenly the telephone rang and everything else was laid aside? The party calling took over the conversation and you were left there sitting and waiting it out.

This little dynamic instrument is a great blessing to us, our home, our neighborhood, our church. If all the telephones in America were cut off for just one day, what a state of confusion we would be in!

Have you ever thought about using this amazing instrument to reach out for Jesus Christ in your city and the neighborhood around you? Just think, by getting on the telephone, you can send your voice and God's message of salvation right into the hearts of people in their homes, in offices, in shops or wherever they are.

The telephone is a means whereby we can get into homes in an intimate and compelling way, find out the people who are interested in hearing about Christ, the Bible and the church. A personal visit can follow to seal the contact for Christ.

The Bible suggests that God SPOKE first to the world, then he WROTE to the world and finally He CAME to the world. That is a suggestive sequence to follow in telephone evangelism. First call your neighbor on the telephone. Follow the call with a short letter. Then go to see him personally.

Paul said: "I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some", I Corinthians 9:22. For us in this twentieth century "all means" surely includes the telephone.

The Rev. Daniel Fuchs is evangelism director of the North American Baptist Conference.

INSIGHT INTO CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

(Continued from page 19)

not seem to know the gopsel they profess to preach.

Many parents feel that their churches scold them with a lot of "oughts" rather than help them celebrate and grow in their understanding of God's love as revealed in Christ. This is especially true in many matters related to persons in families.

(a) Discipline. Most adults would rebel if they were subjected to the same lack of trust and oppressive demands that are made on children in some churches. Many churches do not really trust love as the most powerful force in the world. They fear the permissiveness of freedom in Christ and insist much more on dogma and authority. Such churches stress submissiveness to a jealous God rather than increasing understanding and cooperation with God's love and truth.

(b) Manhood and Womanhood, Far too many churches are strangely silent, uncomfortable or distrustful of the sexuality with which our Creator God has endowed each of us.

Far too few churches stand ready to help the 95 percent of their parents who want help with the education of their children into manhood and womanhood

Far too many churches stress the subjugation of wives (Eph. 5:22) to the neglect of the mutual commitment to each other in Christ (cf. Eph. 5:21).

Insofar as churches fail to embody in their own structures and practices the equal celebration of both manhood and womanhood, they are in no position to speak about the relationship of men and women in marriage in this day and age when the equality of all persons in God's sight is being discovered anew by committed Christians.

(c) The Good News of the Gospel. We could go on and specify many other areas in the life of personswork, leisure, possessions, etc.-in which the churches fail to recognize the perplexities of life and fail to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel. One of our leading newspapers speaks of the perplexities of the six "P's" that confront every person today. They are: Prejudice, Peace, Power, Population, Pollution, Poverty.

Unless the churches can use their traditions, liturgies, doctrines and worship to proclaim a saving word and provide an enriching fellowship for persons caught up in these perplexities, the churches will force them to go elsewhere to find help.

Fortunately there is an increasing number of churches that are taking steps to overcome the obstacles that hinder ministering to their families.

With regard to fragmenting families, these churches are looking carefully at their scheduling of events. At the worship service which is the heart of the life of any vital congregation they are restoring the family pew. Some even provide assist chairs for growing children (similar to those used in restaurants), so the small child can see what is going on and is not expected to stare at the back of the pew ahead.

Programs for families are designed to promote dialogue and communication around significant issues. This does not come easily in some families and there needs to be realistic training to speak the "truth in love" (cf Eph. 4:15).

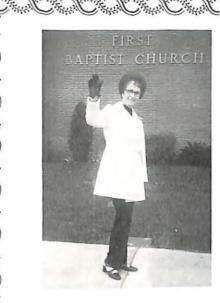
Some congregations are supplementing the age-graded classes in their church schools (which do have their rightful place) with family cluster groups in which big, little, old and young can share their growing insights into the Christian faith as they discuss the ethical issues and nitty-gritties of the daily round (which may have to do with daily chores or weekly allowances in the family.)

With regard to discovering the real needs of families, some churches are building more adequate records of families as interacting units so that programs can be developed to meet their real need.

With regard to proclaiming the fullness and abundance of life that Jesus proclaimed, many churches are rediscovering the winsomeness and compassion of Christ and helping their people discover it in their family life. Discussion groups on child development, appropriate discipline and value clarification are helping parents understand God's pattern of growth. Dialogues between teens and their parents and youth with adults are beginning to build bridges of understanding and cooperation in homes.

By involving youth and adults, including senior citizens, in cooperation in applying Christian principles to significant issues in the life of the community, nation and world, churches are building new understandings of the meaning of God's family at work in the world.

Churches whose program of education and ministry has been moving in this direction have found a grateful and enthusiastic response in their people. It is not easy, but the fruits are very rewarding.



The Lady Who Walks in the Morning

by Bernard Edinger

"A Million Contacts for Christ?" She's working on it! A trim, erect figure can be seen each morning between the hours of 7:00 and 8:30 a.m. on the streets of Colfax, Washington, as Esther Klingbeil Mohr, daughter of a

former Colfax pastor, takes her daily five mile hike. Having been a farmer's wife for many years, she had

to give up farming when her husband died.

"Suddenly without warning things changed," states Mrs. Mohr, "On that cold wintry night as I went to the farm shop at 10:00 p.m. and found the dearest person on earth to me, my husband, no longer of this world. He had been called Home while working on our car. His tools were still in his hands. Tenderly, the Lord brought to my mind the words, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints" Psalm 116:15.

Now, thrust into the small town which she knew as a girl, she felt the deep need of an outlet for her testimony. "Because I am a victim of arthritis," she states, "I

realized I could well become a cripple before my years. That was when my walks began. First, a few quick blocks, then a mile, two miles, until now over five miles when the weather permits. At first, the open door were "sympathy contacts"—people who knew my husband, and inquired about his sudden death. This gave me an opportunity to share how the Lord had cared for me."

Many wonderful experiences followed. One morning she walked past the local laundromat where she found a lady, alone, who soon began to unburden her heart. Hearing the Gospel, she prayed to accept Christ as her Savior before another customer came in.

Another day, she saw a neighbor watering her lawn. She seemed very discouraged as she told that her husband had just recently had a heart attack. In the course of the conversation, she discovered that the lady was not a Christian, so she showed her "the Way." Consequently, both the neighbor and her husband received Christ. He died a few days later, knowing his eternal

The Rev. Bernard Edinger is pastor of the First Baptist Church, Colfax, Washington.

destiny was to be with Christ.

"One morning, while walking near the high school," Mrs. Mohr tells, "I met a lad from the senior class who had just attended evangelistic services in our church the night before. The evangelist had prepared his heart, for as I shared the four spiritual laws with him, he prayed to receive Christ right there on the street!"

A wrong number on the telephone one day resulted in a new soul in the Kingdom as she used the opportunity to present the Gospel story. God even uses mistakes to

Lunch counters, beauty shops, bus depots, airports and other places have been used of God as she shared her message. Doctors and nurses have remarked at her youthful appearance as she has kept her body trim and attractive. As she walks in the morning, she hears friendly greetings from those who know her, from good natured truck drivers who honk at her, and she occasionally even hears a whistle or two!

Usually she walks alone, but occasionally she would share her hike with some person travelling her way. One day a pregnant lady asked whether she could share her walk part way, at least. Esther invited her to do so, and before too many days had passed, the Lord had brought new life into her soul as she trusted Christ as her Savior.

She tells of her many experiences as the Lord opens doors of witness, and has given the joy of her testimony in many Christian Women's Clubs, church and prayer

Serving as pianist in her own church, First Baptist Church of Colfax, Washington, she is faithful to the local

There are so many more incidents that could be told. but—as her pastor—I appreciate her ministry as a strong influence for her church in the community. Her constant support as a prayer warrior is also appreciated.

With a life as busy as hers, you would assume that she is a person of much younger years. She's not telling her age, but we have permission to say that she did recently become eligible for Medicare!



CHURCH EXTENSION BUILDERS

REPORT

DERBY, N.Y. CHURCH EXTENSION PROJECT

by George Brite; photos by David Yost

The Highland Baptist Church, Derby, N.Y., is located approximately twenty miles southwest of Buffalo in a location so lovely that one of the neighboring towns is named Eden.

There is a great field of service here for the church which was started as a Sunday school group, officially organized as a church in 1956, and has been served by seven pastors.

During these years the church has acquired three 35 by 90 foot lots on which the church building and parsonage are located, and a 70 by 100 foot lot across the street for parking.

The church with its current membership of 25 turned to the North American Baptist General Conference for guidance and became a Church Extension project in January of 1975.

Pastor George Brite accepted the call to the church in April and assumed pastoral leadership on July 1, 1975.

The church's goal is to be faithful to her theme "To know Him and to make Him known." This includes ministering to the members through the existing program of Sunday school, Sunday morning and evening worship services, midweek service, a weekly Bible club during the school year, a women's missionary group, and a home Bible study. 32 people were present at the first morning worship service, led by Pastor Brite.

It also means reaching out to the community with its population of some 6,000 which is described by a realtor as the "second fastest growing area in Buffalo." People in the church and community repeat the refrain, "The future growth has to take place here . . . it's the only direction expansion can occur."

These claims are affirmed by the single unit homes and town houses completed and occupied within one half mile's distance from the church. There are 400 new homes and 400 more planned in the one area alone. Land is cleared and water and sewer are in for future development.

This new area as well as the older homes within the immediate surroundings of the church have been virtually unreached with the good news of Jesus Christ. A survey by another church group has revealed that only 8 percent of the people go to any church.

As the church goes into this field white unto harvest she will be assisted by a church in Buffalo whose pastor has already promised that his members would help canvass. A five day Vacation Bible School is scheduled, and within two weeks after the pastor's arrival there were two teams actively calling on prospects.

With such an awesome opportunity the Highland Baptist Church covets your prayers and support which are essential in making God's visions become reality in the lives of individuals and in the life of the community.

The Rev. George Brite is the pastor of the Highland Baptist Church, Derby, N.Y.

OCTOBER 1975



Left to right: Pastor G. Brite with Becky Yost and Trustee Eugene Yost.



Pastor Brite with Organist Mrs. Elmott Howell.



Highland Baptist Church at Derby, N.Y.

book revieus

by B.C. Schreiber

A Preacher's Temptations. By James H. Blackmore, Raleigh, N.C. Edwards and Broughton Co. \$4.00.

The minister of God holds a unique position in the community. Often he is put on a pedestal and expected to be more saintly than the people to whom he ministers. There is biblical reason to entertain such a view, but not out of proportion to his humaness. Because of his position he has temptations that may be felt more intensely than others. The sins of ordinary men, Mr. Blackmore points out, may hurt only a few, but the faults of prominent and illustrious people injure many. There is a list of forty temptations upon which the author elaborates which are especially dangerous to the servant of God.

Who Was Who in Church History. By Elgin S. Moyer, New Canaan, Conn. Keats Publishing, Inc. \$2.25.

This volume was originally published in 1962 and is now available for the first time in paperback. Very few books have such a wealth of information. More than 1,700 biographies are included. Some of the biographies are quite extensive, and no highlights of the personalities are omitted. For fingertip resource and information it is recommended for every home library.

God's Grace Is Suffcient by Mrs. Frank Veninga. Mrs. Veninga was a resident of Peoria when Dr. Veninga was pastor of the then State Park Baptist Church (now North Sheridan Baptist)

It recounts the story of the onslaught of illness in 1967, during which she suffered a stroke. She relates how she recovered from it because she found her strength in God whose "grace is sufficient." It tells how she found comfort in various Scripture passages. She feels that her story will encourage the sick and shut-ins as well as those facing physical or spiritual problems.

Advance reviews hail it as a "book of tremendous strength, unbelievable courage and a deep and abiding relationship with God."

Dr. Veninga is a former president of North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, S.D. He and Mrs. Veninga resided in Peoria 1945-51. They now reside in Wallingford, Pa.

Price of the book is \$1.50. It can be ordered by writing to Mrs. Frank

Veninga, 607 Beckmore Drive, Wallingford, Pa. 19086 (Review by Walter E. Kohrs).

Healing: Prayer or Pills? By Jonathan G. Yoder, M.D., Scottdale, Pa. Herald Press, \$.95.

The author was a medical missionary. In this little gem of a book of only 50 pages he shares some ideas that have been meaningful to many of his patients. Some of these ideas sustained him when tragedy hit his own family and threatened his spiritual balance. It is a Christian doctor's viewpoint on proper attitudes toward pain, sickness, death and adversity.

LARRY BIENERT . . .

(Continued from page 18)

already purchased a home in Oregon. Larry's office will be at home with the following address: 2360 NW 154th Place, Beaverton, OR 97005. The Bienerts expect to be relocated early in September.

In returning to our Conference Larry Bienert re-connects a chain of service that commenced with his graduation from the North American Baptist Seminary in 1951. Following graduation he has served as a pastor, youth director for the C.B.Y. and S.S. Union, general secretary for the C.B.Y. Fellowship and as manager of Roger Williams Press. The Bienerts have continued their support of our Conference ministries as members of the Forest Park Baptist Church.

Larry's desire to serve Jesus Christ again finds its expression in ministry through the outreach of our N.A.B. Conference. It is my personal pleasure to say, "Welcome back, Larry, Ruth and Rachelan Bienert! May God be pleased to bless your ministry in our midst."

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation for the BAPTIST HERALD. Filed September 1975

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WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. and Mrs. William Rikard celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 19 and 20, 1975. They are members of the Pin Oak Baptist Church, Mt. Sterling, Mo.

ling, Mo.

SAN JOSE, CALIF. About 80 members and friends of the Bernal Road Baptist Church gathered on the five acre church site on June 22, to break ground (pictured) for a small chapel and educational building, the first in a three phase building program.



Participants included Mr. Rueben Nuss of Temple Baptist, Lodi, and Robert Krueger of First Baptist Lodi and a male quartet of First Baptist Church, Lodi. Pastor Buhler turned the first shovel of dirt and the ladies of the church pulled a one bottom walking plow in a straight furrow, symbolizing a "pulling together" to complete the task. Members of the local building committee and others also participated.

The building is Spanish in style, to blend with the surrounding buildings. It is expected that it will be completed in time to observe Thanksgiving service in November. (Aaron Buhler, pastor).

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C. A baptismal service was held in the Bethel First Baptist Church in which seven candidates were immersed upon confession of their faith. They included three young couples and one teenager. Two other young couples were received into the membership on the preceding Sunday. The Rev. Wilfred Highfield is the pastor of the church.

APPLETON, MINN. Pastor and Mrs. Terrance Jarosch of the First Baptist Church and four young people who are juniors and seniors in high school, went for a week to Edmonton, Alta., to visit the North American Baptist College.

On Sunday, June 1, the congregation held a surprise coffee hour after the evening service in honor of Pastor Jarosch and his family. It was one year ago that the Rev. and Mrs. Jarosch came to serve the church of Appleton. Several members made comments on the events that took place during their first year. (Mrs. Charles Giese, reporter.) TACOMA, WASH. A council was called by the Portland Avenue Baptist Church to consider the ordination of Mr. Leonard Kageler to the gospel ministry. Following the introduction of the candidate, his wife, Janet, and his parents, Leonard presented his biographical sketch and doctrinal statement. After a number of questions the council met in executive session. It declared itself satisfied and moved to recommend to the Portland Avenue Baptist Church to proceed with the ordination of Mr. Leonard Kageler.

Dr. Arthur Patzia was the ordination peaker.

ANAHEIM, CALIF. The Rev. William Hoover, pastor of the Sunkist Baptist Church, baptized twelve people. Twenty-four new members were welcomed into the church fellowship. A reception was held in their honor following the service.

"It's Cool in the Furnace," by Buryl Red and Grace Hawthorne, was the title of the musical presented by the Sunkist Junior Choir. Forty-two children were involved in the production directed by Pastor Robert Radcliffe, Christian education director. (Stephanie Radcliffe, reporter.)

WEST FARGO, N.D. Four young people and two adults were baptized (pictured) upon their confession of faith in Jesus Christ in the Grace Baptist Church. The hand of fellowship was



extended to them, along with three other adults who were joined to the church membership by transfer.

The Grace Baptist Church had the privilege of hosting the Central Dakota-Montana Association. The theme was "Let Love Live." The guest speakers were the Rev. Robert Penner, Grand Forks, N.D., Dr. Ernie Zimbleman from the Seminary in Sioux Falls, S.D., and the Rev. George Black, missionary home on furlough. The Rev. LeRoy Moser is pastor of the church. (Mrs. Harold Fried, reporter.)

Rev. Ronald Seck has accepted the call to become the pastor of Fellow-

ship Baptist Chapel and has begun his ministry in August. He was serving as Minister of Youth at the Church of the Open Door, Fort Washington, Pa. He is relatively young, only 27 years of age, but is well educated and has demonstrated wisdom far beyond his years. He is a Princeton graduate and holds a M.D. degree from Bible School of Theology, Hatfield, Pa. His wife, Jeannie, is a free-lance artist and has taught art in high school. The vote was unanimous. The congregation and the Seck family had been in daily prayer seeking God's will. There is much confidence and expectancy in the church as a result of the many answered prayers relating to this call as well as the physical, financial, and spiritual well-being of the church since they were without a pastor. (Paul K. Meyer, reporter.)

LEDUC, ALTA. About 800 people attended the dedication service and Open House for Salem Manor (pictured) with man and nature lifting their voices



unto God in praise and thanksgiving for his goodness.

Among the dignitaries present were Wetaskiwin MLA, Dallas Schmidt, representing the province of Alberta; Leduc Mayor, Bill Lede; Alberta Housing Corporation Regional Property Manager, Don Ross; Medicine Hat Senior Citizen's Home administrator, Roy Weiss, and Eric Proppe the architect.

Salem Manor president and administrator, the Rev. Dr. E. P. Wahl (pictured), also addressed the service with a challenging message and charge to the



community regarding its responsibility to our aging in the province.

Among the features of the service were the Zion Baptist brass band and the Central Baptist mixed choir of Edmonton. Salem Manor Society board members gave a conducted tour following the service.

Construction was started on Salem Manor in September of 1974. The dedication of the Goldage Apartments is one of the three-care-levels of services that Salem Manor Society envisions on this nine acre site. The \$900,000 structure contains 40 senior citizens' suites with a capacity of 65. At present the bachelor suites in the Manor have been rented but there are still some double suites available.

BUFFALO CENTER, IOWA.

First Baptist Church rejoiced because of the baptism of Mr. and Mrs. John Furst, both more than eighty years old. The have joined our church.

July 4-6 we celebrated our 75th anniversary. On July 5 we met in the evening at the church to renew our fellowship in an informal way. July 6 was a full day with Sunday school and a message by the Rev. Milton Zeeb, our area secretary. Dinner was served for all.

The evening meeting was filled with messages from former pastors and church sons, and letters from absent pastors and churches followed by our anniversary lunch.

The evening speaker was Rev. Boleyn our present pastor, followed again by fellowship. (Mrs. Fred Stratman, reporter.)

speaking churches of the Alberta Association held the 8th Deutsche Glaubens Konferenz in the Bethany Baptist Church. The theme was "The Church of Jesus Christ in the end time." The guest speaker was Dr. H. J. Waltereit from Bethany Baptist Church in Vancouver, B.C.

All business was dealt with and reports concerning N.A.B. outreach in Alberta, including N.A.B. College, camp Caroline and camp Pinecrest were given.

The youth service was held in a school auditorium, with good attendance. The spirited singing, special numbers and outstanding message by Rev. K. Hildebrandt was a treat for all.

Arrangements were made to hold the Sunday morning service and the closing rally in the school gym. Many more guests from other centers arrived in time for these services. The choirs from Zion Baptist Church in Edmonton were serving, and the brass band from the German Baptist Church in Calgary had some choice selections for the closing service. The gym was filled to ca-

pacity, youth well represented, to hear the closing message by Dr. Waltereit, and also an invitation from the German Baptist Church in Calgary to have the "Deutsche Glaubens Konferenz" convene there next year. The invitation was gratefully accepted. (Robert Hildebrandt, reporter.)

LEOLA, S.D. Three young girls were baptized upon confession of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ at an inspiring baptismal service held at First Baptist Church, Leola, S.D. The Rev. Arnold Friez is the pastor of the church and is pictured on the left of the baptismal candidates. (Mrs. A. Friez, reporter.)



FESSENDEN, N.D. Chaplain Leslie Albus has been serving us while we were without a pastor. We had a Missionary Rally with the Rev. and Mrs. Fred Holzimmer and Kathy Kroll. A church workers recognition banquet was held in which the Bismarck Men's Quartet, Redemption Singers and Grand Forks Choir were with us. We welcomed the Rev. and Mrs. Fred Fuchs with a fellowship dinner and pantry shower. We look forward to God's blessings in the days to come. (Mrs. Adolph Pepple, reporter.)

LORRAINE, KAN. The First Baptist Church held a week of Deeper Life meetings with the Rev. Bernard Fritzke of Portland, Ore. Many decisions were made. Sixteen members have come into our church, twelve of whom came by baptism.

The closing Sunday of the Rev. Donald Decker's ministry of nearly seven years occurred on June 1. At the conclusion of the baptismal service for a family of four, and in the spirit of Rev. Decker's ministry with us, he stated, "It is done as you have commanded Lord, and still there is room."

A farewell reception for the Rev. and Mrs. Donald Decker, Carolyn, Michael, Murray and Monty followed the Bible school program. Words of appreciation were expressed by Jane Mollhagen for the youth, Mrs. Harold Wilkens for the women, Wayne Mehl for trustees and radio broadcasting, Jerome Janssen for Board of Education, and Richard Johnson for deacons. Rev. and Mrs. Decker

recalled briefly various experiences and then gave their expressions of thanks for the gift presented by the church. The Decker family is now pastoring the Apple Valley Baptist Church, Apple Valley, Minn. (Mrs. Delmar L. Wesseler, reporter.)

WARREN, MICH. On July 27, Redeemer Baptist Church had a commissioning service for Miss Val Urquhart, one of our young people who is going to Japan as a short-term missionary.

Two other young people from the church have joined the church staff. Mr. Jim Yerke, a graduate of Prairie Bible School, is part-time youth director, working with senior high youth. Miss Linda Willms, a Cedarville graduate, is our new secretary.

In addition to these, Mr. Jim Mac Mullen, who formerly served a non-NAB church in the Detroit area, is coming to be part-time music director. Of the seven members on the staff, four have come out of the membership of the church. (Mrs. Margaret Willms, reporter.)

WEST ST. PAUL, MINN. The Riverview Baptist Church installed Douglas B. Radke as its pastor on July 13, 1975. The Rev. Clarence Walth, area secretary, officiated at the installation service and brought a challenging sermon based on Psalm 52. At 3:00 p.m., an informal reception was held in the fellowship hall. Area churches were invited to join in this welcome. Pastor Radke is a native of Seattle, Wash., and a recent graduate of Bethel Seminary at St. Paul. He and his wife, Betty, have two children, Daniel, three, and Lisa,



15 months. Mr. Radke has been serving the church since June 17, 1975. Pictured from l. to r. are Mr. A. Ahlquist, ch. Deacon Bd., Pastor Douglas Radke, Rev. Clarence Walth, area secretary, Leo Jarosch, ch. Reception Committee.

ANAHEIM, CALIF. Magnolia Baptist Church was privileged to set apart Douglas K. Shannep to the ministry of the gospel on June 8, 1975. Dr. Robert Sauce, Talbot Seminary, gave the sermon. Dr. Lloyd Kwast, Talbot

Seminary, gave the charge to the candidate. Dr. Clyde Cook, Biola College, gave the charge to the church. Others of the local church staff and membership participated in the service which was followed by a reception in honor of the Rev. Mr. Shannep. Douglas is serving this summer with the King's Players of Biola College in an extensive evangelistic tour of Australia, Hong Kong, Singapore and the Philippines. He is looking to a future on the mission field and is prayerfully awaiting God's direction. The Rev. Douglas K. Shannep is the son of Gene and Jodelle Shannep, Garden Grove, Calif., and members of Magnolia Baptist Church. He received his M.D. degree in missions from Talbot Seminary on June 1. His sister, Judy, received her B.A. degree in Social Science from Biola College on the same day. She will be employed this summer at the Forest Home Christian Conference Center. The Rev. Ralph E. Cooke is the pastor of the church.

GOODRICH, N.D. The First Baptist Church witnessed a baptismal service on July 6. The Rev. Daniel Heringer baptized four candidates. A Communion service followed, and the hand of fellowship was extended to these four. This was the first baptismal service held



in our new sanctuary. Pictured with Pastor Heringer are Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Voss, Tammy Strobel, and JoLynn Lang. (Mrs. Paul Stober, reporter.)

TURTLE LAKE, N.D. A farewell service was held at the Turtle Lake Baptist Church for Mr. and Mrs. Jarvis Schlafmann. They will serve as full time missionaries in Cameroon, Africa. The Rev. Orville Meth, chaplain at the Bismarck Home and a former pastor of the church, brought the farewell mesage

Jarvis is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jake Schlafmann of Turtle Lake and has served two years in Cameroon as a Short Termer. A time of refreshments and fellowship followed. (Jo Ann Tschetter, reporter.)

TURTLE LAKE, N.D. Northern Dakota Association meetings were held in the Turtle Lake Baptist Church June 26-28, 1975. The theme was "Growing God's Way" based upon Psalm 32:8 (RSV). Special speakers were the Rev. Clarence Walth, North Central area secretary; the Rev. Bruce Rich, general director of Church Ministries; and the Rev. George Black, missionary to Cameroon.

A Men's Brotherhood breakfast and luncheons for the women, men and youth were held on June 28. The final general session included an installation service for the newly elected officers. Moderator for the coming year is Jacob Schlafmann of Turtle Lake. Presidents elected were as follows: Women's Missionary Union, Mrs. Don Beck of Anamoose; Men's Brotherhood, A. K. Johnson of Carrington; and BYF, Paul Singer of Turtle Lake.

The Association concluded with an impressive communion service. (Grace Wolitarsky, reporter.)

XENIA, OHIO Community Baptist Church welcomed its new pastor, the Rev. Henry Geigle. An installation service was held on July 27, with the Rev. Rubin Kern as guest speaker.

Pastor Geigle graduated from Sioux Falls College and the N.A.B. Seminary, Sioux Falls, S.D. He was ordained in 1963 and has pastored several churches before coming to Xenia. His wife, Leota, holds a degree in elementary education from Sioux Falls College. They have two daughters, Leah and Mary Rose, and a son, John.

A reception was held following the evening service as a welcome for Pastor Geigle and his family and to honor Rev. Kern on his retirement as area secretary of the N.A.B. Conference. (Winona Jones, reporter.)

VANCOUVER, B.C. The 55-voice Bethany Baptist Church youth choir rendered five presentations of the musical drama, "Celebrate Life," under the direction of our youth pastor, Steve Berg. In addition to three local performances they also sang in the Renton, Washington area.

Our pastor, Dr. H. J. Waltereit, had the privilege of baptizing 13 young people who were welcomed into our fellowship.

Our Junior choir presented the musical, "It's Cool in the Furnace," directed by Barbara Hass. This excellent presentation was the result of much hard work and was the first musical of its kind ever to be sung by the children of our church. (Wendy La Strange, reporter.)



MRS. WESTIE LOUISE BACKHAUS nee Jung, 84, of Madison, S.D., died on June 4, 1975. She was born at Wayne, Wis. on Feb. 2, 1891. In 1902 she came to Madison, S.D., and was married to Charles Backhaus on Oct. 22, 1913. She received Christ as her Savior, was baptized in 1903, and was a faithful member of the West Center Street Baptist Church in Madison. Survivors include her widower, Charles Backhaus; three sons; five daughters; 15 grandchildren, and one sister. Pastor Oliver Bender was the officiating minister at the funeral service.

AUGUST A. BERTSCH, 76, of Ashley, N.D., died on July 31, 1975. He was born on Dec. 29, 1898, in McPherson County, S.D. On Oct. 26, 1922, he was united in marriage to Emelia Feiock. At the age of 15 he accepted Christ as his Savior, was baptized and became a member of the Baptist church. He served as treasurer of the Ashley church for a number of years. Surviving him are his widow; one son, Harry; one daughter, Mrs. Agnes Kohrs; one step-sister and seven grand-children. The Rev. Etan Pelzer was the officiating minister at the funeral service.

ALBERT BORKOWSKI, 65, of Pound, Wis., died on Feb. 6, 1975. He was born in Pound on Feb. 12, 1909. He was united in marriage to Gladys Graetz on July 11, 1931. In 1932 he received Christ as his personal Savior and was baptized. He was a member of the Pioneer Baptist Church where he served as trustee for 30 years. Surviving him are his widow; one daughter, Mrs. Leo Gross; one son, William; his mother, 17 grandchildren, four brothers and one sister. The Rev. Ivan Bachtell of Green Bay, Wis., interim pastor, was the officiating minister at the funeral service.

HERMAN G. FUCHS, 58, of Billings, Mont., died July 15, 1975. He was born on Jan. 17, 1917, at Plevna, Mont. On June 14, 1942, he married Amanda Staebler. He was a member of the Calvary Baptist Church of Billings, Mont. He served as a trustee, church clerk, Sunday school teacher, and was a deacon at the time of his death. Surviving him are his widow; two daughters: Mrs. La Verne Edgar and Mrs. Bonnie Albright; one son, Dale Herman, four grandchildren three sisters and two brothers. The Rev. L. Dale Potratz was officiating minister at the funeral service.

DEAN JUNG, 44, of Madison, S.D., died on July 14, 1975. Dean was born at Madison on Dec. 28, 1930. In his youth he received Christ as his Savior, was baptized and became a member of the West Center Street Baptist Church in 1946. Survivors include one brother, and four sisters. Mrs. Iver Walker, Cedar Falls, Iowa, is one of his sisters. Pastor Oliver Bender was the officiating minister at the funeral service.

MERTON M. KROLL, 61, of Colfax, Wash., passed away on Sunday, Aug. 3, 1975. He was born on Aug. 7, 1914, in Colfax, Wash. He was converted at the age of 14 years, baptized by the Rev. R. M. Klingheil and joined the Wilcox Baptist Church, which later became a part of First Baptist Church, Colfax. He served in various capacities in the Sunday school while the Wilcox church was operating. Surviving him are his father, Edward Kroll; three brothers; Victor, Buford and Everett; two sisters, Iris, Mrs. Edwin Kramlich, and Violet, Mrs. Richard Templeton. Pastor Bernard Edinger conducted the memorial service Wednesday, Aug. 6 at First Baptist Church of Colfax.

ARTHUR DAVID LENGEFELD, 35, of Branch, LA., died on June 25, 1975. He was born on Sept. 22, 1939, in Buda, Tex. He was baptized into the fellowship of the Mowata Baptist Church on Dec. 4, 1951. He was an active member of the church, and also served as a member of the General Council of the North American Baptist Conference. He is survived by his widow, Barbara; four children Donna, age 10: Janet and Joyce, age 8: and Steven, age 6. He is also survived by his father. John: three sisters, one of whom is Helen Lengefeld serving as a short-term missionary in Victoria, Cameroon. The funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Harold Drenth, assisted by the Rev. Jakob Klingenberg.

DR. MARTHA M. LEYPOLDT, 56, of King of Prussia, Pa., died on July 15, 1975. She was born in Hanover, Ont., on Oct. 2, 1918. Her father was the well-known pastor and evangelist in the N.A.B. Conference. She accepted Christ as her Savior at an early age, was baptized by her father and joined the Baptist Church. Martha had a distinguished career as a high school teacher, Christian education publications editor for the N.A.B. Conference, director of Christian education, Bethel Baptist Church, Anaheim, Calif., professor of Christian Education and Registrar at the N.A.B. Seminary, Sioux Falls, S.D., and recently Professor of Teaching Ministry at Eastern Baptist Seminary, Philadelphia, Pa., and author of a number of books. Surviving her are her twin sister, Mary, for many years comptroller at the N.A.B. Office; two other sisters and a brother. The Rev. Chester T. Winters was the officiating minister at the memorial service.

THE REV. GUSTAV SCHMIDT, 83, of Deland, Fla., died on July 9, 1975. He was born on Nov. 22, 1891, in Poland. In 1913 he emigrated to Bethlehem, Pa. Soon after, he was converted and baptized and became a member of what is now the Calvary Baptist Church. In 1914 he was married. Convinced that he was called to the ministry he attended the N.A.B. Seminary, Rochester, N.Y., 1920-24. He was ordained in the West Baltimore Baptist Church on June 24, 1924, where he served as pastor for 28 years from 1922-50. From 1955-61 he served a church in Ridgeville, Md. His retirement years were spent in Florida. Surviving him are his widow, Katie; an adopted daughter, Edna; one sister, Mrs. Locadia Hahn; a half sister, Olga Barr. Dr. Joseph R. Estes, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Deland, Fla., was the officiating minister at the funeral service.

letters to the editor

(Continued from page 31)

Dear Editor: I appreciate the BAPTIST HERALD and look forward to each issue. I want to voice a special appreciation for the article, "Proofs of Having the Holy Spirit" by the Rev. Adolph Braun. Pastor Braun has written a splendid treatise on this important subject. Thank you so much. In Christ, A. J. Borchardt, St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Editor:

To my great amazement and concern I have found the article by Adolph Braun in June's issue of your paper. I am amazed and concerned because a) I have not read as hostile, virulent, unloving and relentless an attack on fellow-Christians in many years; b) the Bible is being used to prove a point of view and to condemn at the same time a practice which has implicit approval as long as everything is done in order. But to start with my first point.

Adolph Braun gives only generalized references to "the Charismatic Movement", to "them" and "they". In the first paragraph one encounters the sentences: "There are many who say that the 'tongues movement' is all of the devil. I cannot go that far, but some of it seems to be of Satan and most of it is unscriptural . . .". My questions regarding this line of reasoning are:

1) If some of it is of Satan, what is the whole? 2) If most of it is unscriptural, which is the bigger part—the satanic or the unscriptural or the whole? 3) What familiarity other than

hearsay and with the proverbial "black sheep" encountered occasionally does the writer have with the Charismatic Movement? This last question is even more pressing in the light of the statements in the second column on page 5 under the heading "Proof of the indwelling Spirit".

This last mentioned portion in my opinion is slander and character assassination at its worst. By using Galatians 5:17-21, paraphrasing it, adding in the words "charismatic meeting" a slur is created just short of direct accusation that members of Charismatic Churches are like this. Similarly, the notion of the "heathen Roman Catholics" is conjured up by the mention of some "Roman Catholics in the Charismatic Movement say. . . ." In the same sectoin (p. 5, col. 1) there are references without citation regarding heathens speaking in tongues. Apart from the fact that it would be both interesting and salutary to know where these references come from to be able to warn others of irresponsible actions, this combination also only serves to highlight Adolph Braun's contentions of page 4, the first paragraph. It is sad that such virulent slander should find its way into the BAPTIST HERALD. at the same time when Gerald L. Borchert obviously has no scriptural answers concerning abortion, but only explains the difficulties of the Supreme Court of the U.S.A., to find answers to questions regarding the termination of life.

My second point is much shorter and concerns the statement, p. 5, col. 2. that the gift of tongues should only be used privately, quoting I Cor. 14:4, 28. Why should Paul in the same letter, the same chapter, give the following orders: (verse 26, NAS): "What is the outcome then, brethren? When you assemble, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification." What does this mean in the light of Adolph Braun's exhortation? Is he trying to prove that the Charismatic Christians (or whatever they call themselves) are inspired in part by Satan and most of what they do is unscriptural?

What about the portion titled "Jesus condemned those who sought for signs", with verse 22 of I Cor. 14? What about verse 28 in chapter 13 of the same book? Where are the people who "earnestly desire the greater gifts"—it seems to me that Adolph Braun does not consider items 4 and 5 in chapter 13:28 to be in operation, or does he? All in all, he presents a highly distorted picture about the Charisma-

tic Movement by showing only the "tongues" part, not any of the others. This sounds so much like the calumnies against the Baptists in the European State churches about baptism, as if nothing else was taught.

This article is a sad reminder that the baby gets thrown out with the bath water by us Baptists, whenever someone goes overboard on one particular idea in the Bible. They overdo, so we do away with it. Proof of this attitude is the remark that "Liberal existentialist theologians are succeeding through the Charismatic Movement. They said that the Scripture was only the true Word of God when you experience it ..." Is the experience of the resurrection with Christ in baptism, the experience of being able to say NO to sin just a feeling as indicated on p. 31, a feeling we ought not to have? Are we falling back into the 3rd century where everything had to be reason to the exclusion of the heart (or the 19th century Enlightenment for that matter)?

I know many Charismatics (I am at a loss for another name) who very much pass the test posed on p. 4, col. 1 and then some. So do many Baptists. So do many Roman Catholics, and I am glad you brought that article on them in the same issue. Misrepresentation is not the way to Christian understanding and love, not the "letter of Christ... written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone, but on tablets of human hearts" (II Cor. 3:3, NAS). Dirk A. Seelemann, St. Catharines, Ontario.

Dear Editor:

After reading the August issue of the BAPTIST HERALD I am proud to be a member of the North American Baptist Conference, a group that is not afraid to deal with today's issues, that does not hide behind time-worn platitudes, but faces the issues of Women's Lib squarely and to the core.

The first article set the tone beautifully by portraying a woman who was truly a loving human being. The discussion of women deacons in the light of the Word of God was enlightening and encouraging for the future of our conference.

The article "Should Housewives be Paid?" is sure to open up channels of communication so necessary between husband and wife and from woman to woman. Mrs. Pankratz spoke my mind in encouraging use of talents and career orientation among women.

Again my hearty congratulation to an issue so full of good and provocative reading. It was truly a pleasure. Eva Helwing, Chicago, Illinois.

news wiens

EVANGELICAL CHURCHES COM-MISSION IN EAST GERMANY IS-SUES STATEMENT

Some insight into the situation of churches in the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) is provided through a report in the Swiss Evangelical Press Service of a study made by the Ecumenical Commission of the Union of Evangelical Churches in the GDR.

The study was made in connection with an ecumenical emphasis on the theme "Called to account for the hope that is in us" (cf. I Peter 3:15).

"Christians in the GDR live in a society in which the person is understood throughout as a social being," the paper states.

"The individual is regarded not for himself but for his role in society and his part in material production. . . . Individuality is for mutual fulfillment and the good of society."

The paper acknowledges the Christian's responsibility, inspired by the examples of Old Testament prophet and New Testament apostle, to contribute as a member of the community to social justice and the elimination of evils in society.

It is insisted, however, that man is "more than a collection of social conditions." One is "individually responsible to God."

"Forgiveness of sin and acceptance by God is dependent on personal faith," the statement affirms. "The individual is therefore required to make his decision—he cannot take refuge in the social condition or expectations of society."

Led of the Spirit of God "the person may come into conflict because of society's claims on him. Basic in personal being according to the Bible is one's relationship to God."

The statement continues, however, that "this should not lead to an individualism in which for the sake of one's relationship to God one is taken practically out of the world!

"Life in society is for the Christian the opportunity to prove his faith and the love of one's neighbor which flows from it. The Christian will not therefore because of his faith try to avoid the claims of society upon him."

"If these claims involve commitment to a world view incompatible with his faith, however, the Christian must be ready to resist, even if this means he is isolated and disadvantaged."

The call to faith is primary for a Christian, the statement declares. "Involvement in social action is secondary and can never be substituted for confession of the Lordship of Christ." (EBPS)

ZURICH CHURCH CELEBRATES 125TH ANNIVERSARY

The first Baptist church of Zürich, "Salemskapelle," celebrated its 125th anniversary in the city's Congress

The program, under the direction of Hans Rüd, included an address by the pastor, Ernst Rödter, presentation of past events of the church in dramatic form and special musical numbers.

The Zürich church had its beginning on August 5, 1849, with eight persons baptized by a convert of the continent's pioneer Baptist J. G. Oncken of Hamburg, Germany, along with several others who had been previously baptized.

Present membership of the church

FORMER CATHEDRAL IN USSR HOUSES NEW MUSEUM OF **ATHEISM**

A new museum of the history of atheism is being opened in the old cathedral of St. Sophia in Polotsk, USSR, Keston News Service of England reports.

This is the first such museum in Byelorussia and the fourth in the

In an interview published in a Soviet newspaper the recently appointed director of the museum explained that its main task is atheist propaganda.

All exhibits are to be designed, according to the source, to convince the visitor that God did not create man but man created God.

It is said also to be intended as a training center for preparation of qualified leaders and specialists in atheism. (EBPS)

MIRACLES OF GRACE AND JUDGMENT

by Gerhard P. Schroeder 1712 W. Pine, Lodi, Cal.

A brief account of the personal contacts and experiences with some of the leaders and followers of anarchism during the civil war in South Russia 1914-1923. 294 pages \$6.95



by Paul H. Siewert

The results of a recent survey on giving exposed some rather revealing trends in the United States and Canada. First it was revealed that though giving in churches has increased substantially, it has not kept pace with the rate of inflation. Secondly, it was revealed that those who give little to the cause of Christ usually also give poorly to general benevolent causes.

In addition it was stated that the motives for giving are basically threefold: gratitude to God, an act of worship, and desire to share. At the same time the greatest deterrant for giving was stated as a desire to provide the good things in life for one's family and meeting extra family obligations.

A detailed analysis of the above could no doubt yield some interesting commentaries. However, the most obvious exegesis attests to a discrimination of at least two biblical principles: the ultimate ownership of God and the tithe as the standard for giving.

I don't know of any church that wouldn't increase its giving by at least 40 percent if the tithe was strictly adhered to by everyone. For many churches it would run more like 100 percent. Again it's not a matter of a lack of biblical guidance but Christian disciple-

Is it true that we are more noble in our tithe to the waitress in the restaurant than to God?

ing tomorrow night," said the little boy to his dad.

have to attend?"

"Oh, yes," replied the son. "It's just

Teacher: "What does the word 'ignorance' mean Billy?" Billy: "Ignorance is when you don't know anything and

what's happening

- The Rev. Charles Priddy has accepted the call to First Baptist Church, Lorraine, Kansas. He begins his ministry there on October 1.
- Ronald M. Apgar, director of youth ministries at Magnolia Baptist Church, Anaheim, Calif., has resigned in August. He will be serving a non-N.A.B. church in California.
- The Rev. J. Wayne Bibelheimer, for the past seven years pastoral staff

Total for seven months

\$ 2,000,000

1,900,000

1,800,000

1,700,000

1,600,000

1,500,000

1,400,000

1,300,000

1,200,000

1,100,000

1,000,000

900,000

800,000

700,000

600,000

400,000

300,000

200,000

100,000

Color line for 1975; black line for 1974

January-July 1975 - \$852,760.63

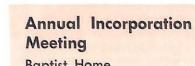
January-July 1974 - \$769,280.67

OUR STEWARDSHIP RECORD/NAB BASIC MISSION PROGRAM

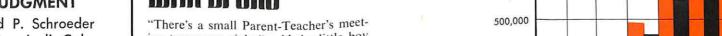
- member of Magnolia Baptist Church, Anaheim, has accepted the call to become associate pastor of Swain Oaks Baptist Church, Stockton, Calif., effective October 1. The Rev. Fred Jantz is the pastor of this church.
- Allan Fredlund, for the past six months part-time director for Christian Education at Rowandale Baptist Church, Winnipeg, Man., is now assistant pastor at Central Baptist Church, Edmonton, Alberta.

Goal for 1975 - \$2,150,000

- John W. Hoffman is the new assistant pastor and minister of Christian Education at Temple Baptist Church, Medicine Hat, Alberta.
- Dr. Benno Przybylski is the new professor at North American Baptist College, Edmonton, Alta. He and his wife spent the past year in Israel, where Benno was studying at the university in partial completion of his doctorate.
- The Rev. Grayson Paschke, pastor of Immanuel and Ebenezer Baptist Churches in Wessington Springs, S.D., has resigned from his pastoral work and is now teaching at Briercrest Bible Institute in Saskatchewan. Grayson attended this institute from 1961-1964.
- The Rev. Robert Jaster has resigned his chaplain duties at Sunnyside Nursing Home and Haven of Rest, Medicine Hat, Sask., to retire in Chilliwack, B.C. Rev. Jaster has served Victoria Avenue Baptist Church in Chilliwack from 1964-1971.
- Woodland Shores Baptist Church, Bridgeman, Mich., was organized on July 1, 1975, with a total of 50 charter members.
- The Rev. Richard Lord, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, Warren, Mich., has given his resignation to the church.
- Chaplain John W. Hisel has terminated his military career and is now attending North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, S.D. Besides his studies in the D.Min. program, he will also be employed as a part-time instructor in pastoral field education.



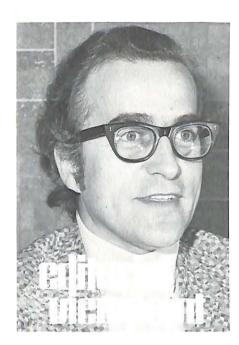
Baptist Home 1100 Blvd Bismarck, North Dakota Tuesday Oct. 14, 1975 10:00 A.M. 35th Anniversary Program Oct. 14, 1975 2:00 P.M.



"Well, if it's going to be small, do I

you, me and the teacher."

then somebody finds out."



The Congress of Love

When a Swedish reporter put a microphone in front of one of the Baptist World Congress delegates from Brazil and asked her, what the week of international meetings had meant to her, he received an answer which perhaps best characterizes the 13th B.W.A. Congress held in Stockholm: "I have found love." That was the experience of so many of the 9,936 delegates and visitors from 92 countries who attended this gathering of the world wide Baptist family.

It is conceivable that a number of Baptists and non-Baptists might ask, Why a Baptist World Congress at a cost of hundreds of thousands of dollars? What is its purpose and what is its value?

As one who has attended four of the thirteen Baptist World Congresses since the first in London in 1905, I would like to list a few of the values of the Baptist World Alliance and of its congresses held once every five years.

A brochure published by the B.W.A. office in Washington, D.C. describes the Baptist World Alliance as "a voluntary association of Baptist conventions and unions, for promoting fellowship and cooperation among Baptists." One of the ways to promote greater cooperation are the five Study Commissions with about 300 members from many different countries. For the past five years, I had the privilege of belonging to the Commission on Cooperative Christianity. The other commissions deal with religious liberty and human rights, Christian teaching and training, missions, and evangelism. These commissions have annual meetings, attended by those members who either live close to the annually changing meeting place or those who can financially afford a trip to the sessions. Most of the work, however, is done by correspondence and local research.

The real highlight of Baptist fellowship, though, are the world congresses. What an **inspiration** they have been to me!

I still remember the Jubilee Congress in 1955 in London. As a student without means I had purchased a reduced charter flight ticket from Germany, where I lived at that time, to London, England. That was my first encounter with Baptists from all over the world. Precious friendships were made of which some have lasted to this day. I recall that I must have missed only two of the many sessions during the London Congress.

The following congresses which I attended were the ones in Miami Beach in 1965, and in Tokyo in 1970. No longer did I have to come from Europe, for in the meantime I had made my home in America. Yet, even in 1965, at the mammoth congress in Miami (attended by almost 20,000 delegates) I sensed something of the beauty of belonging to such a large world family of Baptists.

Next is **sharing.** Ideas are freely exchanged at such congresses. Methods and the means of evangelism and missions are discussed. Victories and failures, concerns and burdens are shared. First-hand information can not be matched by even the best news release.

Bible studies in an international setting have a fascinating foretaste of what it will be one day when all God's children will be gathered around his throne to receive his word. The national background mixed with traditional taboos and mores of each Bible student contribute to unforgettable rich experiences.

Another important value of such a congress is the witness for Christ in the host country. Both the about 9,000 delegates in Tokyo in 1970 as well as the 10,000 congress participants in Sweden made a tremendous impact on the respective cities and countries. Only God knows how many lives have been touched and changed, for example, at the last congress, when so many Baptists from 92 different countries sang and testified to the reality of "new people for a new world—through Christ."

Do you really want to know what a Baptist World Congress is all about? Then make plans to attend the 14th B.W.A. Congress to be held in 1980 in Toronto, Ontario. See you there! RJK



letters to the editor

Dear Editor:

Thank you for printing the timely article by the Rev. Adolph Braun on "Proofs of Having the Holy Spirit". The subject of the gifts of the Holy Spirit are of genuine concern in the Christian world today. Rev. Braun is to be commended for dealing with the subject in a clear and scriptural manner. Many Christians today are being confronted with this very matter through those who are involved in speaking in tongues and what I refer to as a shallow outward "happiness". The Church at Corinth was the most troubled of the early churches and needed Paul's admonishments and correction. I find it difficult to understand why any Christian would want to pattern himself after the Corinthian Christians, rather than to follow Paul's direction to them. Brother Braun's statement in the final paragraph is the question every believer must ask himself; "Is experience my authority, or is God's Word my authority?"

My personal feeling and the thought expressed to me very often by members of the South Central Area is to have more N.A.B. pastors and able laymen/women write articles for the HERALD. Reprints are not as appreciated, as they can be read in their original periodicals. Milton W. Zeeb, South Central Area Secretary.

Dear Editor:

I want to make a few comments about the article in the June issue of the BAPTIST HERALD, "Proofs of Having the Holy Spirit", by the Rev. Adolph Braun.

Although I have a great respect for pastor Braun and consider him to be a beautiful Christian and brother in Christ, I feel empelled to voice my grief and objection over this article.

At the beginning of the article brother Braun stated: "My prayer is that I will speak in love and yet not compromise God's truth." I don't doubt his sincerity in making that statement; but I am sad because I find love woefully lacking in what he writes in the balance of the article. He makes judgments and accusations that are not fair, right or true of

many Charismatics. In my estimation he shows a complete lack of understanding on his part, as to what has happened in the lives of many beautiful Christians, who are sometimes called Charismatics. Therefore, this article can only create further confusion and cause greater divisions among Christian brothers and sisters.

It is not hard to strike out and make someone else look pretty bad in the process. If that is what brother Braun intended to do he has no doubt succeeded. He makes Charismatics look pretty bad. The descriptions and accusations he makes against Charismatics is no doubt true of some; but what about the many of whom the picture doesn't fit at all? I know many Charismatics for whom it certainly doesn't fit. Are we going to condemn the whole by the examples of some? I could write an article about certain Baptists that would make brother Braun's description of Charismatics look good by comparison. But are we going to condemn all Baptists by the examples of some?

Brother Braun states, "Preaching is the most important gift" . . . "why should there be such an emphasis on

so little emphasis on the other great gifts of the Spirit?" May I suggest that the greatest misused and abused gift in the Church today is not "tongues"; but rather the gifts of teaching and preaching. There are many seminaries and pulpits in our country where the name of Christ is seldom ever mentioned, especially as Lord and Saviour. As I don't recall seeing any articles in the HERALD in recent months speaking out against the greatest misuse and abuse of the gifts of the Spirit, why this emphasis on a gift that you seem to feel is of such little importance? Also on what scriptural grounds do so many Baptists almost completely neglect teaching and using some of the gifts of the Spirit, such as healing, effecting of miracles, the distinguishing of spirits, tongues and interpretation of tongues (1 Cor. 12:10)? Does the Spirit give bad or useless gifts?

the least gift-that of "tongues,-and

In the name of Christian love and truth I would certainly hope for a more just, unbiased and tolerant appraisal. The Charismatic renewal has been taking place in many denominations and churches, including churches and individuals in the North American Bap-

tist Conference. If we are going to discuss the Charismatic renewal in our denominational paper it wouldn't seem more than fair and right to have both prespectives presented. Yours In Christ, Walter Sukut.

(Continued on page 27)



Reports on the 1975

Ministers

Conference
in Sioux Falls, S.D.

NEW CONFERENCE OFFICE

(Continued from page 5)

sale of the old office building, a house and two apartment buildings in Forest Park.

The financing of the project, as approved by the Council, is as follows: "That we enter into an interim loan agreement with Continental Illinois National Bank of Chicago to cover construction costs as needed; that plans be developed for repaying the loan through direct solicitation, memorial gifts and the sale of bonds."

These past two and one-half years of study, planning and decision-making by various committees and General Council members have demanded a keen sensitivity to God's leading. We are indebted to God for the unity illustrated by several actions which were passed by unanimous vote. Where there was dissent, there was a high percentage of favorable vote. In a democratic procedure we need to be grateful for each person who expresses insights, whether these be favorable or unfavorable, in order that we can carefully and rightly weigh the matters before us. As we reflect upon our decisions of the past two and one-half years, we need to express to God our thanks for his leading. "Hitherto has the Lord helped us."

There has been much prayer by people throughout our denomination for all who had responsibility in making decisions relative to the Conference office relocation project. Many of us can testify to a willing submission of self to the Spirit of God as we sensed with deep concern the weighty responsibilities of decision-making in

this matter which comes to most of us only once in a lifetime. It behooves us to be much in prayer as we seek God's continued leading in our building project of a new Conference office.

The work of the Building Committee is still not complete because additional meetings and decisions will need to be made as we work toward completing the project by the spring of 1976. I wish to acknowledge at this time the dedicated and committed spirit and attitude which characterized the Relocation and Building Committee. The diversity of abilities and expertise is what made possible the extensive exploration of gathering information, evaluating the same and making decisions in keeping with God's leading. The members of the Building Committee are as follows:

Leslie Albert, John Binder, Milton H. Hildebrandt, William Kresal, Edwin H. Marklein, Robert Mayforth, Kenneth Miller, Richard Russell, Richard Schilke, Lyle Wacker, Delmar Wesseler, G. K. Zimmerman

In addition to the members of the Building Committee we also contacted other persons with expertise in particular areas to give us their input. We are much indebted to the prayers of our people as we sought to carry out this project. We ask for your continued prayers as the plans are now formulated to give opportunity for North American Baptists to support the projects through memorial gifts and other contributions. More details will be communicated to our constituency after these have been worked out. In the meantime, pray for us that we may continue to experience God's leading.

HEAR WHAT GOD IS DERN-DAY

The Brazil Praise Singers consist of a group of 13 singers of which 9 are Brazilian young people accompanied by a missionary family of four (Herman and Ardath Effa and their two children Allan and Jerilyn), all from the southern most state in Brazil, the State of Rio Grande do Sul. The nine young people come from six Baptist churches in the State: three from Caxias do Sul, two from Porto Alegre, two from Ijui, one from Sante Angelo, and one from Carazinho. The Effa family is resident in Caxias do Sul. The group is touring the United States and Canada from December 12, 1975 to March 6, 1976.

Welcome to the Brazil Praise Singers in the name of Christ as representatives of our N.A.B. Mission in Brazil. Pray for God's blessing on them and the concert they render, and send them on their journey with your blessings and prayers. They will travel as a group in a minibus with Herman L. Effa as the main driver. The Brazil Praise Singers are sponsored by the North American Baptist General Conference, Forest Park.

baptist herald

7308 Madison Street Forest Park, Illinois 60130

Non-profit organization. Second class postage paid at Forest Park, Illinois 60130 and at additional mailing offices.