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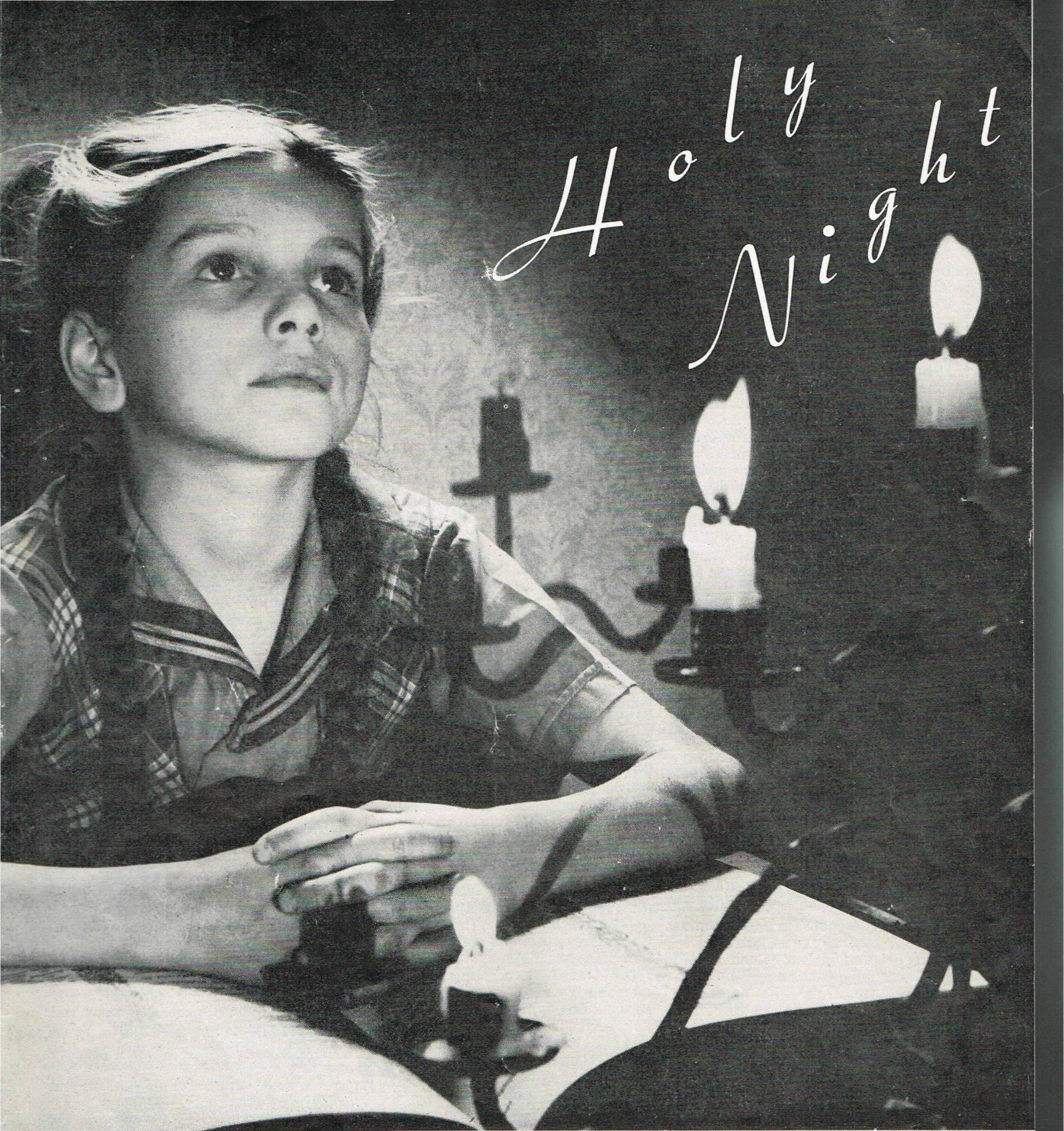
Evangelical Visitor - December 17, 1956 Vol. LXIX. No. 26

J.N. Hostetter

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*Holy
Night*

EVANGELICAL VISITOR

December 17, 1956

Gifts---What and to Whom?

TWENTY AND TWENTY FIVE years ago it was customary to arrange teams to deliver Christmas baskets to poor families in the community. There was a common understanding that unless the church, Sunday school or some other agency made certain contributions to numbers of homes they would have no Christmas celebration.

Today most of our Sunday schools have difficulty finding homes to make like contributions. A complimentary word need be said for the "powers that be" in making certain provisions in our social structure that presents something of a so-called "Social Security."

Whether this phenomenal materialistic structure that we think of as economic prosperity is of the continuing type is not primarily our discussion here. Of this we are certain, in accordance with Revelation, chapter 18, as of the end time there will be a gigantic economic system known as Babylon that will utterly collapse and come to nought. Only God Himself knows whether the lush of the present is the forerunner of this economic plush that will characterize the end-time.

Amid this abundance what shall be the outlet for the Christmas urge that normally pulsates within us? We have an obligation to the needy whether next of kin, next door or in the more remote areas of society. Belts are again being tightened because of war conditions. Dislocation of human beings and the plight of refugees has taken another grim turn in the last thirty days. A sincere Christian stands ready to share in alleviating human misery wherever the grim monster puts in his appearance.

When Christ came He began a ministry that basically was spiritual in its purport and intent. Such is still the sacred obligation and divine purpose for those of us who name the name of Christ and profess to be His representation on the earth.

Our material gifts to society, whether given to kinfolk, neighbor or some distant need are the insignificant detail of our giving at this Christmas season. We live in the midst of a spiritually ravaged society. It groans with spiritual hunger, is terrified by fright and frustrated by the cross-currents of human experience.

The last object lesson that Jesus gave the disciples was concerning the

Vine and the Branches. "I am the vine ye are the branches," constitute His final words to impress upon them to what degree He, the Vine, was dependent on them, the branches.

He then proceeds to detail the vital life-giving substances that flow from Him, the vine, into the disciples, the branches. These are love and joy.

"As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. . . . this is my commandment that ye love one another, as I have loved you." Paul's concern was to know this love which has four dimensions: breadth, length, height and depth.

Jesus asked that our gift to society be a love that transcends mere human affection; a love that is not restricted by sectarianism, buried beneath the canopy of religious zeal and fervor or merely a something that sings enthusiastically: "Do you know the world is dying for a little bit of love."

This gift to society is to be without partiality. High enough to surmount differences of opinion, deep enough to passionately yearn for unfortunate victims of Satan, whom he has plunged to the depths of degradation and sin. It is to be wide enough to include every tribe and kindred and nation, and of sufficient length to reach into the unexplored areas of being "long-suffering."

Jesus further said, ". . . that my joy might remain in you and that your joy might be full." Hebrews 12: 2, ". . . who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross . . ."

His was a joy of benevolence, a delight that came from ministering to and helping others. His was a joy of harmony with His heavenly Father; a sense of being in accord with the purposes and plan of God. These are areas of Christian joy that relax the inner sanctum of the soul.

The joy of self-sacrifice is the most difficult one to define and equally so to illustrate. It is that depth of Christian experience revealed in the film "Martyred Men." The film gives account of the five young missionary men that were murdered by the Auca Indians last January 8th. The spiritual fortitude displayed by the father and widow of one of the young men is picturesque of a sense of spiritual values that rejoices in the midst of real suffering and hardship.

Anything we give materially this Christmas will be short-lived in its value. If we disseminate perfect love and manifest holy joy, we will thereby make a "gift" to society such as Jesus Himself would make if He were here.

—J. N. H.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I do not know when the expiration date is for my magazine. It seems I have sent in my re-newal, then again, I don't seem to re-call it.

So, if it has been sent, would you use this \$3.00 for the "Visitor" for some missionary or needy person.

It is very difficult for me to save up the subscription price, but, I just couldn't do without the **Evangelical Visitor**. It gives me news of the Christian workers in Africa and India. It brings me close to the church even though I cannot attend.

My prayers are with the church and am very much interested in what is going on throughout the brotherhood.

Thank you so much for a very interesting and spiritual magazine. I read it from cover to cover. Thank you.

Yours truly,
Mrs. B. S. D., Calif.

The Bible

*This precious Book I'd rather own
Than all the golden gems
That e'er in monarchs' coffers shone,
Or on their diadems.
Ah, no, the soul never found release
In glittering things of earth;
Gems dazzle not the eye of grief,
Gold cannot purchase health.
But here a precious balm appears
For all our human woes,
And they who seek this Book in tears,
Their tears shall cease to flow.*
(Anon.)

Evangelical Visitor

Official Organ of the Brethren in Christ Church, published bi-weekly by the E. V. Publishing House, Nappanee, Indiana.

PURPOSE: To publish the Gospel of God's grace—a complete salvation through the atonement of Jesus Christ the Son of God, made effectual by faith in Him; the walk in holiness by the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit; and the pre-millennial second coming of our Lord.

J. N. Hostetter, Editor, Clarence Center, N. Y., to whom all material for publication should be sent.

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The Wisdom of the "Wise Men"

WHO WERE the "wise men" that visited the infant Jesus in Bethlehem? All that is really known about them, aside from unsupported tradition, is given in less than one line of Scripture. They were "wise men from the east" (Matt. 2:1). The Greek term, "magoi," translated "wise men," has been used with reference to teachers, priests, and astrologers of the Orient. Whether these "wise men" came from Babylon, Persia, India, or some point farther east is not indicated. The nearest point suggested by scholars would have involved a journey of over six hundred miles, requiring many weeks of toilsome joggling over desert sands, upon slow moving beasts of burden.

Some people are clever but not wise. Whether these "wise men" were clever, wealthy, distinguished, or quite the opposite, we do not know. But *wise men* they certainly were.

They were wise in putting their concern about the coming Messiah above all other interests. Was it the Prophet Daniel, in distant Babylon, who implanted the hope of a coming Messiah, about five hundred years before (Dan. 9:25)? Or, was it the Prophet Ezekiel, who ministered to the same generation, by the River Chebar (Ezek. 3:15)? Whatever revelation the "wise men" had, they were "sitting in darkness," waiting for "the sunrising" (Lk. 1:78-79), giving heed to the "word of prophecy—as unto a lamp shining in a dark place" (I Pet. 1:19). Only out of such a background of waiting, searching, and contemplation could they have understood the sign that ultimately appeared in the heavens. And when the star appeared, all other business was set aside in the interest of their supreme concern.

The "wise men" were wise in that they followed the light they had. They took the time; they paid the price. They followed the wise counsel in *Pilgrim's Progress*; "—see yonder light? Keep that light in your eyes and go directly to it." Unerringly, the light led them to the Christ-child, to full revelation, and "exceeding great joy." Like the devout shepherds of Bethlehem, they were given further revelation because their hearts were conditioned to receive it. "Ye shall — find me when ye shall search for me with all

(Continued on page eleven)

The Bible

Isaiah F. Bashore

BOOK of diversity in unity, the supreme Book, supernatural in origin, divine in Authorship, human in penmanship, infallible in authority, infinite in scope, universal in interest, eternal in duration, personal in application, regenerative in power, inestimable in value, immeasurable in scope, unsurpassed in literary beauty, unequalled in simplicity of expression, harmonious in infinite complexity, inexhaustive in adequacy, immortal in its hopes, inspired in totality, the masterpiece of God, a complete code of laws, the most entertaining and authentic history ever published, the best covenant ever made, the best will ever executed, it comes to us drenched in the tears of multitudinous contritions, worn with the fingers of agony and death, fragrant with the faith of little children, expounded by the greatest intellects, steeped in the prayers of many martyrs, stained with the blood of those who went to the torture rack or stake for it, the pillow on which saints of all ages have rested their heads, it is the Book which breaks the fetters of the slave, takes the heat out of life's fierce and fretful fevers, takes the pain out of parting, the sting out of death, the gloom out of the grave.

The Bible is sustained by those who have been born again (I Peter 1:23). It is infinite in height, infinite in depth, wide as the moral government of God. It is the one and only source of information concerning the divine revelation, the creation of the world, the soul's salvation, human destiny, and the realities of eternity. It is wonderful in its inspiration, in its translation, in its preservation, in its unification, in its consummation. It makes civilization and nations to breathe and to grow. It is free from all earthly mixture, original, unborrowed, solitary in its greatness, outliving all others books, as a mighty factor in civilization it is unique and peerless. It is settled in its source (Psalm 119:89), sure in its promises (Jer. 1:12), satisfying in its contents (Jer. 15:16), secure in its guidance (Psalm 119:105), eternal in duration (Matt. 24:35), supreme in God's estimation (Psalm 138:2), a sword to defend (Eph. 6:17), a fire to warm in a cold world, and a hammer to break us down (Jer. 23:29), a mirror to show us not only what we are, but what we ought to be (Jas. 1:23). It is the milk that nourisheth (I Pet. 2:2), water that cleanseth, (Psalm 119:9, Jno. 15:3, Eph. 5:26), honey that sweetens (Psalm 19:10). Forever this marvelous Book is as glorious as a starry night, as fresh as the break of day.

We ask why will people go astray when they have this blessed Book to guide them? Shall we go forward with our Bible or backward without it? In the face of all these marvelous truths what shall I do with the Bible? May Psalm 119:11 be our answer: "Thy word"—what a treasure! "... Hid in my heart"—what a place! "That I might not sin against Thee"—what a purpose!

B eautiful Book	B lessed
I nteresting Book	I nvestment
B lessed Book	B ringing
L ife-Giving Book	L ife
E ternal Book	E verlasting

The Bible has an origin that is mysterious, a unity that is marvelous, a depth that is matchless, an existence that is miraculous, an influence that is mighty, a fulfillment that is manifest, a proof that is maturable.

Believe it to be wise, practice it to be holy. Amen.



Good Tidings

Aaron Stern

GOOD NEWS! Good news! Extra special good news! Christ the Saviour is born! This is the good tidings about which St. Luke wrote in the second chapter of his Gospel. This is, indeed, the message of Christmas. The prophets of the Old Testament had predicted this event. Now it had become an actuality. Beyond the shadow of a doubt this was the greatest and best news the world had ever received. This news cast was not only declared in the headlines of the *Bethlehem Sun* or the *Judean Gazette*, but was spoken by a heavenly news reporter, an angel, to lowly shepherds.

Listen to the breath-taking news. "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

When the heavenly messenger came to the shepherds and the glory of the Lord shone round about, they were filled with fear. They were greatly troubled. They were sore afraid. Their hearts provided a perfect setting for the opening words, "Fear not," which were spoken by the angel. Without half trying we can easily imagine the calming effect these words must have had upon the spirits of the shepherds.

Today men's hearts are filled with fear. Many are scared as they view the critical situation in Hungary and in the Middle East. We all wonder what the future holds. Are we facing up to World War III?

There are many fears which obsess people today. Some fear that they will fail financially. Others are afraid that they will lose their social stand-

ing. Still others are afraid that they will not succeed in life. Many have fears regarding the permanence of their family relationships. A great number fear the judgment of Almighty God in that final day. For a great mass of people life is cluttered, distorted, and badly mixed up. Their minds, if it were possible to see them, would be much like the condition of a home on the day of moving. The furniture and appliances are placed around everywhere. Everything is in one grand confusion. Such is the condition of the minds of many persons today. They have "fightings within and fears without."

How pleasant the words, "Fear not," sounded to troubled people. This is a part of the good news, a vital part of the glad tidings of the Christmas message and the Christian gospel. Christ came to earth to cast fear out of men's hearts.

"Good tidings" is good news. And the good news which the angel declared on that first Christmas night was concerning Christ Jesus the Saviour. In fact He is good news. He is the message of Christmas.

This message may be set forth by employing a simple acrostic composed of the letters in the word, "JESUS," by letting "J" stand for JOY, "E" for EQUALITY, "S" for SALVATION, "U" for (you), and "S" for SOCIAL OUTREACH.

The angel said, "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great JOY." When Jesus came He brought joy. Have you seen ministers who habitually come into the pulpit with the gloom of the world on their faces? It can hardly be said that they are the best representatives of the Lord Je-

sus when they constantly appear in that fashion, for the message of Christ is one of joy. God's representatives have this joy in their hearts and show it on their countenances. Joy is something far deeper than happiness. Happiness comes and goes. It is dependent on the fading things of life, but joy abides because it is founded in Christ.

EQUALITY plays a very important part in the Gospel message. "Good tidings of great joy is for all people," said the angel. It matters not whether they be kings on thrones or shepherds in the fields; whether they belong to aristocracy or peasantry; whether they are rich or poor, young or old, sick or well, Russian or American, black or white, farmers or industrialists, gentlemen or ladies, highly respected or outcast, employers or employees; whatever their station or rank in life is, this good news is for them. This glorious message is no respecter of persons.

Jesus came to bring SALVATION, to save His people from their sins. The angel told the shepherds, "Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord." What a glorious word this is! The Man is born who will bear our sins in His own body on the tree. He is the Lamb of God who taketh away the sin of the world. He is the one who gave Himself that we might not perish, but might have everlasting life. It seems to be a rude statement, "He was born to die," but it is true. He left the shining courts of heaven to come to earth to die for our sins. He came to shed His precious blood in our behalf. In view of this tremendous sacrifice we may well sing, "Hallelujah! What A Saviour!"

"U," the fourth letter in Jesus' name, stands for the word which has exactly its same sound, the word, YOU. The angel was speaking specifically to the shepherds when he said, "For unto YOU is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord." The message became very personal to each shepherd. Each shepherd knew that the message was for himself. He may have thought to himself, "Unto me is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord." At this Christmas season it is God's desire that this same good news come to each of us personally. He wants each of us to receive His Son into our hearts as personal Saviour.

The last "S" in Jesus' name may well stand for SOCIAL OUTREACH. The "good tidings" is for all people. None is excluded, but all are included. The gospel is for "whosoever will."

The good news is for all the people of the whole wide world.

Yes, the good tidings which the angel brought can be well summed up in the one person and the one word, "JESUS." He dispels fear and brings joy to all people who trust Him as their Saviour.

Mill Hall, Pa.



When Gnats Become GIANTS

Rev. P. F. Elliott

A DISCERNING and candid old man once prayed in a prayer meeting, "Lord, deliver us from the gnats; we can take care of the giants ourselves." In that prayer he was dealing with a very common, but difficult, experience. Many times we have seen the trivial annoyances of life grow and become so numerous that we are overcome by them. Most of us are liable to exaggerate their size or their importance until they assume the proportions of giants. It is so easy to allow the barking of a neighbor's dog to become so annoying, that it is about all we can think about. Or, again, the neighbor next door may turn the radio to such a high pitch, that we could not discern a band, were it to pass by. We are so likely to exaggerate the importance of such things until they assume the proportions of giants.

A strange little insect known as the May fly, which sometimes causes considerable annoyance to motorists, is encountered in the lake districts in the state of Wisconsin during the late spring and early summer. Somewhat smaller than a cricket and dark brown in color, it appears in vast numbers and hovers over the highways near the lakes in veritable clouds. It may be due to the heat of the pavement or to the color of the roads, but at any rate, the motorists find these insects extremely annoying. They fly at about windshield level, and millions of them are killed by speeding cars. In July of 1946, the flies gathered in such numbers along the highways near LaCrosse, Wisconsin, that they actually stopped great trucks. Crushed against the windshield, they shut off the view of

the driver completely. Enmeshed in the radiator they formed a protective shield that shut off all air and strangled the motor. Their crushed bodies under the wheels of cars and trucks made bridges and roadways slippery to the point of actual death. Even hardened drivers became sickened against the swarm.

The encounter with the May flies is not unlike the experiences of life. How many times has it happened that the trifles of life have proved just as insurmountable and as devastating as the giants or major obstacles. Many times these little things grow and develop until they become giants and defeat us in life's battle. It often happens that we can meet the great tragedies of life with courage and fortitude, but we go down under the petty, trivial annoyances of everyday living. Over the desk of a certain business man there hangs a wall motto bearing the words, "This, too, will pass away." If we could only remember the admonition of James 1:2, 3, "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience."

But these little gnats, these trivial annoyances of life, many times defeat good people, who can slay the giants but have not learned to overcome the gnats in the battle of life. It is comparatively easy to be courageous in the face of that dreadful blow that calls for heroism and dramatic resistance, but it is so very difficult to rise above the petty things in life. Many times we are misunderstood. Others receive praise, when we deserve the honor and praise.

This reminds me of an interesting incident that I read recently concerning Sherman's campaign in his march through Georgia. It is said that it became necessary, in Sherman's opinion, to change commanders. O. O. Howard was promoted to lead a division which had been under the command of another general. Howard went through the campaign at the head of the division and on to Washington to take part in the review. The night before the veterans were to march down Pennsylvania Avenue, General Sherman sent for General Howard and said to him, "Howard, the politicians and friends of the man whom you succeeded are bound that he shall ride at the head of his old corps, and I want you to help me out." "But, it is my command," said Howard, "and I am entitled to ride at its head." "Of course, you are," said Sherman, "you led them through Georgia and the Carolinas, but Howard, you are a Christian." "What do you mean?" replied Howard. "I mean that you can stand disappointment; you are a Christian." "Putting it on that ground, there is but one answer; let him ride at the head of the corps." "Yes, let him have the honor," added Sherman, "Howard, you report to me at nine o'clock in the morning." The next morning Howard reported and was informed that he was to ride by the side of General Sherman at the head of the whole army. He protested, but in vain. Sherman added gently, but authoritatively, "You are under my orders." As a Christian, Howard had yielded to another that which was by right his own, only to be given a more honorable place.

"Disappointments—His appointments

Change one letter; then I see
That the thwarting of my purpose
Was God's better plan for me."

You are a Christian; that makes all the difference. When God withholds something from His children, He always has something better in store for them.

—*The Herald of Light*

Operation "S"

DR. BOB FINLEY, writing in "The International Student" suggests some things for all Christians to think about, who would be Good Stewards of the manifold blessings that we who live in America enjoy.

"One would think that Christmas would be an ideal time for explaining the Gospel to overseas students. In a truly Christian home it is, but for the most part Christmas in America tends to drive foreign visitors further away from Christ.

"Take the Indian students for example. There are about 2000 of them now in the United States. They come from a land of indescribable poverty. The average family in India has to survive on an income of less than \$25 per year. They eat their single bowl of rice only once a day. Millions eat only once in every two or three days. With the need of the poor so indelibly stamped on their minds the Indian students cannot help but feel a certain revulsion at Christmas extravagance in America.

"When non-Christians are wasteful it can be charged off to covetousness which is idolatry. But when the students see professing Christians acting in the same materialistic manner they are disillusioned concerning Christianity. That's what drove Ghandi away from the Church during his student days in England and sent him back to India as one who was to lead millions deeper into Hinduism.

"God commands, 'Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.' Yet how many Christians will this year lavish expensive gifts (much of it soon-to-be-forgotten junk) on their own children with never a thought about their Indian neighbors' children, or the orphans of Egypt, who have not even a morsel of bread, much less enough toys to clutter up several rooms.

"So concerned were a group of Christian housewives in Washington about this inconsistency that they enlisted the cooperation of their children and had their best Christmas ever by sending off parcels of food and clothing to needy children both at home and abroad. Those children are learning early to share in the suffering of their fellow human beings.

"A second inconsistency which dis-

turbs overseas students is the pagan custom of gift swapping. How can a Christian reconcile such actions with the plain teaching of our Lord, 'If ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same. But do good, hoping for nothing again . . . and ye shall be children of the highest . . . therefore when thou doest thine alms, let not thy right hand know what thy left hand doeth; that thine alms may be in secret.'

"On another occasion he said; 'When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor thy rich neighbors: lest they also bid thee again, and a recompense be made thee. But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind; and thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee.' This command should lead us to be given to hospitality even though it inconvenience us to do so. 'Whoso hath this world's goods, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?'"

Let us pray that we may understand how to let this mind be in us which was in Christ Jesus, who though He was rich yet for our sakes He became poor that through His poverty we might become rich.

—C.R.H.

Ministers' Seminar

(Final Notice)

With this printing, the Pacific Coast, Kansas, Manheim and Canadian Seminars are completed.

The following list completes the roster, and every eligible person is urged to attend. Kansas (Western district) Dec. 5-6.

Ohio (Central district) Dec. 17-18, Fairview Church

Penna. (North district) Jan. 18-19, Granville Church

Penna. (South district) Feb. 8-9, Carlisle Church

These experiences are to be of a workshop nature, short on lecture and long on discussion.

What are your aims as stewards of the Gospel of Christ?

What are obstacles to greatest success? In your opinion what steps would most definitely achieve the desired goals?

Specific programs and registration information is being provided by your immediate overseer or committee chairman. If you have not received any personal notice, contact your Bishop.

Evangelists are encouraged to take advantage of one or more Seminars as their schedules permit.

Ministerial and Examining Board
E. O. Dohner, Ass't. Chairman

Pentecost Sermon Contest

A second Pentecost Sermon Contest is being sponsored by the National Holiness Association. Awards will be given from various publishing houses for the sermons and outlines that best present the work of the Holy Spirit in the heart of the believer, to the general public or those unindoctrinated in the Wesleyan position.

Basis of Judging

1. Content and relevance to the stated objective—40 points.
2. Outline (logical soundness, originality, etc.)—15 points.
3. Appropriateness, felicity of illustrations and general literary excellence—15 points.
4. Accuracy in the mechanics of writing (spelling, grammar, punctuation, etc.)—10 points.
5. Qualities that make for impressiveness and effectiveness of introduction and conclusion, with special attention to effectiveness in winning a decision—10 points.
6. Originality of approach and treatment, showing independence of stock sources and freedom from trite phrases—10 points.

Rules

1. Sermon and outline must be original and hitherto unpublished.
2. Entries will be limited to one sermon with outline per person.
3. Sermon must not exceed 2,200 words, and outline of the sermon must not exceed 300 words.
4. Sermon must include a bibliography of source material.
5. Four double-spaced, typewritten copies of the sermon and outline must be submitted, three of which may be carbon copies.
6. Name and address of entrant shall appear with, but not on, each sermon and outline submitted. Judges will not know participants name, thus judging will be done impartially and on merit only.
7. All sermons and outlines become the property of the National Holiness Association with the rights to reproduce and circulate.
8. All entries must be postmarked not later than February 22, 1957.
9. Mail all entries to: SERMON CONTEST, National Holiness Association, 1128 Metropolitan Building, Minneapolis 1, Minnesota.

Judges of the Contest will be Dr. Roy S. Nicholson, President of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of America; Dr. W. C. Mavis, Dean of the John Wesley Seminary Foundation; and Dr. W. L. Surbrook, General Evangelist of the Pilgrim Holiness Church.

Contest winners will be announced at the 89th Annual Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota, April 23-26, 1957. The awards will be in the form of credit at the publishing house furnishing the award, and will be limited to items for the minister's personal use. The purpose of the award will be to build up a minister's library and/or supply his personal needs of equipment and supplies.

- First Place—\$150—Light and Life Press
- Second Place—\$100—The Higley Press
- Third Place—\$50—John T. Benson Publishing Company
- Fourth Place—\$20—Evangelical Friend Publication Board and Book Concern
- Fifth Place—\$20—The Warner Press
- Sixth Place—\$20—Bethel Publishing Co.
- Seventh Place—\$10—Color Press Advertisers

For further information write the National Holiness Association, 1128 Metropolitan Building, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Lamps do not talk, but they shine. A lighthouse sounds no drums, but far over the water its friendly spark is seen. So let your actions reveal your light. Let your conduct illustrate the sermon of your life.

—Spurgeon

Urgent Need for Funds

With the offering now on hand, it is apparent that the Foreign Missions Treasury is going to be short several thousand dollars in order to meet our budget needs to the fields on January 1st. The need is critical. We urge each pastor to make this a matter of congregational concern. We shall appreciate personal offerings as well. Pray

and then mail your check to:
 Carl J. Ulery, Treas.,
 Office of the Treasurer,
 Foreign Mission Board,
 Brethren In Christ Church,
 Washington Boro, Pennsylvania.
 Mail Canadian offerings to:
 George C. Sheffer, Treas.,
 Stayner, Ontario, Canada

Beyond the Clouds, the Promise of His Presence



WE SAILED out into the Atlantic before dawn; awakened, we realized we were moving and crawled from our bunks to observe our surroundings.

As time elapsed, the waters remained rough, the sky overcast. Only a few times before we entered the English Channel could we see the sun peeping through the dull cloudiness.

We enjoyed a beautiful day in London; but again embarkation time drew near and we sailed out of harbor in a cold, drizzling rain made still more gloomy by the gathering darkness of dusk.

But wait: I have not described all! The glistening rays of the sun in its setting of blue gave us a week of beautiful sailing. At last we could enjoy our voyage.

It seems to me I have described in metaphor, God's leading in my life. There were clouds, dark and threatening: there was mist which sometimes broke my view. But the Son beckoned me not to look around and see, but to "be still and know." And as I have yielded, whether I could see

Him or not, He has given light, strength, faith and hope.

As I place my feet on African soil, there is blessed reassurance of His presence, of His leading. And as love for this my chosen field begins to grow in my heart, I am happy, oh so joyously happy, that I have yet the privilege to "be still and know." And in knowing I can trust.

Elva Lyons

"O COME, let us sing unto the LORD:" These words spring from the depths of our hearts. He indeed is worthy of all our praise for what He has done for us and for recently allowing us to behold more of His beautiful handiwork.

One evening standing on deck, we were eagerly gazing across the deep to witness the sunset. There seemed to be something outstanding about it; a rugged pattern of clouds, appearing as a silhouetted city outlined with bright glistening gold, bordered the horizon. The sky above was warmly tinted to produce an effective background. We felt we were being privileged to glance over the wall and see the reflection of the Golden City we will some day inhabit if we are found faithful.

Again looking across the deep blue waters after leaving England, we saw a beautiful rainbow crossing the horizon and for no apparent reason. Since our previous sailing was rather rough, it seemed to bring us a message from Heaven—a reminder of the promise which God gave to Noah when He said, "I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth." It brought courage and stimulated our confidence in the Supreme Captain who has His eyes over us during our travels.

The peace and satisfaction are wonderful as the many days of uncertainty and preparation blossom into reality and I enter the field to which God has led me. I trust by your prayers and my faithfulness, I shall be able to pay at least part of the debt I owe to Christ for what He has paid for me.

Norma Brubaker



A New Location for Life Line Gospel Mission

FOR SEVERAL years the Home Mission Board has been investigating the possibilities of improving the physical plant of the Life Line Gospel Mission in San Francisco. Several factors prompted this move.

In recent years the rent had been increased on the Mission hall to what seemed an exorbitant price—this despite deplorably neglected repairs.

The Mission program is going through a transition period in that it is changing from a "men's meeting" to a "family type of program." Many families are now attending the Mission who desire a better locality for the place of worship. It is very difficult to build the Sunday School and a family-type program on skid-row.

A third factor was the separation (two miles) of the Mission home and Mission hall, cutting down operation efficiency.

It was these three major factors that induced the Home Mission Board to look for a new location. They were rewarded by finding a building that was almost "made to order." The building, a three-story structure, is located for the promotion of a family-type program.

The chapel, on ground floor, is only a few steps above street level (see picture) and has the appearance of a chapel rather than a mission. The



New location of San Francisco mission.

entire basement is excavated and needs very little altering to be changed into ideal Sunday School classrooms. The second floor apartment would be the Mission home, and the third floor apartment can be rented for income purposes.

The ground floor proposed chapel area is not ready for immediate possession due to a lease instituted by the former owner. So for the present we will continue to conduct services at the old location, 224 Sixth Street.

The Avery Heisey family is moving into the new building, occupying the second floor as mission parsonage. Their new mailing address is: 422 Guerrero Street, San Francisco 10, California.

Pray God's blessing upon the ministry at this new location.



Pastor and Mrs. Joel Carlson minister to those who spend their Sunday afternoons in Capitol Park.

"By All Means . . ."

MESSIAH Lighthouse Chapel is conducting a week-day Bible School with the assistance of six students from Messiah College (see cut). Enrollment is 150.

This represents one of a multi-pronged effort to win new recruits for Christ from the mission set on a hill overlooking Harrisburg.

An active Sunday School Dept. presented Robert Raikes awards to 30 for faithful attendance at a Rally Day service, October 7th. One member of the school was recognized for achieving the enviable record of 23 years accredited attendance. Mary Sentz, former city mission worker, was guest speaker; Grace Stoner was guest soloist.

A ministry unique to the staff of Messiah Lighthouse Chapel is to present the claims of Christ in Capitol Park adjoining the State Capitol



Six students from Messiah College assist in the registration of 150 boys and girls at week-day Bible School at Messiah Lighthouse Chapel.

Buildings. Here the Gospel finds souls in various stages of concealed need.

Following a message directed to the sufferers of the liquor traffic, two men responded and were invited to attend an evening service at the chapel—both came. At the invitation both bowed at the "mourner's bench," confessing their sins and praying the prayer of the penitent. Nicely dressed, though out of work with only 25c in his pocket, the 64 yr. old man, a confessed alcoholic, arose with a brightened countenance to testify, "Now I know I have Christ within; I have never felt like this before in my life." He did some painting at the Mission during a period of social rehabilitation and attended the services faithfully before leaving the city.

A recent revival reached into the home of a family faithful in attendance. The meeting had closed and the family was at home preparing to retire when the 10-yr. old daughter said, "Mother, I want to ask you something: How can I get saved?"

Shortly the father joined in a family prayer circle and joyfully witnessed their daughter's being "born again" into the family of God. Before going to bed the father phoned the Mission, "It was the greatest joy of my life to pray with my daughter and show her how to get saved."

Members of the congregation are rallying to the needs of the Mission in a very tangible way. The Christ's Ambassador Class is sponsoring a \$600.00 parking lot project. The macadamizing is being done with consideration by Martin Builders, Elizabethtown.

Another need not yet met is repair of the stoker of the Mission heating unit at a cost of approximately \$350.00—an item for which the Mission would appreciate a helping hand.

The staff at the Messiah Lighthouse Chapel operate under the premise of I Corinthians 9:22—"I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some."

DISPATCHES AND --

From the Front Lines

The Last Great Day of The Macha Jubilee Conference

Massillon, Ohio—Greetings to the large *Visitor* family. Psa.126:6. "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

We are happy to report another successful meeting here at Massillon, November 4-18. We enjoyed wonderful fellowship with our evangelist, Bro. Rupert Turman from Allisonia, Virginia.

The Northern Ohio Tri-County Christ's Crusaders held their Quarterly meeting at Massillon, Sunday afternoon and evening, November 11. Brother Turman was their guest speaker.

In all there were about 60 seekers and at least one healing. Attendance was not large but good with seekers nearly every night after the middle of the first week. Daily prayer services in the church and before the evening services brought about what seemed impossible to us. We kept praying that God should help us to get our eyes off circumstances and on God who is able to do great things.

A number of boys and girls accepted the Lord both in Sunday School and in several homes that were visited. On the last night of the meeting a young couple were gloriously saved. Several were sanctified and some backsliders were reclaimed. One young man who had taken an overdose of opium collapsed in front of the altar. After prayer and laying on of hands he revived and testified to giving his heart to the Lord.

Bloomfield, New Mexico — Mrs. Annabelle Yazzie, a Christian mother, led the Navajo Christian Fellowship meeting at the Navajo Mission on Friday evening, November 23. About 75 Navajos from four missions enjoyed fellowship with a guest (Navajo) speaker. Various scriptures were explained by those still young in the faith.

Each Sunday afternoon following the worship service at the Mission, Miss Rachel Eshelman conducts a Navajo Reading session. At these sessions a marked interest is being shown in the newly printed Navajo New Testament. They are buying their own copies for \$.75, this being made possible by the American Bible Society.

Sunday, 19th August
FEET-WASHING AND COMMUNION
SERVICE—7:30 - 10.00 a.m.

uMfundisi Munsaka brought the first message on the theme, "Ye are not all clean," stressing the fact that the condition of the heart can only be seen by God. Brother D. Climenhaga developed his message on the "Seven Sayings of Jesus on the Cross."

A total of 536 engaged in the Communion.



The delegation brethren, Bishop Musser and Brother Brechbill, with the General Superintendent, Bishop Climenhaga—in the tabernacle after a service. How we appreciated their presence!

MID-DAY SERVICE—held in the outdoor tabernacle with 1450 present.

A poem written by our African brother Isaac Musange shortly before his death, was read. Then there were the customary farewells—many this year: E. Lehman, M. Brenaman, Brother and Sister E. Musser, Brother and Sister A. Book, Dr. and Sister A. Thuma, J. Ginder, A. Kettering, and A. Eyster. Bishop Climenhaga then publicly announced the changes in personnel which will take place during the coming year.

Brother Brechbill gave his words of farewell: Be faithful unto death and Christ will give you a crown of life; then Bishop Climenhaga made public announcement of the coming marriage of Brother Brechbill and Sister Brenaman.

All our missionary men combined to form a well-balanced male chorus which sang two numbers.

Teacher Moyo of Wanezi Mission thanked the Batonga people on behalf of the group from Southern Rhodesia, commenting that the Batonga people are very generous, as they had given an offering for buying bread on the way home. Then, according to

custom, they all stood and expressed their thanks in unison: *Si ya bongwa*. To this Deacon Mono responded.

Overseer Mudenda presented words of greeting for the church in America expressing appreciation for the two visitors, and requesting guidance from the home church for the new church committee. Bishop Climenhaga thanked the Macha and Sikalongo church areas for their entertainment of conference, and then presented Sister M. Myers as the only new missionary since last conference.

Bishop Musser brought the message of the hour. He said, "I think I can say I have received greater insight into the work in these three weeks than I did in 30 years on the F.M.B." He plead with backsliders to get back to God, and to the Christians he encouraged faithfulness. Four stayed for prayer. Together we sang, "God Be With You Till We Meet Again."

After the evening meal, the missionaries listened to an enjoyable program given by the missionary children. At evening prayers, warm words of appreciation were spoken to the different committees and individuals who had worked so hard.

All too soon the time had come for us to take our departure one from another. We had enjoyed the fellowship together, but above all we were most grateful to the Lord who gave us new courage, strength and wisdom to carry out the task of the church with greater zeal and renewed confidence in our great Leader, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Missionary Party Leaving for Africa

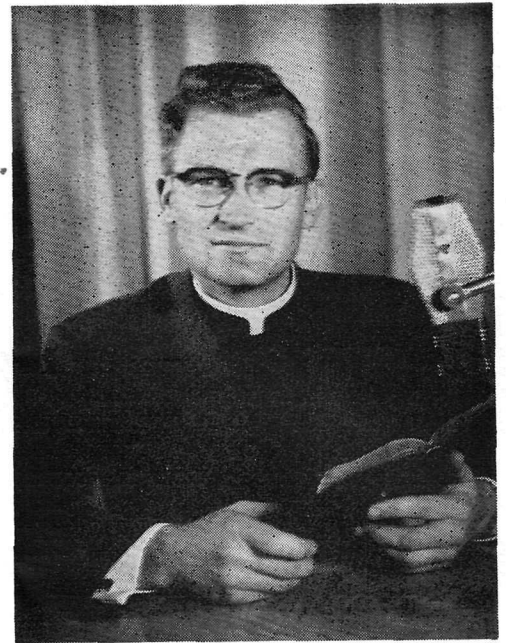
According to present plans the missionary party consisting of Brother and Sister Elwood Hershey, Anna Graybill, of the United Christian Church, and Walter Heisey, who is taking two years in alternative service in Africa, will leave for Africa from New York on December 27, 1956.

The Farewell Service for these folks will be held at the Messiah Home, Harrisburg, Penna. at 2 p.m. on Sunday, December 23.

“Gems of Grace”

A Report to You

Ernest Boyer, Program Manager



Radio pastor Owen Alderfer at the “Gems of Grace” microphone.

GEMS OF GRACE,” the official radio voice of the Brethren in Christ Church, has been heard nationally for eleven weeks, and a progress report to the faithful sponsors and supporters seems appropriate.

In 1955 the General Conference of the Brethren in Christ declared itself favorable to a united denominational radio voice and authorized a production staff appointed by the Commission on Radio to make such a project a reality.

During the conference year following this 1955 action, the staff discovered that a new project such as this was both frightening and challenging. The problems were myriad. However, God gave unmistakable guidance and the challenge of the venture overshadowed any hesitancy as the opportunities of this radio ministry became more apparent. Throughout this planning year answers were being sought for certain basic problems: How will such a venture be financed? What basic electronic equipment is necessary and how is it to be purchased? Where can music personnel be secured for year-round broadcasting? What type of format will be most effective?

Although necessary equipment and personnel were lacking in these early stages, it seemed advisable to make several tapes in order to bring the strength and weaknesses of the project clearly into focus. Therefore, about one year ago, four actual programs were prepared and submitted to the Commission on Radio for

analysis and suggestion. The format of these first programs was approved. Even though certain weaknesses in broadcast quality due to equipment and personnel limitations were recognized, it was decided to use these early tapes as the first programs to be aired in order to insure an adequate backlog of programming.

Following the recording of these first broadcasts, the purchase of equipment was begun immediately as funds were made available by the General Executive Board and the Commission on Youth of the Brethren in Christ Church. This equipment, which aided greatly in assuring high broadcast quality in later transcriptions, included: a Berlant hi-fidelity tape recorder, two RCA microphones, a hi-fidelity mixer, and necessary microphone stands.

Personnel problems were also resolved. The music director secured a group of well-trained, dedicated church members who were willing to give many hours each week to “Gems of Grace.” A well-qualified pianist was also providentially supplied.

As Conference 1956 neared, the major requisites for broadcasting were being met one by one, and “Gems of Grace” was adopted by the Commission on Radio as the official name of the proposed broadcast. In addition to this satisfactory progress, one additional encouragement was received by the Commission on Radio. An officer of Far East Broadcasting Company heard one of the sample recordings that had been prepared

and asked that “Gems of Grace” be released over their missionary transmitters in Manila. This powerful radio operation reaches a minimum of fifty million people every time it beams its message to the Orient. God had spoken!

The General Conference of 1956, meeting at Roxbury, received a progress report, listened to a portion of a “Gems of Grace” tape, and authorized the Commission on Radio to plan for the release of its official radio voice by the first Sunday of September. The sponsorship pattern outlined by the Commission called for individual congregations or districts to sponsor the program in a given locality. This method introduced some delay as congregations waited for official action, but by *October 7, 1956, the first denominational radio broadcast of the Brethren in Christ Church was heard over eleven stations in the United States and Canada.* A prayerfully planned and long anticipated missionary project had become a reality! The charter stations which carried “Gems of Grace” on that date were:

CFOR—Orillia, Ontario (1570 kc.)
 CHAB—Moose Jaw, Sask. (800 kc.)
 CHVC—Niagara Falls, Ont. (1600 kc.)
 KEDO—FM—Ontario, Calif. (93.5 mc.)
 KGER—Long Beach, Calif. (1390 kc.)
 KOCs—Ontario, Calif. (1510 kc.)
 KWOE—Clinton, Okla. (1320 kc.)
 WING—Dayton, Ohio (1410 kc.)
 WKMC—Roaring Spring, Pa. (1370 kc.)
 WKNX—Saginaw, Mich. (1210 kc.)
 WLBR—Lebanon, Pa. (1270 kc.)

Later the following three stations were added:

Special Announcement, "Gems of Grace" Radio Rallies

The Commission on Radio announces the appearance of the Production Staff at the following Brethren in Christ churches where "Gems of Grace" will originate and be recorded for later release. Invite your neighbors and friends to see our new broadcast in the making. Plan now to attend the "Gems of Grace" Radio Rally at these times and places.

Date	Church	Time
Fri., 12-28-56	Zion Brethren in Christ, Abilene, Kansas	7:45 p.m.
Sun., 12-30-56	Locke Brethren in Christ, Nappanee, Ind.	10:30 a.m.
Sun., 12-30-56	Pleasant Hill Brethren in Christ, Pleasant Hill, Ohio	7:45 p.m.
*Mon., 12-31-56	Springfield Brethren in Christ, Springfield, Ohio	7:30 p.m.
*Wed., 1-2-57	Messiah College Chapel, Grantham, Penna.	7:30 p.m.
*Thurs., 1-3-57	Lancaster Brethren in Christ, Lancaster, Penna.	7:30 p.m.
*Fri., 1-4-57	Fairland Brethren in Christ, Cleona, Penna.	7:30 p.m.
Sat., 1-5-57	Manheim Brethren in Christ, Manheim, Penna.	7:45 p.m.
Sun., 1-6-57	Hollowell Brethren in Christ, Waynesboro, Penna.	10:30 a.m.
*Sun., 1-6-57	Chambersburg Brethren in Christ, Chambersburg, Pa.	6:00 p.m.

*Recordings will be made at these churches.

FEBC—Far East Broadcasting Company, Manila, Philippine Islands
 WCHA—Chambersburg, Pa. (1800 kc.)
 KHOF—FM—Glendale, Calif. (99.5 mc.)

It is conservatively estimated that the thirteen stations here in the United States give "Gems of Grace" a weekly listening audience of five hundred thirty-one thousand, plus fifty million in Southeast Asia and the Orient.

During this beginning period some mail has been received by Owen Alderfer, the "Gems of Grace" pastor. Several expressions from the mail bag like this:

From a listener at Redondo Beach, Calif.:

"I listened today for the first time to your lovely program over KGER. I enjoyed it so much and wanted you to know. I hope to do so again and learn more about your work, what you teach and believe. What I heard today was very refreshing. Thank you so much."

From Reading, Pa., came this expression:

"Just a note to tell you that I listen to and enjoy your radio program. It is a real spiritual treat to listen to the same. God bless you real good as you continue to make Christ known.

To show my appreciation for the type of program that you present and to help in a small way to support it, please accept the enclosed Express Money Order of \$1.00.

Trusting the Lord to sustain you and to make all grace abound toward you; that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work."

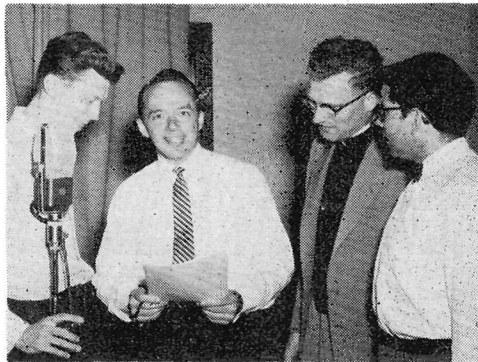
From a Canadian friend at Bemersyde, Sask.:

"I heard your program for the first time on October 6th, from Moose Jaw. We

certainly enjoyed it. I am glad we will have this Christian program to listen to during the winter and through the year. We're hoping you'll stay on the air."

A lady in Los Angeles wrote:

"We greatly enjoyed your excellent service over KGER from 12:30 to 1:00 p. m. today, and enclose one dollar towards your broadcast budget. Thank you and God bless you."



Production staff for "Gems of Grace": Royce Saltzman, David Carlson, Rev. Alderfer, William Boyer.

What of the future of "Gems of Grace?" The unqualified goal of this broadcast is to present the message of Jesus Christ clearly and simply to the one who has never accepted Him. Its specific purpose is to point men and women to our Saviour as the One that can save them from the bondage and burden of sin. Thus motivated, God is trusted to richly bless this missionary radio outreach. "Gems of Grace" will be a blessing as God guides it and as the production staff makes every effort to produce a program which will bring credit to the Brethren in Christ Church and point the sinner to Jesus Christ. "Gems of Grace" will be a blessing as the Church unitedly prays for its message 'round the world.

"Gems of Grace" will be a blessing as you write to the broadcast office at Box 55, Upland, California, and give reaction and encouragement to the Radio Pastor. As the sponsor, your letters to this missionary venture will always be enthusiastically received.

As the denominational broadcast, the Commission on Radio has requested the radio staff to tour the Church December 26, 1956 through January 6, 1957, so that other areas of the brotherhood might enjoy the "thrill" of witnessing the broadcast in production. For the times and places of the "Gems of Grace" radio rally and the appearances of the radio staff, notice the special announcement in this issue of the *Visitor*.

Remember this tour in your prayers, and if at all possible, plan to attend one of the "Gems of Grace" radio rallies nearest you.

Wisdom of the "Wise Men"

(Continued from page three)

your heart" (Jer. 29:13). But our Lord never reveals himself to unwilling eyes; He never speaks to unlistening ears; He never unfolds truth to an unwilling mind; He never brings salvation to an unwilling heart.

The "wise men" gave supreme demonstration of their wisdom when they worshiped the King in the cradle. They were not repelled by the lowliness of the Son of God, but by sublime faith they became "wise unto salvation" (II Tim. 3:15). And with uncalculating love, they brought their gifts. They did not *originate* Christmas giving. Before them, "God so loved that he gave." It is possible to give without loving, but impossible to love without giving.

—Charles W. Koller in *The Northern*

My Saviour

F. S. Sprague

*My Saviour, 'tis of Thee,
 Dear Lamb of Calvary,
 With joy I sing,
 Since Thou hast died for me,
 From sin my soul to free,
 Thine only would I be,
 My Lord and King!*

*The winepress Thou hast trod
 Alone, dear Son of God,
 For me! For me!
 O blessed Saviour, mine,
 Filled with Thy power Divine,
 Help me for Thee to shine,
 And faithful be.*

*Since Thou hast saved my soul
 And made me fully whole,
 Thy grace I'll praise!
 Thrilled with love's holy flame,
 Thy love I will proclaim—
 Rejoicing in Thy Name—
 Through endless days!*

*And when at last I stand
 With that "Immortal Band,"
 On Canaan's shore,
 Heaven's arches then shall ring,
 For with one voice we'll sing,
 Loud praise to our King,
 Forevermore!*

—Herald of Light

(This poem may be sung to the tune of "America.")

Revival Meetings

Henry N. Hostetter, Locust Grove, Pa., Nov. 25; Ohmer Herr, Gratersford, Pa., December 2; George Sheffer, Saxton, Pa., Nov. 25-Dec. 9; E. J. Swalm, Mennonite Mission, Toronto, Dec. 2-9; J. N. Hostetter, Collingwood, Ont., Dec. 2-9.

Guest Speakers

Allen and Leoda Buckwalter, at Chino, Nov. 25; William Rosenberry, at Valley Chapel, November 25; George Paulus, at Souderton, Nov. 25; Henry N. Hostetter, at Souderton, Dec. 5; Rev. and Mrs. Ross Morningstar at New Guilford, Nov. 7; Chester Wingert at Cleona, December 2; Rhoda Lehman at Refton (Junior Church) Dec. 2; Kenneth Hoover at Grantham, December 2; Warren Sherman at Clarence Center, Nov. 25.

Bulletin-Bits

The Missionary Conference at Cleona over the week-end of Dec. 2nd, featured Chester Wingert, I. W. Musser, Ethel Wolgemuth, Mary Wenger, Abner Stoltzfus, Mrs. Roy Mann, Jonathan Muleya, Anna Graybill and Anna Engle.

A radio rally is planned for the Manheim Brethren in Christ Church, January 5. The "Gems of Grace" production staff will be there. Rev. and Mrs. Elwood Hershey gave "Five Reasons for Returning to Africa," in their farewell service at Pleasant Hill, Ohio, on December 2.

Mrs. Mary (Brenaman) Brechbill, recently returned from Africa, spoke at the Women's Missionary Prayer Circle at Pleasant Hill, Ohio. Warren Shermans were "way laid" by the terrific snowstorm west of Erie, Pa., while enroute to Buffalo on Thanksgiving day. They, with hundreds of other motorists, were stranded for about 36 hours.

The "Singing Kohler Family" will be at the Chino church in Cal., Dec. 16. The four girls range in ages from 5 to 13 yrs. The Chino Brethren in Christ congregation had charge of the services at the Door of Hope Mission in Los Angeles on December 3.

Three Messiah College students, Laona Bechtel, David Brubaker and Galen Miller; J. A. Climenhaga, Luke L. Keefer and Cyrus Brechbill, also of Pa., attended the Thanksgiving service at Valley Chapel, Ohio.

J. Wilmer Heisey, from the Navajo Mission in New Mexico is scheduled for a Youth Conference in southern Ohio, Dec. 29 and 30.

Wm. (Bill) Haldeman directed a combined choir for the Union Thanksgiving Service, held in the Free Methodist Church, Chino, Calif.

Eber Dourte, pastor of the new Hollowell Brethren in Christ Church, conducted a baptismal service recently when twenty received the ordinance of water baptism.

At a Union Thanksgiving Service held in the Methodist Church, Mill Hall, Pa., Aaron Stern, pastor of the Cedar Springs Church was the guest speaker.

A Peace Conference was held at Upland, Calif., Dec. 1 at 6:30 p.m. A dinner and an address on the subject "The Biblical Basis for Non-Resistance," were featured.

"The only person who ever makes anything by running other people down, is the elevator operator."

Pleasant Hill Church, Hamlin, Kansas

Bro. and Sister Austin Heise were ordained to the office of Deacon at the Church on Friday evening, October 26, at a special service. In his message of the evening, Bro. Earl Sider gave the responsibilities of a deacon. Bishop R. I. Witter gave the charge to our new deacon and offered the prayer of dedication. It was gratifying to see so many friends and neighbors attend this service.

The Women's Sewing Circle of the church have been meeting monthly since September and are doing sewing for the Navajo Mission. We trust that these material things may be another means of speaking to those people of Christ's love.

In our Christ's Crusaders service Sunday evening, November 18, the children and young people presented a very interesting Thanksgiving program. We were reminded that we, as Christians, have many, many physical and spiritual blessings bestowed upon us daily. We trust we may be more thankful for our rich heritage.

B. M. C.

Antrim Church, Greencastle, Pa.

Sept. 5, Bro. Marlin Ressler spoke at the Women's Missionary Prayer Meeting.

Sept. 15 and 16 was our annual Youth Conference. We were privileged to have Bro. Riall Stump, Bro. Frederick Frey, Bro. C. Ray Heisey, and Bro. LeRoy Walters as guest speakers. Group sessions were enjoyed by all on the subjects of Witnessing and Practical Living. Sunday evening, Chester Heisey showed slides of his Pax work in Germany.

Sept. 30, the Christ's Crusaders from Shenk's, near Elizabethtown, rendered a program in the evening.

Oct. 10, we enjoyed the speaking and singing of Sr. Anita Brechbill in our Missionary Prayer Meeting.

Oct. 14 was our Rally Day. Bro. Daniel Burkholder brought the morning message. Special music was given by various groups of the congregation. A banner was given to the Beginner class for bringing the most new pupils during the month of October.

Nov. 11 was our Communion Service.

Nov. 21 we were favored to have Bro. and Sister Thomas Bouch and family of Hunlock Creek with us at the Women's Missionary Prayer Meeting. Bro. Bouch brought the message and the family gave several selections of music.

Nov. 22, the District Thanksgiving Service was held at Antrim. Bro. Bouch brought the message.

Nov. 25, we were privileged to have Bro. and Sister Joel Carlson with us. An offering was given in money and kinds for the Messiah Lighthouse Chapel. A candlelight testimony service was enjoyed by all.

L. A. W.

Refton, Pa.

Nov. 4. After having faithfully served, in the Refton congregation, for 22 years, Bro. Cyrus Lutz preached his farewell service. We will miss them, but want to wish both him and Sister Lutz God's blessing in whatever service He will lead them into in the future.

The following week our new pastor and wife, Bro. and Sister Walter Lehman and family, from Uniontown, Ohio Congregation, moved into our community. Bro. Lehman took charge on Nov. 11. He spoke from St. John 1:4.

In order for the pastor's family and congregation to become better acquainted we had a surprise house warming at their home the following evening. We desire God's

blessing to be upon us as we labor together in His service.

Nov. 11. The Christ's Crusaders program was in charge of Bro. and Sister Lowell Mann. They spoke and showed pictures of their work in Puerto Rico as Voluntary Service workers.

Nov. 18. The two S. S. classes, which received the largest number of credits in our Forward contest, were entertained by the Supt. and teachers in the afternoon at the home of Bro. and Sister Robert Hess.

—R. D.

Sister Phillips Writes

Greetings in the precious name of Jesus, to all of God's dear children, with Psalms 27:1, "The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear, the Lord is the strength of my life of whom shall I be afraid." Truly the Lord is my strength and my light; who else could I go to but to the Lord. I truly thank and praise the Lord for every thing that He means to me and I would never turn back, for Jesus is leading the way, praise His dear sweet name for ever. It has been almost a year since I gave my testimony through the *Visitor*. I wish to give my many thanks to every one that remembered me last Christmas with nice greeting cards and letters and nice gifts. I just say a very big thank you and may God bless every one.

I am glad to say that I am feeling very well and that the Lord has been so good to me. Last spring I did have a very bad spell of sickness and suffered very much, but through all of the good prayers of God's dear children, God did heal me and raised me up and out of my bed of affliction. I do praise Jesus that even through all my sickness I could wear a smile and not a frown.

Bro. and Sister Schock would come often and bring more of God's dear children and would sing and pray with me. I do love to be in the house of the Lord. It brings so much joy and sunshine into my soul. I do need your prayers. I want to be a bright and shining light for Jesus.

God bless every one.

Faith Alice Phillips
Sylvatus, Va.

Chambersburg, Pa.

It was a pleasure to have the Christ's Crusaders from Blairs Mill with us on Sept. 9. Following their program, Bro. Roy Beltz brought a stirring message encouraging the church to be more fervent witnesses for the Lord.

The staff of the "Gospel Words and Music" radio program were with us for a mid-week service on Oct. 3. The report of God's working at the Mission by Sr. Anita Brechbill, the songs by the Melody Sisters, and the sermon by Bro. Rosenberry were a real blessing to us.

The Communion Service of the district was held at the Chambersburg Church on Oct. 13. Our hearts were solemnized as we remembered the price of our redemption, but we also rejoiced in the hope that our Lord's finished work on the cross brings to every believer.

Sunday, October 14, was observed as Cradle Roll Sunday with a dedication service at the close of the morning message by Bish. Byers. Five babies were presented to the Lord at this dedication service.

During the month of October special effort was put forth to increase Sunday School attendance and win unsaved Sunday School members to Christ. With this thought in mind Decision Day was planned for Oc-

tober 21. We are most thankful for those who sought the Lord at this service. Nine adults and six children responded to the gospel invitation. Our Sunday School drive was climaxed with a large attendance on Rally Day, October 31. Rev. Lester Misner of the United Brethren Church was guest for the occasion. We greatly enjoyed his ministry, both in the Junior Department and in the Morning Worship Service.

Bishop and Sister Byers left on Oct. 30, for California where Bishop Byers was scheduled to conduct an evangelistic service. During our pastor's absence Bro. Burkholder, his associate pastor, has charge of the service. The ministry of other area pastors who have been sharing in the services has been appreciated. Bro. John Byers, evening service Nov. 4; Rev. Glen Niswander, morning service Nov. 11; Rev. Avery Musser, evening service Nov. 18.

Farris Mines, Va.

The pastor at Farris Mines smiles as he reports to interested friends, "God has been good to us in 1956. We had two wonderful revivals. In the spring and fall our flock believed God for a revival. Revival was in the air. It was talked about in faith. It was longed for. It was prayed for! And God gave as He has promised. Praise Him!" In the spring there were 19 seekers; 2 new converts (a young couple, who are now Christian husband and wife); 11 reclaimed; 6 sought for more power. The attendance was good. Many attended the prayer meetings. We appreciated the services held by our local brother and co-pastor, John Schock.

The fall revival was another outstanding event. God was upon the place and the people. Twenty-five sought the Lord at an altar of prayer. As folk began seeking God, three prayer rooms were being filled in the evening prayer meeting held 20 minutes prior to the services. The weather being nice, several mountain prayer meetings were enjoyed and were beneficial to the men. Participation was good. Our people, too, have learned to appreciate the ministry and life of Evangelist John Rosenberry. God bless him for his influence on us this fall.

The revival effects are lasting. Our young people are pushing on in spite of the devil. Our Y.C.C. (Young Christians Class) is held each Tuesday evening. We, also, are happy that other congregations have enjoyed some results of these two meetings.

For all He has done, we praise Him!

Concord, Ontario (Markham District)

It was in the late summer of 1949 when Bishop A. Winger asked several young people to start a Sunday School in the school at Concord, which is fourteen miles from our church at Gormley. Summer Bible School had been conducted for two years previous and a good interest shown in the community. This is a growing community and it is important that these people will be reached for Christ. The first Sunday of Oct. 1949 we had our first Sunday School hour with 33 present. We have been having S. S. since that time and last year had an average of 50.

In our 1956 mid-winter council it was decided that one prayer meeting per quarter would be given over to the Concord workers and an offering be taken for the enlargement of the work for this community.

During the "Forward enlargement campaign" we had a good increase in attendance with an average of 75 for the month of October.

We have appreciated the visitors in our

Sunday School and can usually find something for them to do.

We have started an adult class and a Junior girls' class and are glad for those who attend regularly. We pray that many will come to know Christ as Saviour through the teaching of God's Word in their Sunday School.

Will you pray for us as we labour together with Him.

M. H.

DEDICATION SERVICES

For the new Brethren in Christ Church

301 Maple Avenue

Hanover, Penna.

Jan. 6, 1957

Morning Service9:30
Dedication Service2:30 p.m.
Evening Service7:00

Speakers:

Bishop C. N. Hostetter Jr.
Bishop Luke L. Keefer
Bishop Henry Ginder
Rev. Samuel Lady, pastor

BIRTHS

"Children are an heritage of the Lord"

LESHER—Bro. and Sr. J. Ira Leshner, Marion, Pa. are happy to announce the arrival of Dean Wenger, born October 26, 1956. The Leshners are members of the Chambersburg Congregation.

MARTIN—Keren Marie came to bless the home of Bro. and Sr. Lloyd Martin, 1859 Edgar Ave., Chambersburg, Pa. on November 6, 1956.

CHARLES—Rev. and Mrs. Paul D. Charles of Hamlin, Kansas were made happy with the arrival of their son, Paul Douglas, on October 25, 1956; a new playmate for Beverly and Steven.

HEISE—Mr. and Mrs. Harold Heise and Doyle of Gormley, Ont., welcomed Rhonda Kaye into their family on November 9, 1956.

MYERS—Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd S. Myers (nee Martha Wolgemuth) announce the birth of a son, Douglas Ray, Nov. 25, 1956; a brother for Dennis.

ROBINSON—Bro. and Sr. Willis Robinson of Canoe Creek, Pa. announced the birth of a daughter Sue Dora on Nov. 11, 1956.

HEISEY—Mr. and Mrs. J. Warren Heisey of Elizabethtown, Pa. are happy to announce the arrival of a son, Jay Scott, born October 16, 1956.

ENGLE—Rev. and Mrs. Earl Engle, Jr., Jan and Susan of Palmyra, Pa. welcomed Earl W. III on Nov. 25, 1956.

ZIMMERMAN—John and Verla (Asper) Zimmerman of Puente, Calif. are the happy parents of their first child, Nancy Sue, born Oct. 23, 1956.

LAKO—Randy Alan Lako came to bless the home of Sam and Carol (Zimmerman) Lako of Chino, Calif. on Oct. 29, 1956.

PYE—Brian Carl came to bless the home of Rev. and Mrs. Arthur Pye of Wainfleet, Ontario, Canada, Nov. 15, 1956.

BOOK—November 22, a daughter, Joanna Ruth, came to bless the home of Rev. and Mrs. Paul E. Book, Nappanee, Indiana.

KEEFER—A daughter, Sharon Kay born June 30, 1956 to Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Keefe (Nancy Knowlton), of Grantham, Pa.

COKEN—Debra Joy born July 1, 1956 to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Coken (Velma Nester) of Harrisburg, Pa.

MANN—Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Mann of Grantham, Pa., welcomed Louise Esther, July 29, 1956; a sister for David and Althea.

MULEYA—A son John Harold, September 5, 1956 to Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Muleya, Grantham, Pa.

BRUBAKER—To Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brubaker (Marion Engle), Grantham, Pa., a daughter, Cheryl Yvonne, September 28, 1956.

HELFRICK—Dale Eugene came to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Asa Helfrick, Chambersburg, Pa., on November 24, 1956, a brother for Doyle and Duane.

SNOKE—Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Snoke, Fayetteville, Pa., welcomed into their home, Larry Ray, November 3, 1956, a new member for the New Guilford Cradle Roll.

MARRIAGES

For these we wish God's richest blessing and send, with our compliments, a year's subscription to the Evangelical Visitor.

BRECHBILL-KRAYBILL—On Sunday Oct. 21, Mrs. Elizabeth Kraybill Betz became the bride of Cyrus A. Brechbill of Mechanicsburg, Penna. The ceremony was performed by Rev. John A. Climenhaga, an uncle of the bride, assisted by Bishop Henry P. Heisey.

Elizabeth Kraybill is formerly from Grantham, Pa. but has been a member of the Valley Chapel Congregation, Canton, Ohio for the past seven years. The couple will be at home at Mechanicsburg, Pa., R. 3.

ZOOK-FIGART—Miss Carol Elizabeth Figart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Figart of Hollidaysburg, Pa. became the bride of Harvey J. Zook, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey J. Zook of Orrstown, Pa. on August 26, 1956.

The ceremony was performed in the Church of God at Hollidaysburg by the Rev. Wesley Wright.

ANDERSON-LONG—On Saturday, November 3, 1956, in the home of the pastor, Muriel Jean Long, daughter of the late Bro. R. D. Long and Sr. Letha Long, Wainfleet, Ontario, was united in marriage to Gordon Phillip Anderson of Wainfleet, Ontario. The ceremony was performed by Bishop Edward Gilmore.

MYERS-GILMORE—On Saturday afternoon, November 24, in the Disciple Church, at Winger, Ontario, Madeline Amelia, daughter of the late Lewis and Mrs. Mabel Gilmore of Wainfleet, Ontario, became the bride of Levi Jesse Myers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Myers of Mechanicsburg, Penna. Bishop Edward Gilmore, uncle of the bride, performed the ceremony.

FRY-BLOSSER—Rosemary Blosser, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. (Mabel Brechbill) Mark Blosser, Goshen, Indiana, was married to Paul W. Fry, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Fry, Manheim, Penna., on July 28 at the Brenneman Memorial United Missionary Church, Goshen, Indiana. Both Mr. and Mrs. Fry are teaching at the Chandler High School in Goshen.

ANDERSON-VAN SCYOC—Miss Janice Van Scyoc, daughter of John and Mary Van Scyoc of Granville, Pa., was united in marriage to Fern N. Anderson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Anderson of Mattawana, Pa. The wedding took place Oct. 25 at the home of Rev. Lawrence Ruble of McVeytown, Pa., who also had charge of the ceremony.

MILLER-SCHRADLEY—On Saturday evening at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 17, 1956 Miss Elizabeth Schradley, daughter of L. M. Schradley of Harrisburg, Pa., became the bride of William Miller, Davenport, Iowa. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Henry Peterson of Comanche, Iowa.

OBITUARIES

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."

GISH—David E. Gish was born April 18, 1882 near Abilene, Kansas and passed away November 8, 1956 at Council Bluffs, Iowa.

He was the youngest of the nine children of Rev. Benjamin and Anna Engle Gish.

Services were held at the Cutler Chapel of Council Bluffs with Rev. E. E. Smith officiating. Burial was at Emerson, Iowa.

CALHOUN—Lewis Shelby Calhoun, born January 2, 1860, Adair County, Kentucky, departed this life November 2, 1956, Covington, Kentucky. He was married to Marthe Jane Allison in 1887, and, to this union were born five daughters and one son. His wife preceded him in death twelve years ago. Survi-

vors are four daughters: Flossie Calhoun, Cincinnati, Ohio, Echel Shepherd, Columbia, Kentucky, Nettie and Docia Calhoun, Covington, Kentucky; eight grandchildren, thirty-six great-grandchildren, and six great-great-grandchildren.

He became a Christian when a young man and united with the Methodist church. Later, while living in Cincinnati, he joined the Church of God to which he remained faithful. Funeral service and burial, November 4, at Beulah Chapel (Garlin, Kentucky). Ministers were E. O. Dohner and Otis Wolford.

WINGERT—Harry Merle Wingert 58, passed to his eternal reward, October 26, 1956, at the home of his brother Glen H. Wingert, 333 S. Main St., Chambersburg, Pa. after an illness of a year.

Bro. Wingert was born May 16, 1898 in Quincy Township, the son of the late Harry G. Wingert and Lilly Henderson Wingert. He is survived by three sisters and three brothers: Ruth Palmer, Mrs. Clarence Schultz, and Mrs. Thomas Reidy; George S., Libert H., and Glen H. Wingert.

Bro. Wingert was a member of the Brethren in Christ Church of Chambersburg. During his illness he was comforted by the hope of eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Funeral services were held from the Sellers Funeral Home, October 29, with Bishop Charlie Byers officiating. Burial in Norland Cemetery.

McCOMBS—Velma Etta McCombs, daughter of the late Wesley Marr and Margaret Overholt of Wainfleet, born in 1887, departed this life on Monday, October 8 at New Toronto.

She was converted early in life and held membership with the United Brethren Zion Church in Wainfleet. She was predeceased by her husband, Norman E. McCombs over 30 years ago. Surviving is one son, Norman, four daughters, Mrs. Roger Lofthouse, Miss Hilda McCombs, and Mrs. Kenneth Winger, all of Cheapside, and Mrs. Roy Curley of Springvale; 13 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Also surviving are two brothers.

Funeral services were held on Friday from the home of her daughter, Mrs. Roger Lofthouse, thence to the United Zion Church in Wainfleet, Rev. E. M. Sider officiating. Interment in Zion cemetery.



H. S. Bender and D. B. Wiens Report on Visit to Russia

We returned to Frankfort, Germany, Nov. 17 from our three-week goodwill visit to Baptists and Mennonites in Russia, a week less than the original schedule called for. This is a brief initial report. A fuller report will appear later after our report is reviewed by the Mennonite Central Committee, which commissioned us.

We are profoundly grateful to God that we could make the entire trip in safety and good health. We had no difficulties in travel (entirely by plane) with freedom of movement in the places to which we were allowed to go.

Although we could not carry through the original itinerary as planned and hence could not come directly to any of the present Mennonite settlements, we were able to make two substitutions which were of great help.

On the one hand we could make a trip to the far southeast of central Asiatic Russia (Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan—to the cities of Tashkent, Alma Ata and Samarkand) as well as to Kiev.

On the other hand we could summon Mennonite representatives from distant places to meet us at Moscow and Alma Ata following the advice of the chief of Intourist.

Among those whom we met for extended talks were Elder Heinrich Voth of Krasnovishersk (formerly of Sagradowka); Minister Johann Woelk of Borowsk (formerly

of Molotschna colony); and Philip Cornies, a prominent layman formerly of the Molotschna and member of the last KFK.

In Alma Ata we met three Mennonites from Karaganda as well as a dozen local Mennonites living in Alma Ata, and also Dr. Alexander Waechter, a Lutheran formerly of Halbstadt. Here we also met two young men—Wedel by name—from the settlement near Toloss at Urevka, Ivanov Rayon, as well as a young married couple—Heinrich Paetkau—formerly from Orenburg.

Through thorough and intimate conversations with these brethren and sisters, especially Elder Voth and minister Woelk, we gained a great deal of valuable information about the Mennonite brotherhood in Russia, regarding both spiritual and living conditions.

The general impression we have received is one of a genuine awakening of the Church, a real revival in many places, regular worship services beginning again (many in the German language) and in general a restoration of church life.

This is, however, not on a registered basis but on a tolerated basis (except in one or two cases). In some cases separate services are being held in Baptist churches, although in other cases Mennonites simply meet with Baptists who are very hospitable to them. No general Mennonite organization has yet been effected.

Economic and living conditions are better than we expected. Mennonites said repeatedly they do not need material aid and are getting along satisfactorily. They have work, are fairly treated and get an average income.

They eagerly desire Bibles, hymn books and other literature which can now be received freely in small packages free of duty. They can travel freely, can change locations and in general have all the liberties of other Russian citizens.

We appreciated greatly the excellent reception given us by the Baptists and the fine fellowship we could have with the leaders in Moscow, Kiev, Alma Ata and Tashkent.

We were invited to preach four times and gladly took advantage of the opportunity to preach the gospel in Russia. We were convinced that the Baptist Church is a true, living and evangelical church of Christ and that it has great vitality and growing rapidly.

The general leadership is most friendly and broadminded toward Mennonite people and appreciate their spiritual contribution which they say is "considerable" in various places. They are willing to give a temporary conference home to Mennonite congregations so they can be registered and yet allow them full autonomy as Mennonites. Baptists appreciated the invitation to attend our Mennonite World Conference and hope to be able to send delegates, including some Mennonites.

We conceive of our mission as the first step in a continuing fellowship across the ocean and over the "iron curtain" between the North American Mennonite brotherhood and the Christian brethren in Russia, both Mennonite and Baptist.

We cannot forget the intense embraces of brotherly love at the parting with our brethren and the mutual promises of support in prayer and in every possible way in the future.

Austria

MCC relief supplies are being distributed to Hungarian refugees in Austria while efforts are underway to send supplies into Hungary via the International Red Cross,

reports Irene Bishop (Perkasie, Pa.) from Vienna, Austria.

Miss Bishop has requested funds so the Vienna unit can be helpful to refugees in other ways than only through gifts of food and clothing. Apparently there is a sufficient supply of relief goods for the present refugees in Austria.

Money has been cabled to Vienna from Akron.

Due to the shortage of funds for operating the relief program and because of this special request, MCC will be pleased to receive cash contributions for relief to Hungary and for the general relief program. Contributions should be channeled through respective conference offices.

Greater needs will arise if full-scale distributions can be made in Hungary.

The Christian Church in Austria is making a united effort to assist Hungarian brothers. Most denominations there organized relief committees and are channeling their services and contributions through Evangelisches Hilfswerk (Lutheran relief agency).

These church committees discussed the possibility (and MCC would like to help) of providing refugees with employment, free post cards and telegraph service, some pocket money, church services in their language and ministers to serve them.

Many refugee men already are working. Many families have been received into other nations. Miss Bishop said the refugees appear to be very open to the gospel. She and her coworker, Clarence Sakimura (Grantham, Pa.), solicit the prayers of North American Christians.

Jordan

Some of the MCC relief workers have returned to their posts in Jordan after a temporary absence in Beirut, Lebanon, according to a communication from area director Ernest Lehman (Wakarusa, Ind.).

It was believed that those with institutional responsibilities would return but that the material aid workers would not return to Jordan immediately. The MCC group quartered outside the city, so apparently would have been away from the recent Beirut political demonstrations.

Heifer Project Inc. Reports

How a Heifer Helps—A German refugee family had applied for credit to build a home . . . Ken Kreider reports to the U.S. donors, "They would have not gotten the credit if they would have not had the cow that you donated to them" . . . so now besides giving milk, calves, and friendship . . . heifers can give collateral!

A heifer is a wonderful gift . . . but so is the visit of American donors to a recipient family . . . a grandmother, mother, and 4 children in a small three room hut . . . the grandmother had cut hay for the heifer with a sickle . . . the woman had roofed the stall with straw . . . all were most happy for the milk and for the heifer.

The widow mother explained that her smallest daughter, the five year old one, only a week before had hidden herself in father's closet and cried herself to sleep . . . before leaving, the little girl asked if she could not hug and kiss the American visitors . . . as she had once done to her father.

Gaza . . . ? ?—On November 2, Israeli forces occupied the Beit Hanoon Agricultural School where the 3 Jersey heifers and the bull were kept . . . communications have been sent to the Israeli Ministry of Agriculture in an attempt to save the livestock.

Austria

MCC relief supplies—including a busload of medical supplies collected by Paxmen in Germany—are going into Hungary with Red Cross convoys.

Hungary is being aided in the wake of war. Thousands of refugees who streamed across the border into Austria are being aided by MCC and other agencies. Many of the refugees are also being taken to other countries.

MCC Vienna relief workers are making traveling distributions of clothing as well as supplying some of the central relief agencies with material aid. Workers are Irene Bishop (Perkasie, Pa.), Clarence Sakimura (Grantham, Pa.) and five Paxmen.

They report a visit to one of the refugee camps: "After visiting the Red Cross hospital, we went to the clothing distribution sponsored by the Red Cross, Friends and Evangelisches Hilfswerk.

"There we saw long lines of people coming for clothes. They had cards on which were written in German the items they needed. Volunteer helpers pointed to a paper where neck sizes were recorded. That is how distributions are being made."

MCC invites readers to contribute money and clothing for the Hungarian refugees. Contributions should be marked "Hungary" and sent through the conference office.

Miss Bishop commented, "It is a sad, sad situation. Now that these Hungarians have found refuge, they must be cared for—a

wonderful opportunity for voluntary agencies." Efforts are made to care for the spiritual as well as the physical welfare of the refugees.

The Vienna unit asks for Christian friends "to pray for our strength and a special portion of wisdom during this time."

Jordan

All 13 MCC relief workers in the Middle East are believed to have returned to their posts in Jordan.

Ten of the workers had been temporarily in Beirut, Lebanon, as a precaution in the event full-scale war would break out in Jordan.

Greece

The agricultural demonstration program among economically-poor villagers of northern Greece appears to be picking up momentum and yielding desired results, according to a summary by Paxman Donald Schierling (Henderson, Nebr.).

Items from the News

Magazine Editor Finds 8,810 Promises in Bible

The Bible has 8,810 promises according to a count recently completed by Everek R. Storms, editor of *The Gospel Banner*, weekly organ of the United Missionary Church. Of this number only 1,104 (one out of every

eight) are in the New Testament. There are eight kinds of promises to be found, the chief being the 7,487 promises given by God to man. This is 85 per cent of all the promises in the Bible. There are 991 promises made by one man to another, 290 made by man to God (most of them in the Psalms), 28 by angels, nine by the devil, two by an evil spirit, two by God the Father to the Son, and one promise made by a man to an angel.

One of the 66 books has no promises at all—Titus. Seventeen others contain less than ten promises each. Even a book like Ephesians has only six promises, according to Editor Storms. Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel each have slightly over 1,000 promises—3,086 in the three books, or more than one-third (35 per cent) of all the promises in the Bible. Most of these are of a prophetic nature, such as, "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son."

Many verses have more than one promise. Isaiah 40:31 has four: "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint." The chapter with the most promises is Deuteronomy 28 with a total of 133. These have to do with the blessings and cursings God promised the Israelites when they would reach Canaan, according as they would obey or disobey His commands.

Editor Storms rates Psalm 37 as the most wonderful chapter in the Bible for promises. It contains 43 precious promises such as, "Delight thyself also in the Lord and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart."

Commenting on a report of his research, Storms said: "These promises are ours for the asking—7,487 of them made by God Himself. They are waiting for us to test and prove them. We go to church and sing, 'Standing on the Promises,' but most of us are simply sitting on them. These are perilous times in which we are living. Recent developments in Europe and the Middle East emphasize this all too clearly. But the reply which Judson gave his mission board when they inquired about the prospects for the future in Burma, is still true for all of us: 'The future is as bright as the promises of God.' Each of us can count on the promises of God. Why not try some of them and see?"

Convention of the Evangelical Press Association is slated for the Sheraton-Gibson Hotel in Cincinnati, Ohio, on January 22-23, 1957, according to announcement from President, Russell T. Hitt, Editor of *Eternity* magazine.

The EPA, which numbers some 81 publications with a total circulation past the three million mark, is holding its annual get together away from the Chicago area for the first time in its young life.

Main speakers include Clarence W. Hall, Senior Editor of the *Reader's Digest*; Dr. Carl F. H. Henry, Editor of the new *Christianity Today*; and Joseph T. Bayly, Editor of *His* magazine. The 1957 convention, according to Hitt, will emphasize reports and lectures by leading men in fields of photography, typography and other phases of publication work.

Pastor Asks Members to Will Their Eyes to the Blind

A Presbyterian pastor at Cincinnati, Ohio, made a strong plea from his pulpit for persons to will their eyes to the sightless. And 20 persons in his congregation indicated a desire to do so. In the audience when the Rev. Milo Beran made the appeal was a

Missions Abroad

India

General Superintendent: P. O. Saharsa, N.E. Railway, District Saharsa, Bihar, India. Rev. William R. Hoke

Saharsa Mission: P. O. Saharsa, N.E. Railway, District Saharsa, Bihar, India. Rev. and Mrs. William Hoke, Misses Esther G. Book, Leora Yoder

Barjora Mission: P. O. Tirbeniganj, via Muriganj, N.E. Railway, District Saharsa, Bihar, India. Misses Erma Z. Hare, Ruth E. Book, Beulah Arnold

Madhipura Mission: P. O. Madhipura, N.E. Railway, District Saharsa, Bihar, India. Dr. and Mrs. George E. Paulus, Misses Mary Jane Shoalts, Evelyn Bohland

Banmankhi Mission: P. O. Banmankhi N.E. Railway, District Purnea, Bihar, India. Rev. and Mrs. Joseph B. Smith

Purnea Mission: P. O. Purnea, N.E. Railway, District Purnea, Bihar, India. Rev. and Mrs. Charles E. Engle

Woodstock School: P. O. Landour, Mussoorie, United Provinces, India. Miss Mary Beth Stoner

Ulubaria Mission: P. O. Ulubaria, District Howrah, West Bengal, India. Rev. and Mrs. A.D.M. Dick

Africa

General Superintendent's Residence, P. O. Box 711, Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia. Bishop and Mrs. Arthur M. Climenhaga, Miss Velma R. Brillinger

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

Matopo Mission, Private Bag 191 T, Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia.

Mission Staff: Rev. and Mrs. Alvin J. Book, Rev. and Mrs. David E. Climenhaga, Miss Mary C. Engle, Miss Miriam L. Heise, Miss Nancy J. Kreider, Miss Rhoda G. Lenhert, Miss Eva M. Melhorn, Miss Edna M. Switzer, Mr. Donald R. Zook, Miss Elva Lyons

Outstation Staff: Rev. and Mrs. Frederic L. Holland

Mtshabezi Mission, Private Bag 102 M, Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia.

Mission Staff: Rev. and Mrs. Glenn C. Frey, Miss Lois P. Davidson, Miss Ruth T. Hunt, Miss Mildred E. Myers, Miss Norma Brubaker

Outstation Staff: Rev. and Mrs. Lewis B. Sider

Mtshabezi Mission Hospital, Private Bag 101 M, Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia. Dr. R. Virginia Kauffman, Miss Gladys I. Lehman

Wanezi Mission, Private Bag 129 S, Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia.

Mission Staff: Rev. and Mrs. J. E. Musser, Miss Mary E. Heisey, Miss Florence R. Hensel, Miss Anna R. Wolgemuth

Bible School Staff: Rev. and Mrs. Jesse F. Lady

Outstation Staff: Rev. and Mrs. George E. Bundy

NORTHERN RHODESIA

Macha Mission, Private Bag, Choma, Northern Rhodesia.

Mission Staff: Rev. and Mrs. I. M. Stern, Miss Anna M. Eyster, Miss Pauline E. Frey, Miss Ruth E. Hock, Miss Fannie Longenecker, Mr. Keith D. Ulery

Hospital Staff: Dr. and Mrs. Alvan E. Thuma, Mr. Joseph G. Ginder, Miss Martha L. Lady

Sikalongo Mission, P. O. Box 131, Choma, Northern Rhodesia.

Rev. and Mrs. A. Graybill Brubaker, Miss Kathryn Hossler, Miss Anna L. Kettering

Nahumba Mission, P. O. Box 173, Choma, Northern Rhodesia.

Rev. and Mrs. H. Frank Kipe

Japan

11 Higiwara, Hagi City, Yamaguchi, Japan: Rev. and Mrs. Peter A. Willms, Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Book

Cuba

Cuatro Caminos, Habana Province, Cuba; Mr. and Mrs. Howard Wolgemuth

Missionaries on Furlough

Miss Lula Asper, c/o Norman Asper, R. 2 Harrisburg, Pa.

Miss Elizabeth H. Engle, 236 College Ave., Elizabethtown, Penna.

Rev. and Mrs. Arthur Pye, Wainfleet, Ontario

Rev. and Mrs. Roy Mann, 20th and Paxton St., Harrisburg, Pa.

Rev. and Mrs. Elwood Hershey, Route 3, Troy, Ohio

Anna Graybill, R. 2, Hershey, Pa.

Dorothy Martin, 662 S. Market St., Elizabethtown, Pa.

Miss Mabel Frey, 20th and Paxton St., Harrisburg, Penna.

Rev. and Mrs. Chester Wingert, R. 3, Elizabethtown, Penna.

Miss Anna R. Engle, Grantham, Penna.

Rev. and Mrs. Allen S. Buckwalter, 338 N. Sixth Ave., Upland, Calif.

Miss Edna Lehman, R. 9, York, Penna.

Mrs. Mary (Brenaman) Brechbill, Abilene, Kansas

29-year-old transit company worker whose sight was restored recently by a cornea transplantation, and the young surgeon who performed the operation.

The pastor said: "We have given our tithes, and it has not hurt us; our blood, and it was good for us; our love, and we have grown by it. Now, let us take another step and give one of our priceless possessions—our eyes—so that after we are gone someone less fortunate may see what we have had the privilege of seeing these many years." He said the willing of one's eyes to the Eye Bank is a generous act, even though it costs us nothing and involves no sacrifice.

Reds to Raze Historic Church in East Germany

Plans by Communist authorities of Magdeburg, Soviet Zone, to tear down the historic Holy Spirit church and its adjacent St. Ann chapel, were protested by leaders of the Evangelical Church of Saxony. The Holy Spirit church dates back to the thirteenth century. The St. Ann chapel is considered one of the most precious specimens of Gothic architecture in Germany. But Communist city planners claim that the church building would mar the looks of the new city hall that is slated to be built on an adjacent site.

The church, heavily damaged during World War II, was the first worship center to be rebuilt in Magdeburg after the war. Many foreign churches contributed to its reconstruction, which was completed in 1951. Church leaders said the proposed razing would be a "senseless" destruction of one of the most valuable architectural monuments in the city, and also a severe blow to the church life of the community. Some 275,000 of Magdeburg's 337,000 residents are Protestants.

Last April, Communist officials in Magdeburg tore down the war-damaged St. Ulrich's church there, another of the city's historic structures, in spite of repeated protests by the Evangelical Church of Saxony. The city council justified the action on the grounds of "city planning and traffic conditions."

In Des Moines, Iowa, Post Office clerk Donald Dotson handed a woman some stamps to be used on a church mailing, apologized when she refused to accept an issue commemorating the 50th anniversary of Devil's Tower National Monument in Wyoming and finally gave her stamps of another issue.

Jim Vaus, founder and president of Missionary Communication Service, is making a field survey of the African interior. While there he will inspect sites for transmitters needed to provide a modern communication system to back up missionary advances into remote interior areas.

Theodore E. McCully, executive secretary of Christian Business Men's Committee International, recently outlined a five-point program to expand the goals of the organization. He proposed: 1) a dignified program of street meetings; 2) the promotion of cottage prayer meetings; 3) revival of the Christian Business Men's Crusade under which laymen conduct meetings in various areas; 4) a direct-mail campaign to 100 selected businessmen in each community; and 5) institution of a "goodwill ambassador" program at the local level. In the latter program, members take a half day off from their business to visit men of similar occupations or professions and talk to them about Christ and salvation.

World Gospel Crusades Appoints Field Representative

Dr. B. H. Pearson, executive secretary of World Gospel Crusades, has announced the appointment of new field representative in Latin America.

For Spanish-speaking countries, Dr. Don Hillis will have headquarters in San Jose, Costa Rica, and will be concerned with the promotion of the "Light of Life" Bible Correspondence Course program. This program, first initiated in India by Dr. Hillis for the extensive evangelism conducted there under the auspices of The Evangelical Alliance Mission, is having wide acceptance in the 20 Spanish-speaking republics of Latin America, where it is sponsored by WGC through 66 distribution centers or "schools."

Over Sixty Per Cent of Arrests Connected With Liquor

More than 60 per cent of all arrests made by police in the first six months of 1956 were due to crimes directly related to alcoholic beverages, the Methodist Board of Temperance reported at Washington, D.C. The board said that an analysis of the latest FBI Uniform Crime Report shows that out of approximately three million arrests for all offenses, 60 and two-thirds per cent were related to alcohol. The figures are taken from police reports from 1,771 cities.

In the six-month period there were 1,273,000 arrests for drunkenness, 325,000 for disorderly conduct, 137,000 for driving while intoxicated, and over 50,000 for violations of state and federal liquor laws. On an average, there were almost 10,000 arrests a day, the board pointed out. It noted the figures do not include a number of other crimes, such as rape, manslaughter, and homicide, in which liquor may have played a part.

Elsewhere, more persons were convicted in England and Wales last year of drunkenness than in any other year since 1938, an official Government statement revealed. From 54,518 in 1938, the figure declined steadily to 20,545 in 1946 and then took a sharp jump reaching 54,210 in 1955.

The London metropolitan area recorded 19,903 offenses last year. Birmingham was second with 4,806 and Liverpool third with 3,085.

Russian Church in U. S. Breaking Ties With Soviet

A quiet revolt against the Moscow Patriarchate is going on among Russian Orthodox churches in this country. In the last year four parishes have left the Moscow-affiliated church and joined the Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church of America, a spokesman for the independent denomination reports. A fifth is involved in litigation and others are expected to renounce the authority of Patriarch Alexius of Moscow.

Strange Case of Unhappy Liquor Stores; Asked for Vote that Closed Businesses

A contender for the year's most unusual story unfolded in Tennessee this month when 54 legal liquor stores of Chattanooga

asked for a referendum in which they were voted out of business.

It happened like this:

Church leaders decided they wanted to get rid of the stores.

They organized under the leadership of Major General Paul H. Jordan, owner of two businesses, head of the Tennessee National Guard and pastor of three rural Methodist Churches.

The church folk obtained sufficient signatures for a referendum, but Jordan, retaining the military tactic of surprise, kept the wets guessing as to when the vote would be called. The dries reportedly favored a special referendum because of the usual heavy vote in "controlled" wards on general election days.

Wets viewed the dry logic and wanted no part of it. To offset the planning, liquor backers collected some signatures of their own and filed for an unprecedented referendum on November 6, with a big vote assured by the Presidential election.

The battle about bottles began, with the liquor store owners catching it from all directions. They had to finance the wet campaign. Political leaders of one party, with the say so on retail licenses, put the squeeze on them for funds. The other party, irritated about money given to the opposition, passed the word their followers would vote dry unless contributions were forthcoming.

J. B. Collins, veteran staff writer for The Chattanooga News-Free Press, said the liquor dealers, fearful of being drained by politicians and then being voted out of existence, were in a sad plight . . . somewhat like the farmer who knocked down a hornets' nest while trying to beat out a grass fire around his barn. He didn't know whether to fight the fire or swat the hornets.

Then came the vote. With well-organized church support, the dries collected 29,704, and the wets splashed behind with 27,180. Staggered but not out, wets asked a court injunction to keep the election commission from certifying the results on charges that phrasing on the ballots and vote machines was confusing. Chancellor J. Clifford Curry denied the injunction and the votes were certified.

The 54 stores have 90 days to liquidate their liquor.

Christianity Today

Odditorials in the News

Presidents of the two largest seminaries of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. met at San Francisco Theological Seminary in California recently, and they found they have much in common. Dr. Jesse Hays Baird of the San Francisco Seminary and Dr. John MacKay of Princeton Seminary in New Jersey are both retiring this year; both are former moderators of the General Assembly, both are 67-years-old, and both have served their posts for 20 years.

A church organ in Blackpool, England, that startled parishioners when it "broadcast" a BBC weather report during a service has been restored to normal. A piece of wire dropped down among the tubes caused the instrument to pick up radio signals.