

EVANGELICAL

MENNONITE

CONFERENCE

the MESSENGER

BUILDING A TEMPLE

A builder builded a temple,
He wrought it with grace and skill,
Pillars and groins and arches
All fashioned to work his will
Men said as they saw its beauty:
"It shall never know decay
Great is thy skill, O builder;
Thy fame shall endure for aye"

A teacher builded a temple
With loving and infinite care,
Planning each arch with patience,
Laying each stone with prayer.
None praised her unceasing efforts,
None knew of her wondrous plan,
For the temple the teacher builded
Was unseen by the eyes of man.

Gone is the builder's temple,
Crumbled into the dust;
Low lies each stately pillar,
Food for consuming rust.
But the temple the teacher builded
Will last while the ages roll,
For that beautiful, unseen temple
Is a child's immortal soul.

Christian Educators File

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EDITORIAL



SUNDAY SCHOOL

February and March will see at least two Mennonite Sunday School conventions held. The one is an inter-Mennonite Conference in Winnipeg (Feb. 22-24). The other one is our own convention in Rosenort, March 2 and 3.

The modern impetus of the Sunday School can no doubt be traced back to the formation of the N.S.S.A. (National Sunday School Association) in 1945.

Alarmed by the continual decline in Sunday School attendance one hundred key leaders on the field of Christian education gathered in the Stevens (Conrad Hilton) hotel, Chicago, April 30 - May 1. From this came the National Sunday School Association.

They adopted as a slogan "Revitalize the American Sunday School" This group determined among other things to revive the "old-fashioned Sunday school convention". Eighteen months later the first National Sunday School Convention sponsored by the newly organized Association met in Moody Church, Chicago, October 2-6, 1946.

This association has done much through the years in keeping the Sunday school fire burning brightly, also in our own areas. Our own teachers have taken part in National Conventions and in turn sparked interest for conventions at home. This in turn has made our own constituency Sunday school conscious to the extent that today it has become an integral part of us. We cannot but commend the proponents of Sunday school for their zeal and efforts. Different forces are battling for our children and young people, and oft times winning. How much more should we be willing to make an all out effort to win them for Christ.

Solomon admonishes to remember the Creator in the days of youth. This is not without reason. Childhood is like soft clay, easily molded. The little experience I have had with clay taught me one thing, the older the clay gets, the more brittle it becomes, and consequently less pliable. Thus also the child as it grows older becomes less pliable, less teachable. We ought to take advantage of these teachable years.

But are we doing everything we can in Sunday school? We are not unless our program includes both children and adults.

For too long, "Sunday school" and "children" have been synonymous. While not minimizing Jesus' concern for children nevertheless He trained a group of adults who were to carry on His work on earth. Could it be that in our zeal for child evangelism the adult has been the forgotten factor in our outreach? We trust that the article "Teaching Children or Adults" by J. J. Toews in this issue will be food for thought along this line. We are in no way advocating retreat in our Sunday school outreach for children, but at the same time, I believe, there is a definite lack in our outreach for adults.

Letters To the Editor

A Challenge to Potential Writers

Your changeover from the "Family Circle" to "The Messenger" is highly commended. The new Youth Section and the short story have certainly caught the young people's attention and I am sure that the paper as a whole has aroused a new interest among readers.

I would like to see a page set aside especially for articles written by young people. Certainly there are some potential writers or perhaps poets in our Mennonite youth circles. There is a great need for fundamental Christian literature in the world today and therefore I think that young people should be encouraged to develop their talents in this field. Perhaps one way of doing this would be to appoint a special title such as "How I Found God's Will for My Life" or "Blessings I Have Received from Personal Devotions" for each issue. Everyone would be eligible to write in the topic and then the best one could be published in "The Messenger". I believe in this way young people could also be of great spiritual help to another.

M. Kroeker, Box 1420, Steinbach

ED. Maybe a step in this direction is the "My Testimony" article in this issue. Others are to follow as we have room.

We might also add that in July of this year, Mennonites will hold their first writers conference in Canada. Keep your eyes and ears open for further announcements.

* * *

IT IS WORTH REMEMBERING

That you cannot whitewash yourself by blackening others.

That success comes in cans—failure in can'ts.

That a day of worry is more exhausting than a week of work.

That a sign on the door of opportunity reads—PUSH

That cheerfulness is what greases the axles of the world.

That a dead fish floats downstream; a live one goes up.

"That's What I Said!"

The man who toots his own horn soon has everybody dodging when he approaches.

Ignorance is when you don't know something, and somebody finds it out.

The Messenger

Official organ, in the English language, of the EVANGELICAL MENNONITE CONFERENCE. Published biweekly under the auspices of the E. M. C. BOARD OF PUBLICATIONS AND EDUCATION.

Editor, David K. Schellenberg, 502 Fifth Ave. N.W. Portage la Prairie, Man.

Authorized as second class mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa, and for payment of postage in cash.

MISSIONS

CONGO BOUND



We have enjoyed the ministry at home both in the churches and in Bible School, but it is our conviction that the Lord is leading us out once more. This past year confronted us with more difficult decisions than ever before. At times we did not know what God would require of us, but through it all He gave us deep peace — the peace that “passeth all understanding” (Phil. 4:7). Repeatedly we claimed His promises: “I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go; I will guide thee with mine eye” (Ps. 32:8). “Delight thyself also in the Lord; trust also in Him; and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass” (Ps. 37:4, 5). “In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths” (Prov. 5:6). The Psalmist’s testimony is also ours, “As for God His way is perfect” (Ps. 18:30).

As we see it now our work on the field will consist mainly of counselling and evangelism. Discussions with our pastors, overseers, teacher-evangelists, and lay people will focus on questions vital to a strong indigenous church. Typical topics will be finance, strengthening believers in the faith, church discipline, preparation of lay people for an effective witness, development of leadership, etc. Please pray specifically that the Lord will give wisdom in dealing with these crucial questions.

Helen will most likely act in an advisory capacity in the medical work. Much of her time will be devoted to supervising Hope, Faith, and Charity in their correspondence courses. The girls, too, will play a much needed role in our witness. Definite prayer will be appreciated.

Villages continue to present their unprecedented challenge to evangelism. Congo is in a state of tension and flux. It is true that “there are many adversaries,” but it is also true that “a great door and effectual is opened” to us. “Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest” (Jn. 4:35).

Therefore, pray that utterance may be given to us that we may open our mouths boldly, “to make known the mystery of the gospel” (Eph 6:19).

Ben Eidse

PANAMA



Yes, we’re back in Panama; have been for two months. We’ve been busy

in school almost since the day we arrived but now it’s time for a visit with you.

Our school enrollment is up to eighteen this year. One new family has been added and Tommy Moses who had to be withdrawn because of illness last February is back and completely well. We praise the Lord for answering prayer.

We were happy and thankful to find our car exactly as we left it. Here where tires and batteries sometimes disappear in less than half an hour this is really an item of praise. The house too had been left untouched; fellow missionaries had mowed the lawn and so we found a very pleasant and tidy home waiting for us. Since then Diana has done some painting and has put up fresh curtains so our place really looks quite cheerful.

Among our Panamanian friends we found a few changes. In our little village of La Paz at least 2 people received the Lord while we were away. Others have started to come to services again and still others are memorizing scripture verses to go to camp next February. It is not too soon to begin praying for the camps now.

The many happy times we spent with family and friends in Canada last summer are now just memories. We were greatly helped and strengthened by the short furlough. It was definitely the Lord’s gracious leading which made it possible for us to be home during the illness of Diana’s father. Also we are confident that it was the Lord who led us back. He has a work for us to do here.

The children are in the pink of health. They enjoy their many playmates and now with the oranges and grapefruits beginning to ripen they enjoy the fruit too. Dougie is as active as ever. He’s picking up new words daily. At breakfast the other day he peered into his glass of milk and said, “Junk in here.” Diana looked and then took out the offensive crumb of toast. We hope he’ll be as particular as that about the things that really matter.

So we must bring this little visit to a close. As always we feel our indebtedness to you who pray for us and support us. Thank you very much.

Clifford and Diana Reimer
Chame, Panama

TEACHING CHILDREN OR ADULTS

By J. J. Toews

There is a growing emphasis in the Mennonite Brethren Constituency, of which I am a part, on the teaching ministry of the church. Such emphasis is indeed biblical, and in keeping with the charge Christ gave to His disciples (Matt. 28:19-20) and the practice of the apostolic church (Acts 4:2, 18; 5:25, 28, 42). Paul's fruitful missionary ministry was characterized by a strong emphasis on teaching. He tells the elders at Ephesus: "I . . . have taught you publicly and from house to house" (Acts 20:20). Such emphasis is also evident in his charge to his son Timothy: "The things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses the same commit thou to faithful men who shall be able to teach others also" (II Tim. 1:2). Paul continues to make this emphasis on teaching basic for all times in the kingdom of God when he says, "And the servant of the Lord must not strive but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves" (II Tim. 2:24-25).

Such teaching ministry expresses itself in various ways within our brotherhood. There is the teaching ministry in the church program as such, which includes our Sunday schools, mid-week services and the teaching from the pulpit. In addition to this most of the churches have involved themselves in one way or another in sponsoring various schools to supplement the teaching ministry of the church. This includes Christian high schools, Bible schools, Christian colleges and seminaries. In all these efforts there is one over-all objective: to help men and women become what God would have them be.

One aspect of our educational program, however, may need re-examination. To whom should the church direct its educational program? We do not question the content of our curriculum. There we always want to remain

in harmony with what the Apostolic church taught: "They ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ" (Acts 5:43). But to whom should the church direct itself primarily with such a dynamic message? We need not be in doubt as to whether the church should limit its teaching ministry to believers or unbelievers. The Great Commission makes this very clear: "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost" (Matt. 28:19). It tells us of evangelism through a teaching ministry. Yet after they have been reached for Christ Jesus continues "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you" (Matt. 28:30). In its teaching ministry the church addresses itself to both believers and unbelievers. In this universal application of the teaching ministry, however, we need to examine whether the church should occupy itself more with the teaching of children or the teaching of adults. Which, according to the Scriptures, becomes more the specific responsibility of the church? We ask, therefore:

I. Who is responsible for the teaching of children?

We all cherish the one occasion at which Jesus put His hand on the little ones and blessed them. But as far as we know He never taught a Scripture lesson to children as such. Neither do we read that the apostles ever taught a children's class. It would even be difficult to find a Scriptural admonition to the church to teach children. Yet so many in our circles, when stressing the importance of Sunday schools, have primary reference to the church's responsibility to children.

Are children, then, not to be taught? Indeed, they are! But is the church or the home made responsible for the teaching of children according to the Scriptures? In the classic passage on this subject, Deut. 6:1 we read: "And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way and when thou liest down and when thou risest up and thou shalt bind them for

a sign upon thine hand and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes and thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house and on thy gates" (Deut. 6:7-9). It is in the family circle that the deep truth of divine revelation are to be transmitted for the heart of parents to the heart of the child.

Deut. 6:20 reads: "And when thy son asketh thee in time to come, saying, what meaneth the testimonies and the statutes and the judgements which the Lord thy God hath commanded you, then thou shalt say unto thy son, 'We were Pharaoh's bondmen in Egypt and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand.'" Again it is in the context of the parent-son relationship that such an exposition is to be made. God underscores this responsibility again through the mouth of Joshua: "When your children shall ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean these stones, then ye shall let your children know, saying, Israel came over the Jordan on dry land" (Joshua 4:21-22).

The admonition to children is: "My son, hear the instruction of thy father and forsake not the law of thy mother" (Prov. 1:8). Again: "Hear ye children the instruction of a father and attend to know understanding" (Prov. 4:1). God makes special reference to Abraham's ministry in teaching his household when He says, "For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him and they shall keep the way of the Lord to do justice and judgement" (Gen. 18:19). All of this can be done in the least artificial setting where the student is relaxed and open to the deep truths of divine revelation, that is the family.

Someone may object that all this is in the Old Testament. In the New Testament we could quote the example of Timothy who knew the Scriptures from childhood (II Tim. 3:15). But what clue do we have regarding the source of instruction by which such knowledge was obtained? We cannot but be reminded of the unfeigned faith that dwelt "first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice, and I am persuaded in thee also" (II Tim. 1:15). Again we see the teaching of Scripture in the family context. That is where it rightfully belongs, and that is exactly where this generation has come short. A teaching parent is the exception rather than the rule. The teaching of children has been relegated to institutions other than the home. Nevertheless, it is difficult to see how a par-

J. J. Toews is an instructor at the Mennonite Brethren Bible College in Winnipeg. This article is reprinted by permission from "The Voice".

* * *

ent can absolve himself from this responsibility, particularly when it concerns the teaching of spiritual truths. The Scriptures hold a parent, and particularly the mother, responsible for such a ministry.

II. Who is responsible for the teaching of adults?

To teach their own children parents need help. They will have to equip themselves with a thorough knowledge of what they are to teach, and, furthermore, how they are to go about teaching more effectively. It is only natural then to expect a parent, who wishes to be faithful in his teaching ministry at home, to be eager to benefit from the teaching ministry of experts. Therefore, the admonition of Paul to Timothy, "And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses the same commit thou to faithful men who shall be able to teach others also" (II Tim. 2:2). The charge is to teach teachers. Parents who want to teach their children at home ought to receive help from the church in this so tremendously important ministry. No classes in our Sunday schools ought to be bulging with students as much as the classes of fathers and mothers. Yet this is where the attendance is often so irregular and weak. Parents will see to it that their children get to church and learn, while they themselves, caught in the Sunday morning rush, stay at home. We may make such a shift in responsibility but it needs to be questioned whether in doing so we can also shift our responsibility in the sight of the Lord. In the final analyses God is going to hold the parents responsible for the teaching and training of their children.

The church is responsible to offer the needed instruction to the parents. Such responsibility is implied in Ephesians 4, where Paul, by inspiration, says that Christ gave to the church "some apostles, and some prophets, some evangelists and some pastors and teachers for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry for edifying of the body of Christ" (Eph. 4:11-12). Here the various church officers are given for the perfecting of the saints. Who are these saints? Certainly not the children. They are people who have recognized their lost condition, have learned about redemption that is in Christ Jesus, and have personally, upon conviction, appreciated the provisions that are in Christ Jesus. Having been born into a new life they are called

TRUTH FOR YOUTH

MY TESTIMONY

by Diana Hoffer, Rockford, Sask.

"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." Isaiah 53:6. This is my favourite verse because it brought me to know Christ as my personal Saviour. I was saved three years ago in Yorkton at the Baptist Church. T. E. Roberts was there and he led me to the Lord. It was at the closing of the message and the singing of the hymn "Come to the Saviour" that I went forward. After I had yielded my life and heart completely to Him I felt so happy and free from my burden of sin I wanted to sing for joy. I went home that afternoon a changed person. I will never never be sorry for giving my life to Christ and letting Him have His way in my life.

This all happened three years ago and at present time I am teaching the Beginner class in the **Endeavour Fellowship Chapel**. I find teaching Beginners a real opportunity to help

"saints." Such saints need perfecting. They need to be built up. For this a strong teaching ministry is required. It is "the word of grace, which is able to build up" (Acts 20:32). The church is to work with saints. We hear much complaining about the poor quality of church members in our day; and this may be so. But what is the remedy for such a situation? A strong teaching ministry geared to the adults. Therefore, our education efforts need to be re-evaluated in the light of this responsibility.

We may then ask, Are children's classes in churches unscriptural? Not necessarily so. But we must remember that a Sunday school for a child is an artificial environment and if a child receives all its Bible training in church detached from everyday environment it will be prone to detach Christianity from everyday living also. It will come to associate scriptural teaching with Sunday and church only. The child will come to the conclusion that Christianity and everyday living do not mix. The church may certainly



young children to become better acquainted with Christ.

When I am through school I want to go on to Bible School and then to wherever the Lord will have me go. I want to say this in closing, Christianity really works, and if you don't know Jesus as your own personal Saviour, why not yield your life to Him today, for tomorrow may be too late.

ED. The Endeavour work is under the E.M.C. Extension Committee. Edwin Wright is the missionary (See MESSENGER, No. 2, Jan. 28)

supplement the teaching ministry of the home, but the main responsibility for the teaching of children must be placed upon the home.

Years of experience have taught us that an outreach by the church directed exclusively to children of non-church-going parents have yielded very disappointing results.

Fast growing denominations, such as the Southern Baptists, have gone forward while other Bible-believing denominations have declined in membership. Southern Baptists and even some of the false cults, have made their first concern the teaching of adults and placing the claims of Christ and the gospel on their hearts. They have sought to win the parents and bring them under the influence of the Word, and then the parents in turn have taken the gospel home and instructed their children. We do not wish to discourage educational work among children, but we wish to make the church aware of the fact that the biblical pattern for the church is to reach the adults first. May God graciously help in such an effort!

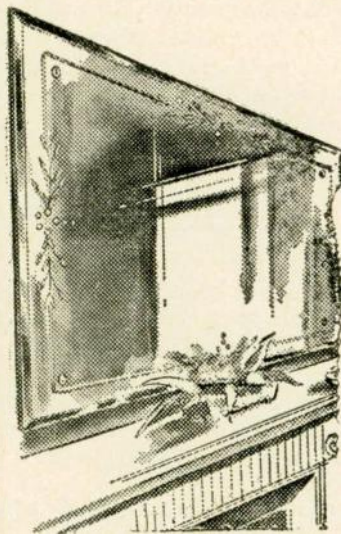
What Price Beauty

Marion Thompson Perkin

Bobbie Jean lay curled in a tense little ball—listening. Surely it must have been a half-hour now—June must be pretty sound asleep in that length of time. Cautiously she straightened out one of her cramped legs. Then moving softly, very softly—she stepped over her big sister and down to the floor. So far so good!

Squeak! squeak! the floor boards protested. "Oh, hush," Bobbie muttered uneasily. Any minute she expected June to sit up in bed and demand, "What do you think you're doing, Roberta Jean Sanford? Prowling around and waking up working people?"

Gliding across the floor as silently as a cat, Bobbie slid open the bottom drawer of the dresser and reached clear



back. Her searching fingers found the small package they were sent for. Then, flashlight in one hand, mirror in the other, Bobbie slipped into the closet and closed the door.

With eager fingers she tore open the package. The bold, red lettering on the tube inside said, "Sensation—a wonder-working new freckle cream. Guaranteed to remove freckles in ten applications. Leaves your skin clear, soft and beautiful."

Bobbie's eyes shone. This was wonderful. Now Alan wouldn't call her "turkey egg" any more and make all the boys laugh. Sometimes it was hard

not to hate her cousin—he said such mean things.

Bobbie picked up the mirror and made a face at her reflection. Ugh! was there anything uglier than violent brick-red hair and big, blotchy freckles? Mother said they'd fade out like Aunt May's when she grew up. But that didn't stop Alan from calling her nasty names now.

"Spread lightly and evenly over face. Leave on overnight. Rinse in the morning with mild, soapy water," she read. It was a cinch she couldn't go through this process every night. Perhaps if she put the whole tube on one night—that might work just as well.

When she had coaxed the last bit out of the tube, her face was covered with several layers of green salve. She looked awful, but just wait till tomorrow!

"Hiya, Double-Ugly," Alan said, not bothering to glance up from his marble game when he saw Bobbie's print dress. "How are your leopard spots and your temper? Did you get a good sleep?"

With her nose lifted high, Bobbie attempted to swish past him into school.

"What, my dear cousin, no come-back? no temper?" Alan looked up in quick surprise. His eyes widened with horror. "What happened? Your face—all those blisters and plain beet red! And what do you have on it—flour?"

Bobbie's eyes filled with tears, which she dashed away angrily. She'd hoped no one would notice. Her face was as red as fire. Oh how it hurt! That awful, awful freckle cream! She'd covered her face with layers of June's powder, and she thought it didn't show too badly. June hadn't noticed because she was too busy making breakfast since Mom was out on the farm.

Alan eyed her with disgust. "Carrot hair, a temper, freckles, cat eyes—and now a face that looks like a raw hamburger. Fellas, can you understand how a handsome chap like me could have a cousin that looks like a circus freak?" He shook his head sadly.

and Alan's teasing were too much. "My hair isn't carrot," Bobbie screamed. "My teacher said it was the color of a new copper penny. And you're just a mean old hateful person and I hate you and boo-hoo—" Bobbie ran off toward home hating herself for crying.

Her eyes blinded by tears, Bobbie almost ran into her mother at their gate. Sitting in the porch swing with her mother's arms around her, Bobbie told her story. She'd wanted so badly to be pretty. She wanted people to like her.

Aren't you a little mixed up, Bobbie?" her mother asked. "You want to be pretty so that people will like you, you say. Don't you like anyone who isn't pretty?"

What a funny question, Bobbie thought, mopping her eyes. "Why, of course, Mother! I like Peggy Lea best of all. So does everybody. She's that little hunchbacked girl. Miss Holden said it was a joy to have her in class—she's so sunny and cheerful. She's never too busy to help someone else.

"I sure like her better than that Jo Ann Rogers," Bobbie rushed on. "She always wants to be first—so people will praise her. If she doesn't have the prettiest dress and get the highest grades, she just sulks. I used to think she was awful pretty, but she pouts and sulks all the time. That's funny," she thought aloud, "I used to think Peggy was real ugly. Oh, I think I know now why you asked me those questions. You mean it doesn't matter how pretty the outside is if the inside is mean and selfish and gets angry."

That's right," her mother answered. "Peggy Lea loves Jesus and is so happy in helping others that her face shines with joy. That's the only real lasting beauty—the kind that comes from within. The Bible tells us in one place that 'the king's daughter is all glorious within.'"

Bobbie was quiet for a minute. "I guess that means a real daughter of Jesus wouldn't worry a lot about being pretty outside. Inside she'd make her heart beautiful by not losing her temper and by helping others, and stuff like that." Then she added, "While you do the washing this morning, do you want me to play with the baby?"

— O. P. Boys and Girls
from My Pleasure



FEBRUARY

L. Reimer

What does February mean to you? If you are romantically inclined you will by now have sent a Valentine to the one you love.

Some of us have started sewing for the summer (the very thought frightens me) others may think of spring cleaning. February is also the favorite month of the procrastinator because it's too late to put up the storm windows and too early for the screens.

Maybe for you February means birthdays or anniversaries, etc. Each have their special days of remembrance.

But did God ever become very close to you in this month of the year? To us this is an unforgettable month. For it was in February (eight years ago) that God reached down His hand and took our dear Dad (Mr. P. D. Reimer) unto Himself. All this strongly reminds us of the words of Peter "For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth forever" (I Peter 1:24, 25).

Yesterday, with my own youngsters around me, I read to them the last letter that my Dad wrote us, December 17, 1954. I want to share some of it with you:

"... Are you all well? Grandpa (Rev. H. R. Reimer) is in the Concordia Hospital just now. I might be going to the General Hospital after Christmas. The doctors believe they can relieve me of some discomfort, but we will leave it to the leading of the Lord. What would I do without the Lord..."

These words remind us again of the true values of life. Truths that have been taught to us by those who have gone on before. May we all respect the faith of our fathers, especially as we have seen their steadfastness and faith, in the hour of death.

"O the friends that now are waiting
In the cloudless realms of day,

They are calling me to follow
Where their steps have led the way
They have laid aside their armour
And their earthly course is run.
They have kept the faith with patience

And their crown of life is won.
They are calling, gently calling.
Sweetly calling me to come.
And I'm looking through the shadows
For the blessed lights of home.

Leona Reimer (From Our House to Your House) is the wife of Rev. John Reimer, pastor of our Winnipeg Church.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

March 2 and 3, 1963, Rosenort, E.M.C. Church

Chairman: Henry Harms

Saturday, March 2, 2:00 p.m.

Song Service P. J. L. Friesen
Opening P. L. Friesen
Special Number Pleasant Valley
Message Dr. Frank C. Peters
Announcements

Workshops

Teacher Training Harvey Plett
Pastor and the Sunday School Dr. Peters
Adults Abe Unger
Beginner Eva Fast

7:00 p.m.

Workshops

Junior Bernie Klassen
Nursery Mrs. Corny Harms
Extension Sunday School Henry Kornelsen
Discipline Milton Fast

Inspirational Period

Special Number Ridgewood
Offering
Closing Levi Reimer

Sunday, March 3, 2:00 p.m.

Song Service John Plett
Opening Frank Thiessen
Special Number Prairie Rose
Offerings and announcements

Workshops

Cradle Roll Mrs. Ed. Loewen
Primaries Melvin Dueck
Evangelism Dr. Frank C. Peters
Secretary and Records Peter W. Doerksen

Workshops

Young people Dr. Frank C. Peters
Intermediates Harvey Plett
Opening Worship Service John Koop
Lesson preparation Gerry Doerksen

7:00 p.m.

Inspirational Period

Song Service Dave Kliever
Opening Wymark
Special Number Steinbach
Announcements
Offering
Question Box
Special Number Rosenort
Message Dr. Frank C. Peters
Closing Nick Eidse

NEWS

Fast Milton D. July 63
Kleefeld Man.

E.M.C. — E.M.M.C.

MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

On Saturday, January 18th, the Rosenort E.M.C. was host to the second E.M.C.—E.M.M.C. Ministerial Conference. A more effective approach to the furtherance of the cause of Christ was one of the objectives of the meeting. Rev. Frank D. Reimer, moderator of the E.M.C., chaired the meeting. Following is a brief summary of the three main messages.

Rev. David Friesen, pastor of the newly organized E.M.M.C. congregation in Steinbach, spoke on Matt. 13: 1-9, 18-23 where we have the parable of the sower and the seed. The seed sown is the unadulterated Word of God which regenerates, cleanses, and endures forever. It is every Christians responsibility to sow the seed.

Rev. B. D. Reimer spoke on Matt. 13:24-30, 36-43 where we have another parable of the sown seed. Nature teaches us that where there is overcrowding, no fruit will come forth; on the other hand where there is only isolated seed, it will be suffocated by surrounding weeds. This also holds true in the spiritual realm. Christians should therefore scatter in small groups and in this way seek to evangelize the nations.

The afternoon session centered around the theme "Zeichen der Endzeit" according to Matt. 24 and was expounded by Rev. Ben Hoepfner. In the Bible, prophecy has both, an immediate application and a mediate application. In order to properly understand prophecy we must of necessity take the historical background into consideration.

J. Loewen

KOLA - BUTLER

During the last two years that we have been fellowshiping in the basement of the church, our congregation has experienced a considerable growth. Since our Sunday School has been averaging an attendance of 140 recently, the basements has become to crowded. Therefore, work is now underway to complete the auditorium of the church. This is being done entirely by volunteer labor.

Mrs. E. Giesbrecht

RECEIVED INTO MEMBERSHIP

Winnipeg: on January 20

Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Siemens

Mr. and Mrs. Jake Klassen

Portage la Prairie, on January 27

Mr. and Mrs. John Dyck

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Giesbrecht

March 24 — Revival meetings at E.M.C. Winnipeg, H. P. Fast of Omaha is the speaker.

PRAIRIE ROSE

Because of quite an extension program, and some other reasons, Prairie Rose church is having only one Jugend Veerin or Young Peoples Endeavour a month where "all" are welcome. The strictly "Young People" are encouraged to organize a regular gathering to their taste. This will leave some Sunday evenings free to visit other Young People's meetings, etc.

H. Plett

LORD'S SUPPER AT KAMSACK

On January 29, twenty-three Christians gathered for the Lord's Supper at Kamsack, Br. Wiebe also relates of two backsliders restored and two teenagers saved. Sunday school attendance at Kamsack stands between 50 and 60. Good interest is also shown in Bible study and evening services.

ITINERARY, PEACE AND VOLUNTARY SERVICE MEETINGS (Partial)

Feb. 21 — Kleefeld

Feb. 22 — Blumenort

March 7 — Steinbach

March 8 — Prairie Rose

March 21 — Morris

March 22 — Ridgewood

Topics:

"The Christian and Politics"

Harvey Plett

"Voluntary Service in the E.M.C."

D. K. Schellenberg

(Died: February 19, Mrs. Peter B. Kroeker, age 83, widow of the late Rev. P. B. Kroeker of Steinbach, at the Rest Haven Home.

OBITUARY OF

DAVID LEE HOUGHTON

Riobamba, Ecuador, S.A.

It has pleased our heavenly Father to take David Lee Houghton to be with Him. He was born on the 18th of July and lived to be 6 months and 28 days.

He leaves to mourn his early departure his Mother and Dad, Mr. and Mrs. Stan Houghton, 2 brothers, Jackie and Laurie and 2 sisters, Lois Anne and Becky. Also his grandparents on both sides. The Lord hath given and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord. (Job 1:21).

Submitted by Mr. and Mrs. John D. Loewen, Steinbach, Man

Births

To Mr. and Mrs. Ben Wiebe of Winnipeg, a daughter, Jacqueline, Jan. 14.

To Mr. and Mrs. Levi Schellenberg of Kleefeld, a girl, Alice Louise, January 16.

To Mr. and Mrs. Jac. H. Klassen of Kola, a girl, Valerie, Feb. 1.

To Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Klassen of Winnipeg, a daughter, Anna Louise, February 7.

To Mr. and Mrs. John Fast of Kleefeld, a daughter on Feb. 6.

Coming Events

February 22 - 24 The second Inter Mennonite Sunday School Convention at the Portage Avenue Mennonite Brethren Church, Winnipeg.

Feb. 24 Ordination service for minister elect Henry Klassen at Maryfield.

February 27 - March 1 Annual E.M.C. Ministerial Convention at Pleasant

March 2 & 3, E.M.C. Sunday School Conference at Rosenort.

March 3 - 7 Deeper Life Meetings at Flin Flon. Arnold Wiebe, speaker. Valley.

April 3, 4, 5, Missions Conference of Steinbach Bible Institute

April 7, 1963 Graduation Exercises, Steinbach Bible Institute