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Fort Wayne Bible Training School

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Fort Wayne Bible Training School, "The Fellowship Circle Bulletin: July 1926" (1926). *TUFW Alumni Publications*. 410.

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The Fellowship Circle Bulletin

OF THE FORT WAYNE BIBLE TRAINING SCHOOL

"Truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with the Son Jesus Christ." I John 1:3.

VOL. VI.

FORT WAYNE, IND., JULY, 1926

NO. 2.



SENIOR CLASS OF 1926

H. A. Ackerman
Gladys Amstutz
Ada Beckhart
Clyde Bowman
Mrs. Clyde Bowman
Myrtle Bradley
Mary Clauser
Arvilla Dammann
Waldo Diller
Hallie Duvall
Grace Dye
Charles Everett
Edna Figg
Katherine Gerber

Clarence Gerig
Clyde Haller
Revera Hartman
Golda Hughes
Elizabeth Klopfenstein
Mary Ann Klopfenstein
Mary Lee
Iva Lehman
Mrs. B. L. Morton, D. S. C.
Anna Moyer
Idella Neunschwander
Harold Oyer
Carl Parlee

Elizabeth Potts
Harold Schlink
Ora Schott
La Verne Shull
Emma Smith
Armin Steiner
Mrs. Armin Steiner
Oliver Steiner
Lois Steinman
Otto Stockman
Olive Wright
Sophia Yoss
Ernest Zehr

MEMORIES OF '26

It had been a hot, sultry day. The last sight of the friendly, old mission home had been lost to view and the day had scarce begun. We had traveled many miles over the winding little foot path which found its way through the tangled mass of over-hanging vines and foliage.

It was nearly dusk when the last box was finally unpacked in that little, tumbled-down mud hut in the heart of Africa. I was weary and worn from my travels and was very grateful for the reclining camp chair which was provided for my comfort.

Suddenly I was ushered on the wings of memory from the far-flung battle line of Africa to my own native land. I was no longer worn and weary in that dark continent where sin and degradation know no restraining force; I no longer plodded wearily along the winding, dusty path day after day; I was once more at the dear old Bible Training School, that place, blessed of God, where He met us so many times.

There was our precious Mother Lugibhl and the many other busy workers hurrying to and fro making the final preparations for the Commencement day which was not far in the future. This was to be the twenty-second Commencement season, the most wonderful in the history of our school. I remember that dear class, forty members there were—fine, stalwart, young men; beautiful, happy faced girls, hand picked fruit for our Master. These consecrated young people were looking forward to the time when He would open the way to fields of service.

On Sunday afternoon the first program of the season was held. Rev. B. F. Leightner preached the Baccalaureate sermon. His subject, "God's eate sermon. His subject, "God's was a benediction to all present. It was a fitting message to young people who were soon to be His message bearers to the millions who had never heard the sweet, old story of Jesus.

The Tuesday evening Student Re-

ital which was given by the students studying under Miss Ramseyer and Prof. Gerber was a splendid success. The different selections as rendered by the students were a tribute to their instructors who had carefully schooled them during the year.

On Wednesday evening I again listened to the Annual Musicales given at the First Missionary Church. These messages in song which came from the hearts of that student body will always prove a blessing to my heart. The Musicales was one of the most beautiful ever rendered by the students of the school.

I shall never forget that Commencement day. Surely one could well say, "This is a day which the Lord hath made." It was perfect in many ways. The Lord gave us a beautiful day; then, the activities of the day were in perfect harmony. We gathered that afternoon, friends and relatives of the class of '26, and many members of our own Fellowship Circle who, too, had once experienced the

joy which comes to the one who graduates from the dear, old B. T. S. They had come back to renew again old acquaintances; to catch anew the spirit of enthusiasm which emanates from the lives of the new graduates.

Rev. J. E. Ramseyer presided at the service which was held at the church across the way. Rev. Paul Rader who was the guest of the class brought the message of the afternoon. How our hearts were refreshed as we listened to each thought, old, yet ever new, which he brought to us from God's own precious Word. It was just the right message, for the right crowd, at the right time. I'm sure all of us left that service realizing that God had met with us and encouraged to go on in the strength of the Lord.

The class song "Workers Together With Him" was beautifully rendered by the class after which Rev. B. F. Leightner presented the diplomas.

That same evening at seven-thirty o'clock we met again as members of the Fellowship Circle. The following Message and Miss. Message Bearers," year: Rev. Chris. Gerig, President; Rev. Weldon O. Klopfenstein, Vice-President; Rev. S. A. Witmer, Treasurers were elected for the ensuing Sec. and Miss Esther Wagler, Corresponding Secretary.

A short prayer meeting in behalf of members who were in foreign service was engaged in. Later in the evening a number of brief talks by members were given. The Lord was present and we had a precious time of fellowship. This service closed the activities of that memorable day.

In the twinkling of an eye memory changed again to living realities. I had been living over again those blessed days of the commencement season of 1926 at the Bible Training School. Life which had been lived in the realm of memory was now over, I had received new encouragement from Him and was determined anew to keep on the firing line with Jesus until He comes to gather us all together with Him to that great Fellowship Circle meeting over yonder.—E. W. '24.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE, GREETINGS

It is with great expectancy that we enter upon a new year in the history of the Fellowship Circle. The Lord has blessed us greatly during the past year and we are looking forward to still greater things. Our number is steadily increasing for which we are grateful. As the number increases, our work is strengthened. During the past year there were upwards of forty who joined in the fellowship of the Circle.

We are glad to report that the Circle has done some real progressive work during the last few years. The long hoped for Gospel Truck was purchased by the Circle for the Bible Training School during the past year.

We feel we have also taken a forward step in that we have raised the standards for entrance into the Circle. The proposed amendment requiring at least one term's work in the Bible

Training School to be eligible to membership in the Circle was adopted in the Annual Meeting.

Another thing of interest is the B. T. S. reunion or homecoming to be held some time during the month of July. This suggestion was made by the graduating class and accepted by the Annual Meeting. Arrangements for this event are already under way and we are looking forward to a time of pleasant fellowship. Definite announcements and invitations will be sent to all the members of the Circle in the near future.

We are praying that this year may be a profitable one for the Circle and we wish each one of the members the rich blessings of the Lord Jesus Christ. May our fellowship in the Lord ever be deepened and strengthened.—Chris J. Gerig, President.

HOME COMING

July 5

On Campus of Bible Training School

All former, present and prospective students and friends of the Bible Training School are cordially invited to attend. Basket Lunch to be served at noon. Good program in the afternoon. Come and renew acquaintances and enjoy a day of fellowship.

HOW IS THE FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE FINANCED?

For the benefit of new members and for the sake of all of us a word about finances seems necessary. Having broached the delicate subject by using the exalted term "finances", we feel at liberty to speak further about just ordinary "money". It takes money to run everything—as the old saying goes—and this does not exclude the Fellowship Circle. Members are charged no admission or maintenance fees. The Bulletin goes to every member free of subscription charge. Without a formal charge of a cent one can belong to an organization whose membership embraces thirty states and approximately ten foreign countries!

The only regular source of revenue is the annual offering at the Fellowship Circle meeting. Although the liberal amount of \$26.78 was given at the last meeting this sum does not even cover the expense of printing this issue of the Bulletin. The maintenance of the organization is therefore dependent upon the voluntary contributions of its members. If everyone will meet his obligation toward the Fellowship Circle the Bulletin can appear regularly and there will even be a surplus to be devoted toward the support of needy students.

Monies in large or small amounts will be gratefully received at any time. Send all contributions to the

Treasurer, S. A. Witmer, Bible Training School, Fort Wayne, Ind.—The Treasurer.

FELLOWSHIP

(Received too late for last issue)

Those who are privileged to attend the annual meeting of the Fellowship Circle may not appreciate the Bulletin like those who seldom, or never get to meet with the Fellowship Circle family. The Lord has called some of the family to India, some to China, others to South America, Africa and else where in His vineyard; then when the Circle meets each year at the good old B. T. S. they are too far away to come and enjoy the fellowship of the rest of the family. But through the Bulletin the whole B. T. S. family can have blessed fellowship one with another. The writer is speaking from experience. I graduated in the spring of 1917, went to Arizona in the Lord's work the same fall, and was there until last August when I returned to Fort Wayne to attend the General Conference: therefore I have not had the privilege to meet with the B. T. S. family except through the Bulletin and can say I truly enjoyed this fellowship.

There is much spoken of and called fellowship in these days which is not fellowship at all. There is no true, genuine fellowship apart from God and His Son Jesus Christ. I John 1:3. "That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ."

Fellowship with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ is an unspeakable privilege. Who is there that would not count it a great honor if they were permitted to have intimate fellowship with the chief executive of our fair land, the President of the United States? Yet every child of God is privileged to have intimate fellowship with One greater than any earthly ruler. It is the privilege of every Christian to have fellowship the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ. I John 1:6, 7 reveals to us what this condition is. It is to walk with God and with His Son. While every Christian has this blessed opportunity, it is a lamentable fact, very few embrace it.

There is but one condition for the child of God to have fellowship with in the light. What is it to walk in the light? The Word is God's standard for our life. And as we read and study the Word under the illumination of the blessed Holy Spirit, it is for us to be obedient to it; or in other words be so yielded to the Spirit that He may transform our lives into the image of the Lord Jesus, and enable us to measure up to this standard. Failing to measure up to His standard breaks fellowship with Him and with one another.

Let us briefly notice the three fold result of waking in the light. But we will reverse the order as given in this first chapter of I John.

First, verse 6 "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin." Or let us paraphrase thus; if we walk in the light as He (God) is in the light the blood of Jesus Christ His Son keeps us cleansed from all sin. Not only a past act, but a present act "cleanseth", present tense! If we walk in the light of God's Word the blood of Jesus will keep our hearts as pure and as white as heaven. And we can stand the search light of the Holy Ghost turned on our lives at any time and that with out fear. Neither man nor the devil can truthfully point an accusing finger at us.

Second, verse 6. "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light we have fellowship one with another." To walk in the light keeps us in fellowship with the Father and with the Son and also with one another. There is no use to profess fellowship with the Father and Son and with one another unless we are walking in the light of God's Word. To make such a profession is to set God's Word at naught, branding it as false.

Third, verse 4. "These things write we unto you, that your joy may be full." Is not here one of the great reasons why there are so many weak, frail, sickly Christians? They do not have the fulness of the joy of the Lord in their soul. The Word tells us that, "the joy of the Lord is the strength of His people." In John 15 Jesus gives us the beautiful lesson about the vine and the branches. And in the eleventh verse He says, "These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full." If we would be stalwart soldiers of Jesus Christ we must have this fulness of joy. And we may have it if we are but willing to walk in the light. Or as Jesus said, "Abide in me and my words abide in you." Oh how we need to live that abiding life.

Let us as members of the Fellowship Circle Family purpose in our hearts by God's grace and power we will make the Fellowship Circle Family and the Fellowship Circle Bulletin worthy the name they bear. We can do this only as we walk in the light, thus being kept cleansed from all sin by the blood of Jesus, and having the fulness of the joy of the Lord in our soul.

J. A. Greider.

OBITUARY

(Miss Tina Alexander was a student at the Bible Training School, 1911-13.)

Tina Alexander, daughter of George W. and Emma Alexander, was born near Wren, Van Wert county, Ohio, August 15, 1871, and died April 10, 1926, at the home of her brother, Sherman, in Adams county, Indiana.

As a young woman she accepted the Lord Jesus Christ and united with the Pleasant View Baptist church, remaining steadfast in the faith until the end.

In her youth she attended school

at Wren, Ohio, and the Western Ohio Normal at Middlepoint, Ohio, in order to fit herself for her chosen vocation of teaching which she followed for several years during which she took advanced work at Angola, and after ill health forced her to retire from teaching she took a course at the Bible Training School at Fort Wayne.

The latter years of this life of service were spent in caring for her invalid parents until their death.

Her surviving relatives are Isaac, Convoy, O.; Wilbur, of Sask, Canada; Sherman, Decatur and Minerva and Ada of Des Moines, Iowa.

DEATH NOTICE

After a lingering illness, it has pleased the Lord to take unto Himself, on June 4, a member of the present School Board, Rev. Chris. R. Egle of Meadows, Illinois. We extend our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Egle and other members of the bereaved family.

ITEM OF THANKS

Life is filled with many pleasant surprises but oftentimes He gives us "exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think." Such was the token of love which came to us at the school in the form of a new double electric washer. The gift of this washer enables the laundry crew to do the entire weekly washing on Saturday morning, thus facilitating the work in that department. We sincerely wish to thank the donors, Rev. and Mrs. S. S. Gerig, of Salida, Colo., for their generous gift. We trust God will richly bless and reward them. (Mrs. Gerig, nee Sadie Gaiman, was formerly a student.)

MARRIED

Joseph Ummel and Mabel Hygema, class '24, at Bremen, Indiana, Mar. 25.

Clarence Kopp and LaVerne Shull, class '26, May 20.

Edward Baumgartner and Mary Diller, 1921-22, at Pandora, Ohio, May 22.

Harold Schlink, class '26, and Lenora Leightner, class '25, at Pandora, O., May 23.

Joseph Niccum and Margaret Baker, class '25, at Elkhart, Ind., May 26.

BORN

To Mr. and Mrs. Edison Welty, a son, Willis Edward, January 16th.

To Mr. and Mrs. Jay Applegate, nee Nellie Snyder, a son, Max Elden, Feb. 17.

To Rev. and Mrs. Safara A. Witmer, nee Edith McLean, a daughter, Evangeline Naomi, March 6.

To Rev. and Mrs. Stanley Dodgson, nee Ruth Roth, a son, Kenneth Vincent, March 10.

To Rev. and Mrs. Peter Strayer, nee Josephine Gerig, a daughter, Beulah Grace, May 21.

To Mr. and Mrs. Harold Browett, a son, John William, May 23.

LETTER FROM MISS ESTHER V. ROTH

Akola, Berar, India,
March 4, 1926.

Dear Members of the Fellowship Circle:

It is already two months since I came to India. The days pass by so quickly. It is only a few months ago when my coming to India was still a question. But I feel assured that through your prayers and the Providence of God that I was brought here.

After a very interesting voyage of five weeks, Miss Wells and myself landed in Bombay. Mr. Garrison, our chairman, and Mr. Siegel were there to meet us and to welcome us to India. After going through customs and getting everything else looked after we started on our journey again. We traveled all night and in the morning I received my first welcome at one of the Mission Bungalows. These bungalows are homelike and the missionaries so pleasant that I somehow hardly felt like I was in such a strange land.

But the outside world is so different. Coming up on the train, my heart sickened as I saw all these hundreds and hundreds of natives so different from Americans. I was somehow stunned. I could say very little but I certainly felt sick at heart. How I praise God for lifting us out of sin and darkness. There is a peculiar something which comes over one when we first find ourselves in a heathen land and yet in it all I felt like this is my place and it seems I could not be fully happy anywhere else. At Port Said, I got my first introduction to the Orient, but I did not like it there. The thought of spending my life there had no joy whatever in it. The moment I stepped on Indian soil I felt this was my home and I have felt so ever since.

I want to tell you about the first Indian Christian I met. I was entertained in Mrs. Schelander's (formerly Mrs. Dinham) home for a few days when I arrived. One afternoon an Indian woman came in and I was introduced to her. I could not understand a word she said but her face really was radiant. She placed her right hand over her heart and said something. Mrs. Schelander interpreted. It was this: "Your Jesus and my Jesus are the same Jesus." I am so glad this is true.

I have been feeling very well since coming to India. I am sure you will rejoice with me in this. It is now getting quite warm but has not affected me any. Only that it is not so pleasant to study. The temperature is now 98 degrees F. and we, missionaries, must be leaving for the hills very soon. We will continue our language work there so there is no time lost in our going early. The senior missionaries will not leave their stations until in May.

A few days ago I saw Mr. Tilman Amstutz and family. They are well and encouraged in the Lord. It seemed so nice to meet someone from my own home town here in India. We were together for a day of prayer at one of our stations. The Lord was with us and He will answer the prayers that have gone up for the many needs of the work in India.

Sincerely,
Esther V. Roth

FROM FORMER STUDENTS

On Board S. S. Thysville,
April 14, 1926.

Dear Fellowship Circle Readers:

"Commit thy way unto the Lord, trust also in Him; and He will bring it to pass." Psa. 37:5.

We are now on the deep, deep blue, still several days journey from Boma, Africa. Today we have been sailing along the coast of Liberia, which gave us the first sight of this great continent. It is four weeks ago today that we had our farewell service at the Eastlawn Missionary Church, of Detroit, Michigan. We left Sew Park Saturday, Mar. 20th, on the S. S. Pittsburgh, and after a wonderful ten day voyage we arrived at Antwerp, Belgium. Mr. Wilson an interpreter of Queens Hotel was at the dock to meet us and took care of all our baggage, customs, etc. and advised us in our shopping. His assistance was a great help to us and we had everything attended to in ample time to board the Thysville for the Congo on Saturday, April 3.

Thus far from Antwerp we could not have wished for a more pleasant voyage, only one of our Congo Inland Mission party of four had a touch of sea sickness, and that only for a couple of days. We can surely praise God for going before and for blessing us with all spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus.

Our party on this boat consists of fourteen missionaries, representing four different Mission Boards, only two have been on the field before. It is so much more interesting to travel with other missionaries, and we have enjoyed each others fellowship very much.

We realize very keenly the fact that we have entered the tropics, we expect to cross the equator tomorrow. The change in temperature has been very marked since reaching the Canary Islands.

As each day brings us nearer to our field of labor, we have real joy in knowing we are in the center of God's will.

Wishing you all God's richest blessing, and that you remember us in prayer, we are

Your co-workers in the Congo,
Archie and Ella Haller

Missionary Rest Home,
Mimico Beach, Ont.
January 11, 1926

(Received too late for last issue)

Just three years ago this month in answer to prayer the Lord very definitely led us to this place, where we have had the privilege of serving His ambassadors from many lands.

Perhaps it would be of interest to you to know something regarding the Missionary Rest Home and the purpose for which it was founded. The outstanding need of a Home of this description was deeply impressed on the heart and mind of Rev. A. W. Roffe, Supt. of the Home. The Home was built in the autumn of 1913 in full dependence upon God. Space and time forbids me telling of God's wonderful working in the building and

furnishing of the Home in answer to believing prayer.

It is an interdenominational Home, beautifully situated on the shores of Lake Ontario, a short distance from Toronto. It is a large three story brick building with accommodations for about twenty guests, although we frequently have many more. The building is far enough back from the noted Hamilton Highway to be free from the noise of the constant traffic and on the other hand is very convenient to the car line connecting us with the city.

It is an especially inviting place in the summer time on account of its nearness to the Lake which affords opportunities for boating, bathing, etc. to say nothing of the invigorating lake breezes. Other attractions are its lawns and spacious verandas.

One of the advantages of the Home is that it is equally as comfortable in the winter as in the summer, owing to the splendid heating equipment.

The interior of the Home is plainly but comfortably furnished. There are twenty rooms, single and double bed rooms with a bath room on each floor. The drawing room and dining room face the lake. The library, sun room and sewing room are modern conveniences. Substantial, appetizing food is served at very reasonable rates.

The aim of the "Staff", which is composed of Miss Bell and we two, is to make the place as home-like as possible and the testimony of those who have been with us gives us reason to believe that our efforts have not been in vain. The request on the departure of our guests usually is, "May we come back again?" Some of the missionaries have asked to make it their permanent home when they retire from active service.

Our ministry here is truly a "hidden ministry", but we believe God's blessing rests upon it, and that is all we ask. There are difficulties to be encountered, problems to be faced, responsibilities to be assumed that are not light but we find that "His Grace is sufficient."

The privilege of serving, of having fellowship with, of often learning to know very intimately those who belong to "God's nobility" and of having a share with them through prayer in their labor for Him is indeed ample compensation.

What I have written may sound more like an advertisement for the Home than a report of our work, but we will be pleased if it serves the two-fold purpose. It will be a real pleasure to us to welcome any missionaries who are passing through this way, either enroute to their field, or returning on furlough.

We are happy in this service for Him, and are enjoying splendid health, physically and spiritually. We trust and pray that God's richest blessing may abide with the work and workers of the B. T. S. and that this year may be the best in its history.

We covet your cooperation that the many needs of the Home may be met.

Joyfully yours in His service,

Emma and Anna Dirstein,

Class '18

Kalamba, Mukenge, Africa

"Fear not, for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name, thou art Mine." Isa. 43:1.

We are praising the Lord for this blessed promise as well as the storehouse of others, which we have access to. We are surely privileged above so many as we stop to think of "All His benefits", and blessings which are ours, and to think that He is interested in us enough to call us by our names is beyond our understanding, but it's just like Jesus, Praise His Name forever.

Since last February (1925) we were three and sometimes four white missionaries at this station. Miss Emma Richert, whom most of you know; Miss M. Weith a trained nurse from Chicago, Mrs. Becker and myself. As Miss Weith is the only trained nurse on the field at present, she was called away from this Station several times to care for missionaries at other stations needing medical aid. During this time the work of the whole station is left for the three of us, but the Lord has been so gracious in helping us and in blessing this work that we have no complaint whatsoever.

Kalamba Station is located about 150 miles from Charlesville our main and transport Station, on the Kasai River in the Bachoke district, but occupied by the Lulas. We have a large village right by the Station and quite a number of smaller ones a short distance away. I presume that if all would come to the Sunday services that hear the bell, there would probably be between fifteen hundred and two thousand. Then there are several tribes lying south of us which have as yet not been touched by either white or native missionaries. The field is indeed large, "But the laborers are few, Pray ye therefore the Lord of the Harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His harvest."

We have under our supervision here at the station, thirty-nine girls, fifty small boys and forty-seven larger boys. This is quite a large family to look after, they can keep us working overtime with their many palavars and misunderstandings. We are praising the Lord however, that many of them have already found the Lord and others are very much interested. We are praying that not one will go out from us until he knows the Lord and His keeping power, having experienced it in his own life.

These boys and girls when they come to us have had no training whatever. That is one thing that the native parents don't worry about. They like to have children but they don't take upon themselves the responsibility of training them. About the first thing that they have to learn, when they come to us, is to obey. Many of them find it very difficult to obey for they have been used to do as they pleased. But they gradually learn it.

Our Sunday services are quite well attended, sometimes we have as many as nine hundred and then again the crowd dwindles down to four hundred or so. We aim to keep the number up as much as possible in order to give them the Word, and show them the way of Salvation.

We have preaching service (in the native language) in the morning and Sunday School (in the native language) in the afternoon. In the evening the native Christians have a service by themselves and the missionaries have an English service at the same time.

It is, indeed, very difficult to get these people to realize that they are sinners, for they will repeatedly tell you they have no sin, etc. But the fact of the matter is they have nothing good, therefore, they are not able to discern between righteousness and sin. On the other hand they know as well as we do that wrong is wrong only they do not care to admit it. We are glad, however, that "Prayer changes things. When one gets a real vision of their sin and then a taste of how hard it is to lead them into the truth, one would tend to get discouraged, but when we hear those who have been born again sing the good old Gospel hymns, it makes our hearts rejoice.

There is, also, the medical work which must be done, and which could be made a great blessing to these people if it were possible to spend more time with it. Just today they brought a man to us, who was accidentally shot, just below the heart, but on the right side. The bullet struck him from the front making a wound as large as a dollar, breaking two or three ribs and passing out on the side making another wound about the same size, then striking the hand cutting several fingers, one being completely cut off a little above the first joint. In a case of this kind we do what we can and then leave it to the Lord. He never disappoints us, Praise His Name.

The Lord has also been very good to us in keeping us from sickness. Since we came Mrs. Becker has had only one fever, while I have had several, but all very slight ones. Then, too, there are so many contagious diseases, but Praise the Lord He has kept us from them all.

Earnestly soliciting your prayers for this great work, we remain yours in Christian love for the lost in Africa.

Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Becker.

Mar. 6, 1926

Dear Members of the Fellowship Circle:

"When thou walkest through the fire; thou shalt not be burned, neither shall the flame kindle upon thee." Isa. 43:21.

We indeed, are thankful to our Heavenly Father, for the above promise, and for the opportunity He gave us, to prove His faithfulness in fulfilling this promise.

For some time native troops were concentrating at and near Liu Ho, also along the greater part of the north-eastern border of Honan Prov. The heavy troop movement and the rumors of an approaching war, led us to much prayer, asking God, if it be His will, to avert war. He did answer, but not in a way we had expected.

Saturday night, (Feb. 20th) about midnight, the muffled thunder of cannons could be heard. At sun-rise Sunday morning we could hear volleys of rifle-fire. We knew the Kuo-min-chun

troops were being defeated and were retreating our way. The firing became more distinct and by nine or ten o'clock, we already saw groups of soldiers in retreat.

The hours for our Sunday forenoon and afternoon services arrived, but the majority of natives in our compound were more or less endeavoring to find a place of shelter, consequently a lengthy service was thought unwise. It was no small matter in hurrying about giving orders to the natives how to act in case of serious fighting, as we had no official orders to leave.

About noon many of the defensive troops were gathering near our small town and puffs of dust or white smoke within the range of two or three miles, marked the places of exploding shells and announced the enemy's approach.

Liu Ho being situated on a piece of land about the shape of a triangle, bordered on the north by a large river dyke and on the south by the Lung Hai R. R., makes a very suitable place for a battle field as far as embankments are concerned. It indeed, was interesting to watch from back of earthen walls, the commanding and movement of troops and field artillery.

Meanwhile the enemy had edged up and volleys of rifle-fire were heard in a nearby village. The Kuo-min-chun troops returned fire with light artillery; the enemy did likewise. In a short time one of the enemy's shells dropped within several hundred yards of our compound, and exploded, wounding a number of soldiers. Seeing the Kuo-min-chun troops were taking another stand near the Mission, we realized the seriousness of our situation, and since it was too dangerous to watch any longer, all who had heretofore not sought shelter did so now. Some crowded into a small rude cave, while others stayed in rooms which had heavy walls. Father, Mother and I once more gathered in prayer, committing ourselves and natives into His tender care.

We were soon surrounded by heavy rifle fire and by the roar and thunder of small cannons and exploding bombs and shells. This and the loud weird screech of a passing shell, made us to realize the comfort we find in the promise "When thou walkest through the fire." The fighting at and near the station continued for two and a half or three hours, then when the roar and cracking of guns died away we ventured out to find the offensive troops (Allied troops of Wu-peifu) victors.

In a short time we learned that not one person was injured, in spite of the fact that four or five bombs were thrown into our front yard. All but one of these exploded causing some minor damages to our newly built chapel. A number of explosive shells dropped both in front and back of the Mission; the nearest one dropped fifty or sixty yards to the east of our front gate, others may have burst in mid-air, for we found numerous pieces scattered about the yard.

While we were still amusing ourselves over such an uncoveted and harassing experience, a native business man of the town slipped over our yard wall, followed by two soldiers who

were well armed with rifle and hand bombs. These soldiers though of the winning side has resorted to evil means to secure money. After relieving him of all the money he was carrying, the soldiers, by threat of destruction of life or property demanded more. As one of his last resources, this man came to borrow some money. Seeing the man was in a terrible state of fright and fearing they might any minute turn to us, we soon agreed to help. One of the soldiers followed me asking me to lend the man there hundred dollars (mex). I told him we did not keep much money on hand. Undoubtedly conscious of a mingled sense of shame and fear, they used the word "lend" to partly cover their violence and wicked deed. While father went into the house to secure the filthy lucre I stayed outside with them, though I'll admit, it was a rather difficult problem just how to entertain such unwelcome guests. Father brought out twenty-five dollars (mex) with an extra five in his pocket as a reserve should they not be satisfied with the former sum. At first they were dissatisfied and wanted more, but after some bargaining words the two soldiers started to leave, fired a shot into the air, no doubt as a sign "I won" and soon disappeared by slipping over the wall.

For several days we were under a minor reign of terror, when the entire town, with the one exception of the Mission compound and houses, was plundered, not only by the soldiers themselves, but since there was no decent law or order, the common people also helped themselves, carrying off several hundred cans of kerosene, sugar, burning material, etc. It was astonishing to see how low men and women can fall when there is no restraint.

Just as the light began to fade, we gathered with a goodly number of our natives for a short, but not to be forgotten praise service. We thanked our Heavenly Father for the miraculous deliverance which He permitted us to experience and which, we knew, was in answer to earnest and heart searching prayer.

Now, in closing, I wish to relate some of the results of those strenuous days. They naturally fall into two divisions, i. e., natural and spiritual results. The loss of life and property wasn't as great as it could have been. Because the natives have a poor system of keeping records, it is rather difficult to secure concrete facts, however, I would judge that there were about one hundred persons killed and wounded in our district. This was a very gruesome and pitiful sight.

But our hearts were made glad by the spiritual hunger which was created in some hearts. Since there were a number of native workers, enquirers and refugees staying in our compound, we had a daily evangelistic and prayer service for about ten days. A number, who heretofore had little chance to attend Christian services, thus came into direct touch with the Gospel. Others, who no doubt never prayed did so during those days, and prayed earnestly for enlightenment and pardon. Dare we shrink in times of

severe testings, when we see how God uses such methods to awaken people? We trust that this experience has been the "Starter" for a great many. We covet your prayers for all who have expressed a desire for the knowledge of salvation or a closer walk with God.

We are glad to report at the time of this writing, that the opposing army has retreated to a distance of one hundred or more English miles and that the conditions in our immediate district are improving. We pray for the missionaries who may at this time be passing through similar or even worse circumstances—join us.

Requesting your earnest prayers, that if God willing, He may yet grant China a time of peace when the Gospel can pierce her remaining darkest and most remote corners, I am

Yours in His glad service,

Roy J. Birkey

Jan. 12, 1926

To the members of The Fellowship Circle around the world, we (Mrs. Paschal and I) send greetings in the Precious Name of Jesus:

It hardly seems possible that it has been eleven years ago this month that we left the B. T. S. When I received a letter from the Corresponding Secretary, asking me if I would send in a report of our work, I began recalling some of the things that have happened in these eleven years. I will endeavor to give an account of my work, and since this is my first report that I have ever given, I will start from the time that we left the B. T. S.

We left school in January, 1915. In February, 1915, I accepted a call to the pastorate of the Muncie, Ind., Church of the Nazarene, where we labored for some months. My health then failed and we were out of the work for about a year, then I supplied at Falckville, Ind., Church of the Nazarene for about three months. My health grew worse and we went to Michigan to see if I could get relief from the asthma, from which I had been suffering.

I secured a position as inspector in a factory in Muskegon, Mich. After I reached the city and found a place to live the first Saturday I got a city directory, located the different churches and began an investigation of them. I found to my sorrow that there wasn't a church in that city of 40,000 people that preached real, genuine, old fashioned, Bible salvation. This became a great burden to me and the Lord put it upon my heart to do something for Muskegon. I succeeded in renting a church building for a revival campaign, went to a photographer had my picture taken, had a cut made of it, and put my own picture in the paper and announced that there would be a revival meeting. Now that may be tooting ones own horn to advertise himself, but I had to, for there wasn't anyone else to advertise for me.

The time came, I opened the doors, built the fire, rang the bell, led the song service, did the preaching and a part of the time played the organ. The people came. There were seekers at the first service. Thirty-five

and most of them were happy finders. At the close of the meetings I organized a Nazarene Church of sixteen members.

sought the Lord in those meetings

We had gone to Muskegon for my health, but I worked ten hours of a day, lived in light housekeeping rooms with two babies and conducted this revival meeting all at the same time. The Lord surely did help us, Praise His Name. I accepted the pastorate of this church and remained with them for one year and a half, leaving them with a membership of about forty.

My next call was to the Ft. Wayne Church of the Nazarene. Little did I think that I would ever preach in this city, where we had gone to school. This was a small church of only twenty-eight members and was struggling for an existence. The District Supt. assisted us in the beginning financially so we could live, while we tried to get the church on its feet. This church was on a circuit with the Auburn, Ind., Nazarene Church, which had a membership of fourteen, and met in a hall. After moving to Fort Wayne, we at once began to make arrangements for a revival in the Auburn Church. We rented a church building, secured the help of Prof. C. A. Gerber as song leader and soloist and I did the preaching. About forty people sought the Lord and most of them were happy finders. At the close of the meetings we took fourteen more into the church. I kept the Auburn work in connection with the work at Fort Wayne for fourteen months and then resigned and took Fort Wayne alone.

At the close of the Auburn meetings, Prof. Gerber and I opened fire on the devil in Fort Wayne. The Lord blessed and the church began to grow. We soon remodeled our little church here to the extent of about \$1500, but in two years we found we were not able to care for the crowds so we bought the Trinity M. E. Church and parsonage at the Corner of 4th and Cass Sts. for \$11,000, and remodeled it to the extent of \$3000.

Upon entering our new building which would accommodate about 450 people, the Lord gave us a gracious revival. One revival followed another and in three years we found that we were again unable to care for the crowds. So one year ago we enlarged the building at a cost of \$11,200. The church will now accommodate 700 people. We have filled it again and again and recently at a revival meeting we jammed about 800 into the church and then turned people away.

Last year between 1000 and 1100 seekers knelt at our altar for prayer. There were not that many different ones for many of them came more than once. We believe in having them come until they really pray through. We raised for all purposes last year \$13,000, and have given about \$920.00 to foreign missions in the last four months. I am now in my seventh year as pastor of this church, and have taken about 320 in church membership here. This church has the largest membership of any of the ninety Nazarene Churches in Indiana and is

probably the largest holiness church, where all the members stand for holiness, of any denomination in the State. I believe the success of this church has been because we have stood for red hot, radical progressive, Bible holiness without compromise and without fanaticism. We have stood by the Old Book and intend to keep right on doing so. I believe the Bible from lid to lid, Praise His Name!

Now you will be interested to know that we have three sweet children, Thelma age 10, Vivian age 9, and Erma Jane age 3.

I enjoy being where I can drop into the B. T. S. occasionally and also enjoy having the members of the student body and faculty dropping into my services.

I want to testify that I am saved and sanctified right now and am "Looking for that Blessed Hope." Amen and Amen.

Yours for Souls,

Howard Paschal.

THE DOXOLOGY IN THE FLOUR BARREL

In early days Hudson Taylor said a Christian should have such confidence in God as to be able to sing the doxology when scraping the bottom of the "barrel". (I Kings 17:12.) Not long after the flour barrel was empty. His wife asked him to practise what he preached. "I will, on one condition." "What?" "That you put your head in with me." The two devoted workers united and sang, "Praise God." No wonder God wrought wonderfully with them." (Num. 23:23; Psa. 31:19.)

PERSONALIAS

Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel L. Becker, nee Maude Bedford, are serving a Defenseless Mennonite Church at Berne, Ind.

Mr. F. H. S. Bailey lives in Brooklyn, New York and has taken to himself a life companion.

Miss Tamar Wright is home on furlough from India. On one occasion she addressed the student body.

Sister Marie Lohrenz, R. N. writes from Moundridge, Kansas, that she is with her mother at that place. After graduating in 1911, she spent most of her time nursing at the Bethel Deaconess Hospital in Newton, Kansas.

Mr. J. G. W. Berglund is connected with the Wisconsin Bible Conference Association which has headquarters in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The organization conducts street and factory meetings, distributes tracts and holds evangelistic meetings.

Rev. and Mrs. Archie Haller sailed for Africa March 20. Rev. Haller graduated with the class of '22. At the time of his departure he had charge of the Eastlawn Missionary Church in Detroit.

Mr. Albert Aupperle, a student of nearly nineteen years ago is a prosperous contractor and home builder in Detroit.

Miss Bess Jackson, class '23, will graduate from the Hope Methodist Hospital of Fort Wayne, June 10.