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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." 1 John 1:3.

Vol. IX

BERNE, IND., and FORT WAYNE, IND., APRIL, 1929

No. 4

The Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Year of the B. T. S.

Rev. S. A. Witmer, '22.

Many members of the Fellowship Circle may be wondering what is being done regarding the proposed new building for the Bible Training School. If some have supposed that the project has been dropped, their conclusions are not wholly unjustified for it has been quite some time since a report appeared in these columns. However, the project has not been dropped nor has it been at a standstill. The campaign for funds has gone forward quietly and steadily. According to the Treasurer's report for March 1, 1929 the total in paid and unpaid subscriptions was \$21,313.73. In accord with stipulations by the Conference of the Missionary Church Association actual building operations cannot be begun until 75 per cent of the cost has been paid or subscribed. This leaves the sum of \$14,686.27 to be subscribed before the required 75 per cent is reached.

The need for a new building to provide dormitory and class rooms has not lessened. Time has but accentuated the demands. The School administration has leased the Shady Court Apartments for the present school year to house men students. This additional space provides enough dormitory rooms, but in some other respects the needs are greater than ever. There are at present 83 private music lessons given per week which require as many daily practice periods varying in length from thirty minutes to two hours. It is necessary to use pianos in private homes to provide practice for all. The extension of the curriculum in the past two years has also increased the congestion in respect to class rooms.

The new building should be erected at once to care for the students now quartered in the Shady Court Apartments and to provide the

much-needed class rooms and practice rooms for music students. The Building Committee would like to erect the building this coming summer for occupancy next fall. What progress it can make, however, is entirely conditioned by the support given by friends and constituency of the School.

At this time the Building Committee is presenting a special appeal to all of the School's friends to assist in this project. It is in commemoration of the twenty-fifth year of the School's history. The present structure was built in 1904—just a quarter of a century ago. It is therefore hoped that a ready response on the part of its wide circle of friends will make possible the erection of the new building during this anniversary year.

This special appeal is known as "**The Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Pledge.**" A copy of the pledge is enclosed with every Fellowship Circle Bulletin for April 1st. A novel feature of the pledge is its terms of payment. The suggested plan of payment is four quarterly payments beginning with the date of the laying of the corner stone. Some have been hesitant about subscribing thinking that the proposal might not be carried through. This plan offers a protection in that regard in that there will be no payments if there is no laying of the corner stone and, accordingly, no building. When, however,—as is anticipated—the corner stone is laid the pledge will become payable within one year from that date in four equal payments. Subscribers to this pledge will receive notices whenever their pledges will become payable. (If the subscriber desires another plan of payment he may choose a plan to suit his convenience.)

The Building Committee is suggesting that if friends expect to subscribe at "some" time toward the new building that they do so **now**. It is **at this time** that pledges are needed to make up the required sum so that building operations may be begun without further delay. The Fellowship Circle cannot make a personal solicitation of its membership; it must depend upon this means of appealing to its members of many different states and countries, trusting that God may prompt many to make a generous response.

Some have already given liberally to the new building. At this time there is credited \$2,185.19 to the Fellowship Circle. We trust there shall be a further "increase of liberality" on the part of the Fellowship Circle in behalf of its alma mater. If credit is to be given to the F. C. indicate this on the face or back of the pledge when sending it in. Remember, **NOW** is the time when subscriptions and gifts are needed, and **THIS** is your opportunity to help. Will you then give it the careful and prayerful attention it deserves?

Mail subscriptions to Mr. Reuben Roth, First National Bank, Fort Wayne, Indiana, or to the **Bible Training School.**

AS IT SHOULD BE

A certain baronet said to a friend: "Mr. B., this Whitefield is truly a great man; he is the founder of a new religion." "A new religion, Sir!" exclaimed Mr. B. "Yes," said the baronet; "what do you call it?" "Nothing," rejoined the other, "but the old religion revived with energy, and heated as if the minister really meant what he said."

THE FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE BULLETIN

Published quarterly by the Fellowship Circle of the Bible Training School, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Subscription price, 35c per year or three years for \$1.00.

Send all reports and matter intended for publication to the Editor, Rev. Chris J. Gerig, Woodburn, Indiana.

Send all monies to the Treasurer, Mr. Ernest Zehr, Berne, Indiana.

Entered as second-class matter July 9, 1927, at the post-office at Berne, Ind., under the act of March 3, 1879.

EDITORIAL

This is a season of joy to the heart of every true believer. The message heralded by angels and then by the women and the disciples was a joyous one. "He is not here; He is risen as He said". Death and hell could not hold Him even though every precaution, seemingly, had been taken. He arose in triumph over His enemies, over the grave, and over the devil himself. Christ is risen, and because of that eternal fact, we, too, shall rise. The night of death shall pass away and the eternal morning shall dawn.

* * * *

"Because I live, ye shall live also." Thus the resurrection of Christ has become the pledge of eternal life. The soul by nature is dead in trespasses and sins. It is not merely diseased and tending to death, but dead, void of life. If the soul of man is ever to be made alive, that work must be done by a power outside of man himself. Thank God, Christ is that Power and through Him we are quickened and made alive,—resurrected from the death of sin. Spiritual resurrection is necessary if we expect to reign eternally with Him. To

be "risen with Christ" is our glorious privilege now through His power. Some day we shall be glorified and made like unto Himself and shall be forever with Him. Glorious prospect!

* * * *

ANOTHER VOLUME FINISHED!

With this issue we have completed Volume IX of the Fellowship Circle Bulletin. We trust the issues of the Bulletin this year have been both interesting and helpful and that the hopes of all have been fully met. There is more work connected with the editing of the Bulletin than some may think. However there is some compensation in the fact that we have tried to do our best in its behalf. While the volunteer contributions to its columns were rather scarce, we are grateful for the ready response to personal appeals for material. We would urge upon each member of the Circle that you support the new Editor in his work and thus help to make the Bulletin better and better. WILL YOU HELP? ALTOGETHER SAY, "YES".

* * * *

SOMETHING MORE!!!!

Article X of the Constitution deals with the matter of offerings. "The expenses of the Fellowship Circle shall be met by voluntary contributions. Each member is urged to contribute annually as the Lord may lay it on his heart." Perhaps you have forgotten this important matter in the pursuit of other matters. The contributions to the Treasury have not been as large as they should have been. Perhaps some think that since the Bulletin carries a subscription rate, they are only obligated to this extent. Please remember, every member of the Circle is entitled to a copy of the Bulletin and receives one. Therefore let us ask you to enlarge your offering so that all the expenses may be fully met. Some may not be able to send in even the subscription price so we are depending on others to help in this way. One member sends in as much as twenty dollars a year. Send in as much of a contribution as you can and we assure you any surplus will be used for worthy causes. Send your contributions to the Treasurer, Mr. Ernest Zehr, Berne, Indiana.

The Mission of the Church

Rev. C. I. Birkey, '23.

In a chapel message, a student of the B. T. S. once quoted a profound statement of truth. He said, "The mission of the church is missions". Annals of both secular and church history, as well as the Scriptures, most astoundingly support the quotation. Had the churches of Asia Minor realized its truth and acted incessantly upon that realization, Asia Minor would not have glided into the whirl-pool of Romanism. If the church at Alexandria had had a clearer vision of world need, she might have turned out

fewer theologians but would have sent out more missionaries. If her heroes had been the victims of cannibalism instead of the heretic stake, Africa today might be a Christian, instead of a Pagan-Mohammedan land.

If the crusaders had sent a few of their zealots to offer the Holy One to the Turk instead of trying to wrest the Holy Land from him, the history of those dark centuries Sword of the Spirit had been wielded instead of the spirit of the sword, how different the outcome might

might glow with light. If they have been. If monks had been ministers and had dispersed instead of congregating, as they did, what might they have accomplished? We sometimes wonder if Armenia, the country which has suffered so much torture because of Christianity, ever had a missionary vision and ministry.

But we would not dare to censure the church of former ages. We should study her history, avoid her errors and profit by her mistakes. Much of the good we now enjoy passed through her hand to us. We marvel at her conquests and victories. We admire her heroes. And in the final analysis, she, and not we, must account to God for

the extent of her failure to go into all the world to preach the Gospel to every creature. On the other hand we are responsible to God for the evangelization of the world in our generation. God has placed at our disposal a score of agencies to aid us that no other age has known. We have unparalleled facilities for communication and transportation. We have a free press, enjoy freedom of speech and religious liberty. Science has enabled us to combat disease that sped our more adventure-some fathers to an untimely grave. Today our flag protects us and our property in foreign lands. These are unprecedented advantages, but with these added advantages come added responsibilities.

After 1900 years of seed sowing and harvest, we still have a heathen populace that is greater than it was at the time of Christ. This fact

should not tend to discourage us but should inspire us to meet the challenge. How may we meet the challenge? Not by means of religious education; remember Alexandria! Not by organized force; remember the crusades! Not through any human agency or plan,—not by might nor by power but by His Spirit and by keeping in constant contact with God through believing prayer, the consistent study of His word, and implicit obedience to the leading of His Holy Spirit.

What avenues of Gospel advance would have been curtailed had Philip not obeyed the Spirit's injunction to join himself to the Ethiopian's chariot, if Peter had not gone to the house of Cornelius, and if Paul had been disobedient unto the Heavenly vision. How much a little turn in our path may mean. It may determine the destiny of nations!

and ever. This, the word teaches, is in store for the soul that God has not forgiven.

But who is the person that a loving God will not forgive? Is there any such? We do not refer to the person who has committed the unpardonable sin as he is generally thought of. Yet the offender in point has committed a sin that will not be pardoned. Notice the text, "If ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses". (Matt. 6:15). Who is he? The person, whether he has been saved or not, who will not forgive the wrong doing of his fellowmen and who harbors an unforgiving spirit and a grudge in his heart. Jesus Christ, through whom we receive forgiveness, is the One who has made this declaration to His followers. He had just given the model, formula, and summary of all true prayer and this is the point that He emphasizes above all others. Only as we forgive will we be forgiven. How easily at times, Satan places evil thoughts about others, in our minds. Sometimes we are neglected or forgotten, or our plans are ridiculed, frustrated, or disregarded. How it grinds, but Jesus says, "Forgive". And He asks us to use His own arithmetic, seventy times seven, instead of Peter's, one times seventy. Often, facing the preacher, are church members in whose hearts are grudges of long standing, either against some other professor or against some unsaved person. There is no doubt but that this very sin is doing untold damage in the lives of persons concerned and in the church at large. Jesus severely condemns it by placing on it a startling penalty. If we do not forgive, we will not be forgiven.

In these days we do not see enough of old fashioned restitution and going to the bottom of things at the altar and afterward. People are not always willing to make **everything** right with each other and that forgiving spirit and brotherly love which should predominate all our actions, is missing. Their experiences are cheap and shallow for they do not cost the seeker much and consequently, in the time of real testing, they are permitted to fly away without much effort to retain them. These people seek to

One Person Whom God Will Not Forgive

Joseph J. Klopfenstein, '27.

It undoubtedly is not pleasant for an offender to live among his fellowmen and be unforgiven by them. Achan, through his disobedience, caused the defeat of Israel's army. How must he have felt when Joshua was searching the hosts for the guilty party and how terrible the agony in his heart must have been when he heard that the verdict was, not forgiveness but death for his family and himself. Fugitives of the law often give themselves up after being hunted and chased for years, choosing rather to accept any penalty, than to suffer the torments of being "wanted" and "shadowed" continually. People suffer much from the ill will of a community, even though the wrong they commit is small. The thought that they are only dogs in the eyes of the world has driven many to excessive sin, despondency, and suicide. However painful it may be to be unforgiven by our fellowmen, it is not to be compared with the terror and suffering of a soul whom God has not forgiven.

Men, in committing sin, become enemies to God. They are unforgiven for disobeying His precepts

and unpardoned for despising His salvation. Men, or men and devils combined, can never hope to defeat God's power and authority over them, neither can men, individually or collectively, save themselves by their own effort. Therefore if man is ever going to be at peace with God it will be because God mercifully forgives him. To be unforgiven by God is to be His unpardoned enemy, without hope and lost. Multitudes of people today are unforgiven and many never will be forgiven.

Think what it means to have the wrath of God abiding over you now and to finally go into His presence only to see the frown of His displeasure and to hear the bitter words—"Depart from me, ye that work iniquity." Think of the meaning of these words,— "outer darkness", "weeping and gnashing of teeth", "lake of fire", "damnation of hell", "smoke of their torment ascendeth forever and ever",—implying physical and mental suffering. Think of being associated with the devil, the beast, the false prophet and all the wicked of earth, day and night, forever

Bible Training School News

Miss Naomi Roth.

live the new life as the Indian sought to test the virtue of the white man's feather bed. He took a handful of feathers, laid them on a board and slept on them all night. In the morning he remarked with the accent of profound conviction, "White man say feathers heap soft. White man fool". Let us not be so foolish, but go all the way with the Lord. Our heart must be right with God, but as such they must be right with our fellowman also.

Now why will the Father not forgive the above sin? An elderly lady, while seeking Christ, said that she could not and would not forgive a certain man. At that very hour, she explained, there was at large somewhere the person who had murdered her beloved husband. He had destroyed their happy home, made her children fatherless and herself a widow thus bringing endless sorrow and pain into her life. How could such a person be forgiven? A wise Christian worker reminded her of the fact that **her own sins had slain** the Son of God and furthermore that **it would be inconsistent** for her not to forgive and at the same time ask God to forgive her. She saw the light, walked in it, and received the peace for which she sought. Certainly it would seem inconsistent for God to forgive **our enormous debts** and then allow us to go free, not forgiving the **small debts of others**. God's justice would not allow this. How wonderful it would be if every one of God's children would see this truth and act accordingly. "Forbearing one another" and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any, even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye". "For if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses".

Sweetness of spirit and sunshine is famous for dispelling fears and difficulties; patience is a mighty help to the burden-bearer.

He who thinks he hath no need of Christ, hath too high thoughts of himself. He who thinks Christ cannot help him, hath too low thoughts of Christ.—J. M. Mason.

Since the editing of the last Fellowship Circle Bulletin, the students and teachers of the B. T. S. have had many blessed days together. The Lord's presence has been especially felt in the second term of the school year.

* * *

Seventeen new students enrolled for the second term which opened on January 25th. This has brought the total enrollment of the school year to one hundred eighteen.

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Unusual interest is being manifested in the Music Department, especially in the private work. Eighty-three lessons per week in voice and piano are given to regularly enrolled students. Interesting little recitals, occupying the General Chorus period, have been given by the pupils of Professors Gerber and Weaver.

* * *

Rev. John Wesley Lee from Wheaton, Ill., held revival meetings in the First Missionary Church from Jan. 6th to 20th and then spoke to us a number of times. Rev. Lee's chapel talks were so fresh and clear that they brought to each one something new from the Scriptures.

* * *

The meetings of the Mission Band have continued to be of great interest and inspiration. Mr. Jared Gerig succeeded Mr. Harvey Mitchell as president for the new term. Some of our recent speakers have been: Rev. Jago from Palestine, Rev. Davidson, founder of the India and Ceylon General Mission, Rev. Davies, teacher at the B. T. S., and Mrs. Davies, who gave an account of the Welsh revival in which she was converted, Rev. Ellenberger and Miss Haas from Africa, and Mrs. Norton from India. A meeting of special interest was one in which several of the students related their experiences.

* * *

An added variety has been given the chapel hour by the coming of outside speakers and musicians. Among these have been Mr. and Mrs. Simon Ramseyer, Rev. Joseph

H. Smith, Rev. Gaddis and the Moser Sisters, Rev. Edgar Clauser, the Tindley Bible Class Singers, Rev. Beaddie, the Charles English party, Rev. Oswald Smith, Miss Matilda Kesselring, Rev. Singleton and seven colored children singers,—representatives of the National Home Founding Society for negro children, and Thomas Rhodes, a converted ex-policeman of Detroit. Mr. Clifford Sando and Mr. Floyd Bowman, former students of the B. T. S. and now in service for the Lord, also spoke in chapel during their visit to the school.

* * *

On Monday evening of Jan. 28th, the students with the teachers and their families, went in a body to the Shrine Auditorium to hear Rev. E. Stanley Jones, noted missionary and author. The evening program given in the North Side High School by the Westminster Choir of Dayton, Ohio, was also attended by many of the students on Feb. 21st.

* * *

For the first time in the history of the school, students and teachers listened to the inaugural service for a president of the United States. On March 4th, seated in their regular chapel seats, they received a mind picture of the impressive scene taking place at Washington, D. C. Rev. Smith's kindness in bringing his radio to the school made this possible.

* * *

An honor was conferred upon the school when Mr. and Mrs. Quinton Everest decided that there could be no better wedding trip than that of one made to the "good old B. T. S.". Accordingly they made this trip on the evening of their wedding day, and the following morning were welcomed as one by the B. T. S. family. Mrs. Everest was formerly Miss Mae Yoder. Both she and Mr. Everest were members of the graduating class of 1928.

* * *

The Lord has been working through the practical work done by the students week after week. The Sunday School work at the Orphan-

age has been especially blessed of the Lord. From approximately one hundred children, there remain only about ten who have not professed finding Jesus as their personal Saviour. The little folks need the prayers of the Circle members for they have not been without opposition. One of the matrons of the home has helped to make things hard for the children in their attempt to live the new life. When they knelt to pray before going to bed she ordered them to get up and go to bed. Let us remember these children, who do not have the love of father and mother, that they may always have the love of God shed abroad in their hearts. Another special answer to prayer for the practical work has been the marked increase in attendance in the Sunday School at the Anthony Wayne School.

* * *

That the Circle may know something more of the practical work done by the students, we will give an account of the work reported done during one week ending with Sunday, Feb. 24th. Thirty-four Sunday School classes were taught; three Sunday Schools were superintended; about three hundred thirty-three tracts were distributed; two students participated in conducting three meetings; thirteen took part in addressing sixteen services; eighteen participated in singing one hundred nineteen special songs; four sang in choirs; ten persons were pianists at nineteen different meetings; nine were choristers at fourteen meetings; forty-one homes were visited in connection with S. S. work; three girls made a hospital call; forty-two people requested prayer; forty-seven were dealt with individually; forty-four persons professed conversion. On this week end only two Gospel Teams were out. One of these Teams held three services at an Evangelical Church at Decatur, Ind. The other aided in services at the Missionary Church in Lima, Ohio.

* * *

The Spirit of the Lord has also been felt in a greater measure than ever before in the evening worship. Here we all sit around the tables or along the walls of the dining room, testifying or listening to an ex-

hortation by one of the Faculty and then all joining in prayer. These seasons are among the most sacred that will be cherished in the minds of the students.

* * *

The members of the B. T. S. have been praying for a revival in the school, and the Lord has been answering their prayers by manifesting Himself in a very real way. The morning of March 6th was set aside for special prayer. Rev. Ramseyer, who was in charge of the meeting, gave a message on prayer in which he showed that prayer is the greatest ministry that God entrusts to any mortal. The time of prayer which followed was a season which showed that a revival had come.

* * *

"Oh how great is Thy goodness, which Thou hast laid up for them that fear Thee; which Thou hast wrought for them that trust in Thee before the sons of men!" Psa. 31: 19.

NEWS, NOTES, AND JOTTINGS

At an Executive Committee meeting held at the B. T. S. on Feb. 28, 1929, the following new members were received into the Circle:

William T. Akers, Betty Almen, Martha Amstutz, Grace Arnold, Dale H. Baggs, Bessie L. Banks, Esther Bannings, Juliaetta Birkey, William Buesching, Adolph Carnecki, Earl W. Cox, A. M. Froese, Clarence Giencke, Norine Grummons, Norma Hardin, Mary Howland, Jacob E. Kroeker, Jasper D. Lehman, Virginia Lundwall, Homer Moeschberger, Ruth Morris, Geraldine Munday, Mardell Niswander, Rhoda Roth, Harold Spencer, Wildan R. Tuttle, Harriette A. Van Dyke, Eleanor Weber, Norman Zimmerman.

We take pleasure in introducing these students to the rest of the family and take this means of welcoming you into the Circle.

* * *

Mr. Allen C. Amstutz, '27, was married to Miss Gertrude Lucille Brorein of near Lima, Ohio, recently. Mr. Amstutz is the pastor of a circuit of Christian Union Churches in the vicinity of Delphos, Ohio. We extend congratulations.

Rev. Clarence I. Birkey, '23, recently spoke in the C. M. A. Gospel Tabernacle, 70th and Union Sts., Chicago. While there he met several former students of the B. T. S., the Misses Alice Kronman and Desie Meyer and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Schlink.

* * *

Rev. Ezra Roth, '18, has enrolled for further study at Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Amstutz find responsibilities and duties doubled since Dec. 23rd when twins, a boy and a girl, came to their home. We extend best wishes.

* * *

Mr. Floyd Bowman, '27, is in charge of a work in Poughkeepsie, N. Y. He reports the Lord's blessing upon the work and is encouraged to press on.

* * *

Miss Fannie Baumgartner, '07, and Miss Mary DeGarmo, '09, sailed recently from the States to China for another term of service. May the Lord richly bless them in their field of labor.

* * *

A recent letter from Rev. Roy J. Birkey, '23, informs us of the Lord's blessing on the work at Elkton, Mich. They are planning for a series of meetings and are looking to the Lord for a real revival.

* * *

Mr. Waldo Diller, '26, died recently in California, after an illness of about one month. We extend sympathy to the bereaved ones. The obituary appears elsewhere in this issue.

* * *

On Saturday, Feb. 16, 1929 occurred the marriage of Mr. Quinton Everest, '28, to Miss Mae Yoder, '28, at the home of Miss Yoder's sister in Wakarusa, Ind. The Rev. A. B. Yoder was the officiating minister. We extend hearty congratulations.

* * *

A letter received by the Treasurer reads: "Dear Bro. Zehr: Please find enclosed \$1.00 for the Fellowship Circle Bulletin. We have been very careless about sending in our subscription fee and will need to beg forgiveness for this neglect. Yours, A. F. C. Member. DOES

THIS HAPPEN TO REMIND YOU???

* * *

The Editor is to hold a two weeks' meeting in the Hollywood Missionary Church, Fort Wayne, Ind., from March 31 to April 14. Mr. C. H. Wiederkehr, '23, is the pastor. We beg your prayers that God will give us a gracious revival. Looking forward to the evangelistic field, the Editor asks your prayers that he may be guided of the Spirit and that doors might be opened.

* * *

Born to Mr. and Mrs. James R. Adams on Oct. 7, 1928, a baby girl named Mary Elizabeth. Mrs. Adams will be remembered as Miss Clara Freehof. We extend best wishes.

* * *

Mr. Clyde Haller, '26, is serving as supply pastor for the Liberty Missionary Church at Bucklin, Kansas, until a regular pastor is secured.

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Rev. Sol Klopfenstein is giving part time to preaching for a Community Church congregation at Cedarville, Ind.

* * *

Rev. John Lauby, '14, pastor of the Van Nuys Missionary Church, is on an extended trip to the Holy Land. He will be gone about four months.

* * *

Mr. Jonas E. Miller, '28, stopped recently at Archbold, Ohio, enroute to Africa where he is to engage in pioneer missionary work.

* * *

We were sorry to hear of the death of Miss Mildred Schweitzer, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Aaron Schweitzer of Dodge City, Kansas. The Circle extends deepest sympathy.

* * *

QUERY: How about that subscription or donation for the Fellowship Circle? ANSWER: Send your contribution to the Treasurer, Mr. Ernest Zehr, Berne, Ind.

* * *

Miss Lois Steinman, '26, is planning to enter Nurses Training at the Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne, Indiana, in June.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Wiederkehr announce the birth of twin girls on Jan. 4, 1929, named Marilyn Alberta and Miriam Ruth. May the Lord's blessing rest on both parents and babes.

INCIDENTS BY THE WAY

Mrs. J. E. Ramseyer.

On Oct. 26 of last year we started out on our mid-winter evangelistic trip. We were gone three months and a half and were in five states. We made about eighteen stops, the first being at Elbing, Kansas. On Sunday we were in the meeting in the Elbing Missionary church in the forenoon and with Rev. Jansen in the evening at his appointment in the country. We had a few meetings following in the church in Elbing but had to close on account of the weather. Rev. G. J. Kliever accompanied us to the next stop at Sterling, Kansas. From here, Mr. Ramseyer and Bro. Kliever went to Bucklin and Minneola, Kansas. From there we went on to Colorado, and to California stopping at several places in the northern part of the state and coming on down to Van Nuys which is near Los Angeles.

We want to take up the rest of the space allotted to us by speaking of the Mexican work at Van Nuys for this will be read by a host of young people looking for work in the Lord's vineyard. Never have our hearts been so touched by the vast need among these people and never did we wish to know the Spanish language as we did when standing before these people here at our doors.

We had the pleasure of attending the Spanish Mission church at Van Nuys. This Mission is run under the auspices of the First Missionary Church at Van Nuys. The pastor, Mr. Arrondonda, led the singing and his rich Spanish accent was musical. We were handed a Spanish song book and as the tunes were the old familiar tunes in the Gospel hymns we could stumble along with the words in quite a satisfactory way, it seemed to satisfy the song leader for he evidently thought we understood the language. (We are sorry we are at home in Ft. Wayne at such

disconnected intervals that we cannot join Mrs. Byron G. Smith's Spanish class in the Bible Training School). When we went into the class of Miss Edna Mollett, we found the children could understand the English quite well, but when asked which language they would rather hear spoken they said, "Spanish". It was quite interesting to hear them repeat their Scripture verses in their native tongue. The words rippled over their lips like the little brook whose waters tumble over the rocks with a soft murmur, so those little voices sounded. They did not speak loud but in a subdued whisper.

The church was built by the Missionary Church in 1928, and is a very neat building on the tabernacle style. The pastor is a Mexican and the church is built in the Mexican quarters and the pastor lives in a little house back of the church.

And again while we were at Phoenix, Arizona, we drove with Bro. and Sister Greider through the Mexican quarters where thousands live in filth and squalor and not a church among them. Arrangements will soon be made (D. V.) whereby the Phoenix church will take up work in their behalf. One must know the Spanish language to be able to help them. It is like doing foreign missionary work in the homeland. The work at Van Nuys has proved what can be accomplished and has very much encouraged further efforts.

ABSENT VOTER'S BALLOT

The Constitution gives every member of the Circle the privilege of casting a ballot for President and Editor. We are therefore printing the names of the nominees for these two offices. Will you please mark an X before the name of one person for each office and mail it to the Secretary, Mrs. Carl Parlee, 3820 Arlington Ave., Fort Wayne, Indiana, before May 15th?

For President:

- E. L. Becker
 W. O. Klopfenstein
 F. P. Chant

For Editor:

- Chris J. Gerig
 Armin Steiner
 Mrs. Jared F. Gerig

LETTERS AND EXCERPTS

Wheaton College,
Wheaton, Ill.

Dear F. C. Members:

I have been authorized to receive money for a motor truck for Congo. There we have no beasts of burden so loads must be carried on the heads of native porters. This system of transportation is very slow, expensive and unsatisfactory. It also is becoming exceedingly difficult to get porters. Pray for this need. Any gift, be it ever so small, will be gratefully received.

Clarence I. Birkey.

* * *

Mangungu Station,
Jan. 2, 1929.

Dear Friends:

"Oh Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps." Jer. 10:23. "The Lord, He it is that doth go with thee, He will not fail thee". Deut. 31:2. These are the verses the Lord gave me for the New Year. The first verse gives a picture of man. It is absolutely impossible to direct our own steps in the way of the Lord; yet how many are trying to do that very thing. Nothing could be more foolish in the eyes of the Lord, because to Him man is just as the dust of the earth. But I praise God that when we acknowledge Him and keep in fellowship with Him, He will direct us and will go with us, not failing us in the hardest places. It means a continual fellowship with Him. John Wesley said, "If we get out of fellowship with the Lord, the first day He will know it, the second day we will know it, and the third day everybody will know it".

We are having special meetings, instead of school, every afternoon for several weeks. We missionaries have an hour's prayer service every morning for the meeting. The Lord has certainly met with us. I have never begun a New Year when the Lord was more precious than this year. Say wouldn't it be blessed if the Lord would return this coming year. It may be, we do not know, but we can certainly have joy in watching and waiting. How it behooves us to be bright and

shining lights for the Lord in this dark land.

We praise the Lord for the way He is dealing with the natives. We believe we are just at the beginning of blessings. The children are manifesting a good interest and some are responding to the call given for those who feel sorry for their sins (badness), and who want to be saved—to remain for prayer. Yesterday there was one, a big boy, and today there were seven boys, five who had been saved but had sinned and wanted to confess. The other two were big boys, the one our tailor for whom we have been praying, and the other was one who had run away some time ago but had come back again. We are so glad for these big boys, for we want to send them into the villages with the Good News as soon as possible. I can't tell you how I felt when these two boys stayed to be dealt with for their soul's salvation. They seemed to be under real conviction, for which we praise God. But we are expecting still greater things. There were also eight girls under conviction who wanted to be saved.

Before I close I will leave these requests for prayer: Pray much for these young converts. Pray that we may have a Holy Ghost revival here and out to the surrounding villages and tribes. Pray that more labourers may be sent out, for "The fields are white, but the labourers are few".

Yours for the lost of Africa,
Archie and Herbert Haller.

OBITUARY

At the early age of twenty-four years, ten months, and twenty-two days, Waldo D. Diller closed his eyes in death at Ontario, Calif., in the presence of Dr. N. S. Hilty, of Pandora, who so faithfully ministered to him in his time of need.

Waldo was born at the Diller homestead on March 2, 1904. He graduated from the Pandora high school with the class of 1922.

He accepted Christ as his personal Saviour at an early age. In 1918 he was baptized and became a member of the Missionary church, of Pandora, where he so faithfully served in various offices until he went West last June.

While yet in high school he felt a call to Africa, and, in preparation for that work, he entered the Bible Training School at Fort Wayne, Ind., graduating in 1926. He had planned to further his preparation for missionary activities by entering the Missionary Institute at Nyack, N. Y., next fall.

A desire to see the West seemed to have gripped him for a number of years. This desire culminated in his departure last June when he accompanied Mr. Emil Schwab to Nevada, where he labored in the harvest field for some time. There he proved himself a true Christian by his faithful study of the Bible in the presence of men of adverse desires, and by giving his testimony of the saving power of Jesus Christ.

Later he went to California, where he found employment in a large dairy. There also he witnessed for Christ and was the means of leading a man to the Saviour.

His illness dates back to a month prior to his death which terminated in flu and pneumonia.

On January 11th, weary and very ill, he located Dr. N. S. Hilty and family at Ontario, Calif., who untiringly ministered to him until the end came on Thursday, Jan. 24th, at 9:30 P. M.

When the doctor told him he could not get well, he closed his eyes and whispered, "Father, Thy will be done". Thus ended a life that was hid with Christ in God.

Those of the immediate family who survive and mourn his departure are, the mother, Mrs. Anna Diller, Mrs. Edward Baumgartner and sister Martha, of Fort Wayne, Ind., Menno, of Adrian, Mich., and Noah, Ezra, Elmer, Della and Mahala, at home. The father, Mr. Samuel Diller preceded him to the eternal city nearly two years ago.

The funeral was held on Friday morning, Feb. 1, at the St. John Mennonite church, near Pandora, Ohio. Rev. J. Frank Glock, his pastor, was in charge. He was assisted by the Rev. Levi Mellinger, pastor of the Dafenseless Mennonite church, and Rev. A. S. Rosenberger, pastor of the St. John church.

The remains were buried in the Pleasant Ridge cemetery, where it will rest until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

LETTERS AND EXCERPTS

Wheaton College,
Wheaton, Ill.

Dear F. C. Members:

I have been authorized to receive money for a motor truck for Congo. There we have no beasts of burden so loads must be carried on the heads of native porters. This system of transportation is very slow, expensive and unsatisfactory. It also is becoming exceedingly difficult to get porters. Pray for this need. Any gift, be it ever so small, will be gratefully received.

Clarence I. Birkey.

* * *

Mangungu Station,
Jan. 2, 1929.

Dear Friends:

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THE LORD'S COMPASSION

God is not anything so much as He is Love. The most conspicuous statements in the Scriptures about our Heavenly Father are the declarations concerning His love, His mercy, His compassion. There is no note that can be sounded concerning God's character that will so inspire faith as this one. It is not what God can do, but what we know He yearns to do, that inspires faith.

Modern theology magnifies the power of God more than it magnifies His compassion; His power more than it does the great fact that, "the exceeding greatness of His power (is) to usward." But the Bible reverses this, and magnifies His willingness to show us His power more than it does the power itself. In no place does the Bible say that, "God is power," but it does say that, "God is love". It is not faith in God's power that secures His blessing, but faith in His love and in His will.

The Lord is not only willing but eager to pour His blessings in great profusion upon all who make it possible for Him to do so, "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro", or in other words, He is ever hunting opportunities to gratify His benevolent heart, because "He delighteth in mercy".

Suppose the vast Pacific Ocean were elevated high above us. Then conceive of its pressure into every crevice to find an outlet through which it might pour its ocean-tides over all the earth, and you have a picture of God's benevolent attitude toward us.

Not only is God able, but He is also willing to do "exceeding, abundantly above all that we ask or think". It seems to me that God would rather we should doubt His ability than His willingness. I would rather have a man who is in trouble say to me, "Brother Bosworth, I know you would help me if you could" (doubting my ability) than to say, "I know you can, but I have no confidence in your disposition to help me".

When I think of how the Lord so floods our hearts with His tender love, until, in intercession for others our hearts are too full of yearnings to utter their feelings (yearnings

that "cannot be uttered"), I stand in awe, and wonder what His compassion must be. A mother's compassion for her suffering child makes her not only willing to relieve the child, but to suffer if she cannot.

Doubting or ignoring His love and compassion grieves the heart of Jesus. It made Him weep over Jerusalem. So many times have ministers said, in these days, that we do not need miracles now, thinking of miracles only as signs to prove the Lord's deity, etc. Most people today are so in the dark on

this subject that it never occurs to them that there is mercy also for the sick. But we have the plain declarations, the "Lord is plenteous in mercy unto all (including the sick) that call upon Him", because His mercy "endureth forever", and is "from everlasting to everlasting", He is "full of mercy" "over all His works". Instead of saying the age of miracles is past, say "It is written!" "It is written!"

From "Christ the Healer",

Evangelist F. F. Bosworth.

B. T. S. School Song.

Dedicated to B. T. S. Fellowship Circle.

E. M. R.

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Elton M. Roth.

1. God bless the good old B. T. S., Which we have learned to love;
2. We love the good old B. T. S., With fel-low-ship so sweet;
3. Live on, thou good old B. T. S., Through-out this vast do-main;

It stands for truth and pow'r and grace Of God in heav'n a-bove.
We kneel for her in hum-ble prayer At God's dear mer-cy-seat.
And may thy halls all na-tions bless Till Christ re-turns to reign.

CHORUS

God bless the good old B. T. S., In faith and hope and love;

May it stand se-cure and long en-dure, The good old B. T. S.