

ROYAL SERVICE

DECEMBER 1949

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Are You Ready for Christmas?

BY ALMA HUNT, Executive Secretary of Woman's Missionary Union

IT is the Christmas season and there are preparations to be made. Presents must be purchased for family and friends. The house must be made beautiful. The dinner menu must be planned and the pantry stocked. All this and more we do in preparation for Christmas.

It was Christ who lifted womanhood out of slavery to her place of dignity and honor in Christian homes. In celebration of his birth we women should prepare ourselves and our homes as for no other occasion. Our birthday gift to him should be a true expression of our love and our appreciation for his matchless gifts to us.



Some women started their Christmas shopping early so that it could be done month by month. I wonder if they started laying aside their Christmas offering at the same time? Others of us got a late start and must do everything at the last minute. Do we have our Christmas offering ready? If we expect to shop first and then make an offering from what is left, likely we will be surprised at how expensive things are and how little is left. No one of us would wait until funds are low to purchase a gift for the one she loves most, the one she most desires to please.

If we stop to analyze what we want most at present, it is not gifts or rich food or money. It is peace and freedom and security for ourselves, our families, and all mankind. We are weary of headlines that speak to us of tensions and misunderstandings and poverty and threats of war. In our hearts we know that the peace and the freedom and the security for which we yearn can come only from Christ. Let us ask ourselves then whether we have much or little to give this Christmas time, how we can invest it in order to reap the greatest returns. Would it not be in having a worthy share in giving to the world the way of life which would bring order out of chaos?

People everywhere dream of the day when peace shall reign over the earth. Christian people dream of the day when the Prince of peace shall be enthroned in every land. We know that such a dream can become a reality only as we are willing to give and give and even sacrifice from our bountiful share of earth's goods. An earnest observance of our Week of Prayer will enable us to place in the hands of the Foreign Mission Board our largest Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

We can. We must!

OUR GOAL—\$1,600,000

MY PART? My best, my VERY best.



"Love was born that night in Bethlehem . . ."

Christmas and Calvary

by Rev. W. E. Waterhouse

PASTOR OF MOUNTAIN BROOK BAPTIST CHURCH
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

THERE is a holy alliance between Christmas and Calvary. Reason may not recognize a connection between the cradle and the cross; between a stable manger and two crossed pieces of wood; between a vibrant baby and a dying man. It may not sound rational to link the glad carolings of

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come,
Let earth receive her King
with the tragic questionings of
Alas, and did my Saviour bleed?
And did my Sovereign die?
Would he devote that sacred head
For such a worm as I?*

It may not appear plausible to join together the hilarity of Christmas joy with the solemnity of Calvary's grief. But the events of Bethlehem and Golgotha are parts of a whole.

There are superficial likenesses between them. At the manger there is gladness; at the cross there is grief. At the manger there is adoration; at the cross there is aversion. At the manger there is laughter; at the cross there is lamentation. At the manger there shines the wondrous star; at the cross crackle the convulsions of nature. At the manger there echoed the angelic anthem, "Glory to God in the highest"; at the cross there resounded the pathetic plea, "My God! My God! why hast thou forsaken me?"

There are superficial likenesses between the two events. At the cradle Wise Men are asking, "Where is he that is born King of the Jews?"; at the cross the sign over his head reads, "This is Jesus the King of the Jews." At the cradle Herod's fear produced the "slaughter of the innocents";

at the cross Pilate's fear effected the crucifixion of the Innocent One.

But the grounds of the alliance between Christmas and Calvary go deeper than superficial contrasts and similarities. Undergirding and explaining both events there is the love of God. Divine love was manifesting itself in both the incarnation and the crucifixion. One must go to Bethlehem and see the new-born Babe, and to Golgotha and view the crucified Christ to gauge the magnitude of love's expression. The epitome of the gospel, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son," is not limited to one event in the economy of God. Love was born that night in Bethlehem, and love was crowned that day outside Jerusalem's walls. The great tide of God's pure, wondrous love was throbbing in infancy and pulsating in death. Love's blanket dropped over the world at the cradle; and love's banner was unfurled at the cross.



"Love was crowned that day outside Jerusalem's walls"

THE ALLIANCE OF DEITY

Between the Babe of Bethlehem and the Christ of the Cross there is the alliance of deity. The incarnation was a preparation for Calvary. If there was to be atonement for sin; if one was to die whose death

could provide eternal life for the believing ones: then that one must be divine. Dr. James S. Stewart says, "If you were God, Jesus, we can face the darkest hours victoriously; but if you are only a man, life has beaten us forever." Sin is man's darkest hour, and only God could dispel sin's darkness.

Sin beats us with guilt, and only God could pronounce forgiveness. Sin ensnares us, and only God could redeem.

Where will you find a more meaningful statement of the incarnate deity of Jesus than in the prologue of John? "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. . . . The Word became flesh and dwelt among us." God knocked at the door of the world with baby fingers, and entered into humanity as any other personality would enter. "God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself," admits of no debate, for in the babe of the manger and the man on the cross "dwelt all the fulness of the Godhead."

THE ALLIANCE OF HUMANITY

Between the Babe of Bethlehem and the Christ of the Cross there is the alliance of humanity. "It was no accident that God the Father laid his Son in Mary's arms and gave him a human mother." Dr. Edward A. McDowell has rightly expressed it, "Only through one who was truly a man could God save men. The high priest who makes atonement for the people must be taken from among men." In the incarnation God breaks through into humanity. He becomes God-man, and as Dr. Truett often said, "Never was hyphen more meaningful."

In the incarnation God's identification with humanity becomes complete. "From every page of the Gospels there emerges a Figure whose humanity is unmistakable and authentic, bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh." He knows the egotistical world of infancy, the growing pains of boyhood, the pangs of adoles-



The Lottie Moon Christmas offering means to the W. M. U. of Nigeria almost the equivalent of what the blood means to the human body.—Ada Jackson

ence. He knows the toil of the workman, the temptations of manhood, the hungers of solitude. When he comes to his cross he faces death as any man; and as man he dies, for the sin of mankind. The path of humanity he began at Bethlehem comes to its climax on Golgotha.

THE ALLIANCE OF HUMILITY

Between the Babe of Bethlehem and the Christ of the Cross there is the alliance of humility. "For though he was in the form of God, he did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross." See the paradoxes of his humiliation at his birth: "The King of the Universe—hidden in a cave; the great God—become a little babe; the Ancient of Days—a new born infant; the Eternal One—an hour old."

Note the paradoxes of the humiliation of his death: The King of Kings—with a crown of thorns and a cross for a throne. The Water of Life—receiving a sponge of sour wine. The Crystal Christ—dying a felon's death.

So Christmas and Calvary are parts of the whole—parts of the eternal plan of redemption. Does the event have meaning for today? Is there need now for the love of God to manifest itself in the humiliation of the God-man? Look to the time of the incarnation. It was an age when hate was Lord—when the world was going through a bitter winter of blight and envy, suspicions and fears, an era not unlike this present age. The suspicions and fears of the nations would throttle the hope of "peace on earth among men of good will." There can be no peace until men are changed. Men will not be changed until the Christ of the cross is born in their hearts. Will this Christmas mean for you the journey from Bethlehem to Calvary?

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COVER—Mrs. Joel Hall of Birmingham shows you how to make your Christmas list. Put your Lottie Moon Christmas Offering first, at the very top. Right?

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Dr. Sadler delivered his inaugural address on Monday evening. He is on leave of absence from his work as secretary for Europe and the Near East to serve as president of this seminary in Zurich.

NO ONE KNOWS when the proposition of establishing a European Baptist Theological Seminary was first considered. In any case, at the London meeting of 1948 the committee on theological education reported in part as follows: "The committee stressed the need for seminaries where national groups can teach their own ministers in the language in which they will preach the gospel to their people, and with special reference to the problems of their own nation.

"It was agreed, however, that besides these, and in no way replacing them, there is need of a seminary in Europe which may satisfy the need of several countries and which may be more of a graduate school than some of the smaller seminaries.

"The committee recognizes with gratitude the generosity of the Southern Convention of the United States in their plans to establish a seminary in Switzerland which will serve wider than national interests."

FROM LONDON Dr. M. Theron Rankin,

An Experiment in Christian Internationalism

Mrs. George R. Martin and I flew to Geneva. There we inspected several pieces of property which had been selected by Dr. J. D. Franks as possible seminary locations. A few days later, we traveled to Zurich where we examined two sites. Soon after we saw these grounds and buildings, we were convinced that we should acquire them, if possible. Thanks to the business ability of Dr. Franks, the transaction was consummated in a very short time. In October, 1948 this beautiful estate became the possession of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. Professor Adolf Keller declared during a recent visit that he had visited many seminaries, perhaps a hundred, but he had never seen one so magnificent as this. The architecture, the landscaping and the setting all conspire to make the physical aspects of this place almost "out of this world."

WE KNOW THAT grounds and buildings do not make a theological seminary. We realize that scholarship and conviction and

Christlikeness must be elements in the foundation and superstructure of an institution like this. We are, therefore, proud of our faculty which is made up of well-prepared and Godly men and women. We are pleased also with our students. At the moment there are twenty-one of these and wives of two of them. These men and women come from Norway, Finland, Denmark, Holland, France, Alsace, Rumania, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Austria, and the United States. Two are expected from Poland, three others from Austria, one other from Germany, and one other from Italy. These men vary widely in experience and educational background. For example, one has done graduate work in Harvard and another has spent ten years as a fisherman. Still another lacks a year of having his Ph.D. from the University of Hamburg.

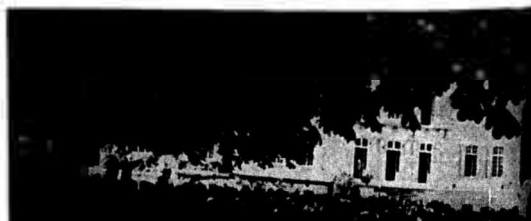
The inaugural exercises were impressive and reassuring. The first public service on the grounds was held Sunday afternoon, September 4th. A large concourse of friends gathered for an open-air meeting and the tea which followed. Greet-

ings and felicitations from a number of church groups, the local government, the Zurich Rotary Club, the theological faculty of the University of Zurich, the Baptist World Alliance, the Baptist women of Europe warmed our hearts. Expressions of good wishes from important individuals and organizations not represented in person were read. Appearing on the program as speakers or leaders were Drs. W. O. Lewis and Arnold T. Ohrn of the Baptist World Alliance, Dr. Johannes Norgaard, president of the Danish Baptist Theological Seminary, Dr. Edwin A. Bell, European representative of Northern Baptists, Dr. J. Wash Watts of the New Orleans Baptist Seminary, Dr. J. D. Franks and this reporter.

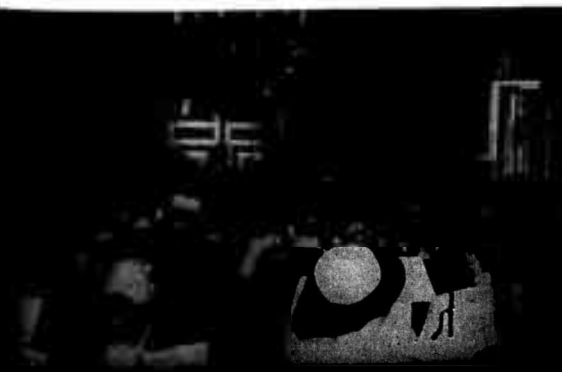
OUR CONVICTION is that this is a destiny determining institution, and that the influence of men and women trained here will break down barriers of misunderstanding and suspicion. We beg the Baptist women of the South to join us in prayer for this experiment in Christian internationalism. Since the Seminary is Christ-centered, we believe our Lord will use it to hasten the coming of his kingdom.

We shall pray often and again for this new seminary, its valiant students, its pioneer faculty. Through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering we are helping to support this venture of faith.

More than five hundred people gathered on Sunday afternoon to greet the seminary on its opening



Dr. E. A. Bell, Northern Baptist representative in Europe, presided over the Monday evening meeting in the chapel



DONA MARIA MURA

by Frances E. Roberts

ONE OF THE most interesting families in the First Baptist Church in Asuncion, Paraguay, is the Mura family. Although they are members of the church in town the majority of the family live in the little village of Nueva Italia.

Senor Victorio Mura was born in Italy and left an orphan when four years old. At the age of seventeen he went to Africa. After a few years there he went to the United States, to the state of California, in search of gold. He was in such depths of sin, that he wished to take his own life.

One afternoon, while walking the streets of Los Angeles, he was attracted by singing. It was a religious street meeting. He had always shunned things religious. He did not even wish to have anything to do with religious people. But this afternoon he stopped to listen to the singing. The words of the preacher were so simple concerning the plan of salvation that when the invitation was given to accept Christ, Don Victorio said to himself that he was going to try it. He would see if it were really true and if he would come to have the peace that he was searching for.

When the invitation was given, he knelt right there in the street and asked God to forgive him. Immediately he felt complete quietness in his soul with the peace which he had long been searching for. Half a block away was a fountain and there he threw away the narcotics which he had carried to end his life, and the cigars which he had in his pocket. He did this without anyone telling him that these things were wrong.

At the age of thirty-three he went to Paraguay with an immigration company. He took with him to Paraguay a New Testament which the preacher of the street meeting had given him. After a short time he married. Most of the knowledge which Don Victorio has of the Bible is

that which he has gained by his own reading.

THE GIRL whom Don Victorio married was born in Czechoslovakia. At the age of eighteen her mother died. Soon Maria left her own country and went to Paraguay with a brother. She was twenty-one when she married Don Victorio Mura. Dona Maria struggled for three years trying to implant in her home her own religion which was Catholic. The home suffered much from this struggle because Dona Maria was very fanatical in her beliefs. Then Dona Maria had a serious illness, through which she accepted the Lord as her Saviour. The doctors had given up all hope for her life; there was nothing more that they could do.

One night, while she was very ill, she had a vision of an angel who told her to abandon the way which she was following and to go the way that would be shown her. So completely did the vision affect her that that very night, in spite of her serious condition, she knelt by the side of her bed, called her husband, and they prayed together for the first time. So real was the peace that God brought to her heart, that within a few hours her serious condition became so much better that the doctors said that her improvement was nothing short of a miracle.

A few weeks later Dona Maria was seen carrying her Bible with her, visiting her neighbors and telling them of her great experience. She could not keep quiet because of the great joy which she wished to share with all. She would become very sad and disappointed when she saw the indifference which many of her listeners had toward spiritual matters. Then she remembered how opposed she had been toward the gospel and that fact gave her more understanding and patience in winning her neighbors.

THE MURAS live near a small village where they have a farm. Dona Maria had the custom of receiving into her home any traveler that came their way. With great persuasiveness she would explain to him the great love that God had for him. With

very few exceptions they would listen with great interest. Before going on their way, she would give them a Gospel or a New Testament.

She invited all who came for whatever business matter to have some of the fruits or other produce from the farm. Her heart was big and one which understood the needs of others. Her neighbors loved her very much. Never did she have disputes or quarrels with them. She always forgave those who robbed them of fruits, saying, "Surely they were hungry. They must have been children. Poor things, they do not have as much as we have."

IN 1947, while Amelia, one of the daughters, was away in Rosario, Argentina, studying at the W.M.U. Training School, and during the revolution of that year, Dona Maria became very ill. In spite of her great sufferings with cancer, her faith never wavered. She never became despondent. When her sufferings became very intense, she would pray with even greater fervor. For three months she was in a sanatorium in Asuncion where there were many nuns. When they wished to take her Bible from her, she began to weep saying, "What would I be without the Word of God." Upon seeing her great faith, neither the nuns nor the priests could deny her her Bible. Dona Maria won their respect.

They came to care for her very much and said that she was an example of patience and of great faith (although they said that her religion was wrong).

Dona Maria wished to spend her last days in her own home with her loved ones. When she noticed her children weeping, she would caress them and talk to them with such enthusiasm of the heaven that she awaited that their bitterness was turned into joy, thinking of that place where they would be reunited. When the neighbors realized her serious condition,

even from faraway villages, they would come to see her, saying, "What faith she has in God! What assurance of going to heaven!" Until the end her testimony was such that many said, "How wonderful that Dona Maria is an evangelical because if not, she would be in great despair now that she is going to die."

The day that the Lord took her away, the family gathered together around their mother. She asked her husband to read some of their favorite Scripture passages. Then she prayed and asked that each of her children pray because she wished to hear them pray for the last time. They prayed, knowing that God was going to carry her away, but knowing that he would give them the necessary strength for this separation. Each prayed thanking God for such a good mother and asked his comfort in their hour of need. One by one she told them never to forget the Lord, never to stray away from him. That night surrounded by her husband and eleven children (all of whom are Christians) she saw an angel come for her. After they prayed the Lord's Prayer together, her spirit departed from her family to enjoy the beloved and a waited-for heaven. The family could not do anything but rejoice in that their mother had gone to be with the Lord. The youngest daughter said, "Now Mother is enjoying a wonderful time with the Lord."



FRANCES ROBERTS expects soon to be serving in the administrative part of the new Baptist hospital in Paraguay

DONA MARIA's great desire was that her children dedicate themselves to the work of the Lord. Victoria, the oldest daughter, is a graduate of the training school in Rosario, Argentina. She is a full-time Christian worker for the First Baptist Church in Asuncion. Much of her time is spent in a poor section of the city where she visits the people, telling them of God's love for them. Catalina, another of the daughters, attended the training school for

(Please turn to page 15)



MRS. JOHN MEIN

Baptists Meet in Bahia

by Mildred Mein

Mrs. Mein first went to carry the gospel to Brazil in 1927. She was principal of the girls' Training School and matron of our girls' dormitory in Recife. Now she is matron of the dormitory of the North Brazil Baptist Theological Seminary there.

LAST July 12-16 the Brazilian Baptist Convention held its thirty-third annual meeting in Salvador, Bahia, the city in which the First Baptist Church of Brazil was organized in 1882 by missionaries W. B. Bagby and Z. C. Taylor. At this convention there were 322 messengers representing 129 churches, located in seventeen different states.

The city of Salvador, Bahia, celebrated in 1949 its four hundredth anniversary. This large Brazilian metropolis boasts 365 Catholic temples of worship. The year also marks a century since the birth of Brazil's outstanding writer and statesman, Rui Barbosa, son of the state of Bahia. So since January this beautiful, historical, Brazilian city has been in a constant whirl of commemorative festivities. Bahia Baptists did not overlook the part that they should take in the city's celebrations. They appealed to the Bible Society of Brazil to supply them with 8,000 Bibles besides large quantities of New Testaments, Gospels, and tracts. These were to be sold and given away at the big commemorative occasions when thousands of people gather in public squares and streets. More than half of the Bibles have been sold and in every public place attractive posters call the public to read the Bible.

OFFICERS OF THE CONVENTION

Our Baptist convention elected pastor Carlos Dubois, a young man of French descent, as president. Born in the state of Parana, he is a graduate of the North Brazil Baptist Seminary, and for the past ten years president of our Baptist high

school in the country town of Jaguaquara, Bahia. His wife is an eminent Baptist poetess, musician, hymn writer and dramatist. The three vice-presidents are men of outstanding positions in the denomination: Pastor Rubens Lopes of Sao Paulo, Pastor Valdivio Coelho of Salvador, Bahia, and Pastor Joao Soren of Rio de Janeiro. Pastor Verner Kaschel, executive secretary of the B.T.U. work of the convention, was made secretary.

This convention was characterized by a spirit of harmony, good will and co-operation. No measures were hotly contested, but there was a feeling of unity in all voting. The Brazilian Foreign Mission Board had a glowing report of the progress of our mission in Bolivia where one couple and one single lady labor. Young Mr. and Mrs. Tiago Lima, recently appointed by the Board to Bolivia, were presented to the Convention and our hearts were made glad by their enthusiasm for their future work.

BAPTISTS ADVANCE IN BRAZIL

Movies of our Brazilian Home Mission work were shown by Letha Saunders. Two of the workers of the seventy-two employed by this Board gave a brief account of their activities. The newest work of this Home Mission Board is in a Leper Colony in Belem, Para. Jose Julio da Silva Junior, a well-educated, prosperous young Christian, was discovered to have leprosy. Both he and his wife were interned in the Leper Colony. By their testimony twenty-nine others among the lepers have been saved, so that he will be ordained this month and baptize the converts. Then a Baptist church will be organized in the Leper Colony.

Brazilian Baptists continue to put their

most intense effort in evangelism and it is the work dearest to their hearts. They not only talk about it in conventions, but they constantly practice personal evangelism. A young Brazilian pastor, resident in Rio de Janeiro, went to Bahia to attend the national convention. A friend of his in Rio wrote a friend in Bahia and spoke of the young man's visit. The Bahia family was one of means and so courteously asked the acquaintance of their mutual friend to be their guest during the days of the convention. The young pastor found himself in a traditional Catholic home. Pictures of religious subjects adorned the walls; each room had a number of small statues of saints, besides an ornate little oratory where a number of idols and religious symbols were assembled behind lighted candles and floral offerings. The pastor kindly but sincerely spoke of his personal relationship with the Lord Jesus. The wealthy Bahia family was entranced with

the story of salvation by grace.

At the end of the week, the pastor tried to tell them how much he had appreciated their hospitality when to his amazement the mother of the family told him that before he left they wanted him to be present at the burning of all the religious pictures and images that adorned their home. So one more Brazilian family admitted that the symbols of a false religion were powerless to save.

W.M.U. IN BRAZIL

One hundred twenty-one members of Brazilian Baptist Woman's Missionary Union held their annual meeting before the sessions of the national convention. The Corresponding Secretary, Miss Minnie Landrum, made a wonderful report on Union activities in 1948. There are now 17,223 women and girls enlisted in W.M.S. and Y.W.A. There are 6,284 chil-

(Please turn to page 15)

A New Baptist Institute Building in Natal, Brazil

Mrs. John Tumbler says: Would you like to see the building that was given us in Natal, Brazil by the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering? We feel like the little girl who couldn't believe her own eyes and kept rubbing them to be sure she was awake and not dreaming, when we look at it. After ten years of moving from place to place, we really cannot thank God and you enough for it. We feel like singing the old hymn, "Count your many blessings." (Note the right wing is unfinished)





Four girls in a room have four beds, four chairs, two chests of drawers and one closet

ON THE fourth day of the fourth month of the year 1949 the doors of the House Beautiful opened to receive her first daughters. Thirty-five of them came from five divisions of the great southern part of Brazil. They entered from divisions of the great city proper, the States of Rio, Espirito Santo, Minas Gerais, Sao Paulo and Parana. They were welcomed as choice servants of God. The story of their House Beautiful was told them and they daily thanked God for their beautiful blessings.

On the twenty-third day of the same month of this year, 1949, the House Beautiful was dedicated to the Lord for his use, and his glory in his kingdom's work in Brazil. All Brazil and the Southland sang praises that day. One of the chosen servants of the north, D. Perola Stapp, brought to the hearts of the people his message in keeping with the motto of the

Arise, be at task of building . . .

by Dorine Hawkins

Last month you read the beginning of a report made by Dorine Hawkins at the annual meeting of our missionaries in South Brazil. She told how God laid it on the hearts of women in the United States and in Brazil to build a W.M.U. Training School in Rio de Janeiro. Now continue to read . . . knowing that your gifts make the school possible and your prayers will make it effective. A dream came true when . . .

Training School . . . "No more I, but Christ liveth in me." And the Lord looked down upon his servants and was glad. He had planted these achievements in their hearts and the people looked to him and praised him for having placed this need in the hearts of the women of the Southland.

Now the Lord called unto certain of his servants another time saying: "Set ye apart certain hours in your days to teach and train my chosen daughters that they may give answer for the faith that lieth in them. Make them to have well-rounded personalities, and give them guided liberty that they may enjoy life and yet serve me." So there arose from the midst of his people fourteen able and willing servants ready to teach and to train. The assistant to the directress, Miss Sophia Nichols, the nurse and librarian, Maria Vargas, Elvira Moraes, the assistant in the office and professor of two other subjects were chosen to live in the House Beautiful to serve

Girls are as hungry in Brazil as in school anywhere, so this attractive dining room is a favorite place



Girls in Old Testament class, taught by Mrs. W. E. Allen. She painted map of Palestine on the wall.

classes on the hills; 229 visits in the homes; 251 visits in the hospital, and the distribution of 1,500 tracts, 148 Gospels and thirty-four New Testaments. In the churches twenty-four of them served as teachers, four as pianists and eight with

daily in all functions of the girls' training. There were also thirteen others who freely offered their service for appointed hours on certain days for the teaching of all religious subjects, as well as social and commercial subjects. Their names are written in bright letters on memory's page. Space fails to give the names of all these that serve him with time and talent.

Now the Lord would not that this be a House Beautiful only, but wished that it would be more like a vineyard, a place of fruit bearing, a practice house of missions. So he said: "Lift up your eyes and look round about you and see the needs of the people on the hills, in the hospitals, in the homes and in the churches. Set aside one day of every week, a workday Wednesday for study and preparation in the morning and a going afield in the afternoon."

And on Sundays they went out two by two to more than sixteen churches to serve the Lord on his day. They carried forth the teaching of their leaders and left the warm message of salvation in the hearts of the people in the churches, the homes, the parks, and the hills until they were able to report after three months service—an enrolment of 405 children in their

the young people. And the Lord looked down upon his people and saw they were happy in his service and it pleased him.

There were also other fields of service for these chosen daughters and the Lord opened the ways for this service. He placed it into the hearts of a church in a state of the north country we call the Southland to send money for the transportation of these daughters to and from the churches in five divisions of the southern part of Brazil to serve him during the month's period of rest that the people have each year. And the girls went forth two by two to serve him. They carried study books, handwork, tracts, Gospels and New Testaments and went forth to serve him with all their heart. At the end of these days they return to report their blessings in his service.

These are the acts of the beginnings of the South Brazil W.M.U. Training School for young women. And if all who have helped and are helping should be mentioned here, there would not be a book big enough for it. So let us say that the Lord has begun his great work with the young women of South Brazil and into his hands we do trust all to supply the future needs which are many.



Kiyoko Shirabe waves goodbye to her baby; her son goes with her on this field trip

WHEN the Japan Baptist Convention announced its meeting and retreat for the first week in August, the W.M.U. was glad to see that three conferences were scheduled and set aside for W.M.U. sessions. We needed these sessions to decide on plans for the coming year, since we would have no other meeting until late July, 1950.

The convention was the largest held since the Japan Baptist Convention had been re-organized three years ago. As our president, the Rev. Yuya, presided over the meetings we felt a spirit of very real earnestness and unity. It gave us hope and faith for the future of Baptist work in Japan. There was discussion of a home for retired ministers; of a sanatorium for tubercular patients; and it was gratifying to see that in the budget adopted, the biggest percentage was allotted to evangelism. I am very sure that the two or three days the ministers, laymen and laywomen, and young people stayed there together after the convention for a time of Bible study, meditation and prayer, will mean much for the kingdom of God in Japan.

During the two sessions with the forty women present, and the one with the twenty Y.W.A. girls, many important and far-reaching decisions were made. Encouraged by the extent which we have already met our goal of doubled membership and leaders' clinic in every district, the women adopted other plans which would give even greater stimulus to our work this

FAITH for the future in Japan

Floryne Miller reports on the Japan Baptist Convention; letters and pictures from Japan

year. Miss Hunt's message to Japan W.M.U. was read with great appreciation, each one present receiving a translation. Mrs. Hara will send a reply for all of us.

The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Juneko Hara; V. Pres., Floryne Miller; Executive Sec., Mrs. Kesako Hikasa; Young Peoples' Sec., Mrs. Kiyoko Shirabe; Rec. Sec., Fumiyo Kobayashi; Treasurer, Sakae Sugano; Educational Sec., Mrs. Tsugi Fukunaga; Good Will Center Representative, Elizabeth Watkins.

Dates for four special offerings were set: January, W.M.U. expenses; April, Malory scholarship for the kindergarten training school. We are making every effort to encourage our Baptist girls to enter this school, and train for service in our Baptist churches. We want to try to make it a real W.M.U. Training School rather than kindergarten training school. July, W.M.U. Convention expenses; December, home and foreign missions. This last offering is to be taken during the first week in December, after a special program and season of prayer, and is to be divided equally between home and foreign missions. A goal of 100,000 yen was set for this offering.

Beautiful standards of excellence were adopted for each of the organizations, and we are hoping they will insure more effi-

Japan W.M.U. wisely gives much attention to her youth



ciency in our work. Certain suggestions were adopted in order to keep our W.M.U. young people's organizations as church organizations on the highest possible level.

Japan W.M.U. is more and more grateful for the generous aid of the Baptists in the States, and more and more hopeful for our work in the years ahead.

Seinan Jo Gakuin, Kokura, Japan

Dear American Friends:

I am going to tell you about my visit to the W.M.U. of Omuta Baptist Church with Mrs. Shirabe who is the young people's leader here in Japan.

That was the third visit that we have made. We started to Omuta on the eleventh of June and spent two days there. Mrs. Shirabe's elderly parents are living in Omuta, so she took her elder son with her. Of course, they were so glad to meet him that all their joints, it seemed to me, were stretched out.

The twelfth was the holy day. Mrs. Shirabe and I were asked to speak to Sunday school, too. I spoke to the children about the two carpenters, one of whom built his house on the sand, the other on the rock. There were about sixty children. Eyes, eyes, eyes and eyes were fixed on me as I spoke.

Immediately after the morning service we had a meeting of the W.M.S. and the Y.W.A. together. Mrs. Shirabe talked about the five ideals of W.M.U. All the women and the young ladies understood it very well, I thought. After then, I explained how to use the program which our W.M.U. office issues every month. They seemed to be very eager to learn about it.

After the meeting we took our lunch together and talked many things each other. Omuta Y.W.A. has very good leadership. I gave them the Y.W.A. pins. Our pins are just like yours. They were so happy to pin on their dresses.

There was a girl who was seeking God. She and I became good friends. I promised her that I would write to her later.

Mrs. Shimose and three from her Y.W.A. arrive at camp

I had a very good experience. It seems to me that each place I have visited during the W.M.U. work was my birthplace and the church members were my brothers and sisters at heart, even though it was in a different city.

Several girls remained in church after the meeting was over, so Mrs. Shirabe and I sang many of their favorite hymns. At the last, we sang together "Into My Heart" in English. I felt that these were peaceful and beautiful hours and I could believe firmly that we could bring the peace only through Christ, who always loves and protects us.

I want to tell you more, but now I think I had better close this letter for today.

I sincerely hope you are always happy. May God bless you. I am ever,

Very truly yours,

Yuyiko Yagi

Shimo-Itozu, Kokura, Japan

Dear W.M.U. friends in America:

From Omuta church three Y.W.A. girls came to the Y.W.A.-G.A. Camp, and I came with them as counselor. I was given many, many blessings. When we started to leave every one of us was given a cake of soap which Miss Miller said came to us from friends in America. Thank you very much for all your kindness to us. Dr. Garrett gave us good talks on Paul through the Philippians. Many young girls gave their lives to Jesus in full surrender.

I am the mother of Kiyoko Shirabe. Thank you very much for all your kindnesses that you showed to her while she was in America. I am very thankful that now she can work for the Lord with Miss Miller through the W.M.U. Even though she is very small, please pray for her and help her.

Mrs. Cho Shimose

The Week of Prayer

What it means to us . . .

If it were not for the offerings given during the Christmas Week of Prayer many more of the Nigerian girls would live in the same way as their ancestors. The money from the Week of Prayer was used to build a Girls' School from which many of our Nigerian mothers of today have graduated. Among them are good Christian mothers, teachers and leaders as well as Woman's Missionary Union field workers.

I once visited the home of one of the graduates. As soon as I entered I felt God's presence. Her home is a happy one. If it were not for this offering, she would have been an idol worshipper.

The money has also been used to build a magnificent college dormitory where I will be one of the first girls to live. Although we are few now, in some years to come there will be hundreds of girls because many are working hard in order to graduate from the Baptist Women's Training College.—*Abake Shorungbe*



The week of prayer is the reason for the existence of the Baptist Women's Training College. It has been a blessing to the girls of Nigeria. Part of the money got during this week has been sent to us to build our new two storied dormitory. The cement blocks building has four corners reminding us that the offering comes from the four corners of the world—from people who have denied themselves. The window panes have a frame work of iron.

What a splendid thing to be the first girls to live in those cream colored rooms! When we wake up in the morning, you can imagine us look through the windows and behold the town of Abeokuta covered with flowering trees! The magnificent building cannot be compared with any other dormitory in Nigeria.

Part of the money sent by the W.M.U. of the Southern Baptist Convention helps



The loved banner of our Baptist Girls High School in Abeokuta keeps a clear challenge before the students

to pay our teachers' salary. The graduates have helped to build Christian homes and they are Christian teachers. This is the only training college for Baptist girls in Nigeria. May the time come when we will have more training colleges for girls!

There will be only two girls in a room in the new dormitory but our vision for the near future is that more girls may be trained and about 364 girls will be in the college. Isn't that splendid? We will have four girls in a room and they will not be too crowded. Year by year the number of our graduates increases. May the time come when we will have ninety graduates!—*Aduke Akinwumi*



Everybody is familiar with only seven wonders in the world but very soon, another one will be added. It is neither the hanging gardens of Babylon nor is it the great lighthouse of Alexandria but a building which though it is in one place, will influence different places in the world. To the four corners of Nigeria, the trained Christian teachers from the Baptist Women's Training College, Idi-Aba, Abeokuta

will go forth as lights. They are the products of this eighth wonder of the world. They are trained in order to light the dark towns and villages of their country. They are teachers as well as evangelists, missionaries as well as examples of good homemakers. Most of the girls hope to get married after a few years of teaching and establish homes where better Nigerians will be raised.

The building is of an enormous size—one of the largest school buildings in Nigeria. The front part is an object of beauty. It seeks and holds the attention of any visitor. The four pillars of the porch are so firmly made that they appear to be one of the nonliving creatures made to stand by nature. The steps of the two entrances to the building are so well constructed that they seem to be hanging in the air.

The first floor contains many rooms, each room with its own use. Deeper still after the first floor is the cellar to be used as a store. Three staircases lead to the second floor which like the former contains airy rooms. Joining the two ends of the house together is an open cemented space where the students can enjoy the atmosphere in the evenings. The rooms of the second floor are to be used as library, prayer room, guest room, study, store and bedrooms for the students, Nigerian teachers and missionaries. The rooms are about forty in number.

A poor man who has lived in a small cottage will be very grateful if presented a mansion to live in. So is it with every student of the college. She realizes what a great sacrifice others have made to make her enjoy her school life better. From eleven to twenty-four in one room to only two to a room—what a great change! So we owe the Baptist people of America our lives and services. Many Americans have deprived themselves of the comforts of life in order to help us. Our theme in life, I believe will always be, "Many people have suffered for you, what will you do for others?"

I hope our Nigerian eighth wonder of the world will continue to have many branches in every nook and corner of the country. This, I believe will breed a new Nigeria, the foundation of which is Jesus.

—*Aibinu John*

Dona Maria Mura

(Continued from page 7)

two years. She is a graduate of a nurse's training school in Asuncion and now is prepared to witness for the Lord through the means of nursing. She is engaged to one of the young men of the First Baptist Church, who is a medical student.

You, through your gifts, have helped Victoria and Catalina to fulfill their mother's great desire in getting the religious training necessary for better witnessing for their Master. Through your Lottie Moon offering this year you will help many other young girls in the River Plate Republics to prepare themselves to witness for the Lord among their own people.

Baptists Meet in Bahia

(Continued from page 9)

dren in Sunbeam Bands. This year plans were launched for the organization of G.As. and R.As. in churches where there is capable leadership. Three special days are observed by Woman's Missionary Union: the Day of Prayer around the World on which \$1,000.00 was raised for missions; Training School Day with an offering of \$2,000.00; and Children's Day when the Sunbeam Bands gave \$800.00 to missions. Twenty books are now published by the W.M.U. and 208 studies were held during the past year which merited 2,539 seals and diplomas. The two training schools were ably represented by their principals, Miss Maye Bell Taylor speaking to the report of the one in the North, and Miss Sophia Nichols to the one in the South. Our watchword, "Not I . . . but Christ liveth in me" was the keynote of our convention and the prayer in the heart of each woman as she returned to her field of labor.



"Grant us wisdom and grace to rebuild the devastated world, restore the world's hope for an abiding peace. Grip us with the need of rebuilding the ruined cities of the world and the restoration of humanity's crushed spirits.

"Inspire our own beloved nation to render a good account of her stewardship, seeing that thou hast so bountifully blessed her and entrusted such abundant and precious treasures to her."

Day of Prayer in Japan

from Yuriko Yagi,
Field Worker for Japan W.M.U.

I want to tell you about one of the most interesting things that we did last year. It was on the Day of Prayer around the world. As you know it was kept by all the countries. Of course, we kept that day, too. At our church about three hundred people gathered together in the music hall and had a wonderful meeting. There were members of W.M.S., Y.W.A., R.A., G.A. and even little Sunbeams.

Mrs. Hara presided over the meeting. Each group first sang their song. Then a representative came to the stage and talked about one country in that country's dress. And then we prayed, remembering that country. Like this we prayed together for every country. As for myself, I spoke about China wearing a Chinese dress. That was the first time I wore a Chinese dress.

The room was decorated so beautifully with world maps and posters. Other pretty things from each country which were arranged by Miss Miller and others, were exhibited. After the program we looked at them with much curiosity.

Then we made our offering. The amount of the offering was sent to the Mission Board in America together with offerings from most of our other Baptist churches. Nearly all our Woman's Missionary Societies had this program.

I can remember the program so well and we hope we have another good one this year.

Mrs. Juneko Hara, president of Japan W.M.U., is seated with Miss Watkins at her right, Miss Miller at her left; officers named on page 12



Women of Spain at Prayer

From Mrs. John D. Hughey

Last spring the Baptist women of Spain organized a national W.M.U. There are a W.M.S. in each of eighteen of the twenty churches connected with our mission. Each of these societies observed the Day of Prayer Around the World in December. Their Lottie Moon Christmas Offering was a thousand pesetas—which is a worthy offering considering conditions here.

The W.M.U. in many of these churches is beginning to enlarge its missionary program to include the boys and girls. There are now eight Sunbeam Bands, and G.A. are getting under way. Under the leadership of Mrs. Jennings we are expecting real development in the young people's missionary organizations.

"Joy to the World"

from H. B. Ramsour

On a mid-December morning last year the sun was shining brightly in Nuuanu Valley in Hawaii. The sound of hamlets in a beautiful churchyard in the lower part of that valley rang out the message to the neighborhood that busy workmen were doing their best to make it possible for the members of the Nuuanu Baptist Church to enjoy at least a part of their new educational building by the Christmas holidays. The West Coast shipping strike held up some materials and kept them from scheduled activity, but that did not keep the Nuuanu church from enjoying one of the happiest Christmases of its short but significant history. The building was not complete but all were able to see that it was going to be one of the most modern educational buildings in the city of Honolulu.

It is the second unit of a \$90,000 building, which stands as a testimony to the generosity of Southern Baptists, civilian and service personnel, and new converts

three years before there was nothing more than a tent, a temporary pavilion, and a fence on the bare plot of ground which our Foreign Mission Board had purchased about two years before. But the scene has changed—stone and mortar and reinforced concrete have replaced a flimsy tent; and God has given "beauty for ashes."

The members of Nuuanu are deeply indebted to Southern Baptists, especially those who have had a part in the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for their generous gifts to this church. In addition to the beautiful property upon which the church stands, the Board, largely through Lottie Moon Christmas Offerings, has given nearly \$40,000 to this \$90,000 project. This has made it possible for this church, less than six years old, to go forward in such a way that it has been able to shoulder its part of the other \$50,000.

The women of our W.M.S. observe their week of prayer, too. They join with every happy humble group of followers of the Lord Jesus Christ throughout the world in this Christmas season in giving thanks to God for an opportunity to make Christmas for Christ through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Christ is Our Christmas

from Christine Garnett

CHRISTMAS has gone, but as I say to my people, those of us who have Christ have Christmas all the year. Paul says that Christ is our Passover. In Spanish that word is Pascua which is Christmas, so it reads "Christ is our Christmas." Beautiful, is it not? What a fine season we had! Three years ago someone gave me a curious pine, it is now four feet high and lovely tree. The Y.W.A. offered to trim it and they did a better job than I could have done. Ten years ago when I came here I had the only tree in town, now they

are everywhere. But folks declare mine the loveliest, and people came in to ask what kind of tree it was. We dressed a large colonial doll; she held a large white bough, decorated, and we hung her high in the living room. One of the boys put up a reflector and it was beautiful in the light. Another corner of the room had a large Santa Claus, his hands full of balloons.

Almost the whole town came to see the Nativity scene in the church. It was on a sand table the width of the church, higher and wider than the pulpit platform. There were the hills with their shepherds, campfire, cotton sheep, a real lake, lovely little dolls as angels, in tulle and silver paper over cotton dresses, hung on black threads which made them move all the time. The two story inn was full of miniature furniture and people, a well near by. Inside a fence was the stable, the manger with Mary and Joseph, and the animals. The star (electrically lighted) was over the stable. The Wise Men rode on natural hair camels, black, white, brown. The blue sky with stars and moon added to the beauty. Natural trees in the background and all the details showed up well because of reflectors for each group. The figures were wooden, with fine facial expressions. Many nights at twelve we were still having visitors.

Our town knows only the "traditions" of the birth of Jesus, and those so warped and changed that the story is not very similar. But our scene gave many opportunities for teaching.

The church people had wanted to see the "Americans" and since my house is their house, they came and spent all day, eating sweets, singing, saying "Merry Christmas." Quite a nice number were in the back yard after lunch, playing ball, eating, taking pictures. I do not believe any of you could have had a nicer day.



CHRISTINE GARNETT

"TRY GIVING YOURSELF AWAY"

by Margaret Bruce

THE little book, "Try Giving Yourself Away," by David Dunn, suggests simple everyday things individuals can do which will make them happier. One reason the Christmas season makes us so happy is that the spirit of giving manifests itself so beautifully. The Master taught "Giving yourself away" as he gave himself.

Give of your time! Perhaps you will be needed to help the young people in your church with their

for foreign missions. The request of Lottie Moon for one missionary was granted by sending two. Surely it was prayer that brought that victory. It will bring victory today.

Give of your wealth. Yes, wealth . . . in comparison with so many people in the world we have such an abundance. I shall long remember the poverty and destruction which I saw last summer in Germany and Italy. Those lands and others are in great need, physically and spiritually. We must continue our relief and rehabilitation work in those destitute countries.

I was glad to see the reconstruction which is being done at the Baptist Seminary in Hamburg. Surely Southern Baptists are making a great contribution to

mission work as they help rebuild this institution.

It was a privilege to visit the beautiful new Seminary in Zurich, Switzerland. We were reminded of the help which Woman's Missionary Union gave to that school, and our hearts were grateful to be a part of this worldwide missionary organization.

It was a joy to visit our orphanage in Rome. As our missionary showed us the infirmary she said, "The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering equipped this for us."

It was a thrilling experience to stand in front of our new Training School in Rome with Miss Virginia Wingo, the principal. Looking out over the hills of the city, I realized how much this school would mean to Europe. Through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering we will make it possible for young women to pre-

(Continued on next page)

community missions. It may be a mission study class you can teach; the G.A. or R.A. counselor may need you to help with Forward Steps or Ranking work. You can help with the week of prayer programs in the young people's organizations. December is always a busy month but not too busy to give your time to the greatest task of all, his kingdom's work.

Give of your prayers! The first week in December should be set aside as a week of prayer. Plan no engagements which will keep you from the place where the mission needs of the world are being presented. Join your prayers with those who are praying for world missions. Remember the victory in that first call of Southern Baptist women to a week of prayer

Errata—that's a big word. It means "We made some mistakes." We are very sorry. Will you help us correct them?

The first one is in the 1950 YEAR BOOK. Have you received your copy? Price 15c from Woman's Missionary Union, 1711 Comer Bldg., Birmingham 3, Ala. You need it to do your best work for the Lord in missionary organizations. Please turn to page 10. In the directory of Woman's Missionary Unions on S.B.C. Home and Foreign Fields, the word Venezuela should be changed to Spain. Will you use your pencil and make that correction?

Another mistake grew out of too much eagerness. In the W.M.S. Week of Prayer material for Thursday, page 28, we quoted Licia Columba as saying she entered the Armstrong Memorial Training School at Rome in October. She did want to, but it takes longer to build than expected so the school is not yet opened. Now you will pray more that soon Miss Wingo may learn the language sufficiently and the building be ready for young women like Licia who can hardly wait.

The third is in October ROYAL SERVICE, page 23. Please change the 5.3 millions to 1.4 billions and change 1.5 millions to \$839,915,228. Still pagan!



Your circle can supply lots of soap in this easy way. Collect every Swan wrapper you can and rush them to address above. This offer is good only until December 31.

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

(Continued from page 18)
pate there for Christian work.

The time has arrived for us to bring our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions. There are missionaries depending upon it for their salaries; there are sons and daughters of missionaries to be helped in college through the Margaret Fund; there are schools, churches, publishing houses, orphanages, hospitals and many other phases of mission work supported by the 1949 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Let us give now of our wealth that the world may know the message which the angel brought on the first Christmas night: "Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people."

TIDINGS FOR ALL THE WORLD

Sing Christmas Carols
Scripture Reading: Luke 2:8-11; Mark 16:15-16; Romans 1:16-17

Thinking about Christmas you want to realize that the "good tidings of great joy" is reaching out to all people. Everywhere the gospel message transforms lives unless the Holy Spirit is hindered in his work.

Ambassador Life offers word about remembrance of Christmas in Hungary in "A letter from Gene Udvarnoki." In *World Comrades* see "How Christmas Came to Truk." In *The Window of YWA* read a letter from a young woman in Japan, "No More Hiroshimas." In this ROYAL SERVICE see "Christ Is Our Christmas," page 17.

Can you imagine...

life without soap?
Disease follows dirt.
Grief is harder to bear
in the midst of grime.
Self-respect requires soap.
In Europe and elsewhere
the need for soap is
desperate!

TWO FOR ONE

For every two bars of
Swan soap you buy and
send the wrappers to
Church World Service,
CARE Soap Campaign,
Boston 3, Mass.
they will send
one bar overseas free!



December *The Commission* carries two articles which will be valuable for discussion, "A Look at China from Ridgecrest" and "Palestine Is Now Israel." In Southern Baptist "Home Missions" see "Tidings for all the World" and "Home Missions as Cubans Do It."

This circle meeting will help each woman toward a deeper appreciation of Christmas joys. Why are we so privileged in comparison with the women in other lands? Christmas speaks the answer clearly: that we may tell the message of Christ to others everywhere. Share Christmas in boxes and packages going to Japan and Europe as well as in your Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

RELAXING RIGID RULES

by Ruth LaTuille Matthews

ARE YOU one of those parents who worry about bringing up their children "according to the rules"?

Particularly the first child has a difficult time! The net result is that he strives to be a "perfectionist" and manifests distinct worry habits. The second child is usually more serene and even-tempered.

It is high time that some one slipped the wise word to parents of small children



to relax their rigid attitude toward the rules of child nurture.

Authorities in the field agree that having standards of conduct too high is a chief cause of unhappy children and frustrated parents. I am not suggesting lowering the over-all objective of child behavior. But I am insisting that parents insure an unhappy situation when they leave the impression with the child that the "slightest slide from saintliness" spells doom for him. Such an unfair rigidity almost always guarantees trouble!

Some by-products of a too-high standard for child behavior are: exaggerated nervousness and anxiety, an abnormal sense of insecurity, a despondent hopelessness in the face of parental demands, and, in the end, a miserable individual.

It is healthy and wise for parents to admit honestly to their children that they make mistakes, become tired, get out-of-sorts, and lapse into inefficiency. I am thinking of a family in which the parents have adopted the habit, when either makes an error, of saying with a tolerant smile, "O, I made a mistake, didn't I?" The three-year-old daughter picked it up quickly. Now, when she turns over her milk, breaks a plate, or falls down and tears her dress, she explains, "O, I made a mistake!" Of course, she also observes each time she sees either parent deviate from the family's accepted code of conduct, "You made a mistake, didn't you?"

It is a refreshing spectacle to see parents submit to the same sort of discipline that they require of their children. If parents are not fair in this respect, children see the discrepancy.

Such minimizing of a daily incident from a major tragedy to a "mistake" and the honesty to judge parents by the same standard demanded of the children, are steps in the right direction to relax the rigid rules.

A certain father had anxiously repeated the hope that his little girl would learn to "take turns" and "share" with the baby sister. This rule applied, he said, to everything they had, including food, clothing and toys. It had been a hard lesson for the child because native selfishness was still strong. One night after the family had retired the father was enjoying the last few bites of ice cream left from supper. Little feet suddenly tiptoed into the kitchen behind him and an accusing voice said, "Daddy, (Continued on next page)

SAND-PILE SET

FINGER PAINTING—Finger painting is a wonderful medium of expression for young children to work out their own ideas with complete freedom. Art supply stores sell several brands. Homemade finger paint is quite satisfactory. Add a little cold water to boiled starch, left over from washday, pour into several small containers (empty glass jars with lids are handy) and add powder paint in different colors for each jar. Any glazed paper such as shell paper, at least twelve by eighteen inches in size, is run through a pan of water, the excess water wiped off with one's palm, then tacked to a play table or board that can be easily washed. Put a handful of the commercial finger paint or starch mixture on the wet paper. Let the child use the palm of his hand to spread the paint evenly all over the paper. Then he can experiment with all sorts of shapes and designs by using the side of his hand, his thumb, or various fingers, and palm.



How does the W.M.S. go about accepting or voting on new counselors? Isn't it permissible for the young people's director to find them and put them to work at once?

The young people's director is to organize and maintain the Full-graded W.M.U. in her church. She helps find and train leaders but your nominating committee would present the names of new counselors for W.M.S. approval. It would be too great responsibility for one person to do the selecting of such important leaders all by herself. The society would not fulfill its fostering privilege unless it

WHY, MOMMY?

(Continued from page 20) don't you 'member, we share?" Looking around, he saw two little hands clutching for the spoon and a mouth opened hungrily. He split the last spoonful with the child, and both went to bed happy. Before he slept, the father reflected on the way rules laid down for children also apply to parents. And so it should be! As we relax the rigidity of the regulations governing childhood, let us remember that whatever rules are followed should be applied impartially to parents and child.

The best plan is for parents not to expect perfection from their children—or from themselves—but an honest effort to do one's best. Then, parents will not utterly despair when Junior breaks established rules, knowing that eventually a child absorbs the intent and meaning of rules from the faithfulness or carelessness with which parents themselves abide by them.

IS THIS YOUR QUESTION?

Have you a problem in your WMU? Send your questions; the answer will help others also

shared in selecting the counselors.

In case of a vacancy the young people's director would ask an able woman to help her with a given organization until a regular counselor could be elected. That new counselor might be the person serving temporarily. Try to foster so well that the counselors will not want to be changing about, giving up their work because they are discouraged or lack sufficient helpers.

What is the proper way to make up the W.M.S. roll for a new year? If you have members who attended only once or twice, are they entered on the new roll even though you have tried and tried to get them to attend?

Your W.M.U. Year Book says, "All percentages required by W.M.S. standard shall be based on the membership at the close of the preceding year." So you could not drop names between the years. Isn't your difficulty caused by putting names on your roll too soon? Why not expect a woman to come three or four times, or to be sure she had decided to join, before adding her name to your roll? Take care of this in your society's constitution.

Uninterested women are unenlisted no matter where their names are. Never give up. Pray for them and invite them patiently and persistently.

I am interested to know the limitations of the P.W.C. Are all business

women eligible for this organization, or must they be a certain age?

There is no stated age limit for B.W.C. members. Young Woman's Auxiliary goes up to 25 or marriage. This logically puts B.W.C. membership on the other side of 25.

How can we have more A-1 organizations?

Encourage counselors to do balanced work. Buy a Standard of Excellence for



each auxiliary and help the counselor and members do all the different phases of missionary education activity, then they will be A-1.

What has W.M.U. meant to our home and foreign mission fields?

In money the W.M.U. has given \$12,745,866.06 to foreign missions through the Lottie Moon Christmas offering begun in 1888 and \$4,731,407.49 to home missions through the Annie Armstrong Offering begun in 1907. This does not include the money given through the Cooperative Program. More important, many young people have volunteered to go as home and foreign missionaries because of the missionary education received in W.M.U. organizations. The prayers and service of W.M.U. members can not be measured.

INTO ALL THE WORLD

by Carrie U. Littlejohn

AS WE look back over this year and take stock of our gifts, the most precious are our representatives who have given themselves to the greatest task they know. Let us follow our recent alumnae in prayer as they begin their missionary adventure.

In 1940 Lois Ware of Florida entered the W.M.U. Training School. She married the following summer and continued her preparation while her husband



completed his work at the seminary. In April they were appointed for work in Argentina and in August began language study in Colombia.

In 1947 Mrs. M. D. Oates came to the seminary from California with her husband and enrolled for a full program of study. Last April she and her husband were appointed for work in Chile. In July they went to Colombia for language study.

Among the students entering in 1937 was a young woman from Louisiana, Virginia Wingo. She was unusually well prepared, an M.A. graduate, and a high school teacher with four years experience. After one year here, the Louisiana Woman's Missionary Union drafted her to serve as their young people's secretary. In 1946 she returned

to the school as teacher of missionary education. In May she was appointed to begin the new training school in Rome. She sailed in August for Italy.

Another representative in Europe is Eunice Parker, a Texan who was appointed in July as a contract secretary to the president of the new seminary in Zurich. Miss Parker was a student with us one year, transferring to the Southwestern Seminary. She is a young woman of marked ability whose gifts should find many avenues of expression in this new field.

Three splendid recruits for Hawaii sailed in August, Hilda Bledsoe of Georgia, and Florence Baird Young of Kentucky as regularly appointed missionaries, and Virginia Bean of Missouri as a contract teacher. Miss Bledsoe entered the Training School in 1947 with excellent preparation. After completing her college work she had done case work with the Red Cross for two years. She was appointed in April. Florence Baird was our student during 1945-47. Shortly after graduation she married Chester Young. She and her husband were appointed in May. Virginia Bean was in the class of 1940. She did church work for two years, then returned as office secretary for four years. Her long-time interest in missions was revitalized on a trip to Japan and Hawaii a few months ago. She is a contract teacher for the new Baptist Academy.

Our most recent appointees to Japan sailed in August. Mrs. Luther Copeland



MISS LITTLEJOHN

enrolled from Oklahoma as Louise Tadlock in 1944. Following her graduation she married and has continued her preparation with her husband. Asano Masaki enrolled in 1946 as our first student from Hawaii. She became a Christian under the influence of one of our missionaries while she was a student in the University of Hawaii. Her desire to be a missionary to her own people was closely tied up with her own conversion. Shortly after her graduation here she married Reiji Hoshizaki, Canadian born Japanese whose life was dedicated to a similar purpose. They have been employed by the Japanese Baptist Convention. After a visit with Asano's parents in Hawaii, they sailed for Tokyo in the late summer.

Two of the Nigerian appointees sailing in October are Siella Austin of North Carolina and Mrs. P. H. Hill of Florida. Siella's interest in mission work developed over a period of years. Having completed her college preparation and her practical experience prior to her enrollment here, she was ready for appointment at the end of her second year with us. Mrs. Hill came to Louisville with her husband in 1945 and completed her course in 1948. She was appointed in May with her husband to the seminary in Nigeria.

"The Hopes and Fears of All the Years"

Isaiah 9:6; Luke 2:8-14; John 14:27

AS WE again draw near the observance of the birth of our blessed Lord, let us take time to meditate and marvel upon the eternal hope and joy of the message Isaiah uttered centuries before the birth of Christ. Note the angels' affirmation of the fulfillment of that prophecy on the blessed morning of his birth. Then we shall sense anew the glory and wonder of his birth and its significance to us and to all the world.

Isaiah the prophet saw in Christ the eternal hope of the world, even the Prince of peace. He spoke of the wonderful child who would one day be born of a virgin in the family of David. This promised One would bring about a world of universal peace and eternal happiness where wars will be no more. Isaiah prophesied all this in a dark day of war, tribulation and human suffering. He saw a ray of hope in the shadow of death that engulfed him and his people.

Luke vividly portrays the actual story of the Babe of Bethlehem, the shepherds watching and the angels singing peace on earth. The people of Luke's day, as in the day of Isaiah, knew sorrow, fear, and tribulation. Never was there a story so fitting, of such beauty, truth and hope as was the song the angels sang that first Christmas morn. Let us recall that memorable night of long ago.

There were shepherds on that hillside watching their sheep. Lowly men they were, perhaps unlearned in

the lore of the world but ardent followers of Jehovah God. Suddenly about them spread a radiant glow which dazzled their eyes and brought terror to their souls. They fell to the ground and would have died in their fright had not a blessed voice said, "Fear not." They lifted their faces from the ground and listened, "I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people"—good tidings of great joy to a people oppressed and despised, to hearts grown weary and hopeless! The Saviour was born. The Prince of peace had come. The mighty God, the everlasting Father had come to dwell with men. They need not fear more for he who banishes fear had been born to them.

Luke says that as the angels went away the shepherds hurried even to Bethlehem to see what had happened. They did find him as the angels had told them! No wonder that they returned to their own homes, glorifying and praising God for all they had seen and heard.

The same heart hunger for a Saviour, the same weariness of soul and longing for peace and rest grips the hearts of men and women today, as in Isaiah's day and in the day of Luke. The road to Bethlehem is open to us and to all the world even as it was to the shepherds on that first Christmas morn. Shall we not say to all about us, as the shepherds said one to another, "Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that is come to pass?"

Throughout the earthly life of Christ he continued to emphasize the glorious message for men to come to him and find peace and rest for their troubled souls. The invitation of Jesus is still, "Come unto me all ye that are heavy laden and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). Eugene Barnard has illustrated that verse, picturing the understanding gentle Christ clasping the hand of one



person who has accepted his invitation. Others in the picture are crowded around listening intently. Their faces are eager and filled with longing to know the Way.

In Jesus' goodnight word of blessing, as Luther called John 14:27, Jesus promises calmness, quietness and repose of the spirit which he himself possesses. Christ longs to give to his disciples the same high peace that filled his own heart and was always evident in his life among men.

How all men everywhere need to hear again and again the message of the angels, "Fear not, for a Saviour is born." Shall we help them to see and understand that Christ is the answer for their every need for the need of the whole wide world?

Christ the Answer for the World

Planned by Earl Hester Trutz

Program Plans

No need to suggest Christmas decorations for you will have them, of course. Place the letters **PEACE** in tinsel on red and green about a world globe. If no globe can be secured, use a flat map with the letters against the wall or casting their shadow on the continents.

Ask five women to study well these five plans for peace. Instead of announcing each one in turn, sit around a table and seem to talk spontaneously about these plans. To the group of five add two more women who will bring out the basic idea in "The Light That Leads to Peace" and the points on what women can do. Ask someone to be ready to write on blackboard or large paper, the six things suggested that we can do, as each is discussed.

The program leader will bring the concluding talk on "Peace Is My Responsibility."

If you wish this would be a good program to present in forum fashion. With college young women home for Christmas holidays you may want to ask their help in this presentation.

Did you keep the poster with which you started the year's program? "Christ is the Answer" If so bring it out and add the words, "to World Peace." You may review the entire year's topics reading them from the poster (or blackboard) concluding with the great affirmation, "Christ Is the Answer."

Program Outline

HYMN—*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

DEVOTIONAL—The Hopes and Fears, see page 23.

PRAYER

Planning for Peace

What are Some Plans for Peace?

1. World Government—or Else
2. Kagawa's Plan for Peace

3. The United Nations and Peace
4. Mothers for Peace
5. Christian Efforts for Peace

HYMN—*I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*

The Light That Leads to Peace

What Can I Do?

Peace is My Responsibility

HYMN—*Joy to the World*



"PEACE ON EARTH"

"Blow, bugles of nations, the march of peace.

East, West, North, South let the long quarrels cease,

Sing of the great joy that the angels began,

Sing of glory to God and goodwill to men."

Planning for Peace

Everyone wants peace. Europe longs for peace. China desperately cries for peace. Russia wishes peace. We all want peace, but we want it in addition to all our other desires—wealth, prejudices, hatreds, pleasures, and position. We want to be let alone to enjoy all our possessions, and to go our self-ways unmindful of the rest of mankind. Peace is not bought so cheaply. Peace we want, but we want it on our own terms. Peace we can have—but, on God's terms. From many parts of the world have come different plans for bringing peace.

What Are Some Plans for Peace?

WORLD GOVERNMENT OR ELSE

In 1948 Dr. Einstein estimated that an atomic war fought now would wipe out two-thirds of the world's population. In September of 1949 Dr. Chisholm of Canada, director general of WHO, the world health organization, said, "The atom bomb is obsolete." A biological product has come into existence which kills on contact or if breathed. Only seven ounces would be enough to kill everybody in the world.

The deadlock in which the world finds itself is one to make most people despair. America and Russia continue to disagree, creating two distinct worlds. The armament race goes on. What can we hope for but catastrophe and total destruction?

Many believe that a world government could give hope for peace. Common loyalties, giving up provincial allegiances, and an agreement among sovereign states to abstain from using the atom bomb or deadly biological products could save the world from complete destruction.

The year we are about to enter may prove to be the most significant one of the Christian era, when peoples' assembly, probably to be held in Geneva, will decide what kind of world government we must have to hold our world together.

But organization can not hold it together if the spirit of genuine love is lacking! World missions must go on!

KAGAWA'S PLAN FOR PEACE

Led by Toyohiko Kagawa, valiant Japanese Christian leader, Christians in many nations have found that co-operation in business brings good will, happiness and prosperity. The profits go to the members of the Co-operative. Men control their money, instead of letting money control them. Co-operatives bridge the gap between producer and consumer and owner and worker. Co-operatives prove that competition is not the law of the business world.

The desire to dominate, to control, to monopolize is still rampant in our coun-

try. "The meek shall inherit the earth," said Jesus.

THE UNITED NATIONS AND PEACE

Great encouragement comes to all of us on realizing that, as the year 1949 closes, the United Nations of almost sixty nations has held together and continues to function. "The United Nations has become the chief force that holds the world together against all the conflicting strains and stresses that are pulling it apart," says Trygve Lie. The United Nations has used conciliation in place of lawless use of power; has stood for brotherhood; and has acted as a restraining influence in all conflicts.

Mr. Lie reminds us that when the United Nations Charter was signed, China was the only fully independent nation of Eastern Asia among the signatories. Within three years after the signing of the Charter more than twelve of the rising nations of Asia had begun to make their influence felt. The millions of the Orient are awakening and lifting their heads as humans, demanding consideration.

The United Nations was designed to embrace the whole world and so must seek to understand the great diversity of peoples, cultures and interests. There is a growing tradition among the member states of respect for and observance of the organization's decisions and recommendations.

The pleas of non-self-governing peoples have been heard and steps are being taken

Japanese youngsters are grateful for 120 CARE packages given to their church in Tokyo. Dr. Kagawa, pastor, rejoices with them. RNS photo



in various parts of the world to grant greater participation in government.

Through Economic Commissions, the UN is doing some splendid constructive work, "the object of which is to remove the underlying causes of war and to improve the living conditions of the vast masses of the human race."

The adoption of the Declaration of Human Rights is considered the achievement of the UN which may have the most important bearing on the future conduct of mankind.

Numerous specialized agencies in the fields of labor, food, health, education,



GLADLY

by Irene Morgan Phillips
W.M.S. Member, Durham, N. C.

Gladly did the herald angels
Wing their silent way to earth
To proclaim the wondrous story
Of the baby Saviour's birth.
Gladly did the shepherds listen
To the skies with praises ring.
Gladly leave their sheep and hasten
To adore the baby king.

Gladly did our Saviour forfeit
Glories of his home above;
Teach and preach and heal and labor
To reveal the Father's love.
Gladly did he pay our ransom
On the cross of Calvary,
Gladly buy salvation dearly
So that we might have it free.

Gladly will the heathen listen,
Gladly will our neighbors hear,
If we love and pray and witness—
Live like Jesus year by year.
Gladly let us give the labor
Go or send our very own
So that we may meet him gladly
When we stand before his throne.

May be sung to "Love
Divine All Love Excelling"

trade and communications on the world level, have made great progress in relieving suffering and in world planning for welfare of peoples everywhere.

Proposals for the creation of a small United Nations Guard Force are under consideration.

The 1949 Report should soon let us know of further achievements. Every Christian needs to be familiar with the workings of our United Nations organization. If we all work and sacrifice for peace as we did for war, we need not have a world war again. Of all citizens, women, should be most alert.

The American Association for the United Nations, Inc., has this motto: "We can work it out together—or fight it out alone."

With hope and fear peoples all over the world watch the workings of the United Nations. Those who are part of United Nations, working at Lake Success, feel that UN is the last bulwark against war. "When the UN ends, it is war."

Technically, the world we live in is "one"—but politically, religiously, and culturally it remains divided. Here Christian women enter the picture. Our sons and husbands take care of the technical side of the uniting of the countries of the world. We can build one world through our understanding of other peoples and through friendship with women and children of other lands.

On the wall of one of the offices of UN is a photograph cut out of a magazine. It shows two little American boys, scarcely more than babies. One of them is weeping most bitterly. He is empty-handed. The other one, a long-lashed, beautiful child, wears on his face a look of angelic calm. There is no sign that he hears his weeping neighbor, or even knows he exists. In each hand this bland child holds an ice-cream cone, his own and his neighbor's. He is eating both, licking them with profound enjoyment. This is the world.

UN is designed so that co-operation and not competition will be the order of the world.

A group of church people conferring on world peace stated, "We believe the foreign policy of the United States should be based upon the determination to achieve peace through developing the UN

rather than upon unilateral diplomacy based upon national military might." Yet, what is our nation doing? As she arms herself and all of Western Europe where is mention made of United Nations? Is this organization ignored?

MOTHERS FOR PEACE

The World Association of Mothers for Peace, Inc. was founded in Spokane, Washington on Mother's Day, 1946 by Mrs. Victoria Demarest. It was incorporated with National headquarters in New York State in 1947.

Member branches in many countries of the world now include the Japanese association, with 200 members at the beginning. Mrs. Douglas MacArthur has taken a keen interest in the movement in Japan.

Our Dr. J. M. Dawson, Dr. Frank Laubach of the Far East and Bishop Martin Niemöller of Germany are members of the International Advisory Council.

Mrs. Eugene Jordan of Alabama is the Southern woman in the National Board.

Mothers everywhere should be very active intelligent members of a ny peace movement.

CHRISTIAN EFFORTS FOR PEACE

Communism comes in where there is economic distress. Christian love should prompt us to aid wherever there is poverty. America will be hated if she continues to live on an economic level so much higher than that of other nations. And hatred leads to war.

There must be increased opportunity for human welfare. One reason Communism overruns China is that Chiang's regime has not been able to provide social reforms fast enough. The peoples of the world must see that Christian democracy can offer more to relieve their physical, social and economic sufferings than can Communism—and leave them free, besides.

Must not every Christian oppose those who rely primarily on military strategy to maintain peace? There are economic, social, moral measures which will show our regard and concern for other peoples and counteract the threat of war.

Prayer that all peoples of the world may learn the things that belong to our peace

"Unless within my heart I hold
Abiding peace,
No league of nations can succeed
Nor will strife cease."

is our supreme duty. Many prayer bands which were formed during the war no longer meet. Why?

We are called to pray for our nation and our government. The destiny of so many is in the hands of those in Washington. Pray that they may become willing to serve the purposes of God.

Christians want to use every avenue to bring about friendship between peoples, replacing the fear, bitterness and hate brought about by war with hope, love and trust. Letters and parcels sent to other lands help build Christian friendships. One church group is bringing 90 high school youngsters from Germany for a year of study in America. Each teenager will live in a Christian home for one year.

Young people of many denominations worked for peace by serving in Europe during the summer rebuilding sections of bombed cities. They led the other young people in recreation and in study and showed the spirit of Christian friendliness.

Some Christian young people of U.S.A. have gone to Japan as contract teachers for three years. Some are serving with the American Red Cross in other countries proving their good will and desire for peace.

Missionaries in every land will be giving Christmas parties this month to children, slave women, the aged, the sick, refugees, outcasts—all in the name of Jesus Christ who taught us to give without expecting anything in return. World friendships are made as our missionary-ambassadors live among all peoples. Such scenes are repeated countless times at Christmas:

"The children heard the Christmas story for the first time. They loved the pictures of the Babe in the manger and the shepherds. They heard the story over and over and learned to tell it. They learned to sing 'Away in a Manger,' in their own spoken language, and they also learned psalms and other memory work. I wish

you might have seen the group sitting so close together that there was hardly room to breathe, beaming with joy and excitement at the sight of the oranges, cookies, tea and candy, and a basket full of colored parcels, waiting to be distributed.

"My two fine teachers and I had bought yards of bright colored cloth and cut it into squares which made pretty handkerchiefs. When a meter (\$9.37 inches) of cloth costs more than a day laborer's wage you can imagine how they might treasure a plain hemmed square for a handkerchief. A bar of laundry soap costs a quarter of a day's wage. When all received a handkerchief filled with nuts, candy and popcorn, a small bar of soap for the boys and a hair ribbon for the girls, a lovely picture for each one, they felt that they had a treasure. As the children went home I'm

More Material for You

If you want to learn more about the United Nations you can order a brief presentation, *How to Think About the United Nations*, 15c, from The Graphics Group, Whitestone, Long Island, New York. It gives "all you need to know, not too much to read."

And read *Building for Peace*, an illustrated booklet describing the work of the United Nations during its first four years. Order from Department of Public Information, United Nations, Lake Success, N. Y. Price 25c

You may write American Association for the United Nations, 45 E. 65 St., New York 21, N. Y. for free material about its own work and about United Nations.

Peace Action is a monthly folder published by The National Council for Prevention of War, 1013 18 St. N. W., Washington, D. C., price \$1.00 a year.

A Primer on Peace is available from Council on Christian Social Progress, 152 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y., at 10c each

sure they took joy and cheer into their barren little homes.

"We prayed that they might learn more about the wonderful gift God has given us in the birth of Jesus, our Saviour. We pray that they may learn to love and serve him."

What good fellowship hundreds of Christians are having these days getting acquainted with their new neighbors, the Displaced Persons whom they have sponsored! Could you sponsor a family?

The Light That Leads to Peace

Looking at our world Christians know there is but one way to peace. That way follows the light of the knowledge of God in Christ Jesus.

A few years ago there were more than 22,000 applicants for a one hundred thousand dollar prize offered by Mr. Bok for a peace plan. Each thought he knew the answer. The real answer was given long before in six short words: "Make disciples of all the nations." We have to love before we go to make disciples. That very love prepares the way for peace.

We would not need to be so concerned about national sovereignty and national security if we were more concerned about national stewardship—the proper use of our wealth and power and the propagation of the gospel which has helped to make our nation spiritually strong.

God's light shed on our minds and hearts teaches us:

That men are to be friends not enemies.

That war, strife, selfishness, pride and the desire to dominate and to exploit are implacable foes of his son, Jesus Christ.

That Christians must take their stand against exploitations, domination and ostracism—which ancient evils have so often made a battlefield of our world.

That all people are of utmost value in his sight.

That Jesus never valued persons according to nationality or color, but rather on the basis of each individual's worth.

That Christians are responsible for good government, which will benefit all, not just pressure groups or minority groups.

Intelligent Christian women have sacred opportunities in their hands to be of tremendous power in their communities, their states and nations. Let God's light lead us to conserve every occasion, everyday's contacts for avenues to peace.

"Send out thy light and thy truth; let them lead me."

What Can I Do?

Everyone is surely saying, "But what can one woman do?" If our society goes berserk, woman has more to lose. And she has more to gain, if she aids in saving it. "In any monstrous crisis, women are always the heaviest losers. War takes their sons and husbands, blights their future, rips their security to shreds."

Woman more than anybody else, is indebted to the Christian religion for her freedom from virtual slavery and her elevation to a position of honor and power! Let us not forget—even for one moment—that millions of women in the world are still in virtual slavery.

Our freedom—must taste bitter so long as they are bound. The same Christ can free them—but first he must be preached. It is that simple! Our gifts to missions hasten the day of freedom and salvation for all.

There are the specific things women can do: Soul Commitment. Let us bow and worship with the Wise Men in Bethlehem, in sober self-examination and aspiration. God will show us that we have powers and energies that have never been used. He can release power in all human atoms. What could not several million Christian women do if all were wholly committed to the task of world salvation!

Speak up! These are days when Christian women must put aside timidity and speak out to the public the fact that we must make a choice between higher levels of thinking and acting or an atomic war that spells destruction.

We must be speaking for peace and co-operation. Every woman by her own attitudes and speech helps form opinion. Let us read and study, know the national and international issues and speak out intelligently about them. Write to our local

editor giving the views of Christian folk on vital subjects.

Is it not true that Christians have something tremendously important to say to our world? The Japanese Christians have said: "We were silent when we should have spoken!"

Let us speak up here in America before it is too late!

Teach the children! Teach them at home and in Sunday school by precept and example. Lead them in Training Union and W.M.U. young people's organizations. Religious illiteracy must never be allowed to prevail in America. There are thirty hours a week of silence about God and Christ at school. Perhaps at home, voices speak mainly of money, food, recreation and jobs. Is there silence about God and Christ even at home?

Be active in the missionary society! The missionary society offers women an opportunity to know through Bible and mission study, what goes on in their world

and what needs to be changed. The community becomes a mission field and every woman a messenger. The neighborhood becomes a Jericho

Road where all the bruised and bleeding can be bandaged and bound. The city becomes a Jerusalem for which women's tears flow. The local church becomes the Antioch from which foreign missionaries take their leave. What richer field for spending one's talents and energies than your Woman's Missionary Society? Than your Woman's Missionary Union with its challenge to young people for world missions?

Make the home stable! How many times this year American Christian women will be thanking God for their homes, so familiarly placed on the same old street. That is stability, yes. But how stable are our emotions? How fixed is our love one for another? How unselfish can we be at home? Dr. George A. Butterick said, "In the early Christian years, 'the church in thy house' redeemed a pagan age." Our materialistic America could be changed by praying mothers.

The first Christian home was surrounded by evil, force, and attempt at destruc-

tion of the child. In days of danger to our children and youth by atomic forces, God will help us dream of and put into action a way of escape.

Practice tolerance. During that long ago first Christmas season, where would you have been? Would you have knelt to worship beside the dirty, smelly, Judean shepherds? They would not be in your income bracket, remember. Would you have gone to the stable in the first place—through the courtyard where camel drivers with faces of every tint swore at their beasts? It was probably only a second rate inn to begin with! What if your crowd should see you there?

Would you have entered to worship with the Wise Men? They were foreigners and spoke with an accent maybe. They say one was a Negro.

At Lake Success, in the dining room, two black men were seated at a table. One was from Africa, one from southern U.S.A. They were approached by the management and asked where they had come from. The Negro from the South was asked to leave, the African allowed to stay.

A woman on a trolley, was reading her New Testament. After a trolley stop, she glanced up and saw that a Negro girl had found a seat beside her. Holding her finger at the opened page of her New Testament, she got up and stood in the aisle—still reading her Bible.

Dr. Frank Laubach, noted missionary to those who cannot read, was once asked, "How can American women help to promote better race relations?" His reply was simply: "Just be friends with those against whom discrimination is commonly practiced."

*"This is the Land where hate should die—
No feuds of faith, no spleen of race,
No darkly brooding fear should try
Beneath our flag to find a place."*

Peace is My Responsibility

Most of us work in small places in the kingdom of God, places of comparative obscurity where few people see us and our work. But that does not mean we are isolated. We touch many lives daily. Every human contact has some effect, so what each one of us does is very important.

Our attitudes and our actions contribute towards peace or war.

A Christian pastor from Hiroshima, Japan visited America in 1948. He told of "World Peace Day" which is observed every year on August 6, the anniversary of the dropping of the first atomic bomb on his city. How could such a fine ceremony come from the most horrible day in their history? This pastor explained it by facts like these:

1. Through catastrophe and intense suffering the people discovered that nothing remains but the soul.

2. The Christians repented for not having been Christian enough.

3. The destructive power of the bomb was so frighteningly great. In one moment a whole city of 400,000 population was destroyed. The Christians there pray in their hearts that no more such experiences will ever happen again—anywhere on this earth.

4. They were all humbled and comforted by the spirit of humanity shown by the Americans. The first chaplains going in with the soldiers were careful to show how priceless human beings are. Japanese Christians were surprised but pleased to learn that many Christians in America regretted the use of the atomic bomb.

The sympathy and love shown by Americans in the gifts and relief packages sent, letters of love written, Bibles contributed have been proof of Christian love.

This pastor ended one message by saying:

"I believe the atomic bomb was a terrible weapon, but the love of Christ is much stronger than the atomic bomb. It can do what the latter can not—win the hearts of the enemy. Here is the only hope for eternal world peace. Missionary activities sometimes seem to be so small compared with a great roaring squadron of B-29's in the sky, but expressions of love will win the whole world for him, because the Lord of peace stands behind them."

Everyone of us can be an instrument of peace—indeed it is our responsibility if we walk the Jesus way of life.

As Christians let our daily prayer be:

(Read prayer at bottom of page 15)

THE GOSPEL MESSAGE

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ" —Romans 1:16.

WORLDWIDE IN ITS SCOPE

From the first announcement of the prophets all the way through the Old Testament and the New, the gospel is presented as a worldwide gospel. The Messiah is the Messiah of the nations. "Whosoever" refers to every people, tribe, tongue, and nation. The plan of salvation is universal, and to seek to confine it to certain groups is to deny the Bible teachings on the subject.

THURSDAY, Dec. 1
Psalms 96

Mr. and Mrs. Loyd Corder, superintendent of Spanish missions, San Antonio, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Atkinson, Mason, Texas, evangelism among the Spanish-speaking

FRIDAY, Dec. 2
Isaiah 45:18-25

Mary E. Gould, Mr. and Mrs. James Dewey Hollis, Macao, South China

SATURDAY, Dec. 3
Isaiah 52:1-10

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Lunsford, Belo Horizonte, *Mr. and Mrs. Joseph B. Underwood, Campina Grande, Brazil, educational evangelism

SUNDAY, Dec. 4
Isaiah 66:18-23

Mr. P. Molina, Pearsall, Mr. and Mrs. Jose Lujan, Pleasanton, Texas, Mexican evangelism

MONDAY, Dec. 5
Acts 13:43-48

Pray for earnest observance of this Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions: Mr. and Mrs. Hubert R. Tatum, Hilo, Hilda R. Bledsoe, Honolulu, Hawaii, evangelism

TUESDAY, Dec. 6
Luke 2:1-11

Helen Nixon, Medellin, Helen Meredith, Barranquilla, Colombia, evangelism

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 7
Matthew 24:14

Mr. and Mrs. William C. Gaventa, Eku, medical evangelism, Stella A. Austin, Agbor, Nigeria, educational evangelism

THURSDAY, Dec. 8
Colossians 1:1-8

Pray for the faculty and students of our new seminary at Zurich and for all our Baptist witnessing in Europe, remembering particularly Baptists in lands where there is not full religious liberty

FRIDAY, Dec. 9
Acts 10:34-43

Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Whaley, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Sherer, Tokyo, Japan, evangelism; pray for blessed experiences on this Day of Prayer Around the World and for the ingathering of Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

SATURDAY, Dec. 10
Revelation 14:6,7

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil W. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Marion D. Oates, Medellin, Colombia, language study

APPEALING IN ITS MESSAGE

The gospel message has a most wonderful appeal; it offers deliverance from our burden of sin. It brings to our hearts a peace that passes understanding.

SUNDAY, Dec. 11
Isaiah 9:1-7

Mr. and Mrs. R. Paret, Buena Vista, Mr. and Mrs. Ernesto Leon, Santa Isabel de las Lajas, Cuba, evangelism

MONDAY, Dec. 12
Isaiah 11:1-9

Lois J. Roberts, Rio de Janeiro, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer M. Treadwell, Recife, Brazil, evangelism

TUESDAY, Dec. 13
Isaiah 55:1-6

Mr. and Mrs. V. Kanuebbe, Shawnee, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin B. Leech, Pawnee, Oklahoma, Indian evangelism

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 14
John 3:1-16

Mr. and Mrs. Ewell Payne, Cherokee, North Carolina, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson W. Boggan, Sulphur, Oklahoma, Indian evangelism

THURSDAY, Dec. 15
Matthew 1:18-25

Mr. and Mrs. T. N. Clinkscales, Londrina, educational evangelism
Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Bagby, Goyania, Brazil, evangelism

FRIDAY, Dec. 16
Hebrews 7:18-25

Virginia Thompson, Ensley, Alabama, Italian educational evangelism, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Ledbetter, LeVale, Maryland, rural missions

SATURDAY, Dec. 17
Romans 10:1-13

Wilma Weeks, Hilo, Hawaii, educational evangelism, Dr. and Mrs. Baker J. Cauthen, Shanghai, China, secretary of the Orient

TRANSFORMING IN ITS POWER

There is no power stronger than the power of the gospel message. It is as powerful as the God who gave it. It has power to quicken the hearts of men, convict them of sin and redeem them. By its marvelous power we are kept safe in God's hands for eternity.

SUNDAY, Dec. 18
Ephesians 2:1-9

*Dr. and Mrs. E. Kay Bryan, Kweilin, medical evangelism, Mr. and Mrs. Ronald W. Fuller, Macao, China, evangelism

MONDAY, Dec. 19
Romans 1:8-16

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Gomez, Anthony, New Mexico, Mexican evangelism, Mrs. F. K. Pool, Havana, Cuba, educational evangelism, Emily Pool, Margaret Fund student

TUESDAY, Dec. 20
Hebrews 4:1-12

Elva Chavez, Placetas, Mr. and Mrs. Anibal Espinosa, Jovellanos, Cuba, evangelism

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 21
Acts 17:1-9

Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Calheiro, Sr., Marianao, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Calheiro, Jr., Yaguajay, Cuba, evangelism

THURSDAY, Dec. 22
Ephesians 3:8-12

Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Askew, Parana, Argentina, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Allen, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, educational evangelism

FRIDAY, Dec. 23
John 1:1-13

*Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Brothers, Ibadan, *Susan Anderson, Abeokuta, Nigeria, educational evangelism

SATURDAY, Dec. 24
2 Timothy 1:7-11

Elaine Crotwell, Yale language school, *Dr. and Mrs. C. L. Culpepper, Sr., Shanghai, China, educational evangelism

CHALLENGING IN ITS RESULTS

The gospel in the hearts of men is a challenge. As a result of receiving this message, we become joint heirs with Christ of all that God can bestow on his children. We are enabled to live the abundant life, and to share with others the knowledge of the marvelous grace of God.

SUNDAY, Dec. 25
John 10:31-38

Pray that Christmas may be a real observance of the anniversary of Christ's birthday

MONDAY, Dec. 26
John 15:1-16

Mattie Baker, Sao Paulo, Brazil, Cornelia Brower, Temuco, Chile, educational evangelism

TUESDAY, Dec. 27
Romans 8:10-17

Mr. and Mrs. Bartolome Burquet, Sagua la Grande, Dr. and Mrs. A. T. Bequer, Cienfuegos, Cuba, evangelism

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 28
Romans 8:33-39

Dr. and Mrs. W. H. Carson, Port Harcourt, evangelism, Dr. and Mrs. H. B. Canning, Eku, Nigeria, medical evangelism

THURSDAY, Dec. 29
Mark 11:19-24

*Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Bausum, Kweilin, *Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Abernathy, Tsinan, China, evangelism

FRIDAY, Dec. 30
Hebrews 10:19-25

Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Cooper, Shawnee, Mr. and Mrs. G. K. Cobb, Redrock, Oklahoma, Indian Evangelism

SATURDAY, Dec. 31
Galatians 4:1-7

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Brantley, New Orleans, Louisiana, Rescue Mission; pray for forgiveness for our failures in the past year and for grace to walk more courageously with Christ in the coming year

IT'S HAPPENING NOW!

In her address at the World's Christian Temperance Union annual convention Mrs. D. Leigh Colvin, president, suggested that more business was transacted at the tanned Yalta conference under the table than across it. Stalin with wily cleverness pretended to join in the toasts but drank water while Mr. Roosevelt and the others in the American delegation repeatedly filled their glasses with vodka. "Perhaps sudden diplomacy is not very creditable, for drunkenness is no excuse for committing felonies, but it may be more charitable to believe that drink had dulled moral perception at these conferences than to hold that the sellout of China and the European countries behind the iron curtain was conceived coldly and with premeditation."

"The fact that Jesus Christ is our peace means that we are at peace with one another in him. We therefore appeal to the governments of our countries to restore peace between our peoples, without hatred or retaliation." This was a resolution of the members of the Evangelical Church in the Rhineland and the Reformed Churches of France at a meeting in Meisenheim, Germany, last summer.

There are 500,000 people with T.B. in the Eastern zone of Germany. "O God, help that I may eat all I want, and the things I want, just once before I die." This was the prayer of one of the 13 million underfed children of Europe.

In the Western Zone of Germany are millions of refugees of German origin from Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Yugoslavia, and Romania, living in indescribable conditions. In small huts made of mud, into which no sunshine comes, but plenty of rain, live whole families separated only by rugs. These people receive from the government the equivalent of about \$8.00 a month per person, on which no one can live decently. In addition to these refugees of German origin are the Displaced Persons from the Balkans and all the Baltic States.—Dr. Joseph Novotny

by Mattie Lelia Watts

"Our relief efforts in Germany in feeding the hungry and in clothing the naked have shown to the German people that Christianity is not only a beautiful theory but a living reality."—REV. EUGEN GERSTENMAIER at Amsterdam

In October twelve of the major Christian colleges in China were open and continuing their basic work of serving the Chinese people. Ten were in Communist territory. The cities in which these are located came through the change in control much better than had been expected. Courses in religion cannot be required under the new regime any more than under the old, but voluntary Bible classes and Christian fellowships had not been interfered with up to October. From some cities come reports of increased student interest in the Christian message even while at the same time atheism or irreligion are being promoted by the new Communist authorities.

In the Shan States of Burma at Palong, the Shan pastors urged their people to read their Bibles, but after the war there were only three Shan Bibles left at Palong. It was arranged that at 8 o'clock every evening those who possessed Bibles would read them to those who had not. The result is that three groups are meeting and 90 per cent of the people are reading their Bibles daily.

If you had one orange? A sick German woman was given a few by an American. She cut each orange and ate one quarter a day to make them last longer.

ACCORDING TO A REPORT of the Brazil Bible Society, a million Bibles are distributed in Brazil each year by a veritable army of colporters who travel into remote sections by any and all means of transportation. This society does not attempt to interpret the Bible, but makes every effort to put it into the hands of all Brazilians.

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