

LOOK

ON THE FIELDS

... white already to harvest.—John 4:35

Brethren in Christ Missions — January, 1956



"The Field is The World."

"LOOK on the Fields," a supplement to the "Visitor," is a bi-annual release designed to help our readers keep in clear focus the challenge of Brethren in Christ Mission fields at Home and Abroad.

Through picture and narrative you get a bird's-eye view of the harvest fields in our colorful Southland, the Great Southwest, far up at North Star Mission, developing new congregations from numerous mission points, and in the large cities.

The Foreign field is represented by reports on the recent Conference of the African Church, news of the recent deputation tour of Africa, news of mission progress on the fields of Japan and India.

"The harvest truly is great!"

Like Philip, men have heard the call, "Arise, and go toward the south . . ."

Maturing Fields in the South

This generation has seen Brethren in Christ Missions go south!

America, with its many shades of cultural background presents a challenge to missions that vary as much as do her people. The Southland is no exception.

In Virginia there remains the flavor of the old South with the hills' touch. Kentucky speaks of the colorful pioneering of Daniel Boone. In Florida there is a fresh blend of the deep South with America's '56 version of booming expansion all basking in the good-natured sun.

VIRGINIA

About 1920 the vision of unsaved souls in Virginia came to the Home Mission Board. Evangelistic campaigns in the area made the placing of workers there on a continuing basis a must. Many servants of

the Church gained valuable training on this field (see cut). Brother and Sister Denny Jennings served on the field for quite a few years.

The past five years have seen an expansion of the work with an encouraging harvest of souls. Three pastors, Brothers John Schock, I. Raymond Conner, and Rupert Turman are fully engaged in a pastoral and evangelistic ministry that is bearing fruit. The *Evangelical Visitor* will carry a more detailed report on the history and development of this thriving work in the "Old Dominion."

The cause of Home Missions owes much to the Kentucky field where the spirit of pioneering has been nourished in many servants of the Lord including the present Executive Secretary of the Board.

Hypocrisy is one sin that is scorned in the hills of Kentucky. A sinner is usually identified as such. But during the past generation a whole county has been touched by the power of the Gospel as lives have been transformed and given the power to live free of the besetting sins peculiar to the community.

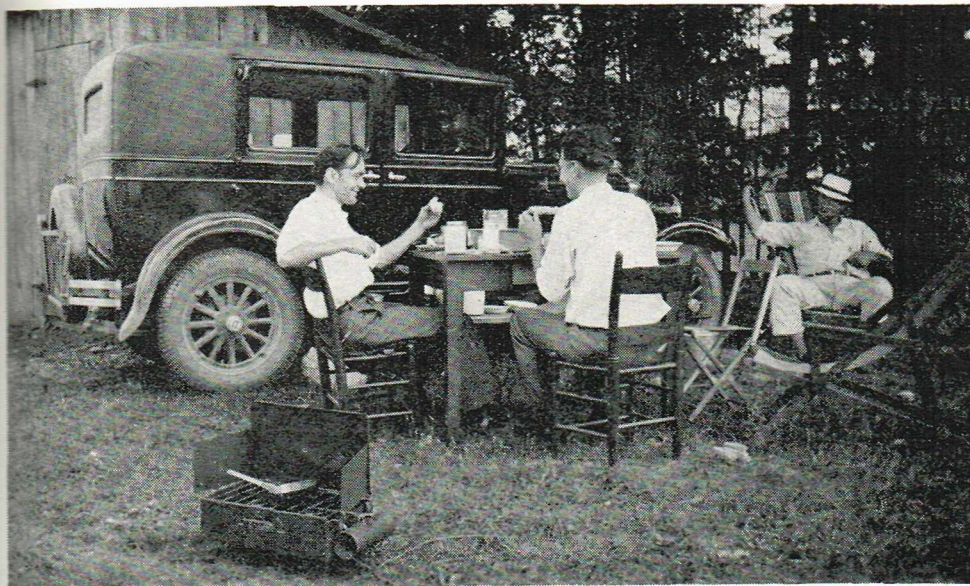
This rural work is being brought into a state of maturity with more and more of the responsibility being placed on the local constituency.

An "inside" LOOK into this interesting field is yours for the asking. Write to E. O. Dohner, Supt., for the *Kentucky Broadcast*, published monthly.

Through the *Kentucky Broadcast* you can keep in touch with new developments and outreach under such headings as "Tennessee News," and "Cinnci Simmerings."

FLORIDA

In Orlando, Florida, the Brethren in Christ are girding for the challenge of a ripe harvest of souls. The potential of this part of the south grows faster than it can be evaluated. The *Visitor* reports further on this work.



A prospering field, Virginia has had a Brethren in Christ witness for more than thirty years. Pictured here are only a few of many servants of the church who have served in this field. Top of page: Looking on the field with his wife and two grandchildren, Harry and Bettie, is Rev. Harry Buckwalter of the Life Line Gospel Mission.

Attractive Advertising!



People must know where to find us. The church must always be as friendly as the sign.

Advertising for the Lord in Growing Towns

Advertising has become an integral part of modern life. But it is not new—the “Glory of the Lord” was advertised during Israel’s Golden Age (I Chronicles 16:24-31) so that men in the nations around Israel knew that “The Lord reigneth.”

The outreach of many Home Mission points is dependent in no small measure upon their ability to successfully advertise the Gospel. The attractive sign at the out-

skirts of Stowe, Pennsylvania, (above) is just one means of getting at the job of garnering sheaves.

In some towns a Brethren in Christ witness is relatively new, and hungry souls living in a spiritual vacuum need to be attracted to our chapels through warmth and spirit-controlled friendliness that love and “advertise.”

In this category are the mission points of ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico; STOWE, Pennsylvania; ALTOONA, Pennsylvania; TORONTO, Ontario; COLLINGWOOD, Ontario; MASSILLON, Ohio; UNION-

TOWN, Ohio; GRANTS PASS, Oregon; and RINGGOLD, Maryland.

Here are points with the potential of taking their places among the established congregations of the Church. True, Satan attempts by every means to prevent such development; but the challenge in these fields is two-fold: to win recruits for the Lord’s army; and to lead them from “mission churches” to “mission-minded churches” so that they can take their places among the ranks of the supporting HOME BASE which is the foundation upon which new fields can be invaded.

Rounding Out the Navajo Program

No people on earth has ever experienced such lavish prosperity and physical abundance as the American people in the mid-1950s. Yet there remain spots in this “homeland” that remain “foreign” to the blessings so many of us enjoy. Navajoland is an example.

Brethren in Christ Missions now extend to this fascinating yet suffering nation within our borders. Taking heed to Moses’ solemn warning in Deuteronomy 6:10-12, the Brethren in Christ have accepted this field as one that they dare not neglect. Although it presents peculiar problems, the NAVAJO MISSION in New Mexico has been blessed during the past few years of steady development.

Meeting a need that has long existed on the eastern border of the Navajo country, the NAVAJO HOSPITAL, dedicated in 1953, now has a medical doctor to head the medical program. Dr. Alvin L. Heise is investing his talents and training in the witness among the Navajos, still steeped in superstition and fear. Two consecrated



registered nurses assist him. With the doctor's and superintendent's wives both being registered nurses, the mission staff now has 5 medically trained persons on its staff.

A developing school program is bringing potential Christian heralds into contact with and personal relationship to the Lord Jesus Christ.

A rounded-out Mission program envisions a school program accommodating about 60 boarding school students offering a complete elementary school system and a medical service through the hospital and out-lying clinics that will touch a radius of 25-40 miles from the mission. From these two out-stretched arms of compassion, further community contacts with the adult population can be made. The goal of the whole program—to win souls to the Lord of Heaven and Earth. They need to know experimentally that the "white man's god" is their God.

For countless generations the Navajos have called themselves "the People." This wonderful concept of "a Saviour, which shall be to ALL people" (tribes) is only beginning to dawn on their consciousness. New-found joy and peace is coming to those who have tasted and seen that the Lord is good. A harvest here is ripening.

Work in Central Pa.

The westward surge of American life and ambitious expansion has been an impelling force ever since the first settlers crossed the Alleghenies before the Revolutionary War. People have been "going west" for 300 years. Readers of Brethren in Christ history thrill to the accounts of ministers riding on horseback to preach in the west (Ohio, Ontario, etc.). But there came a day when a vision of harvest fields in the mountains of central Pennsylvania was caught by members of the Brethren in Christ Church.

The past twenty-five years have brought numerous new names to the roster of Brethren in Christ churches. Although this issue is not able to give a comprehensive picture of the scope of Brethren in Christ Missions* in this area, we list here the numerous outposts where the Gospel is being preached and young congregations are taking their places as a support to the church's program of fulfilling the great commission:

Saxton, where the Andrew Slagenweits, Ruth Keller, and Anne Wyld serve; Sherman's Valley and Riddlesburg, the Marlin Ressler; Three Springs, the Art Coopers; Kittanning (Sunnyside Chapel) the Donald Fishers and S. Iola Dixon; Ickesburg (Saville Church) the Roy Mussers; Clear Creek and Ray's Cove, Ross Morningstar; Canoe Creek, Sheldon Wilson; Blandburg, Edward Hackman; Blair's Mills, Roy Beltz; Hunlock Creek, Thomas Bouch; Llewellyn, Cyrus Landis; Iron Springs, James Leshner.

Fields to be Won with the Gospel of Christ



Church-goers at North Star Mission brave a frigid landscape to maintain a warm witness for the Gospel in the Northland.

The Home Mission Board sponsors similar works at Houghton, Frogmore, and Walsingham Centers, with Basil Long, Alonza Vanatter, and Arthur Heise in charge of the work at these points.

In Ohio there is a station at Shanesville with Atlee Hershberger as pastor; Marion Walker is pastor at Gladwin, Michigan. Samuel Lady is the pastor at the Conewago Church at Hanover, Pa.

John Garman superintends the work in Saskatchewan, serving as pastor at Kinderley, while Robert Sider has charge of the Delisle work.

* NOTE: Look for a study of the "Mountain Churches of Pennsylvania" in a later issue of the VISITOR.

On the Northern Frontier

North Star Mission, approaching its twenty-fifth anniversary, is a field unique in its setting. A frontier area, the work and environment is stimulating to hearty souls. Following is a recent dispatch from the Lorne Lichtys, experiencing their first winter in the far north:

"Home, home, where the buffalo roam, Where the deer and the antelope play!" This is typical of our bush country at North Star. (Lorne enclosed a picture of

a herd of buffalo feeding in nearby Prince Albert Park.) God's great handiwork can be appreciated in the far north. Severe cold weather set in October 28 with temperatures dropping to 20 and 30 degrees below zero.

Fall evangelistic meetings held amid this frigid weather brought folks by various means of travel—by foot, on horseback, tractor, and horse-drawn toboggan (see accompanying picture). Ten souls sought God. With inter-church competition not as keen here as in some communities, evangelist Bert Winger spoke to audiences of many nationalities.

In spite of the fury of the elements, God is blessing the work at Howard Creek and Paddockwood. A Catholic family attending the services quite regularly should be placed on your prayer list. The pastor conducted a funeral service for a 19-year-old man on December 5.

I see from my house by the side of the road,

*By the side of the highway of life,
The men who press with the ardor of hope,
The men who are faint with the strife.*

But I turn not away from their smiles nor their tears,

*Both parts of an infinite plan—
Let me live in a house by the side of the road*

And be a friend to man.



Sister Sarah Bert

"Where
there is no
VISION
the people
PERISH."

*The late Sister Sarah Bert had a
vision of lost souls in Chicago.*

CHICAGO

Founded in 1894 by Sister Sarah Bert, the Windy City has long been established as an integral part of the church's program. Through the fruit of this mission, homes and congregations have been blessed from Pennsylvania to California. This constant "giving up" of its converts to other fields of service has always served to drive its workers, (the Carl Carlsons, Alice Albright, Sara Brubaker, and Grace Sider) on to enlist new recruits. South Halsted Street is never short of material for the Chicago Mission's program. Bathed in love and prayer these workers seek to always keep clear the vision that came to the Kansas farm girl many years ago.

"To Serve the Present Age"

It takes VISION to "Look on the Fields." Souls are living lives of eternal gratitude for the vision of Christian warriors like Sister Sarah Bert. She and others of her kind saw the tremendous social changes coming upon the life of America as it turned from its rural background to a highly industrialized economy. Nowhere in the Bible are we commanded to keep our religion on the farm. Christ's compassion went out to people in need, whether in the streets of Capernaum or a desolate graveyard adjacent to a piggery.

To touch and win the lives of many "displaced persons" in the large cities of Chicago, San Francisco, Detroit, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, and Harrisburg, stations are strategically located "where the race of men go by."

To work in this staggering field, specialized techniques must be developed, hence the "Lighthouse," "Life Line," "Door of Hope," "God's Love" by which our rescue stations are known. To work successfully in a city mission one must see each soul, regardless of its outward degeneration, as a treasure of rarest value in the eyes of the Creator and Savior of man.

God's hand has never been short in reclaiming the derelicts who return to the father, but a "Vision" of work in the city extends beyond Skid Row. There are always teeming thousands of young lives that need to be rescued before Satan has a chance to drag them down. Thus our city missions live constantly with an urgency that shocks those who live more sheltered lives.

Statistics are not available on the number of souls to which BRETHREN IN CHRIST MISSIONS are responsible.

LOOK—Issued as a supplement to the Evangelical Visitor by the Mission Boards of the Brethren in Christ Church. Send contributions for Home Missions to Rev. Dale Ulery, 412 Dakota Avenue, Springfield, Ohio; for Foreign Missions send to Bishop Carl Ulery, 1332 Maiden Lane, Springfield, Ohio.

Large Cities -- Large Fields

SAN FRANCISCO

"Somebody's brother! oh! who then, will dare to throw out the Life-Line, his peril to share?" In SAN FRANCISCO, Brother and Sister H. W. Buckwalter, Edith Yoder and Florence Faus are after the victims of Sixth Street. Frequent victory reports only emphasize the tremendous challenge of catching those who have not yet returned to the fold. This work has been going since 1910.

LOS ANGELES

"Look on the fields" in its January 1955 issue featured this work among the men of "Fifth & Wall Streets" in Los Angeles' Skid Row. The Brethren in Christ have shared in an affiliate relationship with this work since General Conference of 1954. The Adolf Jordans and Brother and Sister Reuben Asper have been active in this work in one of America's fastest growing metropolises.

DETROIT

Recently celebrating its 20th anniversary, God's Love Mission mans the lifeboat on "Third" Street in the heart of the Auto City. As recently reported in the Visitor, Brother and Sister Paul Hill and Erma Hoke demonstrate God's Love five nights a week on Skid Row. The work there also includes the care and development of the Detroit Brethren in Christ Church on Myrtle Street.

PHILADELPHIA

Work in the City of Brotherly Love began before the turn of the century (1897). The mission located on "Second Street" has been the spot where many a lvelorn soul has experienced the joys of salvation. Brother and Sister William Rosenberry and Anita Brechbill are active in a ministry there that includes radio and the building of a church now nearing completion.



A sample of Sixth Street—a doctor, "on relief," a newspaper writer.

HARRISBURG

Manned by a city boy, the Lighthouse on the hill, overlooking the heart of Harrisburg, sends forth the Light that is the "Light of Life." Brother and Sister Joel Carlson, Elizabeth Kanode, Beulah Lyons, and Grace Robb are fully engaged in a ministry among young people through a special week day Bible School, an active Sunday School, and a ministry in Capitol Park during the summer season. Brethren in Christ young folks working in the city have been helped there and have also shared activity in making the Light to shine more brightly.

A place for retreats, institutes, and a Bible school meeting twice a year for six weeks periods—not the typical institutional compound—is Banmanki, with its 20' x 20' aluminum chapel.

DURING AN INSTITUTE

when the Santal Christians come in from all over the district for a week of teaching and singing and praying together, it is full. For many of them this is almost the only time they hear the Gospel preached because most of them live by one's and two's in widely separated heathen villages.

At the end of an Institute a team of the Christians pile into the jeep and tour the villages for a few days. Here Philip, one of our most promising young men, is giving the story of Christmas, using the Public Address System. Some hearers recognize its truth and inquire further from members of the team. When they are convinced in their hearts and believe on Jesus Christ, they are ready to be baptized, and the tour often ends with

A BAPTISMAL SERVICE.

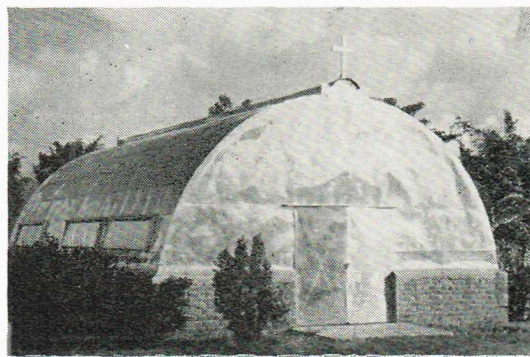
The first baptism performed by our then newly-ordained pastor, Benjamin, occurred on Christmas Day, 1954, when he baptized this first young Santal convert from Purnea Mission area whom we named Paul. His is an unusual story:

He heard of Christianity first, from a non-Christian. Perhaps you will remember hearing of Patras (See tract, "Patras and the Sadhu", by Leoda Buckwalter), who was so severely persecuted by his family after he became a Christian. When Patras' older brother returned to his own village, he told the people about Patras' faith and how he had persecuted him, beating him—even threatening to kill him.

"Did he give it up?" asked one of his listeners curiously.

"No, that's the strange thing about it."

The questioner determined to learn more about this new religion for which one was willing to suffer so much. He got in



INDIA... "FIRST THE BLADE"

touch with Patras. He also got a gospel of John from Pastor Benjamini. Later Nathaniel, a Christian cousin of the seeker, went and brought Paul (as he was later named) up to Purnea Mission, where they both joined the Engles and their evangelistic touring party in order to hear the Gospel explained more perfectly.

Then the missionaries urged Paul to attend the pre-Christmas Institute at Banmankhi. Christmas Day came. Could any day be better to confess his faith in Christ! He testified then that *it was Patras' steadfastness amidst persecution that caused him to accept Christ.*

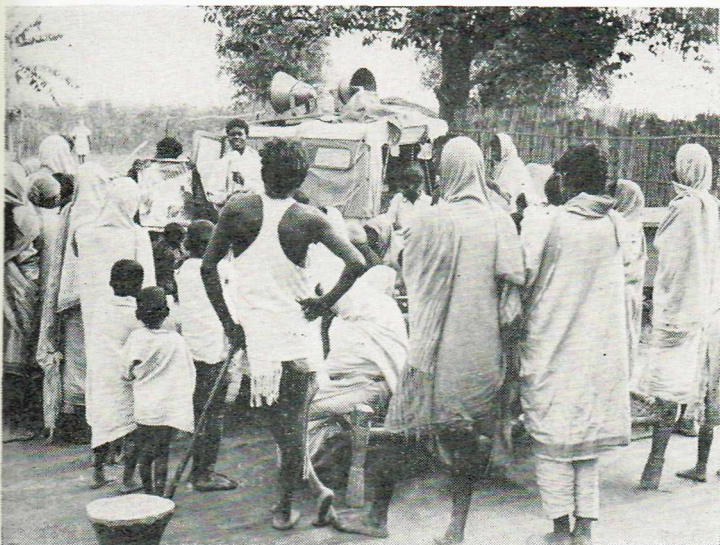
Paul gives a contagious witness. The Indian Christians had not fully approved of Paul's being baptized that day, feeling that new converts should be baptized right in their own villages as a testimony to their fellow-villagers and also to prevent the wild stories of how converts are secured. But *Paul has not been slack in his witness in his own village.* He asked his missionaries and a group of Santal Christians to camp at his village for a week. After that campaign, the chief of the village and his wife accepted Christ and were baptized—also Paul's wife and Dorcas, a young girl from an adjoining village.

The entire village, in fact, decided that before long they would accept Christ. Events are proving that they meant it; for since Paul's baptism on that Christmas Day six have been baptized.

* * * * *

"So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; . . . and the seed should spring and grow up . . . first the blade; then the ear, then the full corn in the ear. . . ."

Joseph B. Smith



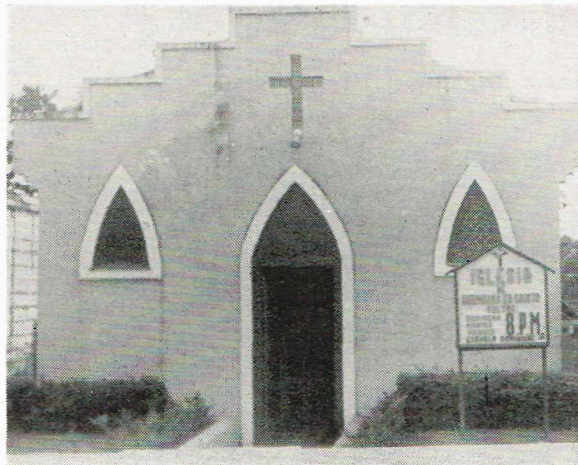


Boys and girls of the Cuban Mission join in a Gospel song. There are two more Sunday school sessions in the country at the same time. "We surely thank God for a good increase in attendance."



Marie, a 68-year-old grandmother, gives her testimony at the Cuban Mission. She was marvelously delivered from cigarettes after smoking for more than fifty years.

God Works in CUBA



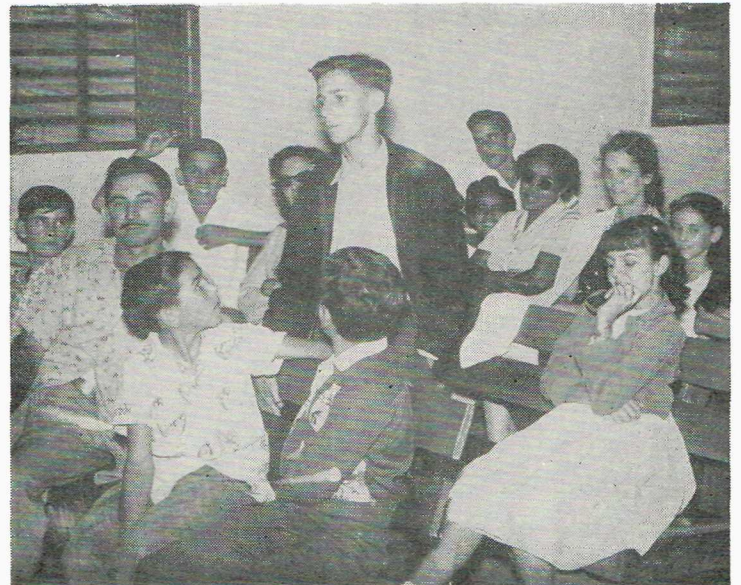
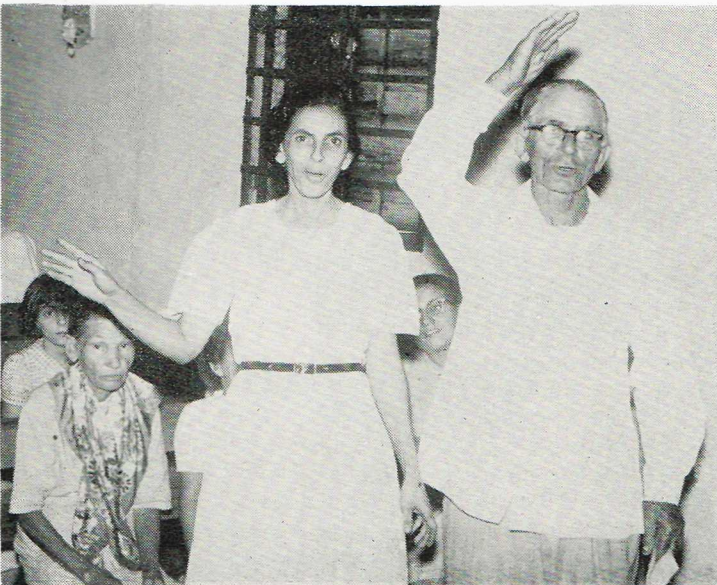
The front of our church in Cuba showing, also, the bulletin board.

"Laborers With God"

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

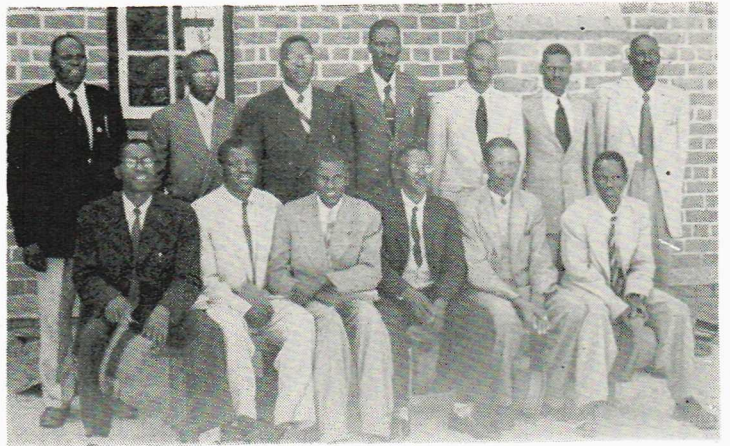
Severina, our interpreter, and her husband. He is giving a testimony. Once a real enemy of the church, he cursed and hoped it would burn down. Now he is changed — he loves the church and gives good testimonies praising God.

Cuban young people, too, are responding to the Gospel of Christ. This fine young man is giving his testimony on his fifteenth birthday. He desires to be a preacher of the Gospel. Pray for him! And thank the Lord for His blessing in Cuba.



Special African Conference

Executive Secretary and Assistant Chairman of Board Present: Bishop Henry Hostetter and Doctor Paul Lenhert—and Sisters Hostetter and Lenhert. Further steps in the program of the indigenous church taken.



AFRICAN LEADERS

Lay leaders on the newly formed Church Executive Committee (S. Rhodesia) "good men, of good report."

Standing: Mangisi Sibanda, Iddo Kumalo, Philemon Kumalo, Saul Senda, Seth Nkala, Nasoni Moyo, Vayi Ndhlovu.

Sitting: Mapendhla Moyo, Mkubo Dube, Nduna Ncube, Sandi Vundla, James Leta, Tshangana Nyati.

The Wanezi, Mtshabezi, and Matopo districts each elected three members; two are members by virtue of their office: Iddo Kumalo as treasurer of African funds (son of Mfundisi Kumalo) and Nason Moyo as secretary of African Conference; two were appointed by the General Superintendent: Mangisi Sibanda (Ass't Overseer) and Vayi Ndhlovu.

Official membership consists of the General Superintendent as Chairman, three overseers, three missionaries—including one mission and one outschool superintendent.

There were numerous points of departure from the regular pattern at this Conference. The Executive Board went into session several days ahead of Conference. Conference was shortened; business and Bible sessions were interspersed. Most accommodations for missionaries were on the dormitory plan, cafeteria style meals were eaten at tables under the beautiful trees. The African accommodations were prepared, as usual, by Africans with some missionary direction.

Highlights of Sessions with African Leaders and Church (Regular Visitor issues will contain further reports on conference). The Africans came in Friday afternoon by motor car, lorry, bicycle, vanette, and on foot.

That evening we had the unusual privilege of meeting with about two hundred and

fifty Africans in positions of responsibility and their wives. From the beginning we could feel the Spirit of God in our midst. Our General Superintendent, Bishop Climenhaga, welcomed the African leaders and then Bishop Hostetter greeted them.

Dr. Lenhert brought the main message of the evening, using for his theme the verse: "Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow me."

"Moments of Inspiration" (a new feature—records on the loudspeaker for the early waking moments) Saturday morning included some Sindebele numbers.

For Bible Study Saturday morning, Brother Lady very appropriately gave us the picture of an ideal church from 1 Thessalonians 1.

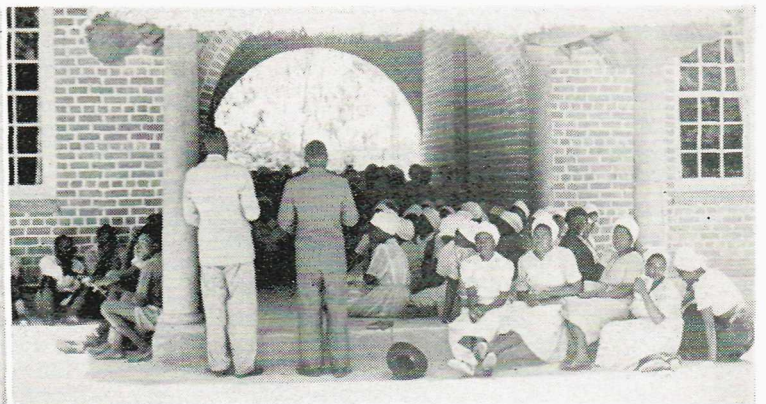
At the opening of the ten o'clock busi-
(Continued on last page)



Sunday of Conference—African sisters on their way to Sunday School Class, Sisters Kettering, Lehman, and Hossler in the front.



Children's Sunday School Class, Sisters Melhorn and Heise and two African teachers.



Overseer Sampson Mudenda teaching Young People's Class, Interpreter at left translating from Citonga to Sindebele.

(Continued from page seven)

Encouragements in the Work In Japan

Peter Willms

ness session, Brother Climenhaga pointed out that they had come for two reasons: for business dealing with the administrative life of the church and for fellowship—to hear the Word of God and listen to the visiting brethren from America.

A challenging message that will not be forgotten by the Africans was that of Brother Hostetter on the Foreign Mission Board's interest and concern for the African Church—Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow; Yesterday, babes in Christ; Today, grown in numbers, many baptized—a vision of service gained—the Foreign Mission Board was much encouraged by the report last Conference of the large offering taken for the Gwaii and Lupani areas; Tomorrow: You are not to be proud that you are leaders, you are to tell others of the Gospel, and be watchful of the forces against you, of witchcraft, selfishness, going to town and partaking of the vices there. Have the attitude, "Here am I, send me."

Papers were then handed out explaining certain suggested forward steps in church administration: the church executive committee with its place, membership and work; the district councils, and the church treasury. There were quite a few questions and comments. Some said, "Give us more time to think over it and to think of members for the Executive Church Committee." Brother Climenhaga pointed out that one step at a time would be the best.

By time for the afternoon session, the men had discussed it quite fully and some got up to say that they favour the plan as given. Assistant Overseer Nason Moyo explained it quite fully to them again; the question was put to vote and everybody agreed. *It was a great moment and we all were very happy.* (Missionaries will appreciate the force of this last statement. M. C. K.)

In the past month we have been conscious that God is working in our midst, working in a new way. We do not know all who have prayed for this, but we are sure that the prayers of the faithful in the church here have had a direct bearing upon these manifestations. I list just a few of these answers to prayer.

We were very much encouraged when we heard that Mr. Miyamoto's mother, who was saved last New Year's, voluntarily burned her god-shelf. She has not as yet submitted to baptism, but we believe that this is in God's plan for her and ask that you remember this dear sister in your prayers. Her daughter, Mr. Miyamoto's wife, who was saved the same evening was one of the recent candidates for baptism and is making great progress in her Christian experience. She has taken over the Sunday School started by her husband last winter and has expressed a desire to give herself wholly to Christian work.

For some time the church has been asking God to send new workers to Hagi, and this prayer has been answered abundantly in the coming of the Books and also in the coming of Kanakubo-san.

During this quarter I had a great privilege—that of baptising a girl who had despaired of her life, had run to Tokyo, and there in answer to prayer, had been led to Christ through the work of MCC. When we succeed in bringing God's salvation to such as she, we feel that our work in Japan is very worthwhile.

Another indication of the Spirit's working in our midst is seen in the fact that Mr. Aburatani, who hitherto had not followed the Lord in baptism because of the ancestor problem, was baptized. It is in his home that Thelma Book and Kanakubo-san now conduct a weekly Bible Class, planned especially for Mrs. Aburatani and her neighbors.

Mr. Sugiyama, who has had contact with the mission from its beginning and who at times almost despaired of life because of his tremendous physical handicap, continues to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Saviour. Only recently he took a great step forward when he saw his privilege to surrender himself completely to God's Will. He was the third member of the baptismal group.

Another important move was the expansion of the African treasurer's responsibilities. The treasury is to include the Christian Workers' Fund and other needed funds. A missionary counselor will help and keep bank account, if desired. There will be double signing of all cheques. The Church Executive Committee will decide

how money is to be spent.

The thirteen lay members of the Committee were installed in an impressive service in the evening session, which was climaxed by Mfundisi Kumalo's sermon on "Standing Fast in the Faith."

Conference Reporters:

Dorothy Martin and Nancy Kreider



Delegation Homeward Bound! The Hostetters and Lenherts boarding plane at Bulawayo Airfield.



The three I-W boys at our missions in Africa: Keith Ulery, Joe Ginder, Don Zook.