

# The Canada Lutheran

*"The Faith of our Fathers in the Language of our Children."*

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## Minute Men

God is not nearly so much interested in what we do for Him as what we let Him do for us. This truth does not "appeal" to most people. The idea they like is that they can do great things for God. That appeals to their pride, their self-respect, their strength, their resourcefulness. And so of course this constitutes the false message of Satan's appeals to men,—his substitute for true religion. "Get busy for God," says Satan, "and you will be alright." That is not God's Gospel, or Good News, to men. Rather we may reverently say, God is saying to men: "I have 'gotten busy' for you; I have done everything that can be done for you,—and that you never do for yourselves,—even to the laying down of the life of my only begotten Son in your place, that you might live; and every moment through Him I am supplying your every need. Will you accept this?" The answer God longs for from each one of us, is first of all that we accept the finished work that has been wrought for our salvation and redemption through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ; and then that we accept, moment by moment, God's continual meeting of all our needs through Christ. As a Christian woman well has said: "Minute men in grace we must be, receiving fresh supplies every second. He is loaded with them for us!" Moment by moment we are to glory in our weakness, that the power of Christ may rest upon us. Then of course we can, and we ought to do things for God; yet even then it will not be we, but Christ in us,—"for it is God who worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure" (Phil. 2:13). The secret of our ceaseless efficiency for God is our ceaseless dependence on God.—The Sunday School Times.



## SERMONETTE.

The Threefold Work of the Holy Spirit. (John 16: 8-11).

The Holy Spirit is doing a work here for which it seems He will get little credit. In Gen. 6: 3, Jehovah said: "My Spirit shall not always strive with man." Since the fall of man the Holy Spirit has tried to check the mad career of the fallen race. The people had the warnings and the promises of God, besides witnesses like Abel, Seth, Enoch, Noah. Yet every way of man's heart was evil continually."

God's judgments fell upon stony hearts and His mercy upon deaf ears. Without doubt the striving of the Holy Spirit has continued from the fall and will continue to the end through every successive stage of world's history. We know that the nations as such have not given heed to God's message. Only individuals have been called out of the mass. It was the same with Israel; it is the same with the people now. The masses do not stop to consider the work of the Holy Spirit.

He will, therefore, convict the world of three things: (1) of sin, (2) of righteousness, (3) of judgment.

1. The Lord tells us that the Holy Spirit will show up this world-system in its true light. And though He is ever ready to act the Comforter to a soul crying for deliverance, He is also ready to convict the other side of the sin in not accepting Christ.

Those that receive Christ as the sole and ever-present Redeemer who cleanses and keeps cleansing from sin, are called believers. While those who reject the Gospel and despise the ways of God are called unbelievers; and these unbelievers are only found in Judaism and Christendom. And these the Holy Spirit convicts of the sin of not believing in Christ. He brings this one fact to bear upon man's conscience,—“What shall I do with Jesus?”

The Lord in His work and person stands in the midst of humanity like the mighty rock in the ocean of time. Everyone has to face that question: “What think ye of Christ?” Everyone has to make a decision regarding Him. What is He to you and me? There are many questions arising in the course of time, I can answer them in my way or let them alone, it does not matter so much; but there is one

question, paramount above all others, which I have to settle once for all: “What shall I do with Jesus?”

Sure some, yea many, will endeavor to evade this issue and answer with Pilate: “What is truth,” “Who is this Jesus” that I should concern myself about Him? But though the answer may be deferred or rejected, it is bound to thrust itself upon me in the time of trial, in the hour of death and this the Holy Spirit will do so long until the sinner is either brought to a realization of this greatest of all sins of having lived without God and Christ, and crying out from the bottom of his heart: “O Jesus, Thou Son of the Living God, have mercy upon me!” or until man rejects the witness of the Holy Spirit and seals his own doom, as Stephen set forth. Acts 7: 51-53.

2. “The Holy Spirit will convict the world of righteousness.” Acts 2: 24, 32, 33. In the Lord Jesus righteousness has been offered to every man, i.e., through Jesus and His Blood every man can get right with God.. He cannot get right with God in any other way, for there is no righteousness in man worth speaking of. Man by nature is unrighteous, for his heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked. Mat. 7: 21-23; Rom. 3; Eph. 2: 1, 12; 4, 17-19. But from the days of Cain until now natural man has lived to make himself appear better in the sight of God than he is. And even when the Gospel truth is presented, man holds it down in unrighteousness.

Now, if man by nature is unrighteous, how can he do a righteous act? Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? “Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard his spots? Then you also can do good, who are accustomed to do evil.” Jer. 12: 23. Man may do things which he considers righteous, but in God's sight all our righteousness is as filthy rags (Isa. 64: 6), and God does not look upon the outward appearance, but upon the heart (1. Sam. 16: 7, and Gal. 5: 19-21). Now when the fountain is poisoned, how can the stream be pure? It is impossible for man to establish his own righteousness. What now?

The Holy Spirit is going to convict man that there was once upon the earth righteousness, revealed and personified in the blessed Son of God. But the world would not have Him. The world treated the only true, pure and righteous man that ever lived upon the earth, as a malefactor and blas-



phemer against God. That was their estimation of Him, and they were not content until they had seen Him nailed to the cross.

But God has raised Him up and exalted Him on high. The righteousness that the world would not have, God has received into heaven and enthroned Him there.

What an awful conviction of the world's sin!

But the gift of the righteousness of Christ is for everyone who will have Him. In Him my sins, my transgressions, my iniquity, my misery is all covered and put aside, but not only this—but Christ's righteousness is put upon me like a rich and ample garment to cover all my shame and sin. (1. John 2: 2; Eph. 2: 4-9).

3. The Holy Spirit will convict the world of Judgment. For a world that has no righteousness of its own and which will not accept Christ's righteousness, there is only one thing left and that is judgment. And this the Holy Spirit brings home to a world, which still lies under the influence of the wicked one. He tried in various ways to bring to nought God's plan of salvation, but failed from the very start. Then he finally entered Judas to make sure of attaining his fiendish end; but in the very hour of his greatest apparent triumph, his dream drew nigh. Though he had bruised the heel of the woman's seed, yet his own head was crushed by Christ, the Risen Saviour!—and now since the prince of darkness has fallen under judgment, to which every true believer is a living witness, having escaped the snares of the evil one, how can his subjects hope to escape? If the mighty one had to succumb to the Mightier One, how and where will the puny man hide himself from the face of Him, to Whom all power is given in heaven and on earth? (Rev. 6: 15-17.)

And what a promise of deliverance to the followers of Jesus! There is deliverance for me from all the powers and wiles of darkness, if I do but accept the judgment of the Cross and flee in faith to the One, who has ransomed me from the snares of sin, from the results of my unrighteousness and from the power of judgment, hell and Satan! (Eph. 6: 10-12; Rom. 8).

Ph. Lamartine, Montreal.

### COURAGE FROM PRAYER.

I have known men of a naturally timid and sensitive disposition, who have grown at moments lionlike in

courage, and they would tell you that courage came to them in prayer. I have known one man who found himself face to face with a duty which was unexpected and from which he shrank with all his soul. I have known that such a one has prayed that the duty might not be pressed upon him and yet that if it were he might be given strength to fulfill it. The duty still confronted him. In trembling and in much dismay he undertook it; and when the hour came it found him calm and equable in spirit, neither dismayed nor demoralized by fears.—Bishop of Ripon.

### WILLOWDALE PARISH.

(Continued from last issue.)

"Now, another important matter mentioned in this article, is the salary question. It certainly must be very embarrassing, very unpleasant for a pastor to be compelled to beg, as it were, the people for what is justly his own, and should be paid promptly when due without a request on his part. Now, I like the plan spoken of in the article. It is simply this: Every three months—I am inclined to think every month would be better—a cheque for the full amount due should be sent to him. He sends back a receipt, and that ends the matter."

"A man can't live on air, it is true," said Mr. Right, "and it is certainly unpleasant for a pastor to be compelled to get into debt for the necessaries of life. However unwilling he may feel to do so, he must take the question of pecuniary support, more or less, into consideration."

"There are many other things of which we might speak—our own personal manner towards him, the manner in which we speak of his sermons and work, the cheerful willingness with which we labor together with him, the attention given to his preaching or private admonition, or requests, and the earnestness with which we seek to embody in our own daily lives the blessed truths learned from his lips. We might, with profit, speak at length of all of them; but, as he is coming now, we can not do so this evening."

And Aunt Nettie went forward with a beaming face, and the warmest words of welcome, to greet her tardy guest, who, accompanied by his wife, just then entered the room. Then followed the necessary preparations for the coming Easter festival, which proved to be the grandest ever celebrated in Willowdale.—The Lutheran.



## THE CANADA LUTHERAN

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### EDITORIAL.

**Mr. C. H. Stiver.**—In the death of Mr. C. H. Stiver, of Unionville, the Lutheran Church of Central Canada loses a pillar on which it has rested trustfully for many years. He was a leader in his own home Church where his work in the Sunday School, on the Church Council, in the Choir, in the Luther League and wherever practical spiritual activity was called for, was always of telling worth. He was one of the fathers of the Synod of Central Canada and served on its Executive Committee until his death. He helped to establish our Seminary at Waterloo and was an active member of the Board. He was the first president of our inter-Synodical Lutheran Laymen's Movement. His influence was always exerted in the interests of a positive, aggressive Christianity and he served at all his posts with a most unusual Christian consistency. He was surely one of our leading laymen and probably the greatest of them all. His loss is a severe blow to the whole Church. May the memory of his excellent life stimulate many to greater service in Christ's kingdom.

**Salary Increases.**—"You know I have a family of four children now and we really could not live on less,"

said a village school teacher whose salary had been raised to nearly sixteen hundred dollars a year. When the war broke out he received twelve hundred dollars and even sixteen hundred was not its equivalent under present conditions. A comparison of prices will show that in those food-stuffs that are indispensable on the simplest of tables there has been an advance in cost of one hundred and even one hundred and fifty per cent. Other commodities of life are more or less in proportion. The call on the individual's purse has also been greatly increased by other conditions resulting from the war. Periodically special contributions are solicited for this and that "worthy cause" and "tag days" have become so numerous that one is apt to be intercepted in one's progress on a city street at any time. Of this we do not complain for there is need, but we cannot refrain from remarking that with all these enlarged and increased outlets a hint that there should be a corresponding improvement of the inflow receives but little attention in many quarters. The advances in the prices of life's necessities mean enlarged incomes for those who produce them and while it is true with them also that the means of exchange has depreciated in value conditions show that such people are adding to their bank accounts and some even are picturing themselves in comfortable retirement. Adjustments have been found necessary in most vocations, why should others be ignored simply because the labourers bear their burdens with more patience? Of course we know a pastor's salary is not supposed to be paid on the ordinary basis of equivalents because the spiritual labors in which a pastor is engaged cannot be valued in material things. Nevertheless a pastor should be paid a salary adequate for his "comfort" that he may be relieved as much as possible of financial embarrassment while in service. We believe the time has come when congregations generally must seriously consider the alternative of paying larger salaries or being without pastors altogether for while the spirit of the pastor and his wife is willing to sacrifice the comfort and education of their children must be considered as well as the community respect which is a great factor in the pastor's usefulness.

**Our Conventions.**—It is to be expected that under the abnormal conditions that continue to prevail among



us in consequence of the war many reports to be presented at our coming conventions will be lacking in the buoyant tone begotten of normal progress. We must anticipate abnormal conditions under abnormal times, our populations have fluctuated greatly partly because of the direct toll of the war and partly because of a general restlessness born out of war conditions. Some localities have suffered more than others. We believe, nevertheless, that, if we are quite sincere we must bear testimony to a most wonderful measure of Divine mercy. Our sufferings are not to be compared with those of our brethren in many other parts of the world. Our people have been chastened but not destroyed. Our organizations have escaped dissolution, our apportioned funds have in many cases been fully raised. The Word of God has been preached in all our churches and our homes have been left inviolate. These divine favours are great beyond words and our gratitude ought to be of corresponding greatness. It would be sin to nurture and give expression to complaints. Pessimism in a Christian is proof of a weak faith and so much has happened to sustain us in our faith that it were worse than a pity to harbor anxious fears regarding our future. God's message comes with the same freshness and life as has always characterized it. Christ's commission to extend His Kingdom appears more urgent than ever and His promises will not fail. Let us then face conditions at Synod and elsewhere with Christian steadiness believing that all things work together for good to those who love God.

**Comply.**—Conscription of men, new taxes, daylight saving, food restrictions and other laws to which Canadians have been strangers hitherto have been passed with startling suddenness. We may not like them. They place restrictions on individual freedom that we did not think would have been called for in Canada. The end they seek, however, is good. Faced by a stern menace we are called upon to resort to stern measures of defence. As Christians we will submit to and comply with the laws of our land. It is also to be expected of enlightened people that they give scope to their own resourcefulness in promoting the nation's interest. One of the urgent duties of the moment is to help in the great task of food production and food conservation. Another duty is to endeavour to dissipate discontent. One

of the greatest is to resist all spiritual and moral compromise to which, in many forms, the times tempt us all. Fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

**"Lest We Forget."**—The Canada Lutheran in every home.

#### CENTRAL CANADA SYNODICAL SECRETARY'S NOTES.

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Central Canada will hold its tenth annual convention in St. Peter's Church, Williamsburg, Rev. J. Maurer, pastor, on June 2-5 next. Every congregation is respectfully urged to make necessary preparations to ensure a good meeting. Send delegates. See that your apportionments are paid and your statistics carefully compiled. Send one report on Statistics to Secretary Willison at Unionville, and one to Rev. E. H. Beckman, Galt, two weeks before meeting of Synod. All committees will please see that their reports are prepared and presented in as concise a form as possible. Let us have as good a meeting as possible.

N. WILLISON, Secretary.

#### Not a Prince, But a Sinner.

It is recorded that when the father of the late Queen Victoria, the Duke of Kent, lay dying, he expressed some anxiety about his soul. His doctor endeavoured to comfort him by reminding him of how admirably he had deported himself in the conspicuous position in which he had been placed in the world. But the duke checked him, saying, "No, doctor, if I am to be saved, it is not as a prince, but as a sinner."

#### The War of Nations.

Who loosed the war-dogs, long so still,  
To ravage land and sea at will?  
Comes hate and blood-shed from above,  
From God, the source of peace and love?  
Ah, well He might, in righteous wrath,  
Now mark for us this gory path:  
For we so oft from Him have strayed,  
Decoyed by idols we have made.  
O may we, chastened by Thy rod,  
Return to Thee, our Lord and God;  
Thou speed the day when gun and sword  
Shall be forgot; when peace, restored,  
Shall heal again the bleeding race,  
With gentle hand its scars efface.  
—Lutheran Church Herald.



## CHURCH NEWS AND NOTES

Edited by Revs. E. Hoffmann, D.D., and W. H. Knauff.

### PARISH BUDGETS.

**Brantford.**—March has been the banner month for St. Matthew's. Her services were well attended and her income through plate and envelope the best in her history. Two Holy Week services brought an average attendance of fifty. On Easter Sunday the Pastor was assisted by Rev. S. W. Hirtle, who preached an interesting sermon at the evening service. Thirty-six persons communed and three new members were received. The altar was covered with a nice new linen cloth beautifully embroidered with cross and cup design, the gift of Mrs. O. Borgerson. Both the pulpit and the lectern wore new red coverings elegantly worked in gold, the gifts of Mrs. J. B. Pickering. Many flowers beautified the chancel arrangements. The Luther League met at the home of Miss Lucy Clark on April 1st. Delegates were elected to the coming convention of the Canada League; \$7 were devoted to the Seminary, and a decision was reached to begin holding regular weekly devotional services. The Ladies' Aid met in monthly session as guests of Mrs. O. Strand. There was a large attendance. One new member was received. Twenty-five dollars were granted to our Church Council to meet necessary expenditures. At its April meeting the Church Council authorized the payment of all Synodical apportionments for the first time in the history of the congregation.—Well done, Brantford.—Ed.

Recently several out of town Lutherans have been visitors at our services. We wish that all Lutherans who frequently spend a week-end in the Telephone City would seek out St. Matthew's, where a hearty welcome awaits the min the good Lutheran way.

**Buttonville.**—The April meeting of the Ladies' Aid was held at the home of Mrs. Ed. Fierheller with all the members present. The sum of \$5 was voted to the Church Council for Synodical benevolences. The apportionment has now been fully met by the congregation.

**Dunbar.**—The Church Council met at the regular meeting, April 1st. They are to canvass the entire congregation the following week. By united effort of every member, next year should prove one of the most successful years in the congregation, and it can be done by God's help and our endeavors. As soon as the weather permits all the teams possible will turn out to help level the church grounds. The Ladies' Aid and Missionary Society met at the home of Mrs. Ira Dillobaugh. The Society has contributed a small amount to the various appeals made. Services were held on Good Friday when Mr. and Mrs. Frank Warren joined the Church. God be with them in all their doings, and may they more fully realize that uniting with the Church involves responsibility.

The Sunday School has changed the Primary department to meet in the parsonage instead of in the church, a wise change. Mrs. Sorensen and Miss Anna Froats have charge of the children, besides the regular lesson they teach them hymns, to sing and to pray. The Luther League met at Mrs. Wm. Merkley, the attendance was small owing to its being Easter week, yet four new members were added to the roll.

Mrs. Ira Weezar is expected any day to undergo another operation, she is to be taken to Cornwall Hospital. Pray that she may be well soon. Much sickness has been reported lately from which the patients are speedily recovering. Mrs. Wm. Pemberton has lost her beloved father through sudden death. We are glad to announce that Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Merkley, both active in the Church, have moved from Russell to Dunbar.

**Galt.**—On Palm Sunday the catechetical class was publicly examined at the morning service and the pastor presented each catechumen with a copy of the Church Book. Services were held each evening during Holy Week with good attendances. Easter Sunday both services were exceptionally well attended. The church was beautifully decorated by the ladies with flowers and plants, while covering the front wall was a large Easter scenic back ground, the gift of the



Upstreamer and Rosebud classes of our Sunday School. At the morning service the class of seven young people was confirmed and Holy Communion was administered of which sixty persons partook, this being the largest communion since the present pastor took charge of the work here over three years ago. At the evening service on Easter Sunday the choir gave a fine programme of beautiful Easter numbers.

The campaign of education leading up to the Every-Member Canvass to be held on April 28th is in progress. The pastor is preaching missionary sermons. The men are being prepared for the canvass. Educational literature is being distributed and everything is being thoroughly organized. The budget totals \$2,000 for local work and \$500 for benevolence and includes an increase of \$200 in the pastor's salary, voluntary increases in almost all of our apportioned causes and the raising of \$200 for local benevolence,—\$2,500 is the "top," but we hope to "go over the top." Two of our men have already expressed a desire each to contribute \$100 for local work in addition to benevolence this coming year. The men of the congregation having caught the spirit of service have also expressed a desire to organize themselves into a Laymen's Brotherhood. The power of prayer is being emphasized throughout this campaign.

On April 10th the catechetical class of '16 entertained the newly confirmed class of '18 together with their S. S. teachers at the home of the pastor. A very pleasant evening was spent. Parlor games were played and light refreshments were served. During the evening the pastor was made the recipient of a beautiful appropriately engraved gold watch in addition to a cash gift. The presentations were made by Lloyd Gehman and Daisy Maxwell while Henry Miller read a neat address in verse form. The pastor responded feelingly in a few appropriate words.

The Happy Thought Girls entertained the teachers and officers of the Sunday School to a pleasant social evening at the home of Mrs. Van Every on April 17th. The Sunday School has decided to unite their treasury with that of the congregation during the coming year.

The Luther League is planning to entertain the convention on May 24-25. They are also looking forward to a Wiener Feed to be given by the

losers to the winners in the recent Canada Lutheran subscription contest. The Feed is to be held on April 24. The League has also appointed a committee to see about getting a new organ for the church.

The Ladies' Aid and Missionary Society voted \$5 for Slav Missions and a like amount for Foreign Missions at their last meeting. They also entertained the men of the church to a social evening and will provide supper for the canvassers on April 28th.

During the month four women of our congregation, Mesdames Wilford, Reinhart, Lemarble and Brown, gave the first afternoon tea in the history of the institution to the patients of the Women's Ward of the Galt Hospital. It was greatly appreciated both by the patients and the authorities and it is expected that others will do likewise.

Several of our members are at present on the sick list. Miss Anetta Dalgleish is recovering in a no less than miraculous way at the Woodstock General Hospital. Mr. Fred Schoenfeld having undergone a very serious operation is recovering nicely. Mr. Adam Kay is far from well. Mr. John Martz has been confined to his bed and Mr. and Mrs. Piehl, parents of Mrs. Otto Heise, are both very feeble.

On Sunday evening, April 14th, the Rev. M. Voelker of Preston, occupied our pulpit and preached a very fine sermon on Faith, while our pastor presented the cause of boys' work to his congregation. Quite a number from Galt attended the graduation exercises of Waterloo Seminary. Dr. Grenfell, of Labrador Mission fame, visited Galt during the month and gave an illustrated lecture on his work. And now we are looking forward to Synod. We close this year with all local debts paid and all our apportionments met in full or overpaid, and this all by the free-will offering method. God will bless us if we follow His directions.

**Guelph.**—Due to the willing offerings of the members of the congregation and an appreciated cheque from the Mission Board we have been able to meet all our pressing financial obligations for the time being. The services on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of Holy Week were well attended. On Palm Sunday the public examination of catechumens took place and five were confirmed. They were: Kathleen Wolfenberg, Alice



Keil, Laura Keil, Anna Berner and Emma Berner. On Easter Sunday Holy Communion was celebrated. It was most pleasing to pastor and people that the early ordination of Rev. Wahl, who had been student-pastor for two years, made possible the confirmation of the class and the celebrations of the Lord's Supper before his leave-taking.

"On Sunday evening the farewell sermon of Rev. H. H. Wahl was preached to the congregation of St. Paul's Eng. Lutheran Church of this city. Rev. Wahl served the congregation as student-pastor for the past two years, and has now accepted a call to the Conquerall parish, N.S., for which field he will leave shortly. In the morning Holy Communion was celebrated, at which time this year's catechetical class received the sacrament for the first time. The service was well attended, and the congregation enjoyed especially the solo rendered by Miss Edwards, of this city.

In the evening the pastor took as his farewell text the final words of Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians: "Finally, brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might." He presented Paul's strenuous Gospel message as particularly fitted for our day. A victory in our spiritual warring and wrestling is assured through the strength of our risen Lord and Saviour.

On Monday evening the congregation and friends gathered in the basement of the church to bid farewell to their pastor, and at the same time to welcome Mr. Cooper of the Waterloo Seminary as his successor. Mr. Cooper is a Canadian by birth, and comes from United Empire Loyalist stock. While completing his education he will serve the congregation here, being however, permanently resident here during the summer months.

The evening was spent in a sociable way. The following numbers on the programme were rendered and enjoyed by everyone: piano duet, Misses Liphart and Kempf; vocal solo, Pte. White, of the Convalescent Home; piano duet, the Misses Miller; vocal duet, Misses Scott and Briggs; vocal solo, Mr. Golding; vocal duet, Misses Booth and Berner; recitation, Adrienne Le Grande; trio, Misses Hollingshead, Barber and Mrs. Barber; vocal solo, Mr. Sanger; readings, Miss Joy Dainty; vocal duet, Messrs. Batterby and Weisner. After the programme was rendered the retiring pastor was

presented with an address and a purse. Mr. Cooper was introduced to the audience and spoke a few words of appreciation at the reception which had been tendered. The ladies of the church served refreshments. Mr. Batterby presided as chairman in a very efficient manner."—Mercury.

**Hamilton.**—Baptisms: During the month the following children were baptized—June Kathleen, child of Mr. and Mrs. Dr. C. J. Johannes; Elaine Flora, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Schnabel, and John, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Maus.

The month of March was one of the best months our congregation has had. Our attendances were commendable. The average attendance for the morning services was 96, while the evening services during the month showed an average of 116. The total offerings from all sources was over \$400, which is by far the highest monthly offering the treasury has ever enjoyed. The Senior Luther League has presented our congregation with a silk Union Jack. The flag is being made by Miss Alice Pierce, to whom also goes the honor of having made a goodly number of the flags floating over Hamilton's tallest buildings. The League's devotional meetings, with the exception of an occasional "off" evening, are also fairly well attended. Their objective to raise \$50 to present to the Church Council is going to be realized. Our Junior Luther League has also recommenced its meetings, which were suspended during the cold winter months. Our Ladies' Aid is progressing as usual. Great interest was shown in the Mission Study Class, which was held every evening during Lent.

**Humberstone.**—On Palm Sunday afternoon at 2.30 o'clock this year's class of catechumens was publicly examined and confirmed. Ideal weather a well filled church, beautiful anthems by the choir, and a helpful sermon for everyone by the pastor are some of the outstanding features. The names of those confirmed are: Arthur Mehlenbacher, Carl Cronmiller, Edna Knoll, Nettie Lampman and Gertrude Rathfoa. Easter Sunday another beautiful service was held in the morning at which a large number of members communed, also the newly confirmed. Services were also held Good Friday morning and evening. On April 2nd members of the L. L. surprised its president, Mr. O. C. N. Kanold, on the



occasion of his birthday. An enjoyable evening was spent. The monthly meeting of the League was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hanham, April 9th, with a good attendance. Considerable local business was transacted. On April 6th members of the Ladies' Aid Society surprised one of its members, Mrs. A. Mehlenbacher, on the occasion of her birthday. The ladies report an exceedingly good time. The monthly meeting of the Society was held in the Church on April 6th, with the vice-president, Mrs. C. Reichman, presiding. Considerable business was transacted. The quilt block for the Seminary Auxiliary was reported filled and worked and was forwarded to headquarters. The Society held its "Afternoon Gathering" at the home of Mrs. Kanold, April 16th. Baptized and made a child of grace, Easter Sunday, at the church service, Helen Jean, child of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Knoll.

**Montreal.**—The Swedes have had regular services for the month of March. On the 28th they organized a congregation with fifty communicant members. Rev. Swensson, who had been here to work up the field, expects to be called as permanent pastor some time this month. The Home Mission Board would prefer to see an amalgamation of our forces here in Montreal. Some men of means are supporting the movement. Swedes are found in Ottawa, Quebec and Three Rivers. These places are all to be looked after. Whether the work has any future, depends mainly upon the Swedish residents themselves. The Danes have for years done some mission work. A lay missionary had regular services on Sundays. About fifteen to twenty people attended. But since the removal of Mr. Sweet, the mission has almost come to a standstill.

The Church of the Redeemer has had trying times during the fourteen years of its existence. And those members who have been faithful from its start, deserve all the credit for their courage and fidelity. They hope to see the day, when their strenuous efforts in behalf of their church shall be rewarded by the amalgamation of our forces here in Montreal. We have had well attended Lenten services every Wednesday evening. On Good Friday the factories and stores had closed down. We had a blessed gathering. Many had come to hear anew the story of the Cross. On

Easter Sunday a class of seven young people was confirmed. The examination had taken place on Palm Sunday from 10.30 to 12 in the morning. The Lord favored us with ideal weather. The attendance was very good. The service had the jubilant ring of Easter. A number of new members was also received into church fellowship. The Canada Lutheran is read in every household of our congregation.

**St. Lawrence Parish.**—St. Paul's Morrisburg. The congregation has been faithful in attendance at the Lenten services, and at Easter a record attendance turned out for communion. Confirmation of several prospective members will take place on Pentecost. The Ladies' Aid and Missionary Society is active and will with the other organizations of the church carry on extensive repairs in the parsonage this spring. The Luther League meets regularly. At its last meeting Miss Louise Merkley, its president was elected as delegate to the coming Luther League Convention to be held in Galt on the 24th of May. A canvass is taking place for the purpose of cancelling an indebtedness of \$300, occasioned by the decorating and remodelling of the church.

This congregation has lost one of its most valued members in the death of Mrs. Walter Beckstedt. After a long and painful illness, Mrs. Beckstedt passed away on March 16th, and was buried by the pastor, assisted by the Rev. L. M. McCreery, on the 19th of March. Mrs. Beckstedt was for years a member of the Ladies' Aid and Missionary Society. She held for a long period the office of President and did a most excellent work in that organization. At the time of her death she held the office of Honorary President of the Society. Of her it can be truly said, "Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord from henceforth. Yea saith the Spirit, and their works do follow them." The heartfelt sympathy of the congregation and pastor goes forth to the bereaved.

**St. John's, Riverside.**—The every member canvass for current expenses and benevolences took place during the week of March 25th, and was most successful. There is an increase of over a hundred per cent. reported over the old system of collectors. Catechetical classes are organized and confirmation will take place at Pentecost. Plans for the re-modelling of the church are being considered, and the work will soon be commenced.



Mr. and Mrs. Alva Beckstedt and daughter have returned to Froatburn after living for six years at Salt Lake City, Utah. A hearty welcome was given them by members and friends of the congregation, who presented them with a fine arm chair and rocker. They will be a big help to our congregation here.

This congregation also lost one of its members by death, in the person of Roy Casselman. Roy passed suddenly away being ill for just one week. He was a young man, 22 years old, and an energetic worker in the church. He was a faithful member of the church and Sunday school, and at the time of his death was treasurer of the Sunday school. Mr. Casselman had a host of friends, who keenly feel his loss. Our deepest sympathies are extended to his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Casselman.

**Preston.**—The monthly meeting of the Women's Missionary Society was held at the home of Mrs. Hostrawser and Miss Martin (sisters), on the evening of March 27th, with a good attendance. During the month of March the ladies of the church sewed 76 suits of pyjamas, 96 personal bags and 228 handkerchiefs. All the material for the bags was donated. On March 22nd, Mrs. David Driever, the mother of our Sunday school superintendent, was laid to rest. Had she lived one day longer she would have reached her 86th birthday. She was a member of the Ladies' Aid Society for many years, and as long as her health permitted was a faithful attendant at church.

**Sherwood.**—Mary Louise, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Fry, was baptized at their home on April 27th. Our League has taken on new life and five new members have been received. The Ladies' Aid voted \$10 to the Rajahmundry Hospital at their last meeting. They also packed boxes for our soldiers.

**Stratford.**—The past month saw a general activity among the members of Zion Church. The Sunday school rooms have been newly painted by the teachers and thus greatly improved in appearance and cheerfulness. Two Sundays before Easter a general canvass was undertaken for local purposes which proved a great success in

raising funds and enthusing the new members. Easter Sunday will remain a red letter day in the history of this congregation. During the morning services the pastor dedicated the first memorial windows of the church. One representing Christ's death with the crown of thorns and situated above the altar was presented by Mrs. Emma Soeder in memory of her husband, William, who met sudden death on November 17, 1917. The other on the east side representing the risen Christ and donated by Mr. Conrad Dannecker in loving memory of his father who died December 20, 1917. Both windows were supplied by the N. T. Lyon Co., of Toronto. We all rejoice and feel proud of this new addition to the beautiful appearance of the church. Holy Communion was celebrated at both morning and evening services. In the evening Student Irschick occupied the pulpit. Confirmation will take place two Sundays after Easter, on which occasion the Lord's Supper will be administered to the confirmands and their relatives.

Baptisms: March 17th, Ruth Aletha, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Elligsen; April 7th, Evelyn Mary, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gottlieb Pommer. April 14th, Wilfred Peter, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Lingelbach. Confirmed: April 14th, Theodore Hutton, Adolf Reiman, Alfon Leibhold, John Klaehn, Edw. Kinberger, Ruth Schellenberger, Edna Eickmeier, Beatrice Loth. Funerals: Feb. 19th, Catharina Sophia Freier, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Freier. The deceased died in Toronto, where she went to undergo a treatment for a seemingly insignificant ailment. Her death was quite unexpected and sudden and came as a great shock not only to her bereaved parents, brother and sister, but also to her many friends, especially in the congregation, where she was most active in S. S. and Y. P. S., Altar Guild and Choir. She will be greatly missed by all. May God comfort all, who are mourning her early departure. Her age was 22 years, 11 months, 6 days. March 27, Mrs. George Neigh, nee Studer, mother of Mr. George Neigh, Sr. The deceased was a woman of high character, most lovable and kind to all. She was 86 years, 20 days of age when called home to the Father's mansions and liberated from her sufferings, which she bore for many years. She will long be remembered by her son, two daughters, 15 grand children and 24 great grand children, also by a host of devoted friends. Rev. 2, 19.



**Unionville.**—It is with profound sadness that we record the death of Mr. C. H. Stiver, which took place under most distressing circumstances, on April 15th. For nearly a year he had suffered from a malignant form of melancholia that finally forced his own hand against himself. He was fifty years old. No man was better and more favorably known in his own community and far beyond it. For nineteen years he had been clerk of Markham township and one of its prominent business men. From his youth he had been a faithful and enthusiastic member of the Lutheran Church, not only in his own parish, but in the province. He was a leader of vision, courage and steadiness. For many years he was the Secretary of Markham Township Sunday School Association. His life was consistent with his profession and his memory will be cherished in many places. He leaves a widow, three sons—one of whom is overseas, two daughters, two sisters, and one brother. The funeral which was strictly private, took place on April 19th. Among the floral tributes was a wreath from Bethesda congregation and one from the Synod of Central Canada. May God in His own way comfort the bereaved.

At the Easter service Mrs. Melissa Stiver was received into membership of the Church by confirmation and Mr. Albert Christiansen by renewing his confession. An infant daughter has come to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Harper. Pte. Orval Stiver has gone overseas and Ptes. Ross Summerfeldt, Murray, George and Will Summerfeldt are in khaki. Others may yet have to go. That makes twelve from our little congregation. All our apportionments have been paid.

**Welland.**—St. Matthew's Church here feels that its existence in the city is justified by the appearance now and again of strangers (Lutherans) who upon taking up residence in the city, seek out the Lutheran Church. Palm Sunday we had with us Miss Schultz, of our sister congregation in Hamilton, who is teaching school in the country about Welland. She accompanied the Pastor to Humberstone for the confirmation service in the afternoon. On April 7th, Mrs. Bruhn, of Waverly, Iowa, attended our service. She has recently, after the death of her husband, come to live with her daughter and son-in-law in the city. Be-

sides this other Lutheran visitors have attended our services. We hope to gather the resident Lutherans into the fold. God grant a ready response. A beautiful service was held Easter Sunday night. Members had loaned their Easter lilies and flowers for beautifying the church. Easter ended the special gathering-in of contributions towards the relief of our congregation at Halifax. Throughout Lent members contributed through the duplex envelope towards this cause and \$31.30 was realized. The reorganized choir, under the leadership of the organist, Miss Dair, assists materially to beautify the services by contributing an anthem each Sunday in acceptable style. The L. L. met at the home of Mrs. Vanderburg as guests of Miss Fl. Cronmiller, April 8th. There was a fair attendance, the topic "Lutheran Church Union" was discussed with profit, and a social hour spent. The Ladies' Aid and Missionary Society met at the home of Mrs. Guinther, with a very good attendance. One new member was received. The guilt block was reported filled and worked and with the money was forwarded to the Seminary Auxiliary. The names were most beautifully stitched, the work of Mrs. Guinther. Baptized and made children of grace, Sunday, April 7th, at the church service, Steve, child of Mr. and Mrs. M. Shurek. Also in the afternoon in the home of the parents, Vera Cathlene, and Raymond Wellington, children of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kelly (nee Rita Horton). Holy Communion was administered in the Church, April 7th.

**Williamsburg.**—The angel of death came to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Whitteker on Thursday, Mar. 14th and took away their little infant daughter, Nina Edith, aged eight months, after only a couple of days illness. Our sympathy is extended to the bereaved parents. Several others of our members have, during this past month, received the sad news of the death of near and dear ones who have been called away from this earth. May God comfort these and all who mourn. Owing to the stormy weather on March 3rd, there were no services morning and evening. Owing to the shortage of fuel we were compelled to hold the Sunday school in the main auditorium and the Luther League and other meetings at the parsonage. We are happy to meet in our regular quarters again. The flower commit-

(Continued on page 16)



## WOMEN'S MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

Conducted by Mrs. N. Willison, Unionville, Ont.

### CONVENTION.

Our W. M. S. Convention will be held at Williamsburg the first week of June. Let every society be represented so a full and inspiring convention will be the result.

### Our Mission Forces.

Twenty-four missionaries in India: 8 ordained, married men; 2 ordained, unmarried men; 1 unordained, married man (now in America); 13 single women missionaries. 563 native pastors and helpers.

Six missionaries in Japan, all ordained and married men. Two native pastors.

One native Catechist in Rangoon, Burma.

### Our Mission Churches.

Baptized Christians in the Telugu Mission, India, 25,047. Additions by baptism in 1916, 1,439.

Baptized Christians in our Japan Mission, 53. Additions by baptism in 1916, 21.

The Mission Districts in our Telugu Mission are: Rajahmundry, Dowlaishwaram, Samulkot, Bhimawaram, Tadepalligudem, Tallapudi, Korukonda and Jaggampet. The Mission Stations in Japan are: Tokyo, Nagoya and Toyohashi.

### Our Mission Institutions.

The institutions in our Telugu Mission are: At Rajahmundry the Boys' Central School with 189 pupils, the Girls' Central School with 239 pupils, the Hindu Girls' School with 471 pupils, the Training School for Masters with 156 pupils, the Theological Class with 6 pupils, and the Hospital for Women and Children, where 1,023 patients were treated in 1916. At Peddapur there is a Boys' High School with 565 pupils, and at Bhimawaram another with 610 pupils. In connection with the Hospital an orphanage is conducted.

The institution in Japan, supported by the three co-operating American Lutheran Missions is the Kyushu Gakuin at Kumamoto, island of Kyushu, with a middle school department of 575 pupils. Our Board maintains one foreign professor-missionary in this school and pays one-third of its running expenses.

### Medical College for Women, Vellore, India.

Our Mission in India and the Board of Foreign Missions have taken favorable action, urging co-operation in this college and the General Council has sanctioned it. Dr. Betty A. Nilsson writes: "Inasmuch as it has not been possible to secure a doctor from America, we think it desirable and necessary that our Mission should help in this enterprise, so that in the future we may be able to get doctors for our medical work from this College." The Women's Missionary Society will raise \$1,000 a year for this college by special contributions.

### MY OLD BIBLE.

'Tis a Bible old, and thumb'd and torn,

A Bible that's used and very worn,  
With line and crossings on every page,  
Burning thoughts; thoughts all pure,  
Pointings and marks on the good way  
sure,

Landmarks and road posts on  
Heav'n's way,  
Guiding and leading me every day.  
Oh yes, I love my old Bible well;  
Oft when I read it my heart doth  
swell

As I read my Title, all clear and sure,  
Lasting when kingdoms shall cease to  
endure.

Pointing to a Home in mansions  
bright,

Needing no sun, God being its light,  
Where lov'd ones meet on th' golden  
street,

And sighs and sorrows can no more  
meet.

But all its glory and light and bliss,  
In that happy home of righteousness.  
I love my Bible, 'tis God's good guide,  
With it, and God's Spirit by my side  
I must in the light of love abide.

'Tis a Chart, a Lamp, the Bread of life,  
Bringing me calm in the midst of  
strife;

Not for all the wealth of world would  
I

Relinquish this Golden Treasury.

—M. Tindale.

God wants you to be happy. You  
are not truly representing Him if you  
are not happy.—Ex.



## THE LUTHER LEAGUE DEPARTMENT

Conducted by Rev. E. H. Beckman, Box 152, Galt, Ont.

### THE CONVENTION.

The Executive Committee of the Canada Luther League met in Galt on Good Friday afternoon. It was decided to celebrate the tenth anniversary of this organization by holding a two-day convention in St. Paul's Church of Galt, on May 24-25. The keynote of the convention is to be "Strength in Unity." Two conferences are to be held on Saturday morning: (a) for Luther League workers, led by Harry Hodges, General Secretary of the Luther League of America, and (b) for Pastors, led by Rev. M. J. Bieber, D.D. Many important items of business were listed to come up at this convention. At the Grand Rally on the evening of May 24, Rev. M. J. Bieber, D.D., and Rev. John Schmieder, pastor-elect of St. Matthews Church, Kitchener, are expected to be the speakers. Two papers are to be presented: "Our Keynote," by Mr. S. Cooper, Student-Pastor at Guelph, and "Ten Years of Progress," by Mr. G. Prestien, of Hespeler. Programmes will be circulated just as soon as word is received from all the speakers. Don't forget to notify the Editor of this Department in good time if you purpose attending this convention.

### UNION.

The joint committee, representing the Luther League of Canada and the Canada Jugendbund met during the past month in St. John's Church, Waterloo. It was unanimously agreed that a union of these two organizations was very desirable and that articles of agreement leading to such a union should be drawn up and submitted to the conventions of the respective organizations concerned at their coming conventions on May 24-25 and Sept. 2. The preparation of the articles of agreement was left to the lay members of the committee present at the above meeting, they are: Messrs. Geelhaar and Gartung and Misses Wilker and Kern. This committee is now at work and will report at our convention.

### BOYS' WORK.

The men of our congregations who have the best interests of our boys at heart are becoming more and more interested in the movement that is now sweeping across the Dominion and enlisting the interests of the boys

everywhere. To the best of our knowledge Galt was the first of our Lutheran congregations in Canada to co-operate in this work. Then we heard that leaders in Trinity, Hamilton, were interested. Just recently the boys of St. John's Church, Waterloo, were lined up by men of that congregation for this work and last Sunday evening, April 14, the Editor of this Department was one of a quartette of outside speakers who invaded Preston in the interests of its boys. The writer had the pleasure of preaching on this subject to a full house in St. Peter's Church of Preston and many of the members realized more than ever before the value of the boy to the home, the church, the community, the Dominion and the world. This is a beginning. Others will follow, whether we will it or no. But will they follow intelligently according to the principles and practices of our Church? Is it not time that we have this work officially taken hold of and intelligently led? Let us act before it is too late. Our boys are worth as much to us as those of other churches are to them, but we don't act like it.

### STUDENT AID NOTES.

Yes, the College and Seminary at Waterloo are closed, but they're not going to remain closed. Next fall the doors will re-open. Our boys will return from farms, factories and parishes to resume their studies. New boys will join them, but a number of these will need our aid. A dollar from each Canadian Luther Leaguer would back these fellows with a Fund of which we could feel proud. They are giving their all. Will you remain at home depending upon them to come forth in a few years from Waterloo to care for the spiritual needs of yourself and your dear ones and not contribute a dollar to help them get the education necessary for that work of the future? Don't force us to beg for it longer. Send it along now. Our need for men was never greater than to-day. Pray and Pay that that need may be supplied.

Last month we reported receipts totalling \$87.70. Since then we received \$25 from Trinity, Hamilton, and \$1 from Rev. H. J. Behrens, Kitchener, for his membership. When will we get yours?



**WINNIPEG**

M. J. Bieber, D.D.

**The Congregation.**

The services on Palm Sunday and on Easter were, as everywhere, well attended. The weather was ideal. On Palm Sunday Mrs. F. Kreutzer, formerly a Baptist, was confirmed. (The family consisting of husband, wife and two little children, have since moved to Medicine Hat, Alberta. He was a member of the Church Council). At this service 96 were present and 81 at S. S. In the evening 71 attended. On Easter 125 were counted at the morning service and 110 at the Children's service in the evening. The offerings on this day amounted to almost \$400. Another member of the Council, J. P. Bensom (who was also superintendent of the Sunday school— with his wife and daughter, who was a teacher in the Primary department, moved to a farm in Crandall, Man. Another family, Johansen (whose son, Walter, is in the army) is moving upon a farm. A number of our people are leaving the city during the summer. Thus we are continually losing in man power. But God remains, and we must by His grace redouble our efforts to secure new members, arouse the indifferent, develop the efficiency of the faithful, and increase our subscriptions. It is marvellous what can be done where there is faith in God and love for His Church and hope in accomplishment.

**Woman's Missionary Society.**

The Society meets on the first Friday, 3 p.m., of each month at the members' homes. The meetings are always well attended, 21 at the first meeting. The topic "Prayer," was seriously discussed and specified objects of prayer by the members in their homes were decided upon. Almost all the members take the Mission Worker and all, the Topic books. The Society is a member of the city Red Cross and during the last Sunday of each month two of its appointed members take a Red Cross offering at the church doors after both services. In connection with the Luther League the Society will present the missionary pageant, "Christ in Canada," on Tuesday, 8.15 p.m., April 30th. The literature chairman and the calling committee are "on the job."

**Luther League.**

The League meets at the members' homes on the first Tuesday in each

month, 8.15 p.m. Twenty-five were present at the last meeting and two new members were received. The four regular topics were discussed. The finances are in good shape. The League is in touch with all its "boys" in the army. The members constitute the bulk of the performers in the "Missionary Pageant." Many of its members also constitute the Tennis Club, which has a fine court on the vacant lot adjoining the church.

**The Sunday School.**

This body is "the Church at School" and is adding new members each Sunday. Its goal is a \$5.00 offering each Sunday (and it has eclipsed it) and 85 in attendance and it has reached 82. Its aim had been 70, but of course it has raised its standard and is continually raising it. The School at its last business meeting (the second Tuesday in the month— appropriated \$38 towards the Synodical apportionment which is \$140.63 and of which \$38.60 now still remains unpaid, but which will be met (D.V.) by May 1, when the Synodical books close.

**Winnipeg.**

The city increased its population last year by 15,000 and now numbers 262,077. In 1917 there were 247,367 and in 1916, 239,079. The Temperance Act is rigidly enforced and no mercy is shown to offenders. Manitoba's Red Cross share was put at \$600,000 of which \$300,000 was assigned to Winnipeg. Last week Winnipeg raised \$700,000 as its share of the \$600,000. Nothing slow about Winnipeg. The weather also has been ideal. Though the winter was cold, February was mildest in three years, an average temperature of 2 degrees below zero. The city gave a rousing reception to its only V. C. hero, Capt. Christopher Peter O'Kelly, but 20 years old, who returned from France this week. He is a Roman Catholic and the Knights of Columbus, of which he is a member, made the most of it. But irrespective of nationality or creed, all honor to Capt. O'Kelly and his brave fellow Canadians! We prayerfully thank them.

**GLEANINGS FROM THE CANADA SYNOD.****St. Matthew's Church, Kitchener—**

We are exceedingly glad to report, that the call extended to the Rev. John Schmieder, of Philadelphia, has been accepted. He occupied the pul-



pit of St. Matthew's Sunday, April 7, and has won the hearts of his prospective congregation. The end of this month Rev. Schmieder will take unto himself a help-meet and immediately afterwards start for his wedding trip to Canada and make his home at 43 Alma Street, Kitchener. On Rogate Sunday, May 5th, the writer will have the pleasure and honor to officiate at his installation. May the tie that binds pastor and parish be a blessed and lasting one. The Lutherans of Canada join with St. Matthew's Church in extending a hearty welcome to Rev. Schmieder, who is of quite renowned clerical stock dating back several centuries. His great-grandfather was for many years one of the shining lights of the old country, till he died over a hundred years old, while his grandfather, also a well known and highly respected divine of the Lutheran Church, only recently departed this life at an age of more than 90. Truly the prospects of a pastorate of long duration are very bright for Rev. Schmieder and St. Matthew's Church.

**St. Peter's Church, Wiaraton.**—"The night of April 7th to 8th was disastrous for our congregation," writes the Pastor, Rev. Langholz; "our church was totally destroyed by fire." It is a very severe blow for the little flock at Wiaraton. It is almost a calamity, since conditions created by the war have reduced the numerical strength of the congregation to such an extent, that a re-building is almost out of question. It is very natural therefore, that the people are sorely depressed and perplexed and hardly in a position to make any definite plans for the future. They have our sincerest sympathy and prayers for Divine guidance, and if they are in need of more tangible assistance, we are sure, our Synod will cheerfully and liberally render such aid. The insurance on the destroyed building was quite insignificant and would scarcely cover one tenth of the amount required for a very modest place of worship. Nevertheless "This also cometh forth from the Lord of hosts, which is wonderful in counsel and excellent in working."

**Walkerton-Mildmay Parish.** — A praiseworthy forward step was taken by purchasing a fine parsonage in Walkerton, of which the new pastor, Rev. Lamack took possession in the Easter week. May it be a dwelling of peace to the pastor and a source of

blessing to the congregation! On one of the coming Sundays his pre-decessor, Rev. Mosig, will officiate at the Installation of Bro. Lamack.

**Rev. J. Schmidt,** of East Zorra, made another trip to far-off Massey in Northern Ontario, to administer the means of grace to our brethren in the faith in that isolated locality. They are joyfully looking forward to the services of one of our Waterloo students, who will be sent to work among them during the summer months, after a vacancy of fully two years.

**Conference.**—The Middle Conference of the Canada Synod held its spring meeting April 9th and 10th, in Trinity Church, New Hamburg. The attendance was first class, every member being present and besides three brethren of the Western Conference. Three papers were read, an exegetical one on Rom. 6, by Rev. Klaehn, a review on the new catechism recently published by a committee of the Synod, by Rev. Rembe, Sr., and a very elaborate essay on the proposed merger of the General Council, the General Synod and the United Synod of the South, by Rev. Brenner. In view of the fact that the respective District Synods at their pending annual meetings will have to express their attitude towards this most important question by voting for or against it, it is needless to say, that the discussion was a lively one and the opinions expressed were by no means all of the same tendency. The majority of those present did not conceal their dissatisfaction with the proposed merger, decidedly favoring the retention of the "status quo." To give all members of the Synod an opportunity to get thoroughly acquainted with the proposition before the vote of the Synod is taken, a general Pastoral Conference will be called immediately preceding the Synodical meeting for the purpose of preparing every one for an intelligent vote on this momentous question.

**Synodical Meeting.**—The 56th annual meeting of the Canada Synod will be held in St. James' Church, Elmira, beginning Wednesday, May 29th. Friday night will be reserved for a laymen's meeting, the main topic for discussion being "the Merger." Public services will be held every evening during the Convention.

**A Sunday School Convention** of the I. District of our Synod will take place in Trinity Church, Sebastopol, the Monday after Pentecost.



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## LETTER FROM NOVA SCOTIA.

Midville, N.S., April 15, 1918.

Dear Rev. Willison.

Arrived here at last after some difficulties and am beginning to establish myself. Circumstances down here are certainly different to anywhere in our Ontario congregations. It will take some time before I will feel quite at home. The people live so scattered that it will be a month before I will be able to look them all up. The country is very picturesque, stony, hilly, interspersed with lakes and fast flowing rivers. Hope to do some trout

fishing in a short while. Unfortunately the parish is extremely large so you cannot do justice to your work. Have to preach three times a Sunday. The roads are improving somewhat. Wishing God's richest blessings. Yours sincerely, Leon E. L. Irshick.

Williamsburg.

(Continued from page 11)

tee is to be congratulated on the tasteful manner in which the church was decorated for Easter Sunday. The services were most inspiring and impressive. The additions were the largest in the history of the congregation for many years. The offering was in accord with the occasion which amounted to about \$175. Rev. McCreery assisted the pastor.

The following persons were received into full membership on Easter:—By letter, Mrs. George L. Barkley and Mrs. Harry Bowman. Confirmation:—Allen Barkley, Franklin Whitteker, Bertram Whitteker, Walter Carl Whitteker, Walter Loucks, Roy Barkley, Bernice Barkley, Walter E. Whitteker, Wilford Whitteker, Frank Whitteker, Arnold Gordier, Charles Bouck, and Kenneth Pitts, Mrs. Ezra Garlough, Eva Bell Whitteker, Lera Whitteker, Jennie Shennette, Georgie Shennette, Ordell Shennette, Aggie Casselman, Nina Casselman, Annie Barkley, Mary Shennette, Helen Becker and Eva Whitteker.

On March 31st, the Pastor baptized John Herman, son of William and Martha Gordier. On Feb. 17th, Mr. George C. Stata and Aggie Garlough were married at the parsonage. Congratulations.

The Teachers' Training Class, under the able leadership of Mr. Linden Shennette, has completed the first book of the course. A number of the teachers will write on the examination which is to be held in the near future. May they all meet with success. The pastor spent April 9th and 10th in Ottawa in connection with Synodical matters.

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