

The Canada Lutheran


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

Vol. 7

GALT, MARCH, 1919

No. 5

At the Cross.



HE ONLY PLACE OF GREAT SECURITY IS AT THE CROSS. THERE LIFE, THE WORLD, GOD, HEAVEN, SIN AND DEATH APPEAR IN A LIGHT ENTIRELY DIFFERENT FROM THAT WHICH THEY ASSUME WHEN VIEWED FROM ANY OTHER POSITION. LET US THEN ABIDE THERE. THE EARTHLY INHERITANCE WHICH JESUS LEFT AND WHICH THE SOLDIERS DIVIDED WAS NOT LARGE. BUT THE INHERITANCE OF HEAVENLY BLESSING WHICH AT HIS DEATH ON THE CROSS HE BEQUEATHED TO HUMANITY IS SO MUCH GREATER. ONLY AT THE CROSS IS THIS INHERITANCE DISTRIBUTED. THROUGH THE GOSPEL THE WHOLE WORLD IS CALLED TO THE CROSS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DISTRIBUTION. AND AS THE COAT WAS NOT RENT, SO THE INHERITANCE OF SALVATION IS GIVEN WHOLE TO EACH ONE. WHAT FOLLY TO STRUGGLE FOR POSSESSION OF A FEW PERISHABLE THINGS OF LITTLE VALUE, AS DID THE SOLDIERS, AND IN SO DOING TO LOSE THE ETERNAL INHERITANCE FREELY OFFERED FROM THE CROSS.

—Hammersten.

SERMONETTE.

THE RELIGION NEEDED
TO-DAY.

By Camp Pastor J. J. Clemens.

"Jesus Christ, the same yesterday and to-day and forever."—Heb. 13:8.

The question is frequently asked these days: How is the present social upheaval going to affect religion? Some think that the religion of the so-called Christian or civilized countries in the world is going to be greatly changed or at least modified after the war. Others think that the old religion can stand the test to which it is being put and shall come out more popular than ever. They believe that there is going to be a great revival of the old evangelical Christianity.

In an editorial recently published in a conservative, orthodox religious journal this optimistic view of the present situation is expressed: "Not only the evil that is in the world is being brought to the surface, but the good as well. The horrors of the war have dispelled the illusion that human nature is essentially good and that the world's Augean stables can be cleansed with ethical and altruistic water. The old doctrine of the natural depravity of the heart and the need of regeneration which have been laughed and scoffed at by many; does not seem quite as untenable as it once was. The eyes of men once inclined to make light of sin and redemption have been opened by this terrible worldwide demonstration of the truth, that 'the heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked,' and that in it dwelleth no good thing and the way now seems open to drive home the other truth that what the world needs is the salvation purchased by Christ. The world now seems more ripe than ever for the message which the Church has to bring—that there is no hope for a really changed order apart from Christianity. The Church's great opportunity has arrived; and there is need of a renewed consecration to grasp it."

What is the ground for this belief? It is found in the fact stated in our text: "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to-day and forever."

To get our subject clearly before us let us consider a few correlative questions. First: What is religion? Religion has been defined as "a system of faith and worship." It is that, and more. Religion is life—spiritual life.

What is the object of true religion? It is, to bring man and his Maker into a closer fellowship with each other. God is a spiritual Being. Things spiritual must be spiritually discerned. By reason we know and understand things rational,—natural phenomena, etc. But, there are some things above and beyond the range of reason or human understanding. We speak of these as being super-natural, or above the natural. Christians 'walk by faith, not by sight.' Now, 'faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen.' Why do we believe that the Christian faith shall prevail? Our belief is based upon the fact that no other religion satisfies the religious aspirations and desires of man, i.e., his longing for fellowship with God, as the Christian religion.

The religion of the future and the religion which men most need also to-day must be sacramental and sacrificial. That is—it must offer channels through which God can come to men, and means through which men can come to God.

There is on earth an institution known as the Christian Church, to which God has committed the so-called means of grace—the Word of God and the holy sacraments: Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Through these means we believe man is brought into saving relationship with his God and Maker. Here is also given an opportunity for men to come to God and render Him the worship and service due His holy name.

We believe that Jesus Christ is the connecting link between man and God, the Son of God and the Son of Man, "the same yesterday, and to-day and forever," that He is what He proclaimed Himself to be "the Way, the Truth and the Life," through whom alone we can be saved from sin. On account of this our faith we firmly believe that the religion which Christ taught, both as to what we are to believe and what we are to do in order to be saved, is the religion needed to-day and to-morrow as much as it was needed yesterday.

PAYING FOR THE SERMON.

Rev. Charles A. S. Dwight,
Winchester, Mass.

Every good sermon must be paid for. This is true first of all in the literal sense. The labourer is worthy of his hire, even if he be a clerical labourer. The good sermon is a pro-

duct of much thought, deep reflection, long experience. Though perhaps the ink on the preacher's manuscript or scattered notes may have been dry only a day or two, the roots of that discourse may run far back into the preacher's past life, so that when he speaks the preacher is preaching himself—his best self, which has been wrung and wrought out of the fires and conflicts of many years. When, therefore, that sort of sermon is preached it has, for all self-respecting people, a market value.

The good sermon must also be paid for by the preacher himself. It must have taxed him somewhere, and very greatly. He must have given to it long study, many anxious questionings, many heartaches, much earnest prayer—and when it is delivered it (so to speak) takes the life-blood out of him. The preacher must buy his own sermon with the price of himself, for personality is among the heaviest costs of power.

The good sermon, furthermore, must be paid for in subsequent action. Preaching is not mere sentimentalizing, but serious business. If there has been a price paid in preparation there must also be a price paid for perpetuation. No good sermon deserves to die on the day it is uttered, but should have its continuance and establishment in the lives of men and the texture of society. A good woman approaching the doors of a sanctuary when the congregation was about to be dismissed asked of some one who was just then coming out: "Is the sermon done?" "No," was the reply, "the sermon has been said—it now remains to be done!" After all preaching there is this residue of duty. The sermon when said is not yet a satisfied judgment—it must be paid for in practise. And a sermon that is costly in this triple sense must be a very good sermon indeed.

ANOTHER PRIZE.

The Rev. Dr. Bieber has offered to donate to our Seminary and College prizes amounting to \$25 for the year 1919 and possibly for other years to come. It is another token of the Doctor's heartfelt interest in our institutions for which we are surely all grateful. How much we owe to Dr. Bieber! God only knows if there would have been a Seminary in Canada to-day but for his foresight and strenuous efforts. How can we best show him our appreciation?

GERMAN NAMES.

A communication to the Hamilton Council asked that the name of Schwenger avenue be changed. Mayor Booker approved and said: "We should wipe out everything with a German name." A committee will deal with the request.—Exchange.

On the same day that Mayor Booker gave voice to the expression quoted, a Kitchener paper announced the wedding in England of a former Kitchener boy, Corpl. J. W. Schnarr, to an English girl. And on another page it is recorded that Pte. Millford Schaefer has written from Mons to his sister, Mrs. John Keller, of Elmira; that Gunner R. Hinchberger, from his post in Belgium, thanks the Waterloo Red Cross Society for the boxes sent the boys; that Pte. Erdman was welcomed home by a party of Kitchener citizens; that Privates R. Beitz and L. Stahlbaum have arrived in Halifax; that Pte. Becker has returned from France to Kitchener; that Pte. F. X. Schmuck has written an interesting letter from Verdun, France, to his mother.

Would Mayor Booker wipe out these names, standing as they do for loyalty to Canada and the Empire and detestation of Prussian methods? —Galt Reformer.

HOME MISSIONS AFTER THE MERGER.

Rev. Charles L. Fry, D.D.
(Concluded)

Another instance which will be readily understood, amongst the many which press abnormal demands upon the Church at the present time, are the emergency-communities which the war has suddenly called into existence in these times. "Behind our army and navy now stands another great army, numbering more than a million men and women, and soon to be increased by another million, quickly gathered out of their accustomed homes and church surroundings, into astoundingly great industrial centres, (steel mills, ammunition works, ship yards, arsenals, loading plants and the like), some of whom are herded in barracks, some in flimsy tents, in crowded tenements, in haphazard boarding houses and newly constructed community camps, without churches in which to worship, and without ministers to serve their spiritual needs. These patriotic men

(Continued on page 15)

THE CANADA LUTHERAN

Published monthly in the interests of The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

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All communications must be sent in to the Editor by the 15th of the month previous to publication.

Subscription price 50 cents per annum, payable in advance, to the Treasurer.

Send remittances by Draft, P. O. Money Order, Express or Bank Money Order, not by cheques unless certified and payable at par at Galt, Ont.

Advertising rates on application.

MARCH, 1919.

EDITORIAL.

Lent.—Once more it is Lent. The Cross of Christ looms up in the imagination and the soul meditates on the love which made possible so great a sacrifice on behalf of a rebellious race. While we were yet sinners Christ died for the ungodly. Pharisaism would have the fallen reform and become worthy of salvation but the Lord of heaven and earth came to seek and to save the lost while still in their lost estate. And so ungrateful was the race that contumely and death were heaped on the Saviour while He was in the very act of completing His redemptive work. What a weight this ingratitude must have added to the burden He already bore! We talk about the wrongs from which we suffer and nurse our wrath against those whom we consider our debtors, but how small is the debt to us of any fellow man compared with our debt to God! May our Lenten meditations stimulate our faith in God and our gratitude to Him and may they promote love in our hearts to all our neighbours. O God, forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

Synodical Affairs.—This has been a year of great events in our Church at large, but how are we supporting the general movements in the practical church life? Are we more devout? Are we more regular in our church attendance? Do we lay by in store for the Lord's work as God has prospered us? Do we pray more, read more, serve more faithfully? The great "United Lutheran Church in America" cannot maintain an exalted position unless every one of the forty-five district Synods of which it is composed does its part. The Canada Synods cannot do their share unless our congregations rise to the occasion with prompt and generous support. Our congregations will fail as organizations unless the individuals who are members thereof are faithful. Friend, it rests with you and me and other fellow-Lutherans to meet our obligations. Are we doing it? Now is the time. What shall we do about Lenten self-denials? Can we not dispense with some things in the interest of Christ's kingdom? How about the various funds to which we should contribute? How about those special appeals for church reconstruction and relief work? Are our congregations preparing to meet all their apportionments before May? The Church trusts you. Thank you.

Those Atrocities.—The Rev. Newell Dwight Hillis, D.D., of New York, toured Ontario recently giving an illustrated lecture on the atrocities committed in Belgium and France. The personal repute of the speaker as well as his subject drew large audiences. What purpose was served?

For more than four years the greater part of our reading has been directly or indirectly related to the great war and public feeling has been kept constantly at a fever heat of indignation against the methods of enemy warfare. Thinking people found it hard to make the transfer from respectful appreciation of a nation of acknowledged merits to bitter denunciation of a brutal war machine. Could the reports be true? Time passed however and, nolens volens, even enemy sympathizers and prominent men within the enemy nations had to admit guilt. Commissions appointed to investigate found the charges only too true. Dr. Hillis was a member of such a commission of investigation. He heard and saw and photographed. There can be no cavilling about the truth of his story. Only one form

of judgment can be passed. A system which leads men to act worse than demons must be exorcised by christendom and men who with open eyes and educated minds plunge into such depths of iniquity must face justice.

And yet, what good purpose can be served by advertising these crimes? When a man is charged in our own land with a revolting crime our judges do not tour the country repeating the gruesome details. The criminal is apprehended and brought to judgment. Sentence is passed and in due time executed, but who is sent abroad to give illustrated lectures on the crime? Even our newspapers are censored as a safeguard to public morals. Shall we continue to advertise the horrors of the great war? We have noticed our fine soldiers returned from the front are loathe to speak of them. Again we ask, what good purpose can be served by reviewing them? Certainly thereby public opinion is hardened against the nation that was our enemy, but is it not also maintained in prejudice against all enemy blood? Is this desirable? Is it right? Justice will deal with the criminals and it should deal sternly but as with zealous care we guard against a miscarriage of justice should we not also guard against a misplacing of judgment? Shall we indiscriminately feed the flame of race hatred that has lashed the air for so long, or is it in the interest of all humanity to keep fuel away from that flame? Why should innocent people in this country have to recoil before a lash they deserve no more than any other race? What about those Canadians who have led captive their race sentiment before the greater sentiment of patriotism for their present homeland? They have suffered and died to destroy the ugly thing. They sacrificed inborn race sentiment in addition to everything else that other noble Canadians sacrificed. Shall they or their dependent dear ones here be made to suffer indefinitely from indiscriminate application to their race as such, of the odium fostered by repeated publishing of enemy crimes? Must their names be a stumbling block to them in business or social life because other men of their race whom they have helped to bring to justice, have been proven guilty of atrocious conduct?

The war is now over. Justice is being meted out to the criminals. Since we have fought, not in the interests of any race group but of humanity, shall

we not seek to reconcile ethnical groups rather than to stimulate race hatreds? Surely the most exalted patriotism does not require a perennial display of hatred against any other people. Shall we not desist from parading crime and look once more for common virtues? If we find few virtues, so much the greater cause for the exercise of such compassion as will reveal avenues of service. Certainly those noble souls among us who have borne and suffered and sacrificed should not be made to feel that because of the blood in their veins they must still continue to suffer.

Another Donation.—All friends of our institutions at Waterloo will rejoice with us over the valuable donation made to our library by Mr. Julius Roos of Waterloo. The Harvard Classics so often referred to as, "The five-foot shelf of books" is the work donated. It comprises fifty volumes of classic literature of great variety. We consider it very valuable and greatly appreciate the thoughtful generosity of Mr. Roos. Who will be next? Our library still needs many books. Perhaps friends who visit book stores will secure some for us. Thank you.

Lutheran Chaplain Honored.—The Rev. C. D. Trexler, Pastor of the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Buffalo, was one of the first ministers in the United States to offer his services as chaplain. He has been in the service ever since and was recently honored by General Pershing with the post of Senior Chaplain of the 8th Army Corps. He has 150 chaplains under his supervision and 180,000 soldiers. Surely the Lutherans of the United States and Canada have supported nobly the cause of their countries. Nearly 250,000 boys were in the armies. About \$1,250,000 were raised for soldiers and sailors welfare and a campaign is now on to raise \$500,000 for after-war reconstruction.

President Maurer Ill.—At this writing the Rev. J. Maurer, M.A., Pastor of First English Lutheran Church, Kitchener; President of the Synod of Central Canada, and President of the Seminary Board, is in the Kitchener-Waterloo Hospital seriously ill. May God in His mercy keep him and if best grant him a speedy recovery.

CHURCH NEWS AND NOTES

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

[**Editor's Note.**—We would again kindly address our correspondents in matters pertaining to the sending in of notes. You remember the time—15th of each month. Material for publication, if nothing personal is added, can be mailed at the rate of 1c. for 2 ounces or fraction thereof, if sent in **unsealed** envelopes or wrappers. But please see that material is not **over-weight**, rather add 1c. and avoid delay and inconvenience. Remember to write in a good legible hand. We recently went into a printing office and were handed a "correspondence pad." It contained at the head some "pointers" for the benefit of correspondents. We reprint a few for the guidance of our own correspondents, "**Write carefully, clearly, distinctly**, especially names and figures. Remember a compositor must read and understand what you write." "**Absolute Accuracy is Necessary**—if in doubt regarding any statement make the doubt known by a question mark." Kindly co-operate with us and with the printer in essentials and thus simplify the work. We thank you:]

PARISH BUDGETS.

Brantford.—The League held its birthday social January 15th. Mrs. Frank Clark kindly offered her home for the occasion and acted as hostess. The programme was the best that has ever been given on such an occasion here. A goodly sum was realized. The League has started to raise \$125 by Easter and has good hopes that the objective will be reached.

The ladies have their plans for a bazaar almost complete and will hold the same shortly. The League and the Ladies' Aid have great plans on foot for the improvement of our place of worship.

On February 6th the Pastor baptized Jean Wilhemina, daughter of Mrs. and Mr. John Patterson.

The attendance at the services throughout the past month has been good. On several occasions strangers from neighbouring Lutheran congregations have worshipped with us. We wish all Lutherans coming to the city for the week-end would do the same.

Galt.—Things have been happening so fast here and we have been kept so busy that we haven't had time to report to the Canada Lutheran for three months. We had no Christmas Tree service owing to a ban having been placed on all children's gatherings just at the festive season, but we are giving our Sunday School an indoor picnic in the Y.M.C.A. gymnasium on Wednesday, February 19. A Christmas song service took the place of the Christmas tree for our adults on the Sunday evening before Christmas. The church was full, the singing hearty and the choir at its best. The pastor spoke on "The First Christmas Anthem" and the congregation brought a Thank Offering of over \$300 as a birthday gift to the Prince of Peace for the re-establishment of "peace on earth." Adding the regular offering, the total receipts for the day amounted to over \$350, the largest offering ever received on a single day in the history of this congregation. This Thank Offering has since been increased to \$500 and another \$500 is to be raised on notes immediately, so that \$1,000 of our \$2,000 Church Debt may be paid off. At the Christmas service Miss Helen Wood received a gold pin, surrounded by a wreath, attached to which was a bar, for not having missed a single Sunday at Sunday School in three years. Four others also received pins for not having missed a Sunday all last year, they are: Misses Alma Leutwein, Violet Despond, Willow Christie and Dorothy Mahn. The Pastor was made the recipient of a fine record for his Sonora and a beautiful bouquet of white roses and carnations from his Bible Class.

Our first Watch Night service on New Year's Eve was well attended and greatly enjoyed. From 8 to 9 a Pathephone concert of good music was given; from 9 to 10.30 Prof. J. J. Lowe gave his illustrated lecture, Ben Hur; from 10.30 to 11 Prof. Lowe conducted an illustrated song service and from 11 to 12 the Pastor conducted the Watch Night service proper.

On New Year's night one of our young men, Harold Mitchell, returned from overseas and has entered our College at Waterloo.

On Jan. 5 Holy Communion was administered at the morning service. A congregational flower committee has been appointed to see that there are flowers on the altar every Sunday and that these are afterwards sent to the sick and shut-ins of the congregation. The congregation publishes a parish paper known as the Monthly Messenger since the beginning of the Church year.

Our Pastor preached at the Thursday evening service of the Week of Prayer on the subject "The Power of Prayer" in Ainslie St. Methodist Church. He repeated the sermon, by request, in our own Church on Sunday morning, Feb. 16, the National Day of Prayer for the Peace Conference.

Our organizations are busy preparing a bale for Dr. Grenfell's Labrador Mission at present. The Brotherhood and their wives held an interesting meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. Schoenfeld on Feb. 10 and will meet again on March 10th at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. Gehman.

The Pastor was confined to his bed during January with tonsillitis. During January the average attendance at our Sunday School was the highest in its history.

Hamilton—On Feb. 12th our annual social meeting was held in the basement of the Church. A programme of six numbers was rendered which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The evening's programme was given by the Laymen's and Ladies' Aid Societies. An encouraging feature of the programme was the report given by the treasurer of the Laymen's Society. He reported that \$1,097 has been credited to his books towards our Victory Fund, which monies are to be used only to reduce our mortgage. During the last few weeks this fund has increased from \$50 to \$100 per week.

During the last month four members were added to the Senior Luther League; one to the Ladies' Aid Society; one to the congregation; two to the Sunday School, and three to the Laymen's organization. Five infants were baptized since the New Year.

Our Junior and Senior Catechetical Classes are attended faithfully by the scholars, the former has 13 members, the latter 14.

Hespeler.—We thank God most fervently that the long vacancy in our Hespeler parish has at last been term-

inated. Mr. Irschick of the Waterloo Seminary, has been called, has accepted the call and is now in charge of our congregation. The attendance at services has considerably increased. The Pastor has enrolled and is instructing a catechetical class of 23 boys and girls.

The February meeting of the Ladies' Aid was held at the home of Mrs. J. Goebel. An interesting feature of this meeting was an address by the Pastor on "The Greek Catholic Church in Russia." This was greatly appreciated. Refreshments were served by the hostess. Our ladies are still continuing to do good work. During the past four years they worked untiringly to aid our wounded soldiers. Since the strife has ended, their work has been on garments to alleviate the sufferings of the Armenian children. Another \$100 has been paid on the parsonage. The ladies are also having a gown made for the Pastor.

On the evening of Feb. 14, the congregation was entertained at a Valentine Social by the Ladies' Aid. The evening was spent in games interspersed with an informal programme, consisting of vocal and piano selections, after which the ladies served refreshments.

The Sunday School also continues to prosper. The attendance of the past several Sundays exceeds all former records. The first Sunday in the month has been made Missionary Sunday when a brief talk on missions is presented to the children by the Pastor or others.

We welcome to our congregation Mr. and Mrs. Conrad May and family, formerly of St. Peter's Church, Kitchener.

Humberstone.—The Church Council at its recent meeting ordered paid several of its synodical apportionments. The Sunday School staff has appointed as superintendent Mr. Fred Cronmiller, one of our young men who has grown to manhood in our Bible School. The February meeting of the Luther League was held at the beautiful home of Mr. T. F. White, and his daughter, Mrs. Geo. Lang, Pt. Colborne. After the general routine business was transacted, at which three new members were received and two others re-claimed, and interesting letters read from some of our soldier boys in occupied Germany, besides also a letter from our Nursing Sister, stationed at Vischy, France, the even-

ing took the form of a house-warming and social good time. This was the best attended meeting in the history of the League, 37 attending besides members of the family and children. The evening was spent in games, music and contests. A very palatable lunch was served by the hostess, Mrs. Lang. The League conferred the honor upon Mr. White of making him honorary president, in appreciation of past encouragement and assistance which he has manifested towards the League. The first member of the L. L. to enlist in the C.E.F. well over three years ago, Sig. J. B. Ellis, was the first to return. He reached home Sunday, February 16th, about two hours before the evening service, and later worshipped with us at the church service.

The Ladies' Aid Society held its afternoon gathering at the home of Mrs. Fred White. The ladies finished garments for the relief of Serbian destitute children for the Humberstone Red Cross. The Society the previous month made garments for the same purpose for the Pt. Colborne Red Cross.

This is truly a season of get-together for Lutherans. While Lutherans generally are coming closer and closer together, so too locally in our own community. A Lutheran Mass Meeting is planned for Feb. 27th to be held in the Town Hall and with Rev. Krumwiede of Buffalo as speaker. This meeting is held in the interests of the \$500,000 campaign for reconstruction service overseas. Joint committee meetings and joint choir rehearsals have already been held. The movement has been inaugurated by St. Paul's (Buffalo Synod) and our Holy Trinity Church. More of this next month.

Kitchener.—We regret to report that Pastor Maurer is very sick; at the writing of this report he had just undergone an operation, which to the best of our knowledge was successful. The congregation wishes him a speedy recovery, trusting that he will soon be about, continuing the good work which he is doing in the congregation.

The work throughout the congregation is very encouraging. All organizations are showing activity and we have every reason to be optimistic. The Sunday School has decided to introduce "Young Folks," and also to procure the pictures of our mission-

aries and other important information about our mission fields, and have them put in a conspicuous place in the school.

The Luther League had a Birthday Social on Feb. 10th, an excellent programme was rendered to the satisfaction of a large audience, over seventy dollars were realized. On Feb. 20th the Waterloo League and the Preston League will meet the First English League for a joint social evening.

Prof. Willison occupied the pulpit at the morning service, Feb. 2nd and 9th, on the former Sunday Rev. Bockelman occupied the pulpit in the evening, and on the latter Sunday Mr. Vaughan addressed the congregation on "Boys' Work." On Sunday the 16th, Dr. C. H. Little will occupy the pulpit and in the evening the Cossman Hyunga Missionary Society have charge of the service. Students Geelhaar and Howald will be the speakers. No arrangements have as yet been made as to who will have charge of the work during the absence of Pastor Maurer.

Toronto.—The Lord has surely blessed St. Paul's in that the congregation was enabled to pay the interest on the mortgage when due, also to pay off a full installment on the principal. The Bible School now has an excellent staff of teachers and good results will surely follow.

Waterloo.—The regular monthly meeting of the Women's Missionary Society was held at the home of Mrs. W. Pfeffer, Allan street, on Wednesday the 12th, and was one of the most largely attended for sometime. The topic for the day was "In City Industries," interesting papers being read by Mrs. J. Chas. Mueller, Mrs. J. Herb. Smith, Mrs. W. H. Kutt, Mrs. C. Huenergard. Mrs. (Rev.) Willison gave an instructive and interesting talk on child labour that was very much appreciated and attentively listened to by the members present. Mrs. (Rev.) E. Bockelmann read the Scripture lesson. The business was principally routine after which light refreshments were served. The Society decided to give a missionary play in the near future the proceeds to be donated to the Seminary Fund. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Jacob Conrad, Young street.

In St. John's Lutheran Church on Sunday evening, February 2nd, two interesting mission addresses were de-

livered by Students Irschick and Gelhaar to a large congregation.

A fine musical programme has been arranged for Sunday evening, Feb. 16, in St. John's Church, following which an illustrated lecture on the Life of Martin Luther will be given. The lantern slides comprise some 80 dealing with his life, in addition to 24 slides which are entirely new, showing scenery and cities in Germany visited by our Canadian soldiers. The choir will be assisted by Mrs. C. Beck, who will sing a solo entitled, "Fear Not Ye O Israel." A special collection will be taken up in aid of the proposed new parish hall.

Our choir members are busy preparing a musical play entitled "Our Minister's Honeymoon," to be given shortly after Easter.

Welland. — The monthly meeting of the Ladies' Aid and Missionary Society was held Feb. 6th, at the home of Mrs. J. Kottmeier. Two new members were added to the Society. The matter of topic study for the year was again discussed and we hope to have something definite for next meeting. The Society regretted exceedingly to have to deal with a resignation, that of Mrs. J. Guinther, our efficient secretary, because of removal to Niagara Falls, N.Y. Mrs. Guinther, since the time of her connection with our Church and Society has shown a deep interest, has been very faithful, and intellectually the Society has benefited much through her kindly offices. The Society and friends gave a surprise farewell to Mrs. Guinther on the afternoon and evening of St. Valentine's Day. Decorations, games and contests were all in harmony with the day. A most sumptuous supper was served by the ladies. Expressions of regret were given at the early severance of the tie that was friendly, harmonious and agreeable for five years. About 15 ladies gathered for the occasion.

The Luther League met Feb. 10th at the home of Mrs. Esser. The League is planning to improve the appearance of the altar. Full investigation into the matter has been ordered.

Pastor Knauff on Sunday evening preached a sermon on Lutheran reconstruction overseas.

Williamsburg. — The angel reaper "Death" has visited our congregation during the past month and claimed as its victim Mrs. Stanford Strader at the early age of 26 years. She leaves to

mourn her early departure her husband and two little boys, Raymond and Mac, her parents, two sisters and five brothers. Owing to the serious illness of her mother and several of her near relatives the funeral was not held at the time. A memorial service will be held on Sunday morning, Feb. 16th.

After a lingering illness of several months Mr. Herbert Strader, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Strader, passed away on Jan. 16, at the age of 31 years. His suffering was borne with great patience until God, in His infinite wisdom, relieved him by death. He leaves to mourn besides his parents, two brothers, Frank and George at home.

There passed peacefully away after a short illness little Clark Barkley, aged 4 years. He is mourned by his father and brother and sister. His mother predeceased him about three months ago. The funeral was held on Sunday afternoon at the home, Rev. McCreery taking for his text, "Suffer the little children to come unto Me and forbid them not for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

There passed away on Jan. 22nd, in California, at the home of her sister, Mrs. F. E. Harrison, with whom she went to live after the death of her mother about two years ago, Miss Ella Casselman, a member of this congregation. She had been a great sufferer for many years with rheumatism but was always of an exceptionally cheerful disposition. Her death was caused by pneumonia following the flu. She is a sister of Mrs. Reuben Casselman of this place. To all these and any other bereaved ones is extended our most sincere and heartfelt sympathy.

Sunday, Feb. 9th, Rev. C. Sorensen, of Dunbar, and Rev. L. M. McCreery exchanged pulpits.

Several of our Council men and their wives along with Pastor McCreery attended the meeting at Riverside on Jan. 22nd.

The Sunday School has voted \$200 during the past month for Home and Foreign Missions.

The Luther League during the month of January voted \$20 for Student Aid which has been handed over to the church treasurer. It also has added in the neighbourhood of about two dozen new members to its roll. On Jan. 29th an open meeting and concert was held at which time a large number of the congregation were present and a fine programme was

rendered. The sum of \$23.60 was received. They are preparing to hold a social the last of this month or first of next.

Married on Jan. 29th, by Rev. L. M. McCreery, Ethel Sipes and Frank Utman.

WINNIPEG.

Rev. Milton J. Bieber, D.D.
One Year.

The annual congregational meeting of the First English Lutheran Church was held after the evening service on Thursday, January 12th, the whole congregation remaining. During the year \$2,545.70 was received and \$2,500.45 expended; an increase of \$500 income over the previous year. This amount included \$193.63 for benevolence. The full apportionment, \$145.63, was met and is now being paid monthly. A number of floating debts were liquidated and all arrearages in taxes and interest were paid. The active membership is 51. There are 17 names on the honor roll, one has paid the supreme sacrifice, three were wounded and the majority are still in France. A number of our most faithful members moved from the city during the year. An Every Member Canvass was made and one is now being conducted. The Pastor is raising a fund among his friends in the United States in order to secure a furnace that will adequately heat the building. At the congregational meeting the fund contained over \$600 and it is steadily increasing. It is not included in the above receipts. It is hoped to install the furnace during the summer. Messrs. A. H. Pfrimmer, Wm. Yeager, and E. Bambach were elected Deacons to serve for three years. During the year 12 new members were received, three by transfer and 9 by confirmation; 16 children were baptized; the pastor officiated at three funerals. The congregation has 245 souls under its care. The Union Church and Bible School was instituted and considerably increased the attendance of each. Seventy-two different persons communed during the year. Services were held every Sunday except during the seven weeks' flu epidemic.

The Sunday School has 73 on its roll. Its income has considerably increased. There is a monthly study of missions when the entire offering is devoted to missions; a monthly teachers' meeting at the members' homes,

and the graded system is used. The Cradle Roll numbers 32.

The Woman's Missionary and Aid Society meets monthly at the members' homes for the study of missions and business and monthly for sewing. There are 23 faithful members. Their receipts during the year were \$527.11 and the disbursements \$501.43, leaving a balance of \$25.68. The Society paid \$315.00 into the church treasury and gave \$41.05 to missions, besides \$55.61 to Red Cross, which amount was received during the last Sunday in each month from contributions at the church doors. These offerings will be continued during the year. The Society is a member of the Western Conference Missionary Society of the Synodical Society of the North-west Synod. The monthly dues are 25c. and the 10c. per member per month asked by the Missionary Society of the United Lutheran Church is being paid monthly and sent to headquarters. The 5c. additional per member to pay the travelling expenses of the officers of the United Lutheran Church Society will be taken in the near future. A Mission Study Class was held during Lent. The "Topic" and the "Mission Worker" are subscribed for. It also has charge of the "Canada Lutheran" subscriptions.

The Luther League meets monthly at the members' homes. During the year it completed paying for the church piano. The topics are discussed, the history, doctrines and activities of the Lutheran Church in general and her noted men and women are studied. During the summer the meetings were held in the City Park. The League numbers 25 members and conducts interesting meetings.

GLEANINGS FROM CANADA SYNOD.

The annual congregation meeting of I. Lutheran Church, Toronto, was held on Sunday, January 19th, right after the regular morning service. The attendance was quite satisfactory. The review of the past year's congregational history, given in the pastor's report, touched some sore spots on the Church's body. Church attendance was discouraging, the Sunday School showed a downward tendency, the treasury suffered through the irregularity and indifference on the part of many members, the various organizations connected with the church had to struggle for their very existence. We find no satisfaction in disguising our faults and weaknesses, although

SEMINARY AND COLLEGE

Conducted by Student L. Irschick, Waterloo Seminary.

Silence is not always a sign of inactivity. Though the news for this department failed to appear in our last issue the above institutions were by no means idle. On the contrary, the time lost during the epidemic has demanded a special effort on the part of both professors and students, for an unnecessary extension of the term in spring is an unwelcome thing for either party.

Since our last report was published two new students have joined the College Department in the persons of Wilfred Schmidt, Stratford, who was with us last year up to the interruption after New Year's, and Harold Mitchell, Galt, one of our Canadians who donned the khaki and upheld the honor of our country in France. If our student body increases at the same steady rate we will have to face a new problem, that of accommodating our boys both resident and non-resident. Even now the bedrooms are filled to capacity and the lecture rooms for College classes prove somewhat small.

We rejoice with Rev. Prof. Willison in being able to move into the front part of the old Seminary building, which has been converted into a double house. The other half after its completion is to be occupied by Rev. E. Holm.

In our last report we made mention of the Christmas Pageant entitled "Bethlehem," which was to be performed by the College students, assisted by some young ladies of St. John's. The play was presented twice, before Christmas at Waterloo and after Christmas at Preston. On both occasions the evening proved a big success and a goodly sum was realized. Those of the readers who patronized these entertainments may be interest-

ed to know what the proceeds are to be used for. At the last meeting of "The Collegians" it was decided to issue a college paper, the respective committees were appointed and hope to place the first copy into your hands by about Easter. Of course we expect a widespread patronage, since our Canadian Lutherans always have exhibited a keen interest for all happenings within our institutions on Seminary Hill. The new and beautiful silk College banner with motto is adorning the Assembly Hall, an Honor Roll faces the newcomers in the Upper Hall and a Service Flag decorates the front window, all showing a spirit of both taste and loyalty.

Our Missionary Society reports that the Mission Study Classes are in full swing, quite an interest being taken by the students. Most of the classes are studying "India Awakening." Meetings have been held in the different churches whereat two of the members of the Society delivered addresses on either Foreign, Home, or Inner Mission subjects. At the recent meeting of the Society a motion was passed to contribute towards English and German Home Missions to the extent of \$20 each and to forward the like amount to the congregation at Wiarton whose church some months ago had been destroyed by fire.

In closing we would invite our Lutheran people to visit us, so as to personally become acquainted with the faculty, the students, the building and all the good that is being carried on within its walls. For that purpose the visiting day, the first Saturday of every month, has been arranged when the Ladies Auxiliary, which is the old stand-by of the boys and the institution, entertain the visitors. Therefore come and see us.

we are ready to admit, that conditions in our city during the past 4 or 5 years have been and still are extremely unproductive to vigorous church activity. The more reason we have to praise God, from whom all blessings flow, for having mercifully preserved us from utter extinction and safely launched us through the most critical period in the history of our church, and to give due credit to the small body of those members, who have

faithfully kept their troth to their congregation in the face of most adverse conditions. Owing to their fine Christian spirit of dutifulness and sacrifice the financial report was a pleasant surprise in so far as it proved the treasurer to have been able to meet all obligations, which amounted to almost \$3,000. We do not know, if there is any other Lutheran Church in the country, where the regular an-

(Continued on page 14)

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

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

Report of Executive Committee.

It is with pleasure we publish the following report submitted by Mrs. Casselmann:

The Executive Committee of the Women's Missionary Society of the United Lutheran Church met at Pittsburgh, Pa., January 21st and 22nd, holding five sessions. Two resignations were received and accepted from ladies of the South and their places were filled by members appointed who reside in and near Pittsburgh. A great deal of important business was transacted but space will not permit of a full report. Some items of general interest are. The recommendations of Rev. W. D. C. Keiter, D.D., who addressed the Board in behalf of the Committee on Women's Work of the United Lutheran Church. His object for appearing before us at this time was to seek the co-operation of the women and to correlate the work of the three united bodies. He made the following suggestions which were ultimately accepted by the Board.

1. That this Executive Committee and the Executive Committee of the United Lutheran Church hold an annual conference to discuss their plan of work.

2. That the same idea be carried into effect throughout our Synods and Conferences.

3. The Executive Board of the United Lutheran Church requests that all monies pass through general treasury.

4. That every synodical society make an annual report to its synod and this report be printed in the minutes of synod.

5. That a budget be prepared of the proposed work of the year.

6. That our societies give at least 10 cents per member per month for the budget.

7. That our contributions do not count on apportionment and synods be notified to this effect.

8. Recommended we have representation on Interdenominational Boards.

The Rev. A. J. Turkle, D.D., appeared on behalf of the Committee of Education and Rev. F. E. Jensen on behalf of the Slav and Hungarian Mission Board. Chairmen were ap-

pointed for the different departments, as also were representatives on the Mission Boards of the United Church. An Administrative Committee consisting of seven members was decided upon who shall meet monthly and transact such items of business as cannot stand until the quarterly meeting. The trustees reported holding one meeting and elected their officers.

Constitutions and by-laws were ordered printed and are to be sent to synodical societies. A uniform constitution is being prepared for the use of local Junior and Young People's Societies.

It was urged that societies commence at once to pay their 10 cents per member per month. Many commenced in January to do this.

It was resolved when action was taken effecting synodical lines, the secretary would notify the presidents of the societies.

The Board adjourned to meet again on April 23rd.

The Topic.

Our topic for March, according to the programs, does not seem suitable for our needs in Canada, but we have people in the northern parts of our country who are often without church or services of any kind for months at a time. Find out if anything can be done for them.

Then there is the word carried on by our Reading Camp Association. Perhaps literature of information could be secured from Toronto whereby we could find out if there is not some real assistance we could render in helping provide literature for such camps which are always held in connection with large lumber or mining camps. This is a work started within the last few years and is greatly appreciated by those who benefit therefrom.

NOTICE, PASTORS!!

Return the questionnaire sent you by the undersigned in behalf of the Inner Mission Board, **at once**. The United Lutheran Church needs the requested information.

(REV.) W. H. KNAUFF,
Pt. Colborne, Ont.

THE LUTHER LEAGUE DEPARTMENT

Conducted by Student S. Cooper, Waterloo Seminary
Vice-President, Canada Luther League.

The Luther League convention will be held in Preston, Saturday, May 24. It is to be the best convention that the Canada Luther League ever held, but to accomplish this we must all be active. Many of our leaguers should take this opportunity to spend the week-end in Preston. Letters have been sent out to all leagues requesting suggestions, and members should remember that this request was sent for a purpose, and that the officers are looking for replies.

The convention will only last one day, but we wish to accomplish something in that time, and so are determined to have a good executive meeting on Good Friday, April 20th, at 2 p.m. in Galt. We are planning to have a definite programme, well thought out by the committee, so that we can present a plan to the convention for the coming year, for their consideration and approval. This can and will only be a success if we all put our shoulders to the wheel. All officers of the Canada League should be present and all presidents of the neighboring leagues should either come or send a substitute and distant leagues who cannot send a representative should forward suggestions. It is not to be expected that all letters will be answered because the information is taken to the executive for consideration.

The executive meeting is not being held to arrange for speakers, for this will be looked after earlier, in fact we expect to have our speakers by the time this goes to press, but it is chiefly to talk over the work in general, so as to know just what we should do, and what we are able to do in the coming year. Some of the items of business for the convention are: Student Aid Fund, The Canadian Standard Efficiency Test for Boys (how it can be applied to our work), The Junior Luther League, Delegate's report from the Luther League Convention at Buffalo and the consideration of a definite programme for our Canadian leagues. The chairman of the Executive asks every leaguer and officer to do his or her work early, and to put forth every effort to make this the biggest and best convention.

The above notes are an appeal to the officers of our Luther League of Canada, to do their utmost in making our convention a grand success. It is

purposely kept before you to get every league interested, which is necessary to attain that success, and create an enthusiasm which will develop into activity. It must also be made an object of prayer. Our government sees fit to call upon its subjects to lift their hearts in united prayer for a definite object; and this is right and proper not only in times of stress and anxiety, but also in times of peace and prosperity. Is it less required of us as leaguers? We should not forget to pray for the success of our convention and those who have it in charge, that they may be guided in the right path of service, and that God may use it and them to His honor and glory for the advancement of His kingdom on earth. The questions which will be discussed need your interest and especially your prayers.

What is true concerning the convention is also true of our weekly devotional or business meetings. You Mr. President and officers must be interested or you cannot interest others. You must show to them that your heart and soul are in the meetings and in the subjects. Do not become negligent. They are looking to you for leadership. The writer knows of a league which is simply dying because the president is inactive and takes no interest. Think of your responsibility to the Church, and more, to Christ. But with heart and soul in the work you will create a zeal and enthusiasm for spiritual education and enlightenment which will reach out into practical every-day life of each leaguer. And in the actual experiences of life it will lead us to much prayer that we may be upheld by His Almighty power in overcoming the temptations which daily surround us. Pray without ceasing.

NOTES FROM EASTERN CONFERENCE.

J. Frederick Bermon.

Though the "flu" has returned and entered nearly every home in our conference, yet it has been of a mild form, and has not materially affected the work of our congregations. All our pastors have been kept busy visiting the sick, and ministering to their needs. Many in their afflictions have turned their minds from earthly things to heavenly, and have been drawn

closer to God. Blessed is sorrow and affliction if it but draw us nearer to the heart of our loving Father, and His dear Son, our Saviour.

Ottawa is vacant, but the people are not discouraged. Services were held in St. Peter's by the writer of these notes, on January 19th. A large number of people turned out for both services. The Sunday School is carrying on every Sunday, and is doing a good work. The congregation is looking to the Mission Board to send them a good pastor, and have pledged to give five hundred dollars a year towards his support. Our pastors here will continue to supply Ottawa until such a time comes when a permanent pastor may be secured.

Rev. C. Sorensen of Dunbar has been presented with a fur coat by the people of his parish, as a testimony of their good will, and in appreciation of his faithful services. The congregation at Dunbar has paid off its indebtedness on the parsonage, and the Luther League has a fund of \$100 in the bank, which, when it becomes large enough will be used for the erection of a parish house. The congregation is in good financial standing and there is a prospect that it will be soon self-sustaining.

Rev. L. M. McCreery, acting pastor of St. Peter's, Williamsburg, has begun work looking towards the organization of a catechetical class. The prospects are that he will have a good sized class to instruct, and later on to confirm. Pastor McCreery is also working to bring the synodical and benevolent offerings of the congregation up to date. An every member canvass for current expenses and benevolences was made by the congregation, and with good results.

The pastor of the St. Lawrence parish was presented with a fur coat, and cap, by the members of the two congregations. The coat came just in time to be of service during the coldest weather we have yet had this winter, and is much appreciated. Catechetical work will be begun shortly in this parish, and the outlook for a large class in both congregations is encouraging. Four new members were added to St. Paul's at the last communion service on January 12th.

On January 22nd the annual meeting of the councils of the Dundas County churches was held at Riverside. The ladies of St. John's prepared a bountiful dinner of good things, which was enjoyed by all who made the journey to Riverside. Rev. McCreery of Williamsburg, with all

the members of his Council were present. Rev. Sorensen was prevented from attending by a funeral. There was a good representation from the St. Lawrence Parish present. After dinner the men with a large number of the women of St. John's proceeded to the church where they listened to addresses made by the pastors. Rev. McCreery spoke of the Merger, and what it meant to the Lutheran Church. Pastor Bermon spoke on the subject, "The Position of the Lutheran Church in Matters of Doctrine." Both pastors spoke of the work and needs of our Seminary. A motion was made and after some discussion, carried, that the men of the councils carry on an every member canvass at an early date for funds for the Seminary. This drive for funds will be for the purpose of helping to pay off some of the indebtedness of our Seminary, occasioned by the purchase of a new residence for the Dean, and for the remodelling of the house that was formerly used by the Dean. A meeting of the pastors of this Conference will shortly be held to determine the time for the drive and to arrange other details.

GLEANINGS FROM THE CANADA SYNOD.

(Continued from page 11)

Annual contributions of individual members run up into the hundreds. It is a matter, which deserves commendation, that some of our members, who are well situated financially, are ever ready to serve their Church with their means and thus enable it to meet every emergency. The members of the Church Council, whose term of service had expired, were all re-elected, namely Messrs. Heintzman, Nerlich, Simmers, Wegener, Schmidt, Buddenhagen, Kreutzer and Grosse. Some of them have served the church for many years and have proved their worth and fidelity in times of prosperity as well as in the days of adversity. They are the strong pillars of I. Lutheran Church and enjoy the undivided confidence of its membership. What we like to report most of all, is the fact, that though our congregational life externally was a struggle for existence, we have had undisturbed peace and harmony within, and are firmly resolved to continue the good fight on the reliable ground of the divine promise: "Fear not, for I am with thee; be not dismayed, for I am thy God, I will strengthen thee, yea I will help thee, yea I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

With a very sore heart we have read the sad news of the unexpected death of Mr. Conrad Weidenhammer of Spruce Grove, Alta. He was a child of the Canada Synod, born and raised in our Elmira parish, and although he spent his manhood in the North-west, where his sterling qualities found recognition in his election to parliamentary honors, he may well be claimed by the whole Lutheran Church of Canada as one of its best laymen. To the Manitoba Synod, which he served as treasurer up to the hour of his death, his removal means an almost irreparable loss. He was possessed of an ardent love for his Church, which was fruitful of good works, and of a strong, sincere faith in the Head of the Church, which was the motive power of his rich personal and Church life. We shall never forget a striking exemplification of his Christian character, which he gave at last year's annual meeting of the Manitoba Synod, which we had the pleasure to attend. The situation of the College at Saskatoon was up for discussion. Its president had submitted to the Synod a plan of acquiring by the College Board of a number of lots immediately adjoining the College property and emphasized the necessity of the deal, in order to prevent future harm to the institution. The amount needed for the purchase was partly secured, but \$500 more had to be raised by the Synod forthwith. Then speech-making began. Every speaker admitted, that the College cause was God's cause, it being the undertaking with which the Church of the North-west would stand or fall, that these lots must be secured under all circumstances, but—how to get the money? The congregations are already financially overburdened and who would have the courage to approach them with this new proposition? Then Mr. Weidenhammer rose and said: "You pastors have spoken very fine. You are all convinced that we are doing God's will in our College and that the purchase of those lots is certainly part of God's will, and then you come with your 'but's.' If your conviction is sincere, you must say: 'therefore' and not 'but,' you must not doubt, but trust and act. True faith must produce works, and it **has** in me. I will donate those \$500, my cheque will be at your disposal whenever you need it." It was the glorious climax of that synodical meeting. Our friend has been called to his reward and heard his Master's

voice: "Well done, faithful servant." We sorrow, but not as those which have no hope. We praise the Lord, who glorifies Himself in sinful men. We express our sympathy to the bereaved, especially to our brother, the Rev. G. Weidenhammer, former pastor in Conestogo, son of the departed, who had just performed a noble filial duty in leaving his comfortable Ontario position and returning to his home-land, the western field, to fulfill his father's ardent wish.

HOME MISSIONS AFTER THE MERGER.

(Continued from page 3)

and women who toil here, are giving their time and energy and brains to keep our soldiers and sailors supplied with munitions and other necessities. They have left their home comforts and wholesome surroundings, that in the end we all may enjoy homes, and a country, and a world where our children may grow into noble men and women, enjoying liberty and all the blessings of a Christian civilization.

Gamblers, bootleggers, the brothel, and all those agencies of hell which lure souls to eternal destruction have followed—nay preceded—to work the spiritual and moral ruin of this army of men and women. Here is the greatest example of abnormal and immediate Home Mission and Church Extension problems which are pressing at this time, to follow all these workers; to erect altars for **their worship**; to minister to them the Means of Grace, as the chaplains and camp pastors minister to our soldiers, and keep them fit to return, and be citizens worthy of their liberties.

To do all its work, with extra abnormal conditions like this, the Church has no organized agency, other than her appointed Home Mission and Church Extension Boards. To these belong the duty of following our moving population, and bringing to them the ministrations of the Church. These Boards clearly see their duty, and are not only **willing**, but anxious to perform it. What they must have, in order to do this, is the sacrificing devotion of the Church's faithful people, to put that machinery into operation which will achieve her great salutary task. Yes, Lutherans are ready to do their part, in the future as never before, and the merger will prove a mighty factor in its accomplishment."

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THE CANADA LUTHERAN

REV. ERNEST H. BECKMAN, Business Manager, 22 Rich Ave., Galt, Ont.