

Vol. 1, No. 6

GRABILL, INDIANA

March 15, 1944

CHURCH HISTORY

Life, Conversion and Secession of S. H. Froehlich from the Church of State.

Summary: After much schooling, Mr. Froehlich wandered around for awhile in sin. Then he was converted from darkness to light, but still had plenty of trouble on hand. At this time the Hand of the Lord was with him, and he was accepted into the ministry. He was a tutor near Schaffhausen; then he was transferred to the Vicariate of the Probstei Wagenhausen in Thurgau. Then he had a call from the consistory of Aargau to go as vicar to the Congregation of Leutweil.

"A great awakening took place in the whole congregation of about 1800 souls. One poor sinner after another prostrated himself at the feet of Jesus; many came also from other places to attend the services. When however, the Evil One saw that these people were not going to permit the matter to rest with mere words and outward actions, but that instead, the kingdom of heaven was forcibly attracting them, he could no longer look on passively. He plotted devices of destruction and on all sides aroused enemies against us. Many neighboring vicars accused me of attracting members of their flock and of generating confusion and unrest through my fanatical sermons. The old jealousy in the breasts of the church council-members awakened anew. All my steps were shadowed as well as my words. Even before the first year had passed, I was notified by the Church Council to hand in my sermons for inspection. These were in circulation among all the pastors, so that all knew what I preached, and

(Continued on page 3)

A True Shepherd

By Otto Norr, Grabill, Indiana

Experience is a great help to a person, and that is what David of old had. He is the one that wrote the words found in the 23rd Psalm, namely:

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil: for thou art with me."

Dear ones, words will not be able to explain in fullness, the value of

TREASURED VERSES

I CORINTHIANS 15:20-22

"But now is CHRIST risen from the dead, AND become the firstfruits of them that slept.

"For since by man CAME death, by man CAME also the resurrection of the dead.

"For as in Adam all die, even so in CHRIST shall all be made alive."

such a good Shepherd at all times. Many are the joys received by those that come to the fold of this good Shepherd, to live under His protecting love and blessing.

What will hinder one from coming to His fold? Not obeying the teachings of the Lord and living a sinful life. Sin will separate man from God and to be separated from the Lord is a sad condition in many ways. These words mean so much to each one, "Without Christ the Saviour, I dare not die." That is what He did. He died on the old rugged cross, that you and I can be saved, but only by believing and obeying His teachings.

Can we find such a true friend among mankind? That is why we say, "Ask me what great thing I know,

That delights and stirs me so?

Jesus Christ the crucified One."

How sad in many ways, if there were no Savior to cheer and comfort the many sad hearts in this time.

The helping arm of the dear Lord has not become shorter, to help for their undying souls.

When the time comes for a father or son to be on the battlefield, not knowing what moment life will end, faith sincere as David the Psalmist, had will be a great help. He had no fear, because he put his trust not in man, but in the living God.

Will we not say with Paul, the servant of the Lord, "For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain"? This gain will not be temporal as is the case in the natural walk of life. To die in Jesus, is the beginning of rest after a life of work and worry. If it has been precious, there will follow peace and joy found only in Heaven where no pain or sorrow can enter. Let us all try and become worthy to enter into such a beautiful home built by workmanship divine.

So wherever you go, take the name of Jesus with you.

Mary, His Mother

The true love of parents and children for each other is nowhere more lovingly and realistically portrayed than in the love of Mary, His mother. We can see it in the preparations she made for His coming to Bethlehem, the concernment that she had for Him at the age of twelve, and, when the time of His death came, how she followed Him to the cross, mourning for Him. She had no fear of the soldiers, but kept herself near the cross. Jesus in His compassion and love, commanded John to provide for her in life. Then came the words, "It is finished!"

His Life of Truth, Love, and Compassion came to an end when He bowed His head and died. Even death lost its power when His appointed time came to arise again. When this darkness came over all the land, and the earth quaked, the people became very much afraid. But we can believe that the wonderful words that Jesus spoke to Mary in life, which she pondered in her heart, comforted her at this time.

He will also comfort us, and help us in hours of darkness and gloom, if we stay faithful and true to Him.

What parents, as Mary at the cross, would not like to be at the side of their wounded, lonesome, or ill son, that is far from home, probably in a foreign land, to bind up his wounds, to comfort him, when he thinks of home, or to minister to him in sickness or pain?

What child would not do as a daughter did recently. She came from a great distance to be at the bedside of her dying mother and held her hand until she died.

Mary was also at the tomb when Joseph laid Jesus away, and early Easter morning she went to anoint Him. The stone was rolled away. God's Eternal Youth is shown unto us here, as a young man in shining garments spoke comforting words to her. For in His kingdom nothing shall grow old, and there shall be no dark valley there.

When great accomplishments have been achieved in life, man will say, "It is finished." May we, as life's

Editorial 🔺 🔺

"Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen." Luke 24:5 and 6.

As we approach this Easter season, our hearts are still troubled on every side with fear from within and without.

For the very things that surround us have every sign that we are entering or are in the very last days of the dispensation of grace. We also know that according to the Scripture Satan is also aware of this fact much more than we are. So he is not asleep but going around seeking whom he may devour. So we find ourselves in some what the same state as were Christ's Apostles and Disciples when they saw Christ die upon the cross and then some of them saw Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus take the body of Jesus from the cross, wrap it in linen

Hymn for the Month CHRIST AROSE!

- Low in the grave He lay—Jesus my Savior!
- Waiting the coming day—Jesus, my Lord!
- Vainly they watched His bed—Jesus my Savior!
- Vainly they sealed the dead—Jesus my Lord!
- Death cannot keep His prey—Jesus my Savior!
- He tore the bars away—Jesus, my Lord!

Chorus:

- Up from the grave He arose,
- With a mighty triumph o'er His foes; He arose a Victor from the dark domain.
- And He lives forever with His saints to reign;
- He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose

sun is sinking over the horizon, having obeyed our parents and the teachings of Mary's Son, Jesus, then say, "It is finished!" and meet our loved parents in that Eternal Home.

John Baumgartner, Bluffton, Indiana. and lay it in a sepulchre and sealed it with a great stone. Although Jesus had many times told his Apostles that He must go to Jerusalem and be rejected of Elders and the Chief Priests and scribes and be slain and be raised the third day. Their hopes of Christ as King vanished for they expected Him to set up an earthly kingdom. But His Kingdom was not on this earth. He came that we may have life and have it more abundantly.

The Scribes and Pharisees even had a watch set over the grave so the Disciples could not steal his body from the Sepulchre. When the hour came for Christ's resurrection, there was a great earthquake and the Angel of the Lord descended form Heaven and rolled away the stone from the door and sat upon it. The soldiers that kept watch over the grave became as dead men for fear. Here we can see just how little power man has when God acts. The first of His followers to learn of His resurrection were the women who came to the sepulchre, to anoint His body. Then the angels told them that He had risen. His first appearance was to Mary Magdalene when she stood by the sepulchre weeping. When Jesus spoke to her, she thought He was the gardener until He called her "Mary," and immediately she recognized Him and called Him, "Master." Can we imagine how much joy filled her heart when she found a living Christ! We also should rejoice over His resurrection for it is only through this that we have a hope of eternal life. So today yet, this same Jesus is on the right hand of God's throne interceding for all mankind, and is calling and inviting each one to come to Him. Let each one of us think of the time when Jesus will return to this earth not to bring salvation but to bring judgment. May each one be able to look up and recognize him and be able to call him, "Master." Today He rose and left the dead,

And Satan's empire fell;

Today the saints His triumph spread And all His wonders tell.

David Lantz, Grabill, Indiana.

The only safe way to destroy an enemy is to make him your friend.

CHURCH HISTORY

(Continued from page 1) when the sermons were returned to me, the parts obnoxious to them were underscored in red. These were in particular the chief teachings of the Gospel: That by our very nature we were all dead through transgression and sin and are children of wrath; that we are made righteous through Jesus Christ alone, through belief in the atonement which He brought about through His death on the cross; that through this belief in Christ we must be born anew and receive into our hearts the new living law of the Holy Spirit in place of the deadening and damning law.

In the same degree as this teaching brought happiness to the weary and burdened sinner and became for him a savor of life unto life, even thus did it prove folly, vexation and a stumbling block to the wise and clever. Meanwhile I quietly pursued my way in the simplicity and purity of Christ and the Lord did not allow me to err nor take fright at the threatenings and breathing of vengeance of Satan and his servants. Moreover we became constantly more richly blessed by the Father of mercy, the God of all comfort, so that we gained in knowledge and belief in His Son. And here it was that in the teaching of the catechism, I was led to an understanding and conviction about baptism and was vigorously attacked concerning that very conviction-not by my enemies, but much rather by my friends who accused me of heresy therein. The adversary could gain no advantage over us, as long as the Lord willed that I should remain and preach of His name and in His name. So the Gospel maintained its blessed progress for almost two years, even though it was not done without receiving wounds in the heel, for it might not be otherwise. Whoever desires to crush the head of the old serpent through the Gospel and to overthrow its dominion in the hearts of mankind, must accept its wounds and pursuit. For Satan, the prince of darkness and prime author of the enmity of men against God, will not endure the gospel of peace, this blessed message of God to mankind: "That

all the world is reconciled to God through the death of His Son and that therefore all should become reconciled with Him through belief in Jesus Christ.

After the adversaries of this Gospel of peace had long sought a ground upon which they could expel me, they believed at last that they had found an opportunity. Through the decision of the late chaplain in the can-

Easter

Oh, who among the sons of men, By word, or deed, or song, or pen, Can ever fittingly convey The meaning of this blessed day? It gilds the holy sacred page; It brings to every clime and age, To every people, tribe, and race, The story of redeeming grace.

The blessed paschal feast of old, With mystic meaning does unfold, For there the paschal lamb was slain, The Hebrew's safety to attain. When angels saw the blood applied Upon the lintel, door post wide, Then they passed over every home In mercy, where the blood was shown.

Christ is the world's dear paschal Lamb.

He is the great "I was, I am."

Through Calvary's pain and dismal gloom,

He conquered over death and tomb. He rose His own to justify

And draws all men up to the sky.

If you have found the Christ—His way.

Then you can keep this Easter Day. Henry Beer, Milford, Indiana.

ton of Aargau and with the ratification of the government, in the year 1830 all of our former symbolical books or writings on morality were formally discarded and others introduced in their place. The new books were edited according to the ideas of these adversaries; that is, the emphasis was placed upon the underlying principles of nature and upon the religion of reason rather than upon faith in Christ. With this decision and its consequences I could and would have nothing to do.

Then the storm suddenly broke. On

the 27th day of September, 1830, I was summoned before the church council, to vindicate the gospel which I had been preaching. The Lord stood by me mightily in this hour of trial. Indeed, the matter of chief importance, which was really at issue, namely the Gospel, was quite set aside, as far as appearances went; and the accusations and questions hinged only upon side issues: That, contrary to the prescribed order of service. I had delivered sermons and catechisations of from two to three hours' duration; that in the judgment of all critics, my sermons were poor, that I had permitted adults to attend the weekly periods of instructions, and so had held conventicles (meetings) against the law; that I was accused of having issued tracts, the contents of which were of displeasing nature. I was criticised especially though, because I had not adopted the n e w manual, introduced (since Easter, 1830) for the instruction of children in the place of the former Heidelberg catechism (which after a careful examination I found I could not adopt, because it was in sympathy with the theory of the religion of nature and reason, as opposed to positive faith in Christ. I was dismissed without decision after defending my beliefs and asserting my freedom of conscience; and for a month a seeming calm ensued, during which time however, two ecclesiasts of Basel were secretly sent to sound me out and to convince me that I ought to give way to the will of the church council, all this without my knowing their real purpose. But then, again, the saying held good: "We have a law and according to our law he must die." Enmity toward the Gospel was concealed, as always happens in such cases, behind the pretext of violation of the law, according to the statutes and barriers which are put in the way of the children of the bond-woman Hagar. My recall was announced without further ceremony on the 22nd of October and indeed so precipitately that it was not even granted me to preach a real farewell sermon to my beloved congregation. Accompanied by the many thousand tears and blessings of these

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beloved, I went my way, on the 25th pares for Himself a chosen congregaof October. And yet I cherish the hope to God, who in His compassion has called us to fellowship with His Son, that He, according to His good pleasure, will cause this trial to work toward my salvation, to that of those newly converted to the faith and to the further establishing of His grace within us, unto the day of our Lord, whose word, "The gates of Hades shall not overwhelm my church," endureth forever.-So for the last year I have led a solitary existence, calm and obscure, in the house of my father, with the exception of a short stay with the new Wurtemberg congregation of Wilhelmsdorf. I have utilized my time in practising in the Word of God and in godliness and have wrestled in prayer for the salvation (or welfare) and establishment of the church of God, which He purchased with His own blood, and whose members in heaven and upon earth, as the body of Christ, await, in the advent and revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, the manifestation of their kinship with Him and the redemption of their bodies from the service of corruptibility.

But until then, there is much work for many workers and if it should please the Lord of the harvest to call me again to such work, I shall be ready for it with all my heart and ask of Him wisdom and grace, for the important ministry of teaching the gospel of the New Testament. Whether such a call is to come to me from this source to which I now turn my ear, or from another source, that I leave entirely to the will of God and of our Lord Jesus Christ who well knows what He wishes to do. If indeed I should look to myself for such a thing, I should find no qualifications for it; but if I look to the Lord God who up to this time has borne with me and led me. I know that in Him lie hidden all treasurers of wisdom and knowledge and whoever possesses Him and desires only to live for Him and to do all in His name, that man, He will not abandon nor forsake. For the conversion of lost sheep is His will and His work. He indeed, GAVE UP HIS LIFE for His sheep and through His spirit He calls and pre-

THE SILVER LINING

tion out of all peoples, which is sanctified before God our Father. Through my recall from the congregation of Leutweil, I am not excluded from the ministry in Aargau, but there I can forsee little that is profitable, as far as new activity for the Gospel lies; for even through the late revolution and constitution of Switzerland, the spirit has become no other and no new door has been opened to the Gospel, nay, perhaps rather has the opposite taken place. On the other hand, as I have already said to the dear Brother M-, who made my acquaintance during the past month of August through friends in Schaffhausen, my unfamiliarity with modern tongues stands particularly in the way of a foreign appointment, not to consider my weak, corporal constitution; therefore in closing I can only say, "Dear Father, Thy will be done." Therefore, should His will in this matter prove other than mine and He by the hand of my brothers in the Holy Spirit lead me thus, then I beg of you to accept this simple account of my previous life, in this way, as we may read in the Basel collections and other written descriptions of God's mighty works in saving individuals-that is, as a contribution to the honor of God and to the praise of His marvelous grace, which has become manifest even in me, the least of all.

The more one, who has been saved, hears of OTHERS who have been saved, so much the more does his heart rise in holy joy, praise and thankfulness to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, after whom the whole family of the children of God in heaven and on earth is named! Therefore the joy and bliss of the just made perfect will be so complete and glorious, because then all who have been saved, as well as all the endless miracles of salvation will be made manifest to the praise of God; who shall be all in all, even as now Jesus Christ must become all in all.

For that may He provide workers and strength and victory at every hand. Amen.

A friend in need is a friend indeed.

ADDRESSES OF OUR BOYS IN THE SERVICE

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Notice soldier and sailors and their families: Let The Silver Lining know immediately if you have a change in address. It would help us get the paper to you. May we have your help?—Editor's Note.

THOUGHT GEMS A Rule

Do all the good you can, By all the means you can,

In all the ways you can,

In all the places you can,

At all the times you can,

To all the people you can,

As long as ever you can.

* * * Think nought a trifle, though it small appear;

Small sands the mountain, moments make the year;

And trifles life.

A true friend is the gift of God, and He only who made hearts can unite them.

* * *

Give friendship whether the object of your friendship becomes a friend or not.

NEWS 22

Our Sunday School attendance average for February was 69½, a loss of 10½ from January. The attendance was 80 on the sixth; John Getz was present. 54 were present on the thirteenth. Two of our former members were with us on the twentieth, Edward Souder S 1/c and Pfc. Harry Schwartz. Also with us was Pfc. Claus Nacke of Purdue University, thus totaling our attendance at 79. Harry and Edward were with us again on the 27th when the total attendance was 65.

Election for Sunday School officers was held February 20. The results were the following: Gerald Widner, treasurer; Albert Steiner, assistant treasurer; Velma N o r r, attendance recorder and Helen Klopfenstein, assistant recorder. Katherine Norr and Lula Robathan were elected as our good cheer workers for Leo and Fort Wayne, respectively. They will appoint their own assistants. The main duty of the good cheer workers is to remember the sick.

A double wedding took place on March 5, at the Milford church. Katherine Beer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Beer of Milford, was married to Harold Emch, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Emch of Girard, Ohio; Betty Rassi, daughter of Mr. John Rassi of Milford, was married to Maurice Beer, a brother to Katherine.

Ralph Levy writes: "To date I have received three issues of The Silver Lining and want to thank the Leo Sunday School for publishing such fine reading material. Although it has been nearly 21 months since I have attended a Sunday School class, it does not seem that long. I am enjoying good health and the Army always finds plenty to do to keep me busy. I am very much pleased with my location and like my work. Our eats are good."

A/C O. W. Maxfield, fiance of Helen Klopfenstein, has been moved to Maxwell Field, Alabama, to begin his pre-flight training.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Levy of Fort Wayne have a son, Ronald Paul, since February 2. Pvt. David Bertsch has been dismissed from the hospital at Camp Grant, and he is in basic training.

Marie Bertsch is spending several weeks with her parents this month. David expects to be able to come here week-ends.

Ervin Levy passed away February 22, at the Robert Long Hospital, Indianapolis, after suffering many weeks with a serious heart ailment. Burial services were held February 25 at Warren, Indiana.

Alberta and Lorene Steiner, Mar Ceil Klopfenstein, Delores Widner, Joan Schlatter, Edna Meiss, Velma Norr, Helen Klopfenstein, and Philipina Levy had supper at Otto Norrs in honor of Edna Meiss on February 6th. Edna has gone back to her home in Cissna Park, Illinois; she left on the 6th after the farewell party.

Marian Aeschliman of Fort Wayne has returned home after visiting with her fiance, Clair Krebs, who is stationed at Galveston, Texas, Mrs. Krebs, of Alto, Michigan, who is Clair's mother, accompanied Marian.

Harry Robert Schwartz was home on the 6th, 13th and 27th . . . Don Bollier, who was in India for awhile, has a 20-day furlough . . . Cpl. Henry Kipfer and Arvilla were here over the week-end of Feb. 24-26.

We were sorry to bid Edna Meiss good-bye. Mrs. Meiss hasn't been able to work because of neuritis. Roberta Norr went back with Edna to spend a couple of weeks with her grandparents. Margaret Meiss spent the weekend of February 20 at her home and brought Roberta back with her.

Mrs. Simon Beer, mother of Henry and Theo. Beer—the ministers at Milford, died on Friday and funeral services were held on the following Monday, Feb. the 14th. Herman and Louise Schlatter, Mrs. Otto Norr, Anna Steiner, and Bertha Blough went to the funeral. A carload also went on Sunday, including Phil and Thelma Schlatter, Bernice Getz, Rame Schlatter, and Mildred Schlatter.

Rudolph Graf—a minister from Akron, John Hartzler, Willis Snyder, Reuben Hartzler, and Ed Emch, all of

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THE SILVER LINING

Wayne County, came here on Sunday the 20th of Feb. For dinner they were at Otto Norrs; they went to Bluffton for the evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Stavenick were here on Sunday evening the 20th of Feb.

Cookies for the soldier boys were packed in the church basement on the 24th of February.

Ben Getz of Morton gives us an interesting piece of news: "In the last three months we have been having gatherings of the young folks in the Bible Classes from Tremont, Peoria, Roanoke, and Morton. This month we met at Morton and the two previous times we met at Tremont. The last time was the first time that Roanoke joined us and it makes a very fine program and we had better than 450 people attend—most all of them Bible Class age. On Sunday evening March 5, we had our meeting at Peoria. These meetings are held in the regular auditorium of the church and they have been working out exceptionally fine. The program consists of songs and one or two speakers—the young folks take a lot of interest and up to now we are very well pleased with results and hope they continue. We hold these meetings Sunday evenings and it certainly gives the young folks a wonderful opportunity to meet each other and spend an evening as we would like to have them spend it."

On Sunday, February 6th, we had a number of visitors in church: Harold M. Roth, Clem Wieland, and Ben Belsley. They are now stationed at Dayton, Ohio . . . On Sunday, February 13th, a collection was taken up for infantile paralysis . . . Philip Beyers of Castorland, New York, plans to be here one evening soon.

Henry Schwartz, Ed. Schlatter, Joel Souder, and Elias Souder attended the annual Brotherhood Aid meeting which was held at Bluffton on Monday, February 21st.

The 62nd Young People's meeting was held Sunday evening, February 27, in the church auditorium. The theme of the evening was Truth and the guest speaker of the evening was John Baumgartner from Bluffton. He gave a very interesting discussion on Truth, and assisted in a sextet from Bluffton which sang four numbers. A number of other Bluffton people were also here. One of our boys, Edward Souder, assisted in the program. The trio, consisting of Eli Souder, Edward Souder, and Raymond Winzelen, sang "O Have You Not Heard of That Beautiful Stream." The Scripture reading was given by Eli Reinick of Bluffton. "I Would be True," a song and reading, was given by the Steiner trio and Ralph Troxel, respectively. Cur Junior group gave us many precious quotations on truth. The Stieglitz quartet sang, "How Firm a Foundation." Joan Schlatter and Laura Fern Conrad gave us six common lies and their truthful answers,

Some of the Bluffton members and others from around here were at Mr. and Mrs. Al Frautschi's for dinner before the meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Norr, Mrs. Robert Norr, Louise Schlatter, Velma Norr, and Philipina Levy attended Bluffton church services, Sunday evening, Feb. 20th.

"SONGS AND HYMNS OF ZION. I wish to announce through the Silver Lining that the second Edition of the hymnal, 'Songs and Hymns of Zion,' is just off the press, and contains 140 inspiring and devotional hymns with helpful music instruction. Due to wartime conditions the edition has been much delayed. You will find in the perusal of this hymnal such hymns which are comforting to the aged and inspiring to the children and youth. It consists of heart songs that will prove a blessing to our brethren and friends. In lots of 12 or more copies \$1.10 each postpaid any where in the United States. In smaller lots \$1.15 per copy postpaid. Box 402. HENRY BEER, MILFORD, IND."

DON'T QUIT

When things go wrong as they sometimes will,

- When the road you're trudging seems all up hill,
- When the funds are low and the debts are high,
- And you want to smile, but you have to sigh.
- When care is pressing you down a bit, Rest, if you must—but don't you quit.

As everyone of us sometimes learns, And many a failure turns about

- When he might have won had he stuck it out;
- Don't give up, though the pace seems slow—

You might succeed with another blow.

Often the goal is nearer than

It seems to a faint and faltering man, Often the struggler has given up

- When he might have captured the victor's cup,
- And he learned too late, when the night slipped down,

How close he was to the golden crown.

Success is failure turned inside out— The silver tint of the clouds of doubt—

And you never can tell how close you are,

It may be near when it seems afar;

So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit—

It's when things seems worst that you mustn't quit.

Author Unknown.

The Bible. "Now the Bible teaches that all races came from one family. In the 10th chapter of Genesis it is written, 'These are the families of the sons of Noah, after their generations, in their nations; and by these were the nations divided in the earth after the flood.' So, in harmony with this, the 26th verse of the 17th chapter of Acts reads, "And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth,' . . . And today, there is no known way to distinguish between the blood of any two races of men. Whether black or white, brown or yellow, no difference can be found. They are of one blood."

Christ's resurrection is the proof that God has accepted the work. He died upon the cross, and is the foundation of all our hopes.

THE SILVER LINING Published by Apostolic Christian Sunday School Grabill, Indiana

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