



"I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, AND the bright and morning star."—Revelation 22:16.

"When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy."  
—St. Matthew 2:10.

## The Truth Shall Make You Free

(John 8:32)

To know the truth is not always as simple as it sounds. Our own opinions the not always the truth. Pilate the governor already wondered of the Saviour, "What is truth?" The Saviour has told the people before, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." John 14:6. The most important part is then, that we accept the Saviour as our teacher as He has promised that through His spirit He would lead us into all truth and righteousness, providing we stay open-minded and as recorded by the apostle in James 3:17, "But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy."

If the truth of all matters that confront us were at all times diligently sought for this could truly be a beautiful time that we are now living in, the kind of a time that the angels also see the possibility and desire to look into I Peter 1:12. We are now living in the time of Grace, in which the Lord is willing to give the opportunity yet unto as many as search for the truth, to become His children and heirs of the promise. These facts and this truth can be revealed most quickly unto friends if they become humble as the Saviour states in Matt. 11:25, "I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because Thou hast hid these things from the wise and pru-

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## CHRISTMAS

By Elder Ernest Graf, Sr., Akron, Ohio

CHRISTMAS is the festival on which we celebrate the birth of Christ. It is of all birthdays the most important, because it means that a Saviour and Redeemer was born unto mankind. Sin had entered the world when our first parents were induced by the craftiness and deception of Satan to disregard the commandment of God, and ever since then all children of men were born with a sinful

the Prophets foretold the coming of the Messiah. Thus He was expected by the people of Israel; and kings and prophets had hoped to see His day, but died without seeing it. And as it had been prophesied that He would be born of a virgin, many a pious woman in Israel secretly hoped that she might be the chosen one of God. Prior to the birth of Christ, for about 400 years, there was almost no prophecy, because the people had forsaken God and turned unto idols. Even the priesthood was corrupt, and worship consisted of formalities and ceremonies. In the Holiest of Holies, where formerly a light as a great and shining eye stood over the cherubims and the ark of God's covenant, this light shone no more, proving the displeasure of God, their Lord.

### TREASURED VERSES

St. Luke 2:12-14

"And this **SHALL BE** a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

"And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

and rebellious nature. It is written that to be carnally minded is enmity toward God, yet God wished to befriend man again and restore him unto harmony with Him. He told Adam and Eve that from their seed He would raise up One who would crush the head of the serpent. Moses also said to Israel, "The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto Him ye shall hearken." Deut. 18:15. David also, and many of

But now the fullness of time had arrived in which God fulfilled His promises. First we read how unto Zacharias and Elizabeth was born a son, John the Baptist, who was to prepare the way of the Lord. Before John was born, an angel appeared unto a virgin Mary, of the house of David, announcing to her that she was chosen of God to become the mother of His only begotten son. Although Christ had been with His Father in heaven as the Son of God, he was also to put on flesh and blood and become the Son of man, thus uniting the two natures in one body, so that He might be able in the body to suffer and atone for the sin of mankind.

Saint Luke tells us that in the reign of Caesar Augustus a decree went out that all the world should be taxed or registered. Instead of the census taker going from house to house as is the case today, everyone was summoned to the city of their birth. So Mary, and Joseph her espoused husband, also went up from Galilee to the city of David which is called Bethlehem. Having no room in the inn, they had to be content to rest in a stable. There, in poverty and lowliness, Jesus was born, and Mary wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger. Had it been God's will, He could have caused His Son to be born in a palace in grandeur, with angels to wait upon Him. But in the humble surroundings of Jesus' birth we have a lesson in lowliness and humility: that we should not strive after high things, but condescend to men of low estate. And who was first to be amazed of the Saviour's birth? The lowly shepherds, keeping guard over their flocks by night. An angel of the Lord appeared unto them and brought the good tidings of great joy, that on that day a Saviour was born, which is Christ, the Lord. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Luke 12:14. They went and found it even as the angel had told them. Also three wise men or kings were led by a star to Bethlehem. It is said that they had come on camelback from three different parts of the earth, having received testimony from God that they should go forth to see the promised Messiah. They were led together in a desert place, far from any human habitation. There they told each other what God had revealed to them. And as they had been told to look for a star to guide them, suddenly they beheld the star above them, and as it moved, they now followed it to Bethlehem, where they also found the child and worshipped it. Thus did God announce to the world the birth of His son; and when on the eighth day Jesus was brought to the temple, there did Simeon and Anna, moved by the Holy Spirit, testify that this was in truth the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.

But how soon did persecution begin! Joseph and Mary were obliged to take the child and flee into Egypt, when Herod sought His life and had all male children under two years slain in Bethlehem. Though He had been looked for, yet when He came unto His own, they received Him not; but as many as received Him, to them He gave power to become the children of the Most High.

And now, how shall we receive Him, and how shall we celebrate this day? By dedicating to Him our soul and body, and proving our love by obeying Him who gave His life and shed His blood on Calvary, that we might have life, and have it more abundantly. So many celebrate the day by feasting and exchanging presents, thinking of little else. But let us remember that Jesus came to bring the heavenly bread to the hungry,

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**We wish our readers a joyous Christmas,**

**A New Year bright and fair,  
And a warm "God bless you"  
To leave you in His care.**

**THE SILVER LINING STAFF.**

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living water to the thirsty, and light to those who dwelt in darkness. He became poor that we might become rich in God.

The peace on earth which the angels proclaimed is not an outward peace, as there has been much strife and many bloody wars since then, for the prince of darkness still has his work in the children of unbelief. But to the true believer the inward peace has come. Through repentance, faith and baptism and new birth has transformed us from sinners to children of God, and being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

God's children also love their enemies, and being endowed with the spirit of Christ, they strive to be at peace with all men. The good will of God toward man was manifested in sending His Son upon earth to seek and save that which was lost. And we can manifest our good will by ac-

cepting this precious gift unto our soul's salvation.

To me Christmas will always be a day of blessed memory, because on Christmas day in the year 1889 I was baptized into Christ. After a period of sorrow and contrition I was permitted to enter into the covenant of grace and peace with God. Now we cannot all be baptized on Christmas day, but no matter at what time of the year it may be, every child of God can on this day renew the promises that he will be faithful unto death, even as He was faithful unto the death on the cross. And those who are yet unrepentant should remember the debt of love which they owe unto Him, and say, "Here, Lord, is my heart."

Although the birth of Christ was cause for great rejoicing, let us remember that His death and resurrection is our hope of eternal life.

'Tis not the babe, but Christ the man  
Who walked in Galilee;  
'Tis not the manger, but the Cross  
That sets the spirit free.  
Be not content this babe to know,  
Nor stay at Bethlehem,  
But go with Christ to Calvary's brow,  
Beyond Jerusalem.  
'Tis there men learn to know the Christ,  
For there He bore man's sin,  
Then open wide the door of your heart,  
And let the Saviour in.

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When shadows lengthen into night,  
And quiet falls the pale twilight,  
Our cares of day grow strangely dim,  
Our hearts at ease commune with  
Him.

And things we have not understood,  
We leave with God, for God is good.

Submitted by **Marie Beery,**  
Rittman, Ohio.

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**ATTENTION FOR CHANGE OF  
ADDRESSES:**

If you have a change in your address (civilian or serviceman) please let us know immediately. This will help us to get the Silver Lining to you more quickly. If you are in the service and returning home, let us know and we will send your copy to your home. Will everyone co-operate with us?

Anyone wishing to receive the Silver Lining write and address to:

**The Silver Lining,  
Grabill, Indiana.  
(Editor's Note.)**

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I am taking this opportunity in writing my sincere thanks to all the ones who are taking part in publishing the Silver Lining. It certainly is very interesting to read and is also very much appreciated. Yes, indeed so! I am receiving it very regularly and promptly. It's certainly a very kind precious deed which you Dear Ones are doing for us servicemen in foreign lands. So may it be God's will that we one and all can meet each other again back on the Homeland of the United States of America. Yes, the Red, White and Blue which has brought us peace and victory. As we have experienced, God is the Giver of all good and perfect gifts. He is the Ruler of this whole world. So may He protect and provide for us one and all. May He keep us in His loving and tender care. **Sgt. E. R. Schwartz, Paris France.**

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. . . I wish to express my sincere thanks for your paper, "The Silver Lining," which was made possible for us through your efforts. I've received it for some time now and as soon as I've read it through I pass it on to the other brethren in faith who are near me here. We all enjoy it very much. We have access to no other paper that is as complete in spiritual thoughts and news of our churches and people. . . . Thanks again for the paper . . . **Perry Zimmerman, India.**

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I wish to thank you ever so much for sending me the Silver Lining for the past year. I have enjoyed reading it through. I find it very helpful for I am deaf. Keep up with your good work and may the Dear Lord bless you and all for your active part in the Silver Lining. Merry Christmas to you all. **Elizabeth Feldman.**

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I have been receiving your fine paper fairly regular and once more wish to thank each and everyone for the splendid work which you are doing and for sending it to me. I wish to

## Christmastide

*Is your life so crowded this Christmastide,  
That you cruelly turn the dear Lord aside  
From the door of your heart, as they did  
that night*

*When at Bethlehem's inn, Joseph told their  
plight?*

*They little knew that down the years  
Would be told their answer and oft with  
tears;*

*There was no room, save a cattle stall  
In a lowly stable,—yes, that was all.*

*Is your life crowded with sin and shame,  
That you have no room for the One who  
came*

*To give you peace at the Christmastide,  
If within your heart He may now abide?*

*If you give Him room there will ever be  
Glad rejoicing throughout eternity.*

*For the Christmas Babe is God's Holy Son  
And through Him alone is the victory won.*

inform you that after this month I expect to be back home again so it is not necessary to send it anymore but would like to have you continue sending it to my home address if it's possible. My home address is Bluffton, Indiana, Route 4. I'm sure my wife will enjoy reading it as much as I do. I hope to meet every member of the staff sometime in person. **Robert Aschliman, Tokyo, Japan.**

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I have been getting the "Silver Lining" for some time in the past and I am always glad to see it come. . . . I wish to take this time to commend all of you on the staff for this fine inspiring work as it has been an inspiration to me. Possibly the "Silver Lining" will be some spiritual inspiration to others who travel in the darkness of this time where it seems so few seek after the more worth while things in life. It seems good to read news of familiar names at the different churches. **Leroy Huber, Tokyo, Japan.**

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. . . I received the September issue a few days ago and was I glad to get it! I sure do enjoy reading the paper. . . . **Harold N. Luthi, Tinian Island.**

## THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE YOU FREE

(Continued from page 1)

dent, and hast revealed them unto babes." And unto those that have already through the truth been made free. He has promised His grace that they may have His support all the days of their life.

How quickly would Satan have to depart from us when we are in trials and difficulties if we would instantly search out the full truth of a matter, and seek to understand both sides of the case at hand. How would this enemy of our souls have to flee from us in utter shame if we would at all times come at him with the full weight of the truth even as the Saviour did after He had been led into the wilderness, there to be tried by the enemy, who was only to be met with the truth on every hand. Satan could not endure truth very long, as he soon had to depart from Him and then we read "Angels came and ministered unto Him." (Matt. 4:11.)

How did this beloved disciple of Jesus, St. John value truth so highly! In his writings he referred to it so often. What is it then that we can wish each other that is more precious than the truth? And what is it that concerns and grieves a true Christian more than when he has to occasionally see and know that Satan has had his way in preventing the truth from having its full course? May we therefore for the benefit of all ever support the truth with all that is within our power.

**Arthur D. Gasser, Sterling, Ohio.**

## GEMS

Study the Bible to be wise; believe it to be safe; practice it to be holy.

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Be patient with the faults of others; they have to be patient with yours.

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The first steps toward happiness are the Church steps.

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It is not Christmas without Christ.

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Many accept the Christ of the cross, but reject the cross of the Christ.

# NEWS

Lt. Gaylord Widner plans to leave for his new assignment at Randolph Field, Texas, on December 4.

Lt. Richard Lantz writes that he is on a L. S. T. and is leaving Okinawa for Japan.

Ens. Edward G. Souder will be home on leave in December. He will then go to San Diego, California for his assignment.

Elder and Mrs. Emil Schubert, Rev. and Mrs. Michael Weyeneth, Mr. Chris Hoerr, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Chris Hoerr, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Samuel D. Getz, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Leman visited the Leo Church and had dinner at the home of Elias Souders.

The Frank Widner family, Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Klopfenstein and Mrs. J. M. Klopfenstein were dinner guests at the home of David Lantz on November 29.

The Ramas J. Schlatter family visited the Milford Church on Thanksgiving and were dinner guests at the home of Rev. Theo. Beer.

Donald Schlatter has finished his first term at Manchester College, North Manchester, Indiana.

Misses Joan and Mary Ellen Gude-man, from Wolcott, Indiana, were among the dinner guests at the home of Vernon Klopfenstein on Sunday, November 4.

Mrs. Mildred Schlatter and family, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Norr and family, and Mr. and Mrs. Vic Stavenick and family spent Thanksgiving at the home of Roy Wysong, Crestline, Ohio.

William Klopfenstein Jr., returned home after four and one-half years in service. He was overseas eighteen months. At this writing he and his mother are visiting Glenn Klopfenstein of Southington, Connecticut.

Frank Klopfenstein was taken home from the hospital and is improving.

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Frank of Fort Wayne are now residents of Leo, Ind.

The Misses Marie and Ruth Beery of Rittman, Ohio, are spending the week end with the J. J. Conrad family.

Albert Frautschi, Herman Conrad, and Misses Percy and Adella Conrad

visited with S-Sgt. David Frautschi at Crile General Hospital, Cleveland, Ohio on Thanksgiving.

Our discharged servicemen are increasing in number. At present they are Wayne Lantz, Orange Wade Maxfield, Russel Steiglitz, Henry Kipfer, Ted Bahr, Arthur Blume, Don Bollier, Arthur Hassig, William Klopfenstein and Raymond Pulfer.

Sgt. John J. Bollier has arrived in Alaska where he will service planes this winter for cold flight tests.

Rev. and Mrs. Henry Souder of Bremen, Indiana visited the Leo church, Sunday, Nov. 11th.

A number of teachers and young people of the Bremen Sunday School were our guests, Sunday, Nov. 11th. We thank them for their inspirational contributions to our program.

We welcome these men home. We are glad to have them in our circle again.

Wayne E. Lantz S 2-c, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Lantz, entered the Navy, April 7, 1944 and received his Boot Training at U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Illinois. He was then sent to Camp Bradford, Norfolk, Va. A few weeks later he was transferred to Solomons, Washington D. C., where he was assigned to U. S. S. L. C. T. as signalman. After about three months of sea duty he was sent to a hospital at Portsmouth, Va. After spending ten weeks in the hospital, he was discharged Dec. 22, 1944.

Lt. O. W. Maxfield entered the Army as Aviation Cadet, September 25, 1942 at Ft. Thomas, Ky. He received his Army Basic Training at Kessler Field, Mississippi. After receiving his college training at Clemon, South Carolina, he was sent to Nashville, Tenn., where he was classified for Pilot's Training. Then he received his pre-flight at Maxwell Field, Alabama, Primary at Helena, Arkansas, basic flying at Greenville, Mississippi, and advanced flying at Napire, Alabama where he received his wings and was commissioned 2nd Lt., Dec. 23, 1944.

Then he received his transition at

Thomasville, Georgia. He was discharged at Camp Atterbury, Ind., Oct. 10, 1945. He is the husband of Helen Klopfenstein Maxfield.

M-Sgt. Donald Bollier, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Bollier received his honorable discharge, Sept. 8, 1945 after serving nearly five years in the U. S. Army Air Forces. He enlisted Oct. 5, 1940 and was first stationed at Patterson Field, Dayton, Ohio. He was later transferred to Chanute Field, Illinois where he received his training and was graduated from Airplane Mechanics School, Oct. 24, 1941.

Then he was stationed at Selfridge, Field, Michigan until March 17, 1942 when he left for overseas duty. He served as an aerial engineer and flight chief in the India-China Air Transport Command until Feb. 17, 1944.

He held the Air Metal and the Presidential Unit Citation. After his return to the States, he was stationed at Lone Field, Dallas, Texas, where he served as line chief and flight engineer until the time of his discharge.

## Roanoke, Illinois

On November 16, Rev. Phillip Beyer and Rev. Harvey Virkler of Croghan, New York visited the Roanoke Church.

Many of our boys with discharges are home again. They are Milton and Walter Leman, Elmer Rocke, Wilmer Blunier, Dave Leman, Arthur Leman, Howard Souder, Chas. Kupperschmidt, and Elmer Aeschliman.

Miss Lois Martin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Martin, of Eureka and Ben Belsley of Morton were married on November 25, 1945.

Rev. Sam Aeschliman of Bluffton and Rev. John Daper of Maywood, Calif., spent Sunday, November 25 at Roanoke.

## Taylor, Missouri

Pvt. Wilbur Wiegand returned to Ft. Lewis, Washington after spending a fifteen-day furlough at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Butikofer announced the arrival of a son, Gary Edward, November 9, 1945.

Rudy Hoerr has undergone an appendectomy and is now at home convalescing.

Miss Naomi Sutter, James and Ger-

ald Sutter spent November 17 and 18 in Oakville, Iowa visiting friends and relatives.

#### Bluffton, Indiana

Sgt. Everett Geisel, S-Sgt. Raymond L. Levy, and S-Sgt. Sam Schladenhauffen arrived in the states, November 7, after serving four and one-half years with the 38th division. The last twenty-two months were served overseas in Hawaii, New Guinea, and the Philippines. All three men were honorably discharged at Camp Atterbury and have returned to civilian life.

Lt. Raymond E. Reineck has been discharged from the Air Corps after two and one-half years' service. He was a P-47 Pilot. At the present time Raymond is studying Engineering at Purdue University. A younger brother, Dale, is now serving with the occupation forces in Germany. His address is as follows: Pvt. Dale L. Reineck 35991838, Inf. Co. B. 1st Plat., A. P. O. 21416, New York, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Isch, of Villa North, are the parents of a daughter, Ann Catherine, born November 25.

#### Toledo, Ohio

We welcome three of our Toledo boys back to the United States. T-Sgt. David J. Frautschi is back from Europe and is now at Crile General Hospital, Cleveland, Ohio. Eugene Fetter has also returned from Europe and has been discharged from the Army. Richard Bowers has returned from the Pacific and discharged from the Navy. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bowers are now on a trip to California. (Mrs. Bowers is the former Thelma Stevens.)

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Troxel and son of Bluffton, Indiana visited relatives in Toledo for a week.

Rev. Harvey Virkler of Croghan, New York, visited friends in Toledo on November 16.

On November 18, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Kæhr and daughters, Bonnie and Ann Marie, and son, Phillip, from Bluffton, Indiana, Mr. and Mrs. Noah Gerber and daughter, Bernice and son, Bob, of Fort Wayne, Indiana visited friends and relatives in Toledo.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rehklau an-

nounce the arrival of a daughter, Janet Louise, on November 8.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Schlatter announce the arrival of a son, Lawrence Larry Keith, on November 6.

#### Remington, Indiana

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Roth of Kiowa, Kansas, Mr. and Mrs. Don Roth, Lena and Louise Roth of Fairbury visited in Remington on November 4.

On November 14, Miss Clara Beckley of Remington became the bride of Mr. Emanuel Zohner, Rockville, Connecticut. Mr. Zohner was recently discharged from the Army after four years of service here and in Europe. Mr. and Mrs. Zohner will make their home in Connecticut.

On November 11, visitors in Remington included Mr. and Mrs. Walter Zohner, Russell Bahler of Connecticut, Edmund Kloter and Edward Zohner both in the Army are stationed in Virginia and Missouri respectively.

Rev. and Mrs. John Bahler, Rev. and Mrs. Ernest Luginbuhl, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lanz and Adolph Lanz, of Connecticut visited at Remington, November 19, 20, 21. Church services were held here the evening of the 19th. Rev. Sam Aeschlimen of Bluffton, Rev. Ezra Feller and other visitors from Cissna Park were present.

#### West Bend, Iowa

West Bend, Iowa, Pastor, 17 grandchildren in service. Rev. Banwart, 81 years old, pastor of the Apostolic Christian church, has 17 grandsons serving their country, or who have served in World War II.

Reuben Banwart and George Pulford, son and son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Banwert of Detroit, Minn., served in the army and navy, respectively.

Glenn Banwart served in the German occupation drive, and Floyd is overseas with the army in Luzon. They are sons of Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Banwart of West Bend, Iowa.

Archie Banwart is in Japan, and Alvin Banwart is in Texas. Both are sons of Silas Banwart, also of West Bend.

Robert Wuethrich is overseas in

Manila and Russell Wuethrich who is at Camp Crowder. They are sons of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Wuethrich of Bloomfield.

Emil E. Metzger received a medical discharge, and his brother, Silas, is in the army in Texas. They are sons of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Metzger of Whittemore.

Elmer Banwart, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Banwart of West Bend, received a medical discharge, and his brother, Edwin, is now stationed in Reno, Nevada.

The navy is further represented by Harvey, Kenneth and Philip Banwart, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Banwart of Elgin, Illinois, who also have a son, Cathmere, who was formerly in the navy, and two sons-in-law, Bennie Jones, recently a prisoner of war in Germany and Robert Winters.

#### Francesville, Indiana

Lt. John W. Wuethrich has been reverted in inactive status from the Army Air Corps. John entered the service in March, 1941. He returned here from Catham Field, Savannah, Ga. His wife and daughter have been living in Chicago. John is a son, of Mrs. Mary E. Wuethrich, of Francesville.

Pfc. Virgil Von Tobel arrived home November 9, having received an honorable discharge at Camp Atterbury, Virgil was sent to the Southwest Pacific from Southern France. He entered the service in June, 1941, and has been overseas 18 months.

Pvt. Harry Von Tobel arrived home from the ETO, where he spent 23 months. Harry entered the service in August, 1942, and received his discharge at Camp Atterbury.

Lt. and Mrs. Eugene Von Tobel arrived home from Santa Ann, California. Eugene has been in the Service 38 months and was reverted in inactive status Tuesday, October 23. They are sons of Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Von Tobel, Sr.

T/Sgt. Robert Pfladderer arrived home from ETO, having received an honorable discharge from the Army at Camp Atterbury. Bob has been in

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## AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY COMPLETES ITS 5TH YEAR OF WAR EMERGENCY WORK

The American Bible Society has distributed 8,213,070 copies of Bibles, Testaments, and Portions of the Bible to the Army, Navy and Merchant Marine during a five-year period that ended June 30, 1945.

More than five and a half million copies of the special edition of the New Testament, stream-lined to fit the blouse pocket, were requested over the years by the chaplains for direct distribution to the men who expressed an interest in the books.

Like bread upon the waters one of these books has come home to the Bible House. The little brown volume is musty, the pages are bent and pieces of dirt still cling to the leaves. "This book brought us through," is the story of two G.I.'s, Eugene J. Fehsal and Samuel B. Reichard, who were cut off from their battalion in an attack against Nazi positions, and forced to hide in a fox-hole a week, before they were able to work their way back to the American lines. The food gave out the first day. From then on there was only the drifting snow, which provided drink, and the comforting presence of the little book, which they took turns in reading.

Although the Society's major activities in the war effort are now concentrated in the Pacific, a recent request from the U.S. Maritime Service Training Station in St. Petersburg, Florida, for 5,000 copies of the New Testament was filled. This, the Society considers a real opportunity as the merchant ships carry no chaplains and no attempt can be made to provide religious facilities.

From the office of the Commandant of the Twelfth Naval District, San Francisco, has come the request for 10,000 New Testaments and 2,000 Bibles monthly. "The demand for New Testaments via this office is increasing," the society has been notified. "Chaplains out in the fighting areas are relying on us more and more to supply their needs promptly."

## Bible Reading in Public Schools

Back in the days of the thirteen original colonies wherever there was a church there was a school. And everywhere the chief textbook of the schools was the Bible. It is plain history to say that the public-school systems of our land originated as Bible schools.

In the public schools of America today the reading of the Bible is a matter on which each of the 48 states makes its own ruling.

The American Bible Society, in a recent survey, finds that Bible reading in the public schools is required in 11 states, prohibited by 4 states and in the remaining 33 it is permitted although not required.

Furnished by the courtesy of the American Bible Society.

Daily prayers lessen daily cares.

## Hymn For the Month

### It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear,  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth  
To touch their harps of gold;  
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,  
From heav'n's all gracious King;"  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.

Still thro' the cloven skies they come  
With peaceful wings unfurled,  
And still their heav'nly music floats  
O'er all the weary world;  
Above its sad and lowly plains  
They bend on hov'ring wing,  
And ever o'er its Babel sounds  
The blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife  
The world hath suffered long;  
Beneath the angel strain have rolled  
Two thousand years of wrong;  
And man, at war with man, hears not  
The words of peace they bring!  
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,  
And hear the angels sing!

For lo! the days are hast'ning on  
By prophet bards foretold,  
When with the evercircling years  
Comes round the age of gold;  
When peace shall over all the earth  
Its ancient splendors fling,  
And the whole world send back the song  
Which now the angels sing.

## "Memories of Father"

Our tho'ts oft turn to days in past  
'Ere Dear Dad from us was taken;  
May we believe, "The Lord knows best,"  
Lest our faith in Him be shaken.

A sturdy man with health was blessed  
But sickness struck and left him weak;  
Enduring pain, sore distressed  
Yet ne'er a cross word did he speak.

Pleurisy was the first to impart  
Its sharp and piercing pain.  
Next pneumonia, then the heart  
With endocarditis all aid was vain.

Many complications did appear  
Fear of death e'er increasing;  
The Doctor, too, began to fear  
Daily reports were displeasing.

Growing weaker from day to day  
Dad knew life's end was near;  
"I'm just nothing," he oft did say  
But of death he had no fear.

Said the Doctor, "'Tis a matter of days,  
His suffering soon shall end."  
Our pleas and prayers to God did raise  
His Mercy Angel to send.

Tho' Dad this earth no more shall trod  
Great comfort to us is given;  
That if we daily seek our God  
We shall meet again in Heaven.

Written in memory of Samuel Braker, who was called from this life, June 29, 1945.

## REASON AND FAITH

Faith and Reason may be compared to two travellers; Faith is like a man in full health, who can walk his twenty or thirty miles at a time without suffering; Reason is like a child who can only, with difficulty, accomplish three or four miles. "Well," says the writer, "on a given day Reason says to Faith, 'O good Faith, let me walk with thee.' Faith replies, 'O Reason, thou canst never walk with me!' However, they try to walk together, but they soon find it hard to keep company."

When they came to a deep river, Reason says, "I can never ford that stream," but Faith says nothing and wades through it singing. When they reach a lofty mountain, there is the same exclamation of despair; and in such cases, Faith, in order not to leave Reason behind, is obliged to carry him on his back; and, adds the writer, "Oh! What a luggage is Reason to Faith!"

## NEWS

(Continued from page 5)

the service since July, 1942, and over seas about 17 months. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Pfladderer.

Pfc. and Mrs. Raymond Gutwein have returned here from McKinney, Texas. Raymond was given a discharge at the Ashburn General Hospital at McKinney, Texas. He recently returned here from the ETO, where he spent 20 months. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Gutwein.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Leman of Peoria, Ill., visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Leman. Arthur received his discharge Sunday, November 11, from the Army. He spent 18 months in the Southwest Pacific and was in the service 27 months.

Mr. and Mrs. Ramos Schlatter and children, Donald and Melba Jeanne, Laura Fern Conrad, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Steiner and daughters, Joan and Ethelyn Schlatter, of Leo, Indiana, spent Sunday, November 18, at Francesville, Indiana and were Sunday dinner guests of Mrs. Mary E. Wuehrich and family.

A son, John W. III, was born to Lt. and Mrs. Wuehrich of Chicago on November 1, 1945.

**Peoria, Illinois**

Cpl. Richard Binkele and Sgt. Carl Kinsinger are now stationed at Camp Grant, Illinois.

Pfc. Robert J. Hoerr was assigned to the hospital ship. Aleda E. Lutz is now sailing to the South Pacific after several voyages to Europe.

Lt. Wade Fehr, Sgt. Robert L. Weyeneth and Pfc. Wilbur C. Hoerr recently enjoyed furloughs after returning from overseas.

Capt. Ralph E. Hoerr, Sgt. Alton Merkle, Cpl. Harold Thomas, Pfc. Clarence Martin, and Pvt. Joe Hoerr are discharged from the service and enjoying civilian life.

Memorial Services, conducted by Reverends Mike Weyeneth and Dan Knepp, were held for Lt. Irvin C. Hoerr on October 14. Lt. Hoerr was killed while flying a mission over Northern Italy in a P-47 fighter plane. Lt. Wade Fehr presented the American Flag at the services. Lt. Hoerr

**The Old Clay-House**

When I get through with this old clay-house of mine,  
When no longer, through its windows the beacon lights shine;  
Just box it up and lay it away  
With other clay houses of yesterday.

Just study this house; No tears should be shed.  
It's like any clay-house when the tenant has fled.  
I have lived in this house many days all alone,  
Just waiting, and Oh, how I long to go home!

Don't misunderstand me; this old world divine,  
With love, birds, flowers and glorious sunshine  
Is a wonderful place and a wonderful plan;  
And a wonderful, wonderful gift to man.

Yet, somehow we feel when the cycle's complete,  
There are dear ones gone on whom we are anxious to meet.  
So, when I am through with this Old House of Clay,  
Just box it up tight and lay it away.

For the Builder has promised when this house is spent  
To have one finished with timber I sent  
While I lived here in this one. Of course, it will be  
Exactly as I here have builded; you see.

It's the kind of material we each send across,  
And if we build poorly, of course, 'tis our loss.  
You ask "What material is best to select?"  
'Twas told you long since by the Great Architect,

"A new commandment, I give unto you,  
That ye love one another, as I have loved you."  
So, the finest material to send up above  
Is clean, straight-grained timber of Brotherly Love.

Submitted by REV. OTTO NORR, Grabill, Indiana

was the son of David and Rose Hoerr.

S/Sgt. Clarence Peters who is convalescing in Percy Jones Hospital at Battle Creek, Michigan, was recently home on furlough. Sgt. Peters was wounded in action in Germany.

**Chicago**

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Fisher, and Mr. and Mrs. Ben Hofer spent the week-end of October 21 with friends in Cissna Park, Illinois.

Mrs. Ben Hofer spent the week-end of October 28 with relatives and friends at Fairbury and Gridley, Illinois.

Mrs. Henry Stoller and children spent Sunday, October 28 in Chicago, visiting friends and relatives.

Anna and Louise Stoller attended the funeral of Ida Keurth of Gridley, Illinois, Sunday, November 4.

Floyd Stoller who has spent a number of years with the Navy in the South Pacific is home on a furlough. He will soon receive his discharge.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Stoller of Barrington, Illinois, and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Stoller and son of Cissna Park, Illinois, spent Sunday with their son and brother, Floyd and family.

Rev. and Mrs. Robert Hass of Elgin, Illinois, Nettie Stoller and Alvina Gureter of Latty, Ohio, spent Sunday of November 11, with friends and relatives of Chicago.

**Akron**

Rev. and Mrs. Henry Wackerle and Mr. and Mrs. Bert Gudeman visited Akron, November 1 on their return from visiting in New York and Connecticut.

Walter Graf received an honorable discharge and is now at home with his parents.

Rev. Ernest Graff Sr., and Rev. Godfrey Schlatter of Toledo, Ohio, Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Graff, and Miss Edith Graff are visiting the Eastern Churches during the first week of December.

## A Soldier's Prayer

Dear Lord, I pray watch over me.  
 Help me to fully trust in Thee.  
 To trust Thee, Lord, is all I need,  
 To guide my feet where Thou dost lead.  
 The grace and love which Thou hast given  
 me,  
 And Thy precious blood which flowed at  
 Calvary.  
 Hast purified and freed my mind and heart,  
 O! Lord, I would not ever from Thee part.

'Tis a comfort, this to know,  
 That Thou who cares and loves me so.  
 Hast promised never to forsake me,  
 Anew, I pledge my faith and love to Thee.  
 And if with talent I am blest,  
 Teach me, Lord, how I may use it best,  
 There is so much good yet to be done,  
 Before the battles upon earth are won.

Thou knowest, Lord, I am far from home,  
 To friends and loved ones my thot's oft  
 roam.  
 How oft I wish that I could soon return,  
 To the familiar surroundings, for which I  
 yearn.  
 But I will not murmur or complain.  
 When all my wishing seems in vain.  
 For on earth, Joy alternates with woe,  
 There must be rain, to make a rainbow.

Thy suffering was great at Gethsemane,  
 The innocent—a bitter cup was given Thee.  
 And so for the days that lie ahead,  
 If I have Thee, what have I to dread?  
 Each morning for Thy guidance I will ask,  
 And for grace to accept and perform each  
 task.  
 And when the bright evening star appears  
 May Thy sweet rest, calm all my fears.

Thou hast given me more than my share,  
 Of clothing, food, and blessings rare  
 Grace and comfort I've often received,  
 My cares too, have oft been relieved.  
 Even at a time, when it most appeared  
 I'd sail the seas, many trials I feared.  
 It was not Thy will that I should go.  
 But instead, Thou didst grant a furlough.

Who can measure Thy love so divine?  
 How oft it soothes this heart of mine.  
 It frees from sin, and answer prayer,  
 Even in war or dark despair.  
 O! let my life be an inspiration.  
 To those in need of Thy salvation.  
 Let them see that there is no need,  
 Of sin and war, destruction and greed.

I pray for those on foreign land,  
 Keep them from harm, stay every evil  
 hand.  
 Unite the rulers in a desire for peace.  
 Grant from destruction a swift release.  
 The wounded souls and bodies restore  
 Return them safely to their homeland  
 shores,  
 And to all, who are so dear to their heart,  
 Fill them with joy, that will never de-  
 part.

And now for me the time has come,  
 When I must leave the friendly shores of  
 home.  
 And embark on a voyage to a foreign land,  
 Oh, keep me, Lord in the palm of Thy  
 hand,

## ADDRESSES OF OUR BOYS IN THE SERVICE

Killed in Action: Eugene F. Bahr.

Pfc. Joseph Bahr 35540894  
 T. G. 73 D. 99  
 A.P.O. 551 c/o P.M.  
 New York City, N. Y.

T-5 David Bertsch No. 35894267  
 Med. Det. S.C.U. 1915  
 Madigan Gen. Hosp. Sec. 5  
 Tacoma, Washington

Sgt. John J. Bollier 15374503  
 C.W.T.D. A.P.O., 938 c/o Postmaster  
 Minneapolis, Minn.

Robert W. Bollier S 1/c  
 U. S. S. Chester T. O'Brien  
 D. E. 421 c/o Fleet Post Office  
 San Francisco, Calif.

Sgt. Ted J. Bollier No. 35160227  
 Co. A. 264th Eng. Bn.  
 A.P.O. 150 c/o P.M.  
 New York, N. Y.

Hilmer H. Drayer F 2/c  
 987-79-09 Draft No. 16322  
 From Shoemaker c/o F.P.O.  
 San Francisco, Calif.

Sgt. Louis F. Getz 35764521  
 (No address at present)

Cpl. Louis Kamner  
 900th Base Unit (A.A.F. School)  
 Orlando, Fla.

T/4 Ephriam Kipfer 35909913  
 Gp. B. Civil Censorship Division  
 U.SFET (MAIN)  
 A.P.O. 757 c/o Postmaster  
 New York, N. Y.

Give me faith for each trying hour,  
 Let me never doubt Thy love and power.  
 Clothe me with the Breastplate of Righteous-  
 ness,  
 The sword of the spirit let me always pos-  
 sess.

And if in a lonely foxhole I must hide,  
 Surrounded by danger on every side.  
 Let me remember the words Thou has  
 said,  
 Foxes have holes, but I have not where to  
 lay my head.

At night—tho the smoke-filled fiery sky,  
 May dim the bright stars to the mortal eye.  
 Yet the eye of faith can look up to Thee,  
 Thou star of hope—O! shine on me.

Grant that when this war has been fought,  
 All will remember the lessons it taught,  
 That war and greed for power and fame  
 Can never adorn a Christian's name.  
 Grant that I, with willing hands and feet,  
 My mission here on earth complete.  
 Gratefully, I will in Thy promise rest;  
 Knowing that Thy will, Dear Lord, is best.

By M. E. L.  
 submitted by Mrs. Sam Blunter.

Pvt. Richard Klopfenstein No. 15328084  
 Co. F. 242 Inf. A.P.O. 411 c/o P.M.  
 New York City, N. Y.

Lt. Richard W. Lantz O-2070664  
 38th Bomb. Gyp. 822 Bomb. Sqd.  
 A.P.O. 337 c/o Postmaster  
 San Francisco, Calif.

Pfc. Richard H. Murphy  
 18th Separate Co. 9th M. P. Bn. (Prov.)  
 F.M.F. Pacific c/o F.P.O.  
 San Francisco, Calif.

Sgt. Albert P. Norr 35151339  
 Btry. E. H.D.L.A.  
 Ft. MacArthur  
 San Pedro, Calif.

Pvt. Phillip Rizzo 35555551  
 G. F. R. C. Pool  
 A. P. O. 129 c/o Postmaster  
 New York, N. Y.

Ens. Arthur Wm. Schwartz  
 USS.-L.C.I. (G558) c/o F.P.O.  
 San Francisco, Calif.

Lt. Harry R. Schwartz 0554459  
 Ser. Btry. 804 F. A. Bn.  
 A.P.O. 932 c/o Postmaster  
 San Francisco, Calif.

Pfc. Lester D. Smith 36421390  
 A/T Co. 414 Infantry  
 A.P.O. 104 Camp San Luis Obispo, Calif.

Ens. Edward G. Souder  
 Chase Hall, C-36  
 Navy Supply Corps School  
 Harvard University  
 Soldiers Field,  
 Boston, Mass.

Robert V. Stavenik S 1/c  
 Co. B. 538 Navy Pier  
 Chicago, Illinois

Lt. Gaylord H. Widner O-2074891  
 (At home for present)

### Honorably Discharged:

Ted Bahr  
 Arthur Blume  
 Donald R. Bollier  
 Arthur Hassig  
 Henry O. Kipfer  
 Wm. Klopfenstein  
 Wayne E. Lantz  
 O. W. Maxfield  
 Raymond Pulfer  
 Russell Stieglitz

## THE SILVER LINING

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