

"For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith."

—I John 5:4.



"But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."—I Cor. 15:57.

Vol. 2, No 9

GRABILL, INDIANA

June 15, 1945

Victorious Living

We hear much about victory these days, and should indeed be thankful that God yet looks down upon our nation with favor. We should not only rejoice that victory is ours, but that right is right and right will stand. Victory is not within the power of nations, but in the Almighty power of God. We have much to be thankful for that we still have a nation that believes in a living God. A soldier wrote home from overseas, that the American soldier is the most homesick soldier in the world because he has more to go home to than any other soldier in the world.

We are sincerely thankful for these earthly victories, but it is well for us to remember that there is a victory to be won which will mean much more to us than these victories here on earth: the victory of faith.

We return to the theme of faith here because faith is central and vital. Christian faith is what makes a life joyous and happy. Paul was radiantly joyful solely because he was a man of deep and settled faith. I quote his words: "The life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God." On that stormy sea journey that ended in shipwreck Paul could say to those in danger with him that all would be well; that not a life would be lost. He could speak confidently because he had the assurance of faith.

God will never leave nor forsake those that have this faith and trust

(Continued on page 8)

VICTORY—CONFIDENCE IN GOD

By Rev. Irvin Stoller, Latty, Ohio

We read in the Holy Scripture how God created heaven and earth, all living things, and last created man after His own image. We understand that it was God's pleasure to give man dominion over all creatures on earth, and it was God's purpose that man was to walk in the true spirit of His guidance and will. We read of those who did His will and pleased

TREASURED VERSES

I Chr. 29, Verses 11-13

"Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; Thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head above all.

Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all.

Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name."

God. We also read how Satan noticed man serving God, how cunningly he approached Eve, how quickly man was persuaded to listen and yield against God's will. Through this very act, forgetting the promises of God, forgetting to have confidence in God alone, we were all made sinners through inheritance.

We read after the fall of man through transgressions, God promised a new world; but there are many men today who do not believe in God's solemn promise of a new heaven and earth where God will be the light and shall wipe away all tears, where there shall be joy such as never entered into man's heart. Instead, people look to men and organizations, putting confidence in and even laying down their lives for glowing promises of ambitious persons who consider themselves men of destiny.

We read that in the last days men will be lovers of themselves, forsaking the ways of the Creator. Let us look back a few years when, contrary to God's will, there arose a spirit of greed and lust to dominate the world. Many men, setting Almighty God to the side, and placing their confidence in leaders, cruelly invaded neighboring countries. They struck ruthlessly with violence to conquer and control while other nations looked on, fearing what the prophets had foretold. Great fear fell among the peace loving nations. We can recall at that time men asked what God would do about such evil. Humanity ought learn to turn to God, who is the beginning and the end, holding all in the hollow of His hand. It caused many to remember the promises of God, and to have confidence according to His Word. There was fear among nations, prayers and tears,

sweat and toil, testing men's faith. Looking to Almighty God, one had to believe that He would bring to naught such nations that departed from Him and challenged their neighbors to swallow them up because of greed and hate which spelled their game.

Let us recall the day when the Allies entered Normandy. It seems that the hearts of men looked to God for help, strength, and guidance, praying with weeping heart that righteousness might prevail. Oh, what a comfort it was to have the leaders of our nation call upon God and His promises, and to encourage all citizens of the nation to plead to God for His help! Men's hearts would fail them if it were not for the confidence they had in the Divine Creator. What a comfort it is to know that God will keep His promises! He never fails nor forgets! We read in His Word if He is for us, who can be against us; also, the prayers of the righteous availeth much.

Loved ones, let us not forget to thank Him for this great deliverance of evil, and victory over one of the common enemy. Let us rejoice that God has given salvation to many souls through this terrible conflict. Let us not forget the forgiving power of God. He has promised to dwell in the hearts of men who will surrender their hearts unconditionally, burying the old man of sin and arising to a new life through Christ, the Lord. Only those who are not ashamed to confess Jesus can become worthy of this Divine spiritual guidance and blessings.

"God writes with a pen that never blots . . . He speaks with a tongue that never slips . . . He acts with a hand that never fails."

"There is no service like his who serves because he loves."

"Christianity is not a new leaf . . . it is a new life."

"Salvation is not a new start . . . it is a new heart."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"I just received the April 15th issue of the Silver Lining. I enjoy reading it very much. I want to thank all who take part in making up this paper. I am just a soldier friend from Morton, and since I have been overseas for 41 month I really appreciate reading your wonderful paper. I enjoy the sermons and poems. I also appreciate the fact that it is sent airmail, which keeps me well posted on the late news . . ."

Sincerely, **Carl Rassi, Jr.**

* * *

"I receive your Silver Lining and enjoy it very much. It is a wonderful paper and it brings us all closer together. These are times we can not find time to write letters and express our thoughts but that doesn't mean we aren't thinking of you and all the folks back home. It a person has a few minutes free to read the Silver Lining now and then; there is a great deal of comfort in it, as well as news from home. I'm sure we all have more to be thankful for than we can ever realize. Many times while crossing Germany the going was very tough, but our Lord was with us and nothing stopped us. Now that the war is over here many lives will be changed. May our Lord bring happiness to them all.

In closing I wish to thank you for sending me the Silver Lining. It means a great deal to me."

Sincerely, **Sgt. Ted J. Bollier.**

* * *

" . . . I enjoy the Silver Lining to the utmost and find articles of lasting interest, as well as news of friends who are in the armed forces. May your good work always continue as it has for I am sure it is greatly appreciated."

Sincerely, **Pvt. Godfrey C. Miller.**

* * *

"I wish to take this opportunity to thank the entire "Silver Lining" staff for sending me this wonderful and interesting little paper.

I've been receiving it for quite some time. It comes very regular, and I enjoy it more and more each time.

"With deep appreciation."

Sincerely, **Cpl. Sidney B. Leman.**

I work as a Tool Maker in the machine room of The Elgin Watch Co. It was announced yesterday that on V-E Day we were to have a couple hours of leisure time, to talk about the victory.

So this morning about 4:00 o'clock, I awoke in bed, and I wondered to myself how I was to spend the two hours in the shop. Then it came to me that I should write a prayer and post it on the Bulletin Board, which I expect to do. The prayer is as follows:

Prayer for all on V-E Day

Dear Heavenly Father and Lord Jesus Christ, we thank Thee that Thou art bringing this European war seemingly to a close. We thank Thee that we did not have to go under the heels of the Dictators. We sincerely, earnestly and ardently pray first for the vanquished and then for the victors—the living over there and the living over here—that we will all repent and believe in Thee, and so win the Eternal Peace and the Eternal Life. Amen. (5-1-'45) **Ezra Steffen, Elgin, Ill.**

LIFE

The road seems rough and rugged
With detours here and there
The hills are steep and winding
With rocks strewn everywhere.

The rain comes down in torrents
The wind is very strong —
'Tis the life of a weary traveler
When all the world seems wrong.

But let us travel onward
With faith in Him above
And ask Him for His guidance
His everlasting love.

The road won't seem so rugged
The detours we won't mind
The hills will seem a pleasure
The rocks a precious kind.

For life is but a schooling
The rough spots our exams
Let's travel on together
With patience as of lambs.

And when our days are rainy
May it wash clean our slate
And may we meet up yonder
At Heaven's Golden Gate—

By **Nettie Beer.**

MENDING

Years ago I once heard by Grandmother, as she sat mending overalls, suddenly exclaim, "Oh, I wish I had four hands!" Grandmother was having trouble keeping her patch in position until she was able to stitch it into place. But it wasn't long, and as a few tears dropped into her lap she added, "No, I wouldn't want to be different from other people, I am satisfied the way I am."

I noticed that with a few pins and a little patience the patch soon became a part of the garment and it was ready to be as useful as when it was new.

Have you ever had a bodily affliction that the doctors were trying to mend? Did you try doing your part with pins of patience, a thread of cheerfulness, faith for a needle, courage for a thimble and the Good Word as your book of directions?

It does help!

By Nettie Beer, Minonk, Ill.

Nettie Beer has been ill for three years. Greetings and best wishes from the Silver Lining staff.

THERE IS VICTORY

God giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ—I Cor. 15:57.
Victory in trials (Heb. 11:36, 37);
Victory in loss (Phil. 3:8);
Victory over worry (Matt. 6:28);
Victory through the cross (Col. 2:14, 15).

Victory in service (Mark 16:20);
Victory in grace (II Cor. 9:8);
Victory in trusting (Isa. 12:2);
Where you cannot trace (Isa. 50:10).

Victory over Satan (Rev. 12:11);
Victory over sin (Rom. 6:14);
Victory over self life (Luke 9:23);
Through the Christ within (Eph. 3:17).

Victory in watching (Luke 12:37);
Victory in prayer (James 5:16);
Victory in suffering (Heb. 11:36-38);
Victory over care (I Pet. 5:7).

Victory in darkness (Ps. 32:4);
Victory 'midst tears (Acts 20:29);
Victory in fullness (Rom. 8:37);
Victory through fears (I John 4:18).

Victory is each conflict (I Tim. 6:12);
Through the Saviour's Might (Phil 4:13);
Victory through knowing (II Tim. 1:12);
God is always right (Hos. 14:9).

By Mabel Smyth.

Submitted by Elda Steiner.

PFC. BENNIE E. SCHMIDGALL OF HANCOCK, MINN., KILLED ON IWO JIMA

On March 30 a telegram was received by Mr. and Mrs. John Schmidgall conveying the news that their twenty-one year old son, Bennie, had been killed in action March 3, 1945 on Iwo Jima. The telegram was the first news his family had heard of Bennie since October, 1944. Bennie had entered the Marines in November, 1943 and was transferred to the South Pacific May, 1944.

For several months before his enlistment he was employed at Elgin, Illinois. Here he attended Sunday School, acquiring spiritual knowledge which he advantageously used during his military life.

His letters to home and friends indicated that he realized God and prayer had power over all. He wrote home asking for their prayers and in

one of his last letters, he was inspired to include this following thought:

"Here in the jungles night where cold stars glisten brave men will talk to God and God will listen."

The following letter regarding Bennie's death was received by his parents:

"Dear Mr. Schmidgall,

It is with deep regret that I find it necessary to write this letter informing you of the passing of your son, Pfc. Bennie E. Schmidgall. He was a fine courageous marine, one we are all proud to have known and worked with. His passing is a great loss to all of us.

He was hit by machine gun fire on March 3, while he was helping to attack a heavily defended blockhouse on Iwo Jima. He died instantly, feeling no pain. His actions throughout the operation contributed greatly to the success in capturing this vital base so near to Japan.

His body rests in the Fourth Marine Division cemetery on Iwo Jima, plot 1, row 28, number 1369. The cemetery is located in a peaceful area on a slope overlooking the east beach. On March 15 a very lovely memorial service was held at the cemetery.

As his company commander, I wish to extend to you my deepest, most heartfelt sympathy.

Yours sincerely,

Robert J. Haehl,

Captain, Fourth Marines."

The Staff of the Silver Lining wishes to extend their sincere sympathy to his family and friends.

ABIDING PEACE

Poem by Sadie M. Miller

Beautiful thoughts are those that bear

On the wings of love, a silent prayer,
Over the mountains, or over the sea,
That His peace may ever abide with thee;

Abide with thee when the shadows fall,

When day is done and the night birds call,

When morning comes and shadows flee,

I know He still will abide with thee.

By Jesse Gerber, Latty, Ohio.

Hymn for the Month

VICTORY IS SURELY COMING

All along on the road to the soul's blessed refuge

Is a battle that's raging strong, so strong,

But if we walk the path of our Lord and Redeemer,

We'll have vict'ry, 'twill not be long, not long.

Many evils of sin lie along by the roadside,

Just to beckon us from the goal,

But we'll keep pressing on to the gates of the city

Where we'll dwell while the ages roll, they roll.

Come and go to the land that the Lord is preparing

For the soul that is saved by grace, by grace,

Then when life here is over we'll meet up in heaven

Where we'll look on His smiling face, His face.

Refrain:

Victory is surely coming some day,

Fling high the banner, let it fly;

Christ is our Lord, trust in His word,

Vict'ry is coming by and by.

NEWS

A number of visitors from Francesville, Ind., and Latty, Ohio were with us for the Sunday School Meeting held here Sunday evening, May 13.

The program, which was read by Marvin Stieglitz, acting as chairman, follows:

Opening Song (Group), Praise Him
Introduction (Mother's Day), Chairman

A Wish, Carol Clauss

Tributes to Mother, Philippean Coles
Song (My Mother's Bible), Octette
Exercise (Mother's Name), Six children (Class No. 2)

Somebody's Mother, Donald Schlatter

Every Day is Mother's Day, Leon Schlatter

To Light the Candles, Marjorie Frautschi

A Message by Rev. Irvn Stoller
Songs, Meet Mother in the Skies, and
That Will be Glory, Francesville Quartet

Introduction (Nature), Chairman
The Child's World, Allen J. Schlatter
Song (Day is Dying In the West), Steiner Trio

Whoever Makes a Garden, V. K. Schlatter

Nature Lover's Creed, Joan Schlatter

Song (Make Us of Worth), Elaine
Norr and Melba Jeanne Schlatter
What Do We Plant when We Plant a Tree?, George Stieglitz

Lord, Set a Mountain in my Mind, Joseph Kipfer

Songs, When Love Shines In and
Softly and Tenderly, Francesville Quartet

A Message by Rev. Philip Gutwein
Prayer by Rev. Irvn Stoller

Mrs. Robert Norr, and children, and Miss Marguerite Meiss attended the reception of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Meiss, May 13 at Cissna Park, Ill.

Mrs. Mary Wuethrich and daughters, Minerva and Nancy, attended the Capping Exercises held at the Lutheran hospital in Fort Wayne, Indiana, Sunday May 13, at two P. M. Marjorie Wuethrich received her cap signifying that she has successfully passed the probation period of nurse's training. She was also accept-

ed into the United States Cadet Nurse Corps at the same time. Cadet Nurse Marjorie Wuethrich accompanied them to Francesville, Indiana to visit relatives and friends until June 1st.

The Misses Margaret Kipfer, Lavada and Imogene Stieglitz, Irene and Sara Pulfer, and Mrs. Mildred Schlatter visited Mansfield, Ohio the 6th of May.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Kipfer's son, Larry, returned home from the hospital on the 12th of May after a week's illness.

On the 20th of May, Rev. and Mrs. Joel Souder, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Schweitzer, Mrs. Mildred Schlatter, Rev. and Mrs. Henry Dotterer, Mr. and Mrs. Ulrich Kipfer, Mrs. Arvilla Kipfer, and Mrs. Marjorie Stucky visited in Archbold, Ohio.

Elders Ernest Graff and Eli Dotterer visited at Leo on the 27th of May. They had dinner at the Ed Schlatter home.

Herman Schlatter returned to the hospital for a tonsillectomy and is now at home recuperating. We were glad to see him at church, Sunday, May 27th.

Mr. and Mrs. Phil Clauss of Fort Wayne entertained at Sunday dinner, May 13th, Rev. and Mrs. Gutwein, Mrs. John Wuethrich and family of Francesville, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Heinold, Mr. and Mrs. John Franks of LaCross, and also friends from Grabill and Fort Wayne. The guests attended the Leo Sunday School meeting.

S 1-c Eugene Butler, survivor of the USS Franklin, is home for a thirty-day furlough. At the time of the catastrophe Eugene was caught with 254 other sailors below decks and escaped through the air ventilator to the top deck.

Mrs. Richard Murphy and son returned home from the west coast. They are at home with her mother, Mrs. Bertha Keller.

The Good Cheer Sewing Circle met Tuesday, May 1st at the church. Red Cross Sewing is a project of the group.

BLUFFTON

Lt. Raymond Reinech surprised his parents Sunday May 27. He will be home for a two-week furlough.

Misses Carolyn Baumgartner, Wanda Moser, Dorothy Moser, Irene Isch, Marie Gerber, Doris Gillim and Alice Troxel spent a delightful week end May 27, visiting friends at Roanoke, Ill.

Cpl. Eugene E. Maller, who is stationed aboard a hospital ship, is enjoying a 13-day leave with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Maller, 224 East Market street, after having completed six voyages between the States and the European theater of operations. The hospital ship on which he is stationed acted as the acting station hospital during the recent repatriation of American and German prisoners of war somewhere in southern France. His ship and the Gripsholm, the Swedish exchange ship, were docked at the same dock during the repatriation which arrived at New York a few days ago with her cargo of "repatriates."

Sgt. Lauren Bertsch arrived home May 17 for a 30-day furlough. At the expiration of his furlough he will report for duty at Miami, Fla.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Moser have received word that their son, Pfc. Ervin L. Moser, is stationed somewhere in the Philippines. His address as far as may be published is 35835339, APO, 75, c-o Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif. Before going overseas Moser was stationed at Camp Roberts, Calif.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Isch have received word that her brother, Ensign Harley Mangold, of Roanoke, Ill., received his commission and wings as a navy pilot at graduation exercises held recently at Corpus Christie, Texas. He is expected to arrive in Bluffton on Wednesday for a short visit in the Isch home before reporting for re-assignment to duty at Miami, Fla., May 23, 1945.

Weddings for the latter part of May are as follows: Miss Pauline Graber and Mr. Roger Kaehr, May 13. Miss Lucille E. Baumgartner and Mr. Norman E. Steffen, May 20. Miss Gladys Heyerly and Sgt. Floyd Gerber, May 27.

BREMEN

S-Sgt. John Leman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Leman, has been returned to the States after serving with the Army in Hawaii for seven months. He was brought back to the States to enter Officers' Training School.

Cpl. Robert Gerber has left the States for duty overseas with the Army Air Corps. His parents, Mr and Mrs. L. W. Gerber, of Wyatt visited him in Utah for several days before he left for "destination unknown."

Many members of the Sunday School have received letters from the boys in service thanking us for the letters they have received since we have started our "letter a week" plan. If the boys "over there" can spend their time writing to thank us for the few minutes and little effort we used in writing a letter, the least we can do is keep the mail going. Victory in Europe doesn't mean we can forget the boys and what they did because they are still a long way from their homes and families with many lonely days ahead. The boys in the Pacific didn't celebrate on V-E Day.

CROGHAN, NEW YORK

Rev. and Mrs. Harvey Virkler from Castorland were at Croghan Church, Sunday, May 20. They also had dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Julius Farney of Croghan.

Mr. and Mrs. William P. Virkler of New Bremen were at Naumburg Church for services Sunday, May 20. They also had dinner with the Misses Ella and Augusta Einbeck of Castorland.

Pfc. Benjamin Beer of Mansfield, Ohio, stationed at Rome, N. Y. attended services in Naumburg, May 20.

CHICAGO

Mrs. Eli Winzler has been confined to bed with illness the last three weeks but she is much improved.

Mrs. Raymond Schrenk and two children spent two weeks with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Moser, of Bluffton, Indiana.

Mrs. Eliza Zellers who has been staying with her daughter, Mrs. Lawrence Spueller, passed away. The funeral services and burial took place in Cissna Park, Ill., her former home.

Mr. William Wagler who has been

ill for months is improving and has attended church services again.

A Bible School Class was started in the Chicago Apostolic Christian Church, May 17. Al Fisher was chosen as teacher.

Miss Martha Heiniger who has been working in Chicago left May 21 for home where she will spend the summer.

Misses Anna and Louise Stoller visited with their brothers, Mr. and Mrs. Eli Stoller and family of La Crosse, Ind., and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Stoller of Bluffton, Ind., May 4 to 7.

EUREKA

Funeral services for Mrs. Lena Zimmerman, 40, who died Friday afternoon at her home two miles north of Eureka were held at the home and at the Roanoke Apostolic Christian Church Monday morning. Interment took place at the church cemetery.

Sgt. Lee W. Blunier cabled his mother, Mrs. Sam Blunier, of Eureka on Mother's Day stating he is safe and well and hopes to see them soon. More recent letters received said that he was in France and was awaiting transportation home. Lee has been a prisoner of the Germans since his capture in Italy, October, 1944. The last word received from him was in January, 1945, from Camp Stalag 7 A. The camp was liberated on April 29, by the Allied Forces. He served in the medical corps as company aid man while serving with the Fifth Army in North Africa and Italy. He has been awarded the bronze star for faithful and gallant service in action. He entered the armed forces in May of 1942. Three other sons of Mr. and Mrs. Blunier are also serving with the medical corps. S-Sgt. Samuel now in Italy, and Cpl. Henry and Pvt. Lewis are both serving in the South Pacific.

Jot Schumacher, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Schumacher, of Eureka writes from Caserta, Italy, that he is fine and well. At present he is living in a castle. This castle was built by an Italian Prince who set out to build a castle of all castles. Since then it has been the summer resort of the kings. It has 1,200 rooms. Behind the castle is a pool nearly one-half mile

long. Farther back are a series of pools, each a little higher than the preceding one and joined by little waterfalls. The water disappears and comes up again in a circular pool. The water comes from the mountains. All in all it's a beautiful sight. At present his address is Mr. Joe H. Schumacher, C.I.C., A. F. H. Q. APO 512 c-o Postmaster New York, N. Y. He says he would be happy to hear from any of his friends.

Miss Nettie Martin and Mr. Arnold Pfau have chosen Sunday, June 3 for their wedding day.

FRANCESVILLE

Pvts. Richard and Stanley Gude-man, and Pfc. George Boehing have been spending furloughs with home folks. They are to report at camps in California.

Lt. John Wuethrich Jr., visited with his wife in Chicago May 25 and 26. He is then to report at Seattle, Washington.

Our Sunday School had their program Sunday evening, May 7, the subject was, "The Heart of Man." These meetings are very well attended.

LATTY

Rev. Irvin Stoller and Rev. Joe Klopfenstein of Gridley, Illinois spent the week end of May 27 with our church at Athens, Alabama.

Aaron Souder and son, Charles, of Mansfield visited relatives here Sunday, May 20.

Willard Stoller was seriously injured in a hay chopper. He is recovering slowly at the hospital.

MORTON

On May 6 the general meeting of the Sunday School was held at Morton with a large attendance. Everyone seemed to enjoy the meeting and there was a greater spirit of fellowship and interest shown at this meeting than at any previous one. There were about twenty guests from Elgin, Illinois, including Rev. Scheitland, Brothers Schmidgall, Herman and Nathan Kellenberger.

Due to the fact that Sunday was a National Day of Prayer and also Mother's Day, the entire Sunday School was dismissed to attend the church services which filled the building to its capacity.

Mrs. Sam Dietrich who was afflicted with a stroke is still in a serious condition and has not regained her speech up to this time. Mrs. Dietrich is the wife of Sam Dietrich, who is one of our Sunday School teachers.

MILFORD

The last program at the Milford Apostolic Christian Church for this season was presented on the evening of May 13. Since our programs are discontinued for the summer; the committee arranged special tributes to mothers as well as fathers. Those on the committee were Mary Jane Steffen, Lois Beer, and Adolph Stieglitz. The primary classes gave the mothers special favors which they made in Sunday School. Among the large audience were parents, friends, and guests from La Crosse, Bluffton, Bremen, Toledo, and South Bend.

One of our former Sunday School students, Walter O. Beer, has been liberated, his parents believe. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Beer, received a cablegram from him on Mother's Day. Walter has been a German prisoner of war since February, 17, 1943.

Brother Herman Heuni from Bremen spent Sunday afternoon and evening at Milford, May 13.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Getz and daughter, Esther, spent the week end with their son and brother, Jesse, at Sioux City. The Getz have moved into their home again.

Brother Theo Beer and daughters, Carlton and Eunice Beer, and Martha Wuthrich spent the week end in Peoria, Morton, and Roanoke.

TAYLOR, MO.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Butikofer, Mr. and Mrs. Eli Sutter and children, Rev. and Mrs. Fred Grimm visited in Oakville, Iowa, April 29. Ann Gudeman and son, Peter, of Chicago met them there.

Leslie Frieden, son of Mrs. Rose Frieden, of LaGrange, Mo., and Wilbur Wiegand, son of Rev. and Mrs. Ben Wiegand of Taylor, Mo., were inducted into the service at Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, Mo.

Mr. and Mrs. Perry Yackley had as their guests Sarah Lanner and

children, Rose Shurtz, and Mother Shurtz of Peoria, Ill.

David Wiegand has finished a Tri-Semester at Culver Stockton College, Canton, Mo., and will remain at home for the summer.

TOLEDO

Rev. Godfrey Schlatter and Elder Noah Hartzler visited the Alabama church the week end of May 6.

Carl, Ann, and Janice Kay Frautschi visited their relatives in Goshen, Indiana, May 13. Nelson Sorg was home on a furlough.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rehklaw, their son and daughter, Howard and Marie, and Misses Rose and Lillian Rager visited their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Rager, at Payne, Ohio on Mother's Day.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Schlatter and four daughters attended the wedding of Miss Pauline Graber and Roger Kaehr in Bluffton, Ind.

Misses Grace and Helen Eisenman from Chicago, Ill., and their brother, Lee, visited their relatives in Toledo, May 20.

YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

The Silver Lining received word from J. C. Emch that his son, Pvt. Gerald W. Emch, was seriously wounded April 14 while with the First Army in Germany. The Red Cross wrote he had both arms broken and other injuries. He would appreciate hearing from his friends. His address is as follows:

Pfc. Gerald W. Emch 35848964,
Hospital Plant 4191
Detachment of Patients, A. P. O. 209,
C-o Postmaster New York, N. Y.

SOLDIER LONGING

By Edgar A. Guest

When he comes home, and soon I pray.

Will come to all that happy day,
I'm very sure he'll want to see
The old room as it used to be
His room, his pictures on the wall,
And Ma and me not changed at all.

When all the battle flags are furled
He'll want the same old little world
That once he knew. He'll look to find
The things he long has kept in mind:

The shops, the church, the people good

That long made up his neighborhood.

'Tis not some visionary scheme,
However noble it may seem,
He longs for now, so far away,
But for those joys of yesterday;
The home he had and wants to see
Just as it was, and Ma and me.

* * *

My Dad sent the above to me—
Hope you like it—only those who
are in the service, and have sons in
the service can appreciate a little
poem like this.

Sent by Pvt. Wilbur C. Hoerr.

Permission granted for reprinting
to Emma H. Getz, Tremont, Ill. For
Silver Lining.

THREE GIFTS

There are three lessons I would write
Three words, as with a burning
pen,
In tracing of eternal light,
Upon the hearts of men.

Have Hope, though clouds are gathered low,
And gladness hides her face in scorn,
Put off the shadow from thy brow;
No night but hath its morn.

Have Faith, where'er thy bark is driven—
Through sullen calm or tempest's mirth,
Know this: God rules the hosts of heaven,
And the inhabitants of earth.

Have Love—not love alone for one,
But man, as man, thy brother call;
And scatter, like a circling sun,
Thy charities on all.

—From "Square and Compass."

"The most frequent positive command in Scripture is, 'Praise ye!'"

"God depends upon our dependence upon Him."

Diary of Trip to Palestine

(This is the third in a series of installments on Palestine. Walter J. Graf is the son of Elder Ernest Graf, Sr.)

Next morning we again started out at 5 a. m. The trip that day covered about 250 miles. The scenery changed from the usual sand to fields of black rock. It is a peculiar looking sight, stretching as far as the eye can see. Many years ago there was a volcanic eruption near Damascus, the lava flowed south all over this area and formed black rock. Occasionally we could see a neat pile of rocks with a cross on top, undoubtedly denoting the resting place of somebody who had died there. Can't think of a lonelier place to be buried.

We got into El Mafrag, which is in trans-Jordan, at about 2 in the afternoon. This again was a large British Camp, and there were more signs of life. There is another road making a crossing here, and over this other road the Moslems travel by the thousands on their way to Mecca. We visited the NAAFI canteen in the evening, drank a few bottles of Palestinian beer, and sang songs with the Limeys. It gets very cold there at night, and we had three blankets and were glad for every one of them. Seems almost impossible that there can be such a change in temperature in the course of one day.

Started off the next morning in darkness, and drove at least an hour before it became light enough to see well. But what a change when we finally could see, and discovered that we had passed from the barren desert lands of Iraq and Trans-Jordan into the fertility of the Jordan Valley. As we descended into the valley our trucks stopped and we all got out and looked over the surrounding territory. Everywhere in the valley is the green of the Jewish co-operative settlements, and in the background can be seen some of the most historic spots of Biblical history. Ahead is Mt. Tabor, and to the left Mt. Moreh. As we went on down into the valley we could see the Sea of Galilee in the distance. We also passed the ancient city of Bethabara, which is said to be the place where John the Baptist,

baptized Christ. We were still not in Palestine, as everything on the east side of the river is in Trans-Jordan.

We stopped on the near side of the river and walked down to its bank. Most of us waded a bit in the water which was surprisingly warm. I picked up a couple of stones for souvenirs. As we passed over the river we came closer to the farms of the Jews. Both here in the Jordan Valley and later in the Sharon Valley we were impressed by the good looking, modern farms. They have a little mechanical equipment and even overheard irrigation. It reminded me of the farm back home when I saw water spraying out of the pipes, and at several places even saw oscillators turning the pipes. Young girls work in the farms right alongside the boys, and they all seem to be built for wear. But then that seems to be the case with all the Jewish girls I saw in Palestine.

Soon we got away from the Jordan Valley and came into what is known as the Jezereel Valley. The first town of consequence was Beth-Shean, as it was called in the olden days,—now an Arab town of about 3,000 people. After Saul killed his head was cut off and his body hung from the walls at Beth-Shean. You can see excavations made by archeologists in recent times, and in this area they found remains of cities dating from 3,500 B. C. to 700 A. D.

As we proceeded up the Valley of Jezreel, the officer in charge pointed out the locations of some familiar happenings. On the left Mt. Gilboa slopes gradually down into the Jezreel Valley. On the top of this mountain King Ahab had his palace. The spring of Ain Harold, which feeds into the River Jordan, is located here. It was at this spring that Gideon chose his forces to battle the Midianites and the Amalekites, picking his men by the fashion in which they scooped the water to drink. The lower slopes of the mount reach to the slopes of Mr. Moreh on the right, where Naboth had his vineyard. That same vineyard, which caused King Ahab all his grief. On the exact spot believed to be the sight of Naboth's vineyard, a rich and beautiful vineyard, is in existence today. Further on, and to the right, is a village which is on the site of Shunem where lived the Shunamite woman who was so kind to Elijah, and where later

Elijah brought the woman's son back to life.

We then passed through a small town of Affule, which is an important crossroads town, leading in various directions to Nazareth, and other large Palestine cities. This brought us out to what is presently known as the Plain of Esdraelon, for my money the most historic battleground in the world. It was also known as the plain of Armageddon, and that is the name I had always heard. Beginning way back in the 15th century, B. C., people have used this plain for deciding wars. The earliest battle was between the Egyptians and the Syrians. Then after that, Deborah and Barak defeated the Canaanites, Gideon subdued the Midianites, Saul met the Philistines and his death. Later Roman legions passed through here, and the Moslems used it as a pathway to conquest. The Crusaders had it out with the Saracens on these selfsame plains. The Turks lost to Napoleon in the 18th century, and in more recent times to General Allenby in World War I. And, according to the Revelation, here will be fought the last battles in the world. The plain is so situated that any army passing from Europe to North Africa by land, must of necessity go through it. They have to go through this plain to get to the plain of Sharon along the Mediterranean, since the Mt. Carmel range extends right out to the sea and the people from the south, like for instance the Egyptians, have always figured it would be better to come halfway and fight it out in Palestine.

We kept going through the plain until we arrived at the Megiddo Pass. This runs between the Samaritan hills on the left and the Mt. Carmel range on the right. On the right are the ruins of the ancient city of Megiddo, which was the key to the pass itself. Whoever controlled that pass held an enviable, and strategic position, as it was the best means of travel between the plain of Esdraelon and the Plain of Sharon. Recently an American archaeological expedition uncovered twenty layers of history near Megiddo, dated from 4,000 B. C. to 400 A. D. Among the ruins they could discern Canaanite temples, a part of the stable built by Solomon to house 500 horses, and countless other bits of interesting information. The plain of Sharon is still as fertile as it was in the olden days. All the way down the road which followed an old caravan route, we could see rich farms reminiscent of the country-side back in the U. S.

We arrived at the camp that day at about 10 o'clock in the morning. Of course there was the inevitable speech by the Commanding Officer, regarding our behaviour and actions while there.

(To be continued)

VICTORIOUS LIVING*(Continued from page 1)*

in their hearts. We need this faith in God when we need His help. It is in the time of storms that we appreciate shelter and we need the sheltering presence of God in life's storms. The more faith is tested and tried the more it grows. There are times when our faith grows weary and begins to wane. In such times we should not let down our faith. We should then rest in faith and wait to hear what God will say. Since God meant for His people to be victorious we have a right to be victorious and with God's help we shall be victorious.

This faith brings us joy and happiness—a joy that no other life can comprehend. To sum up our thoughts, the secret of such a joyous heart consists in learning to be what we ought to be and to hold the attitude we ought to hold toward life. It consists in walking with God, believing in Him and acting out that belief day by day. Doing this we shall be ever happy. We shall have joy and happiness; sorrow and sighing shall flee away. Then and only then, is when the soul's victory is won.

By Jesse Gerber, Latty, Ohio

PEACE

It isn't won in battles,
It doesn't have a price
It isn't made in factories,
And it's never held by vice.
Yet still, the greatest gift to man,
To have for just the asking;
With humble heart, to seek the Lord,
Who gives life everlasting.

So many go astray in life,
And don't quite understand.
The meaning of Our Savior's death,
And God's salvation plan.
How Jesus died upon the cross,
To free us from all sin.
And now prepared a home in heaven,
That we may enter in.

It's peace in mind, and peace in heart.
It's a glorious peace, that will ne'er depart.
By seeking Jesus day by day,
We learn to walk the narrow way.
And taking all our cares to Him,
Our prize will be this peace to win.

By S-Sgt. Samuel Blunier.

"Never doubt in the dark what you have believed in the light."

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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.**

The Christian's A B C

"Abhor that which is evil." (Rom. 12:9.)

"Be kindly affectioned one to another." (Rom. 12:10.)

"Cleave to that which is good." (Rom. 12:9.)

THE SILVER LINING

Published by
Apostolic Christian Sunday School
Grabill, Indiana