Chapter XII.

ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

1. Conference Branch of the Women's Missionary Association

The Women's Missionary work is a strong factor in the spirituality and growth of East Pennsylvania Conference.

Mrs. A. L. Billheimer was the first woman sent by our church as a missionary to Africa. She and her husband made the trip in a sailboat in 1862. After her return she was elected National Organizer for the Women's Missionary Association, and so it was that she organized East Pennsylvania Branch at Stoverdale Campmeeting August 22, 1877, with the following officers: president, Mrs. D. D. DeLong; first vice-president, Mrs. Isaiah Baltzell; second vice-president, Mrs. J. K. Fisher; third vice-president, Mrs. G. W. M. Rigor; secretary, Mrs. E. B. Bierman; treasurer, Mrs. David S. Herr. However, Mrs. Herr did not serve, and Mrs. S. E. Burn was appointed in her stead.

It was not an easy thing to win the people over to this new and untried venture, but Mrs. Billheimer had the love of God in her heart and was full of rich experiences and had first hand knowledge of the need. She was just the person to start the work. Sixty-five names were enrolled, and so the work began. It was a new thing, the women were timid and had little experience in leading meetings, planning programs, and much less in public speaking, but they did know how to pray, to trust God, and to work together.

The first Branch Meeting was held in Harrisburg First Church April 18, 1878, with afternoon and evening sessions. Mrs. Billheimer spoke at the evening session, and at its close Mr. Rudolph Kelker, a member of the Reformed Church, gave her a ten-dollar gold piece for the work. Four societies were represented—Harrisburg First, Hummelstown, Annville, and Lebanon Trinity, with eighty-five members and total receipts of $128.50.

Among the societies organized in the next five years were Manheim, Mount Joy, Ranck's, New Holland, and Steelton. Mrs. Billheimer erected her own memorial when in 1915, in her eighty-second year, she organized Philadelphia Second Local. We have record of forty-three different persons who organized societies in the various sections of the Branch, and the recording angel no doubt can double that record, and that is the key to our growth.

The first Young Women's Band was organized in 1887 at Lebanon Valley College by Mrs. D. D. DeLong, whose husband then was president of the College. In 1913 the name was changed to Otterbein Guild, and at the Branch Meeting held at Mount Carmel April 22 to 24, 1913, the first Otterbein Guild Hour was observed. There were fifty-four Otterbein Guild girls in attendance.
Mrs. George W. Hoverter and Mrs. E. B. Bierman were the first delegates elected to Board Meeting which was held at Galion, Ohio, May 1, 1878. The following year Mrs. M. A. McFarlan and Mrs. E. B. Bierman were elected delegates with instructions to “use all honorable means to change the meetings of the Board to quadrennial meetings in order to save expense, time and unnecessary work.”

The first W. M. A. Day service at a Campmeeting was held at Stoverdale August 11, 1880. Rev. M. P. Doyle and Rev. C. S. Meily were the speakers. Mrs. S. N. Eby, Mrs. Isaiah Baltzell, Misses Emma Landis and Luella Baltzell were the financial solicitors. The offering of forty dollars was to be used in building a chapel in Africa.

The work was carried on with many hindrances, but it increased in spite of many difficulties. For seventeen years there was no full attendance of Branch Officers at either Branch Meetings or Executive Meetings. Eighteen years after organization there were twenty-two Locals with 508 members, nine Young Women’s Bands with 259 members, ten Gleaners’ Bands with 490 members. There were 362 Evangel subscriptions at that time. The treasurer reported receipts of $2,045.81, upon which the chautauqua salute was given and the Doxology was sung three times.

East German Branch was permanently organized August 12, 1881 at Hillsdale Campmeeting by Mrs. L. R. Keister. During the previous
week she spoke at Elizabethville Campmeeting and organized a local. She also spoke at Heilmandale Campmeeting. There a man paid for Life Memberships for his wife and four daughters. He said he would rather do that than eat a turkey.

The following were the first Branch Officers of East German Branch: president, Mrs. M. S. Craumer; first vice-president, Mrs. Flanna Lamey; second vice-president, Mrs. Rebecca Fritz; secretary, Mrs. James Lesher; treasurer, Mrs. I. B. Haak. Ten new Locals were organized in the first year. Among them were Avon, Allentown Zion, Myerstown, Pine Grove, and Reading Zion.

The first Branch Meeting was held in Lebanon Salem Church October 7, 1881. Palmyra First Local was organized in 1892 and just five years later entertained the Branch Meeting. At this meeting was the last public appearance before returning to Africa of Rev. and Mrs. I. N. Cain, Marietta Hatfield, M. D., Mary Archer, M. D., Miss Ella Schenck and Arthur A. Ward, all of whom except the last were victims of the massacre which occurred six months after their arrival on the field.

In 1897 the name was changed to Eastern Branch and in 1902 the Branch was united with East Pennsylvania Branch. The following officers were elected at the Branch Meeting held at Myerstown April 17 to 19, 1902 when the Branches were united: president, Mrs. Joseph H. Kreider; first vice-president, Mrs. M. S. Craumer; second vice-president, Mrs. E. B. Bierman; third vice-president, Mrs. H. S. Gabel; fourth vice-president, Miss Emma L. Landis; corresponding secretary, Mrs. J. A. Keiper; recording secretary, Mrs. DeWitt Fry; treasurer, Mrs. I. B. Haak; organizers, Mrs. Rebecca Fritz and Mrs. Jennie Detweiler.

In the Religious Telescope of September 22, 1877 was printed, "It is said by those who know that our people in the East are not so impulsive but when it comes to a long, strong, hard pull look out for those Pennsylvanians."

Those prophetic words have come true. Much of the success of East Pennsylvania Branch under God can be credited to long and united pulling by both Branch officers and members of Locals and Chapters. There were seven Branch officers of the early days who served for more than ten years in office: Mrs. D. D. DeLong, Mrs. I. B. Haak, Mrs. E. B. Bierman, Mrs. Joseph H. Kreider, Mrs. I. S. Meily, Mrs. M. S. Craumer and Mrs. Rebecca Fritz. Mrs. I. B. Haak served as Branch treasurer for thirty-six years. There are fifteen officers since the early days who have served in office for ten or more years. Mrs. O. M. Fridy served as Branch president for twenty-six years, Mrs. J. A. Keiper served as statistical secretary for twenty-three years. Mrs. J. R. Engle served for twenty-three years as recording secretary and three years as Branch president. Miss Susan J. Balsbaugh served ten years as Secretary of Literature, two years as secretary of Thank Offering, and twenty-three years
as treasurer, a total of thirty-five years as Branch officer. Her reminiscences are recorded in March 1943 issue of the Evangel. Others who have served for ten years or more are Mrs. J. O. Love, Mrs. E. F. Slichter, Mrs. B. F. Daugherty, Mrs. D. L. Fegley, Mrs. Joseph Daugherty, Mrs. DeWitt Fry, Miss Clara Preis, Mrs. O. T. Ehrhart, Mrs. A. C. Spangler, Mrs. J. K. Robinson, and Mrs. E. S. Nissley.

The ministers of the conference have greatly helped in the progress of the work and their presence at institutes and Branch meetings always gives inspiration and encouragement. Dr. S. C. Enck, conference superintendent, presented forty-two ministers to Branch Meeting held at Harrisburg Sixth Street Church May 7 to 9, 1940.

The beginnings were small but the blessing of God was upon the work all through the years, and the 1943 report reveals a total membership of 8797 with 3309 Evangel subscriptions and a total in finances of $35,917.83. East Pennsylvania and East German Branch have paid over to the treasury of the General Women's Missionary Association, to and including the year 1943, $899,846.63.

The celebration of Branch Jubilee was an occasion of great activities and great joy. The financial objectives for that year were a Jubilee offering of $500 and pledges secured for fifty Life Patrons, fifty Life Directors and fifty Life Members. The results were a Jubilee offering of $993 and pledges received for fifty-one Life Patrons, eighty-four Life Directors and one hundred twenty-three Life Members. To Him be all the glory! The celebration began with a Jubilee service held in Stoverdale Church August 21, 1927 and closed with a Jubilee session at the Branch Meeting held in Harrisburg Derry Street Church May 1 to 3, 1928.

The Missionary Cottage at Mount Gretna was purchased June 30, 1938. The total amount invested in the cottage when ready for occupancy was $1214.67. This money was gathered by the Branch treasurer, all of which was given specifically for the cottage project. The cottage is supervised by a cottage committee and is constantly occupied throughout the season. The cottage is fully furnished and is indeed a haven of rest to the missionaries who have no financial obligations except their personal living expenses.

The women who started the work in East Pennsylvania Branch had a conscious experience of personal salvation. Their hearts were filled with the love of God. They were aflame with the Holy Spirit. They believed the divine command, “Go ye therefore,” and that is why they banded themselves together for the promulgation of the Gospel which is the power of God to everyone that believeth.

This unfinished task of the pioneers is our priceless heritage. We owe it to our Christ, our pious ancestors and our faithful pioneers to be true to the task committed unto us. We dare not remove the landmarks which our pioneers have set. Afresh and anew in the name of the women and girls of East Pennsylvania Branch do we declare that we will carry on until He says “Enough.” We will
Members of the Executive Committee, Year 1935
East Pennsylvania Conference Branch,
Women's Missionary Association

Standing: Mrs. J. O. Love, Miss Sarah Retlew, Miss Susan J. Balsbaugh, Mrs. O. T. Ehrhart, Mrs. O. M. Fridy, Mrs. E. S. Nissley

In front: Mrs. D. LeRoy Fegley, Miss Clara Preis, Mrs. J. R. Engle, Mrs. E. F. Slichter, Mrs. A. C. Spangler

have neither part nor parcel in anything else than spreading the gospel of salvation through faith in the merits of the shed blood of Jesus Christ, the divine Son of God. 1

A number of women of this conference have been elected to membership in general missionary organizations. Mrs. Rev. H. B. Spayd of Annville, was trustee and first vice-president of the Women's Missionary Society, and member of the Board of Control of Home Missions, 1909-13. Other trustees of the Women's Missionary Association were: Mrs. Charles M. Coover of Annville, 1913-17; Mrs. Oliver Fridy of Mountville, 1921-25; Mrs. J. R. Engle of Palmyra, 1925-45, and Mrs. Earl R. Miller of Lebanon, 1945-46. Mrs. Coover was member of the Board of Foreign Missions, 1913-17, and Mrs. Engle for the period, 1925-46. Mrs. Alfred K. Mills of Annville was first elected Secretary of Thank Offering in 1933 and was reelected to the same position three succeeding quadrenniums. Mrs. S. S. Hough, a native of Annville, since returning from her work as missionary in West Africa and having residence at Dayton, Ohio, has given loyal service in several responsibilities in general mission work.

2. Christian Education

People of our day may be inclined to think that evangelism for young people within the bounds of our conference is a development
Mt. Gretna Chapel

of recent origin. Such an opinion, however, is far from the facts. The deep concern of our early leaders to win youth for Christ is evident from the effort to provide a Christian literature for children. The pastor's strategic position, and the importance of youth evangelism is definitely recognized in a report adopted by the 1874 session of East Pennsylvania Conference. It is as follows:

Whereas, it is not only the imperative duty of the Church, but also one of vast and solemn importance to properly care for the young, and whereas the minister of the Gospel holds a position which gives him special influence and superior opportunity with the young people who are the children of Christian parents; therefore

Resolved, That this Conference regard it the duty of preachers in charge of fields of labor within its bounds:

1. To organize classes of young people for instruction in Bible knowledge at stated and regular periods, in addition to the instruction given in the Sabbath-schools.

2. To use all diligence in providing proper, and if possible, systematic instruction in Christian knowledge to young converts.

3. To use all diligence to impart instruction and make saving impressions upon the minds of the children and youth in their pastoral and other visitations.
4. That the presiding elders be required to examine the preachers at the quarterly conferences in regard to the discharge of these duties, and that the presiding elders be examined at the next annual conference in regard to the same.

The churches of the conference fell in line with the general Sunday School and Christian Endeavor movements. In the sketches of local churches the time is stated when these organizations became local activities. For a time, Sunday School promotional meetings were held annually in conference districts. Sunday School secretaries were elected by the conferences whose responsibility it was to arrange for and to conduct such meetings. At another period conference directors of Sunday School Normal work were functioning. Christian Endeavor work was emphasized through biennial, later through annual, conventions. Conference meetings for both these phases of Christian education were in church buildings. As interdenominational meetings on Sunday School work through county and district organizations increased, conference meetings decreased, and finally ceased altogether.

By provision of General Conference of the year 1909, a conference Sabbath school board of five members was elected. The number was later increased to six. Under this board, holding of district institutes was revived. Thus both Sunday School and Christian Endeavor forces acted separately until the year 1929.

Dr. I. N. Seldomridge was president of the Conference Branch of
Christian Endeavor from 1919 to 1924. At the 1924 meeting, held in Steelton, Dr. I. Moyer Hershey was elected president, and the convention voted to hold its next session on the Mount Gretna Camp-meeting Association grounds. Officers elected in 1925 were: president, I. Moyer Hershey; vice-president, Levi C. Hershey; recording secretary, Miss Anna M. Groff; corresponding secretary, Edward L. Stiles; treasurer, P. B. Gibble; Intermediate superintendent, Robert J. Miller; Junior superintendent, Miss Mary McLanachan; Missionary superintendent, Miss Mildred Woodside; Stewardship superintendent, R. S. Heberlig; and chairman of publicity, Oscar G. Romig.

Beginning with 1929 both the name and the character of the summer gathering of Christian education forces were changed. It was now called the “Summer Assembly” and whereas formerly Christian Endeavor activities only were emphasized, Sunday School work now shared in the broader treatment of Christian Education. In the fall of the same year the annual conference elected a Conference Board of Christian Education. Dr. I. Moyer Hershey was elected president of the Board. A committee appointed by him studied the problem of merging this Board with the Sabbath School Board. The committee appointed drew up a constitution which was adopted by the 1930 session of annual conference. Under this constitution without change the Conference Board of Christian Education has been functioning to this date. The Board consists of five ministers and four laymen.

One of the chief activities of this Board is to promote the Summer Assembly. A committee appointed by it builds a program of educational, inspirational and recreational features. The general assembly periods held morning and evening—inspirational and devotional in nature—are addressed by outstanding religious leaders. Among them have been: Prof. William A. Freemantle of Philadelphia; Dr. Ralph W. Sockman of New York; Drs. J. Gresham Machen, Donald MacKenzie, and E. G. Homrighausen of Princeton Seminary; Drs. L. L. Letgers, J. E. Pace, and F. Grossley Morgan, special Bible Lecturers; Dr. J. E. Hartzler of Hartford Seminary; Dr. R. R. Fritsch of Muhlenberg College; Dr. Clyde A. Lynch, Lebanon Valley College; Dr. J. R. Howe, president, Otterbein College; Dr. Walter N. Roberts, president Bonebrake Theological Seminary; and Dr. George W. Richards of Franklin and Marshall College.

Bishops of the United Brethren Church who have served in the same capacity were: G. D. Batdorf, Ira Warner, and V. O. Weidler. The annual communion Service attended by between 900 and 1000 persons is presided over by Bishop Batdorf, annually.

Departmental work of the church, such as missions, evangelism, Christian Education, has been presented by: Dr. J. Balmer Showers, Mrs. J. Hal Smith, Dr. S. G. Ziegler, Dr. J. Edgar Knipp, Dr. O. O. Arnold; Dr. O. T. Deever, Dr. J. Gordon Howard, and Dr. G. A. Richie.
The assembly music has always been of a very high order. Among directors of note were: Mr. I. H. Mack of the Hall-Mack Music Company; Mr. Homer Rodeheaver; Rev. Herbert R. Howells; and Walter D. Eddowes.

Persons who have had a large part in promoting the work of the Assembly and who also are always in attendance at its sessions are: Dr. S. C. Enck, former Conference Superintendent, and, for the past two years, Dr. D. E. Young, his successor. The Rev. I. Moyer Hershey served as president of the Board and director general of the assembly until his death in the year 1931. Dr. J. Owen Jones served following him for a period of three years. Dr. P. B. Gibble served in that capacity from 1935 to 1942. Dr. Young is now at the head of the organization.

Definite instruction courses are provided for those making up the Assembly attendance. For the older persons International Leadership Courses are offered, in both the B and A series. Recommended textbooks are used, examinations given and certification cards issued for those who pass required work. Intermediate groups also
Hall of Christian Education

Otterbein Lodge

receive planned instruction. Juniors are grouped according to age and given appropriate instruction.

These age groups also meet for separate assemblies in which subject matter, methods, and procedures in Christian education are
dealt with. The early morning and late evening periods are devoted to cottage or other group quiet hour devotions. Vesper services have been conducted in the open by Lake Conewago, on the former State Military Camp grounds, or on the hilltop along the road leading southward from the main assembly grounds. A rather novel service, held during two years was a Galilean Service conducted by two persons from a boat at the lake shore, with the audience standing by the shore.

Recreation features consist of supervised games, such as tennis, soft-ball, standard baseball, shuffle board, and miniature golf. Other forms of recreation are swimming, boating, and hiking.

Assembly services in the main are held in a large circular tabernacle. Classes for the older age groups are held in a building known as “The Hall of Christian Education” which has in it ten class rooms. The Board purchased a cottage which has been reconstructed to meet the needs of carrying on the work for the younger children. Quite recently the annual conference has bought a spacious building on the “Gretna Heights” development. This building is now known as “Otterbein Lodge” and has been fitted out to serve as kitchen, dining room and assembly room, and dormitory.

Approximately three hundred persons were present at the first Christian Endeavor Convention held at Mt. Gretna. By 1934, the number of registrations at the Summer Assembly had reached 830. The peak registration was 1404, in the year 1946; the average for a twelve year period was 945.

For the wider work of Christian Education the conference area is divided into ten districts. An appointed president, for each, is charged with the responsibility of carrying out the plans and program of the Conference Board. District rallies or institutes are held annually in the fall of the year, and occasionally in the spring. The conference Board is seeking to carry out the denominational program as outlined by the General Board.

3. Lebanon Valley College

By the middle of the fourth decade of the last century, another phase of Christian Education received attention by some of our conference leaders. There was in the process of developing a sense of need and forward look for a denominational college. The culmination of that outlook was the establishing of Lebanon Valley College at Annville. It is because of the vital relation between conference and college that a brief record of the origin and progress of “Lebanon Valley” is here included.

There was a more or less official connection with two other schools, before steps were taken to locate a school at Annville. Allegheny Conference established a college at Mt. Pleasant, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, in the year 1850. This conference gave limited support to that institution from 1852 to 1858, and once, at
least, elected five trustees. In 1858 conference voted to cooperate with Otterbein University, located at Westerville, Ohio, and elected three members to its trustee board. Support was to be given upon the condition that, “the agent,” who was present at the session, “can assure us that our rule of discipline on dress, slavery, and secret societies is properly respected.” In renewing its pledge of support the following year, conference passed the resolution: “That the manual labor connected with the school be respected and supported.” It seems that college authorities in those days had some difficulties in
meeting the wishes of their constituencies just as they do in our more modern days. In 1863 there was no longer “actual cooperation,” nevertheless, agents for the University continued to solicit cash and loans from our conference fields of labor.

In 1865 conference again pledged influence and support to Otterbein University, but at the same time elected five persons to meet with a like number selected by Pennsylvania Conference to consider the locating of a school somewhere within the bounds of the two conferences. One year later, the committee appointed, recommended in its report: First, the establishing of a school of high grade under the supervision of the church; second, to accept for this purpose the grounds and buildings of what was then known as the Annville Academy, tendered as a gift to the Conference; and, third, to lease the buildings and grounds to a responsible party competent to take charge of the school the coming year.

The charter of incorporation in its final form was granted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and approved April 5, 1867. In it appear the names of twenty-seven persons who constituted the first board of trustees, all of whom were members of East Pennsylvania Conference. There was in it a provision (Sec. 4), as follows: “That the said annual conference may, by resolution, delegate the appointment of any number of said trustees, to any other annual conference of said church, who may cooperate with them.” It is by the exercise of that provision that East German Conference, during the entire period of its existence, and Allegheny
Conference, from 1882 to 1891, were cooperating; and Virginia Conference and Pennsylvania Conference, since 1873, have been cooperating conferences.

The By-laws of the charter provide that "Trustees at Large" may be named by the Board of Trustees, and "Alumnal Trustees," may be named by the Alumni Association, and these nominations shall be submitted to the next ensuing session of the East Pennsylvania Conference for ratification and election.

The present campus of twelve acres is located in the heart of Annville. Around it are grouped seventeen college buildings, including the Administration Building, the Carnegie Library, the Engle Conservatory of Music, Washington Hall, the Men's Dormitory, and four dormitories for women: North Hall, South Hall, West Hall and Sheridan Hall; and the President's residence. A large Physical Education Building, whose cornerstone was laid in May 1950, is nearing completion. There are two athletic fields: one of five acres, and the other of sixteen acres. The book value of total plant funds assets as of June 30, 1949, was $1,031,394.41. The total endowment fund assets as of the same date, was $774,448.38.

Dr. Clyde A. Lynch is the eleventh president of the institution. He began his administration on Thanksgiving Day, 1932. Before coming to Lebanon Valley as its president, he was an itinerant minister of the East Pennsylvania Annual Conference, having served in five pastorates. He was born in Harrisburg, August 24, 1891, a son
of John Henry and Carmina Blanche Keys Lynch. He is a graduate of the following institutions of learning, receiving the degrees indicated: Lebanon Valley Academy; Lebanon Valley College, A.B. 1918, and A.M. 1925; Bonebrake Theological Seminary, B.D. 1921; and the University of Pennsylvania, A.M. 1929, and Ph.D. 1931. Lebanon Valley conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1926, and Albright College honored him with the degree of Doctor of Laws in 1937.

While studying at the University he was also employed there (1928-30) as an assistant in the department of Psychology. Dr. Lynch was professor of Homiletics and Practical Theology in Bonebrake Seminary, 1930-32.

In the annual conference Dr. Lynch was chairman of the Committee on Conference Relations, member of the Council of Administration, and member of the Finance Committee. He was elected by the conference constituency to be a delegate to the General Conferences of the years 1933 to 1945 inclusive, and of the merging session of 1946, at which he was chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy. In the Federal Council of Churches, Dr. Lynch was an alternate member of the Executive Committee. He held membership in Educational, Scientific, Civic, Social, and Fraternal organizations numbering in the aggregate several scores.

President Lynch has not had what might be termed a normal year of college administration; his early years were in the after-
ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

President Lynch, Laying the Cornerstone,
Physical Education Building
May 6, 1950

551
of the depression; then came World War II, which almost decimated the male population of the campus and saw the enrollment drop to 214; the most recent years have seen the campus crowded with students, with the highest enrollment in the history of the College occurring during 1948-49, when there were 828 full-time students registered; and a net total enrollment of 1211.

In spite of many emergency measures, numerous constructive advance policies in college management and educational procedure were introduced: the faculty was enlarged to fifty-nine members, a Retirement Plan for faculty members was adopted; a Dean of Instruction, an Assistant to the President, a Director of Admissions and Student Solicitation, a Director of Religious and Social Activities, a Director of Public Relations and Alumni Secretary, a full-time Registrar, and a part-time Alumni Secretary were added to the administrative personnel; a Building and Endowment Campaign having a goal of $550,000 was successfully conducted; and additional property was secured. These are some of the major achievements during Dr. Lynch’s term of office.

No man has been more actively engaged, in not only one, but in all the relationships he has had with a multiplicity of professional and personal services. In the time of his presidency he delivered 1786 sermons and addresses, thus keeping the College before the public and creating an atmosphere of goodwill.

In July 1950, Dr. Lynch wrote the Preface for this volume.
in his office to receive the Preface from his hands, Dr. Lynch told the author that his doctor had advised him to cancel all engagements made, and to cut to a minimum, for the time being, his college duties. About two weeks later, on Sunday morning, August 6, the noble career of this great Christian statesman came to an end, attributed to coronary thrombosis. It was a severe shock to all who knew him, and all felt they had lost a sincere friend.


Professors who, since the turn of the century, have had ten or more years of service, with years of service, are: L. G. Bailey, 1931-47; Edward M. Balsbaugh, 1938-48; Andrew Bender, 1907-09, 1921--; Robert R. Butterwick, 1921-42; Samuel H. Derickson, 1903--; Christian R. Gingrich, 1917-43; Mary C. Green, 1920--; Samuel O. Grimm, 1914--; John E. Lehman, 1887-1924; Lena Louise Lietzau, 1930--; Frederic K. Miller, 1939--; O. Edgar Reynolds, 1924-40; Gustavus A. Richie, 1925--; Hiram H. Shenk, 1909--; Alvin E. Shroyer, 1909-20; James T. Spangler, 1890-91, 1897-1909, 1921-25; E. H.
Frederic K. Miller, A.M., Ph.D.
Asst. to President & Prof. of History

William A. Wilt, D.D.
College Pastor


Instructors in the Music Department having ten or more years of service are: Ruth Engle Bender, 1919-21, (Director of the Conservatory of Music, 1924-30), 1930—; R. Porter Campbell, 1921—; D. Clark Carmean, 1933—; Alexander Crawford, 1927—; W. Merle Freeland, 1938—; Mary E. Gillespie, (Instructor and Director, 1930—); Harold Marsh, 1924—; Ella R. Moyer, 1931-43; Edward P. Rutledge, 1931—; E. Edwin Sheldon, (Instructor and Director, —— 1920); and Ida Manavel Sheldon, —— 1920. Helen Ethel Myers has been College Librarian since 1921.

4. Bonebrake Theological Seminary

When one considers that a total of ninety-five ministers of East Pennsylvania Conference were students in our Theological Seminary at Dayton, Ohio, one can readily see the tremendous contribution that institution has made to our conference. Fifty of this number are at present members of the conference. All but a few of these students, in both categories, took a full course and were graduated. No one can evaluate the advantage this contribution has been to this the strongest conference, numerically and financially, in the denomination. This strength, in turn, has been a great blessing to the Seminary. The conference has given generously to its need for funds to carry on.
It was at the General Conference held in Salem Church, Lebanon, Pennsylvania, 1869, that the first steps were taken to found a denominational theological school. Subsequently, on July 27, 1870, the Board of Education met in Dayton and laid plans to establish a seminary. "Union Biblical Seminary" was the name adopted. On October 11, 1871, the first session of the school was held in the Summit Street Church in Dayton. The first graduation exercises were held in May 1874, with seven students graduating.

A brick building was erected at a cost of ten thousand dollars on ground donated by the Rev. John Kemp, located on the corner of West First Street and Euclid Avenue. "In 1909 John M. Bonebrake and wife of Veedersburg, Indiana, made a valuable gift, and the name of the institution was changed to the Bonebrake Theological Seminary in honor of six uncles of Mr. Bonebrake's father who were ministers of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ." On April 1, 1910 a new site was purchased in the beautiful "Dayton View" section of the City. A parcel of thirty-five acres of ground bought was retained, and the new buildings erected thereon were occupied in 1923.

The exceptionally high qualities of scholarship and Christian example which has characterized the faculty through the years has been a great inspiration to the ministerial students and their wives. The consecrated and trained men who now occupy the several chairs are worthy successors of the great souls which have gone to the glory land. Dr. Walter N. Roberts, president since 1938, is directing the work of the institution in an admirable manner. We record here our gratitude to Dr. Roberts, and to Dr. Walter E. Roush, Professor of Old Testament Interpretation, for their courtesies in permission to have free access to the archives at the Seminary.

Our conference has made contributions also to the teaching staff of the Seminary. Dr. Landis, though not a member of this conference, was born within its area. We feel that he belongs to the entire church, and that he is highly deserving of mention in this connection. A brief description of his work and that of the faculty who were members of this conference, follows.

**Josiah P. Landis, D.D., Ph.D.**

Joseph Landis and wife Caroline Weiler, parents of Josiah Pannabecker Landis were charter members of the Hopeland Church, Clay Township, Lancaster County, Pa. They resided at Brickerville at the time son Josiah was born, October 27, 1843. Later the family moved to Campbellsport, Lebanon County. Following a brief residence at the latter place, the family moved to a farm near Joliet, Illinois. The father died when Josiah was eleven years of age.

The subject of this sketch enrolled in Otterbein University at the age of eighteen. His college career was interrupted by three years of military service, 1862-65, in the Union Army, delaying his graduation until the year 1869. He attended Western Theological Semi-
The Reverend Landis was ordained at the 1871 session of Miami Conference, at which session he was assigned to serve Summit Street (now Euclid Avenue Church), in Dayton. Then followed two three-year pastorates at Miltonville and Germantown, Ohio, respectively. For a period of forty-six years, Dr. Landis was connected with the work in the Seminary at Dayton, in the following capacities: as part-time professor, Hebrew Exegesis, 1871-74; Hebrew Exegesis, 1880-86; Systematic Theology, 1886-91; Hebrew Exegesis and Old Testament Theology, 1891-1932; Dean, 1907-10; President, 1910-21; and Professor Emeritus, from 1932 to the time of his death, October 17, 1937.

Dr. Landis was elected president of the Y. P. C. U. at the first denominational convention, 1890, and served in that capacity until 1902. He was for a time president of the Ohio Sunday School Union, served for many years on the Dayton Library Board, being its president for fifteen years. He participated in the Parliament of Religions in Chicago, 1893; the Methodist Ecumenical Conference, Washington, D. C.; was secretary of the Tri-Church Council, 1907, in Chicago; and was for a number of years secretary of the General Board of Education.

This eminent theologian and teacher was the author of formulas and rituals prepared for the Church Discipline; was literary editor of The Otterbein Hymnal, and editor-in-chief of the Sanctuary Hymnal. He was one of the most widely-known and best-loved men of the Church. Fluency of language and clarity of thought captivated his many and diverse audiences. He was a delightful conversationalist, a passionate evangelist.
Samuel D. Faust, D.D., Ph.D.

Samuel D. Faust was born near Roxbury, Franklin County, Pennsylvania, November 24, 1853. He united with the Otterbein United Brethren Church, near Mowersville, Pennsylvania. For eight years, Mr. Faust taught in the public schools of his home community and farmed at the same time. In the spring of 1881 he sold his possessions and entered normal school at Lebanon, Ohio, and in the fall of the same year he entered Union Biblical Seminary, graduating with the class of 1884, in the regular course. Upon graduation, he was appointed to Intercourse Charge, Lancaster County, Pa., and served out the conference year. He was pastor of Harrisburg First Church, February 1889 to February 1892. The Rev. Faust then went to Colorado for health's sake and served a charge there until 1893, when he was called to the professorship of Church History in Union Biblical Seminary.

The Rev. Faust received quarterly conference license in 1882, and joined annual conference at a joint session of the two conferences, in the year 1885. He was ordained in 1888. After the conferences met separately, he retained membership in Pennsylvania Conference until 1889 when he transferred to East Pennsylvania. He was a member of this conference to the time of his death, July 12, 1929. He was graduated from Lebanon Valley College, receiving the A.B. degree in 1889 and the A.M. degree in 1892. The College honored him twice—with the degree of Doctor of Divinity, 1894, and the degree of Doctor of Laws, 1916.

As Professor in Bonebrake Seminary, he served most successfully in an active capacity until 1926, when upon his request on account of illness, he was relieved from teaching, the Seminary Board graciously voting him an emeritus relation. He was a long-time member of the General Board of Education, serving as its secretary fifteen years. He was also a valued member of the Publishing House Board for eleven years. He had a fine presence, was tall and stately in appearance, keen and alert in mind, and of an amiable disposition.

J. Wesley Etter, B.D., D.D.

The Rev. J. Wesley Etter, preacher, teacher, author, and editor, was born near Halifax, Dauphin County, March 13, 1846. In his seventeenth year he was converted and united with the church. He was graduated from Bryant Commercial College in 1866 and from Lebanon Valley College in 1872. The following year he served the college as teacher of Rhetoric, and English Literature. In 1875 he completed the course in Drew Seminary. His quarterly conference license was granted in 1871, his annual license in 1873, and he was ordained in 1876. His pastorates were: Mt. Joy, 1875-77; 1883-85; Philadelphia Mt. Airy, 1877-79; Baltimore Salem, 1879-81; and Lebanon Trinity, 1885-89. Lebanon Valley College conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1884.

After 1880 the Rev. Etter labored under physical difficulties with a
persistency rarely equalled. Over the conference years 1881-83 he lived at Halifax and gave what strength he had to writing. During the first year of his second pastorate at Mt. Joy, his book of 581 pages, *The Preacher and His Sermon*, came off the press. It is the most extensive volume on any subject by a member of this conference. He also is the author of a book entitled, *Christian Baptism*, and another, *The Thorn in the Flesh*; and at the time of his death he had in preparation material for a small volume, on *Christ and Theology*, and for one on *The Lord’s Prayer*.

The General Conference of 1889 elected him editor of the Quarterly Review. In 1891 he was elected to the chair of Systematic Theology in Union Biblical Seminary. His voice failing him, he resigned at the close of the first year and resumed work on the Quarterly Review. At the next General Conference he was elected chief editor of our Sunday-School literature. This place he held until his death, March 28, 1895.

**Clyde A. Lynch, A.M., D.D., Ph.D., LL.D.**

Attention to the life work of Dr. Clyde A. Lynch, Professor of Homiletics in Bonebrake Seminary, 1930-32, has been given under the sketch of Lebanon Valley College.

**J. Bruce Behney, D.D., Ph.D.**

Dr. J. Bruce Behney is the most recent addition from this conference to the faculty of Bonebrake Seminary. His father, J. J. Behney,
was a teacher and a principal of public schools in several communities. Thus it happened that son, J. Bruce, was born in Ralston, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania; and joined the Methodist Church of Freeland, Pennsylvania, upon profession of faith in 1921. He was graduated from Freeland High School in 1923. He entered Lebanon Valley College in the fall of 1924 and united with the College Church. The next year he was granted quarterly conference license. The Rev. Behney received annual license in 1928 and was ordained in 1933. He was graduated from Lebanon Valley in 1928, from Bonebrake Seminary in 1932. He took post graduate work in Yale University, graduating in 1941 with the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. The College conferred the degree of Doctor of Divinity upon him in the same year.

The Rev. Mr. Behney was ad interim Professor of Greek and Bible at Lebanon Valley, 1930-31. Since coming to Bonebrake as Professor, he has taught Church History, 1935-39, and Systematic Theology and Church History 1939-50. He is a thorough and conscientious student and a successful instructor. He shows promise of rounding out a teaching career which will be equal to the high quality of service of his renowned predecessors.

5. Quincy Orphanage and Home

The Quincy Orphanage and Home of the United Brethren Church, located in Quincy, Franklin County, Pennsylvania, had its origin in the minds and hearts of Rev. and Mrs. H. J. Kitzmiller, who saw the need of such a home in the eastern area of the church of the United Brethren in Christ. They were moved by the Lord to tender their valuable farm of one hundred and sixty-three acres to the Church for an Orphanage and Home. The Orphanage and Home was opened early in April 1903 at which time a family of ten children was admitted. The Home was dedicated on October 17, 1903. The main speakers for the occasion were Gov. Samuel W. Pennypacker and Judge John Stewart. Rev. H. J. Kitzmiller was chosen as superintendent and Mrs. Kitzmiller as matron of the Orphanage and Home. Rev. Kitzmiller rendered invaluable, consecrated Christlike service in supervising, planning and rendering hard labor during a period of thirty-three years. He was called to his final reward on January 25, 1936. Upon his passing, Mr. A. C. Wertsch, who served faithfully as Rev. Kitzmiller's assistant since July 1, 1924, was elected to the superintendency and has served in that capacity up to the present time.

Mrs. Kitzmiller continued to serve as matron until she was granted retired relationship August 4, 1943. She was granted full pay and home for the rest of her life. This fine faithful servant of the Lord, who gave forty years of her life in consecrated services to the children and aged guests, well deserved this reward. She was called to her final rest November 17,1944. Mrs. Grace Wentz was chosen to serve as matron of the Old People's Home upon the retirement of Mrs. Kitzmiller; and Mrs. A. C. Wertsch serves as matron of the
HISTORY OF EAST PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

Quincy Orphanage and Old Peoples' Home

Orphanage Department, which position she has held since July 1, 1924.

The Quincy Orphanage and Home, under God’s bountiful blessing, and the churches’ and consecrated workers’ loyal, prayerful support, has had a remarkable growth. From a meager beginning of total receipts in the first year, 1903, of $5,638.10 and expenditures of $5,445.67 with assets and resources of $23,994.73, its growth is shown by the 1950 Annual Report. This report shows total receipts for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1950 of $377,186.78 and total expenditures of $307,598.35, with assets and resources of $1,113,482.63.

The acreage of the Home has increased from the original one hundred and sixty-three acres to three hundred and fifty acres. This was made possible by adding two farms, adjoining the original Kitzmiller farm, containing one hundred fifty acres which were donated to the Home by our great friend and benefactor, Mr. Peter Newcomer; the purchase of the small Stull farm on the North and the Baer farm on the east; and several large meadows on the south, from Mr. Singer.

The number of buildings, housing our family of children and aged guests and our employees, has grown from the original two buildings until, today, we have twenty-two buildings in our Orphanage and Home plant.

Since the Orphanage and Home opened its doors and admitted the first children three hundred and eighty-three have been honorably dismissed, having reached their eighteenth birthday. In addition,
almost the same number left before their eighteenth birthday, hav­ing been released to their living relative or having left on their own responsibility. At the present we have one hundred thirty-two children in the Orphanage Department.

The Aged Guests' Department was added to our Orphanage and Home in 1915, when the Colestock Old People's Home family was moved from Mechanicsburg, Pa. to Quincy, Pa. During the thirty-five years that the Home has sheltered aged members of our denom­ination, the Home has laid to rest one hundred and eighty-four mem­bers of this family. At present we have sixty aged guests in this Home. After the completion of the new forty-room annex being built to Old Folk's Cottage no. 1, we will be able to care for nearly one hundred aged folk.

The membership of the churches in the seven conferences of the Eastern area, to which the East Pennsylvania Conference belongs, can feel justly proud of this fine benevolent Home.

Contributions in cash from East Pennsylvania Conference for a ten-year period ending with September 1949 amounted to $187,291.- 25.4

Mr. Alvin C. Wertsch, who since 1924 has been associated with the work of Quincy Orphanage and Home, was born in Hopeland, Lancaster County. He was converted in the Hopeland Church in 1894 at the age of nine, and united with said church. His work took him to different communities. Consequently he later held mem­bership in Covenant Church, Lancaster, and Second Church, Philadel­
Excellent boarding, four dollars for the term. Cottages rent for ten dollars, or six dollars for the lower floor, or five dollars for the upper floor. Tents for two and three dollars.

One of the conference ministers who was greatly interested in its promotion, and who served as its secretary for a time was the Rev. G. W. Miles Rigor. In 1888, it was reported that both east and west districts of East Pennsylvania Conference supported the Camp and it was recognized by our leaders, if not by conference action, to be a conference campmeeting. It was a very popular meeting at the peak of its development and great crowds of people, some coming many miles, attended its services.

Some time after the death of the elder Stover in 1903, Edward Jr. became manager. The ministers of the charge of which Stoverdale Church is an appointment have had responsibilities in securing speakers and carrying out the schedule of services. In these later years its services are of a more or less inter-denominational nature.

Heilmandale

When the presiding elder used the word, “Union,” to describe the Heilmandale Campmeeting, he meant that it was supported by both the east and west districts of the German conference, therefore, in that sense it was a conference campmeeting. The date of its origin is not on record. Forty years ago, the people about Lebanon spoke enthusiastically of the revival phase of the meeting and of the large number of people who used to assemble there. It was held in a grove in the community whose name it bears, which is located about three miles northwest of the heart of Lebanon City.

Sea Grove

A serious attempt was made to establish a sea-side camp of large proportions at Cape May Point, the most southern tip of New Jersey. It was called Sea Grove Camp. The first meeting was held in the year 1885. At its beginning, the nature of its organization is not defined, but its officers were: Rev. G. W. Miles Rigor, president; Rev. Lewis Peters, vice president; and Dr. E. W. Kirby, secretary-treasurer. At “a very spirited meeting” held in the conference room in connection with the conference session of 1887, “A goodly number were present and the company was reorganized on the joint stock plan, with a capital stock of eight thousand dollars.”

In February 1888 it was announced that, “These grounds are held in fee simple by an incorporated company of United Brethren, who mean to make it a sea-side resort worthy the visitation of all our people who visit the seashore.” The Board of Directors, as reported in 1889, were: Prof. E. B. Bierman of Philadelphia, president; Rev. I. M. Groff of New Holland, vice president; Rev. H. C. Phillips of Lancaster, secretary; Rev. Lewis Peters of Steelton, treasurer; Rev. G. W. Miles Rigor of North Vineland, N. J., general manager; B. H. Engle of East Harrisburg, Rev. H. D. Lehman of Middletown, Amos Hershey of Gordonville, and Rev. H. B. Dohner of Lancaster. The
presiding elders, from year to year, spoke of it as a successful camp, but also stating at times, that it should receive better support. The last year it received specific mention was 1905.

**Hillsdale**

A report of a campmeeting held at Hillsdale on the Fishburn Circuit got into the conference record of the year 1890. From another source we learn it was in existence as early as 1881. The grove in which it was held is a short distance westerly of the Hillsdale or Geyer's Church. It was a circuit campmeeting, although the presiding elder presided at times, and at other times designated the person who should preside. A majority of the persons who stayed on the grounds for the season lodged in tents. In 1897, it was reported that a few cottages had been built. It had only a fair measure of patronage as compared to other camps. The last mention of it was in 1917, when it was stated that "due to the busy season and high cost of living," but two days' services were held—Saturday and Sunday, August 25th and 26th.

**Lykens Valley**

As before recited, there was a campmeeting in the Lykens Valley in 1849. At a later date, in 1879, one was in progress near Elizabethville. Furthermore, it is known that for some years prior to the organizing of the present camp, camp services were held in Bickel's Grove, about one and one-half miles westward. The first board of directors meeting for a new campmeeting organization was held in the Elizabethville Church, August 30, 1893. It consisted of the following persons: Michael R. Keiper, Ed. Spangler, The Revs. C. A. Mutch, W. H. Uhler; and James P. Moyer, W. H. Forney, A. D. Zimmerman, S. E. Gilbert, B. S. Reinhart, and A. M. Romberger.

A committee submitted a draft of a Constitution and By-Laws to the Board of Directors September 8, 1893, which was unanimously adopted. It provided for the forming of a stock company to be controlled by a Board of Stockholders who in turn annually elect a Board of Managers. A State Charter of Incorporation was secured April 10, 1894. The grounds, located on a well-drained and wooded slope, about a mile southwest of Elizabethville, were purchased October 4, 1893. The first meeting of the camp opened August 15, 1894, the Rev. H. S. Gabel, presiding elder, had charge of the service and conducted a dedication ceremony.

For several years services were directed from a platform covered with canvas, called the "preachers' stand." In 1914 an auditorium, twenty by thirty-two feet in size, was erected in front of the platform. The auditorium was much enlarged in 1926. The benches without backs were replaced by comfortable pews in 1932. The small boarding house erected in 1897 was replaced by a much larger building in 1933, having a kitchen and dining room on the first floor and a dormitory for guests on the second floor. Until the year 1896, most of the residents of the camps lodged in tents. Nine additional
cottages were erected in that year. This number has increased to fifty-six. They are all in an excellent state of repair and fitted out for cozy living.

In 1931, this camp was recognized as a conference camp. The conference superintendent is in charge of the program of exercises unless hindered by other duties. Its program, never more profitable than now, is of a varied nature, featuring Missions, Christian Education, Evangelism, and Bible Study.


The fiftieth anniversary was celebrated in 1944 with an appropriate program and the printing and distributing of an historical sketch of the camp prepared by Dr. A. K. Wier.

Mt. Lebanon

Mt. Lebanon held its first meeting in the year 1898, as the successor to the Heilmandale meeting. It began as a district campmeeting for the Lebanon presiding elder’s district of the East German Conference. It finds its setting in a beautiful grove of trees about two miles north of Lebanon City, along the Fredericksburg road.

The first meeting of the incorporators and subscribers to the capital stock of the Mount Lebanon Campmeeting Association of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ was held in the office of S. P. Light, Esq., of Lebanon, December 1, 1903. The following were elected a Board of Directors: the Revs. R. R. Butterwick, H. S. Gabel, and H. E. Miller; and I. B. Haak, W. H. Kreider, H. H. Kreider, Cyrus Yingst, E. P. Strickler, Abraham Herr, J. J. Bennetch, and J. R. Snyder. A tract of eighteen acres and 124 perches of land was transferred from the Mt. Lebanon Memorial Association to the new corporation. On April 7, 1912, two acres and 134 perches were added by purchase.

All services are conducted in a large circular tabernacle which was erected in 1904, having a seating capacity of approximately one thousand. At a special Sunday School Day held in that year a great host of children attended, together with some adults. It was reported to have been the largest Sunday School gathering ever assembled in Lebanon County. There are about fifty cottages on the ground. The Association owns and controls the operation of a camp store and refreshment stand, a kitchen, and a large dining room, all being under one roof.
Its services open on a Tuesday evening of the latter part of the month of July, and close on Wednesday evening of the following week. It continues to operate as a district camp. Ministers of annual conference and guest speakers from other sections of the Church bring the pulpit messages. Dr. S. C. Enck has been camp director since 1917. This camp continues most of the traditional features of the earlier camps, such as: services of prayer and praise, use of German hymns, observance of the practice of feet washing for those who desire to participate, observance of the Sacrament of Holy Communion, and, until very recent years, had scheduled one or more German sermons. A Children's Hour is held daily, being in charge of Mr. John Adams, for many years superintendent of Juniors in Lebanon Salem Church. Old People's Day is observed on Thursday; and Missionary Day on Tuesday of the second week of services. The women of the Missionary Association are in charge of the morning prayer and praise service on that day and provide the program for the afternoon service. The evening meetings of each day are of an evangelistic nature. Through the years the social and spiritual benefits have enriched the lives of multitudes of men, women, and children.

Mt. Gretna

Dissatisfied with conditions at one of the conference camps, annual conference authorities, together with certain campers and cottage owners, decided to locate elsewhere. The conditions to which objection were made, were:

Nefarious trafficking which is a defiant violation of law, an open desecration of the holy Sabbath, arousing the suspicion that the evil tendencies thus produced predominate and therefore neutralize and frustrate the good accomplished.

The place to which they looked for a new site was in the vicinity of Mt. Gretna, a station on the newly constructed Cornwall and Lebanon Railroad. The region, years afterward, was described in a letter by Mr. Hugh M. Maxwell, a member of the Board of Directors of the Railroad, who suggested “Mt. Gretna” as a fitting name for the station. He wrote:

... we came to a thickly wooded and more thickly overgrown area of brush, where a single track wagon-road wound down the big hill on the southside, crossed the railroad, and led on down to a distant brook, through tall, overhanging green briers—a wild garden of a forest, seemingly to a mountain solitude.

Mr. Maxwell might have added that there were also giant pines, stately oaks, and magnificent chestnut trees in the forest.

In order to develop the area, the railroad officials made a tempting offer to the United Brethren to establish a permanent settlement. Chief of the directors of the railroad was Mr. Robert H. Coleman, one of a family which owned thousands of acres of timberland. On
February 29, 1892, a lease was signed by Mr. Coleman for himself and also as trustee of the estate of Anne C. Rogers, in behalf of the Coleman interests; and by H. B. Dohner and D. D. Lowery for the United Brethren.

On March 17, 1892 a petition for incorporation of the United Brethren Campmeeting Association was granted by John B. McPherson, Law Judge. The directors then selected were: H. B. Dohner, C. J. Kephart, D. D. Lowery, S. N. Eby, W. H. Ulrich, E. W. S. Parthemore, A. R. Myers, Isaiah Baltzell, and J. R. Meredith. A second lease was arranged in 1896. This granted tenancy for twenty years. The next year the United Brethren bought thirty acres and forty perches, including the leased tract of twenty acres, and at a later date secured an additional two acres and one-hundred perches.

The first season of camp was held during August 1892. The grounds were dedicated to the worship of Almighty God on August 7 by Bishop Nicholas Castle. Purchase of the grounds stimulated the erection of cottages. The large circular tabernacle was dedicated on the Sunday of Camp services in August of the year 1899. It is of unique construction—a delightful place in which to worship. The streets running north and south are numbered, First to Eighth; those running east and west, designated avenues, are named after Bishops of the Church. Approximately five-seventh of available area is occupied by cottages. Of other buildings on the camp grounds are the Hall of Christian Education, Ministers’ Dormitory, Store and Dining Room, Children’s Cottage, and Fire Engine House. The Hall of Christian Education, so called because it was used for the purpose of housing Leadership Training Classes, has been partially reconstructed to meet the worship and social needs of the local church organization.

When the camp opened, and for some years thereafter, the nature of the services followed the general pattern of contemporary camp-meetings. But before a full decade became history it took on more of the nature of a Bible Conference. In time, the annual announcement carried the caption, “Campmeeting and Bible Conference.” The Conference meets annually on Tuesday following the first Monday of the month of August, and continues ten days. The conference superintendent presides at the services. The Program Committee, under appointment by the Board of Directors of the Association, prepares the schedule of services and engages the speakers. Conferences for ministers are conducted. There is a Children’s Hour daily. Church choirs and other music organizations take part in evening and Sabbath services. The roster of speakers includes ministers of this and other conferences of the Church, our own Bishops; and bishops, preachers, and Bible teachers of national and international prominence.

The presidents of the Association have been: Bishop J. S. Mills, the Hon. W. H. Ulrich, Major H. P. Moyer, the Hon. A. S. Kreider and Dr. S. C. Enck. Dr. D. E. Young, conference superintendent, is
now its president. The list of secretaries of the Association is as follows: the Rev. J. R. Meredith, I. T. Enders, the Hon. A. S. Kreider, Dr. R. R. Butterwick, Dr. G. A. Richie, and Dr. Cawley H. Stine.

One of the very special events common to all campmeetings is the presence and message of the Bishop. All who attended campmeetings anxiously anticipated the Sabbath Services and the Bishop’s sermon or sermons. Every available seat within the tabernacle of the several camps would be occupied and several hundreds more would stand by on the outside. The crowds, the camp singing, and the inspiring messages of the day, made the Sabbath services a memorable occasion. This, together with other features and functions which we have pointed out, have made the campmeeting a great institution of spiritual power and influence in the life of East Pennsylvania Annual Conference.5

Notes on Chapter X
1. The developing status of the presiding eldership is amplified on pages 88-89.
2. A complete list of presiding elders and conference superintendents appears in Chapter XIII.
4. The proceedings, 1941, pp. 19-20, 1944, p. 45, cite all details pertaining to the materials he donated, and shows the response by annual conference to his generous act.

Notes on Chapter XII
1 This summary of the work of East Pennsylvania Branch was written by Miss Susan J. Balsbaugh of Cleona, Pennsylvania, and submitted in July 1943.
2 Quoted from the Bonebrake Theological Seminary Bulletin.
3 The Landmark’s History states that the given name of Dr. Landis’ father was Henry. Jessie L. Funkhouser (Mrs. R. D.), a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Landis, informed the writer that his name was Joseph.
4 This sketch on Quincy Orphanage and Home, excepting the last sentence, was written by Mr. A. C. Wertsch.
5 Information on the organizing and the officers of Mt. Gretna Campmeeting was submitted by Dr. G. A. Richie.