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COLOMBIAN NEWS AND VIEWS

The Official Organ of the Mennonite Brethren Mission in Colombia

VOL. I—NO. I



MARCH, 1949

GREETINGS

from the
MENNONITE BRETHREN MISSION
In Colombia, South America



Missionary Children Under the Improvised Christmas Tree, 1946

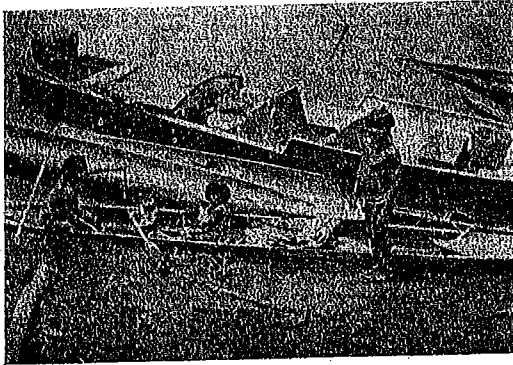
*Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the
Gentiles, and that they will hear it.*

Acts 28:28

M. B. Board of Foreign Missions, Hillsboro, Kansas

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NOANAMA



The occupation of the new station has been effected; however, only David Wirsche and Jake A. Loewen could enter the field because proper housing for the family could not be found. Mrs. Loewen and Gladys are still at LaCumbre, where the former is assisting in the work of the national school.

The contacts with the Indians are multiplying and are ever more gratifying. Their suspicions of the "white exploiters" have been more or less allayed. They now visit the quarters of the missionaries, and also gladly receive the missionaries into their homes. The language work, even though somewhat slowly, is progressing.

The Need of a Launch at Noanama

By David Wirsche

Not by train, not by bus, not by car, not by mule, nor on foot can the missionaries at Noanama reach their people. The water way is the only way to travel in this region. Are we satisfied to get the gospel out in the slowest way possible—traveling by canoe? Are we content to let these workers face the hazards of an isolated life without better communications with other stations in time of sickness? It may take three days and two nights to reach the nearest doctor by canoe, over against the six or seven hours by launch. The answer to this staggering question can be only answered by God's people in the homeland. A THOUSAND DOLLARS WILL PURCHASE THE LAUNCH!

NEW MISSIONARIES ARRIVE

On November 3, Reverend and Mrs. Harry K. Bartel, their daughter, Judith Anne, and Miss Ruth Loewen arrived at the Avianca Airport at Cali, Colombia, via the Pan-American Airlines.

They are now at LaCumbre station where they will spend some time studying the Spanish language. Their arrival in Colombia in face of closed doors was the answer to your and our prayers.

FOOD FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

PRAISE THE LORD:

For liberty to preach the Gospel to ripened fields of needy souls.

For permits received to open the national children's school at LaCumbre.

For the purchase of a launch at Istmina which serves as a means of traveling and bringing the Gospel to numerous towns along the river shores.

PRAY THE LORD:

For the conversion of the unsaved.

For a launch at Noanama.

For a permit to open a national primary school at Istmina.

For suitable living quarters for our missionary family at Noanama.

For the new missionaries in their language study.

For the health of the missionaries.

NOTICE

The Colombian News and Views is published by the missionaries of our Mennonite Brethren Mission in Colombia so that the friends and supporters of the mission may become better acquainted with the progress, the needs, and the joys of the work on the field. It is to appear bi-annually and will contain news and pictures of the work as it progresses. We trust that you will like this issue.

The next issue is to be published in July. It will contain a historo-geographical report on the field besides the current news. If you would like to make sure that a copy of this issue be mailed to you, please notice: THE SUBSCRIPTION PRICE OF THE COLOMBIAN NEWS AND VIEWS IS A LETTER TO ANY ONE OF THE MISSIONARIES HERE ON THE FIELD. Write your letter today.

ADVANCE IN FOREIGN MISSIONS

1. Colombia's area, population, climate, government

The republic of Colombia, which occupies the extreme northwest of the South American continent, has an area estimated at 441,851 square miles. The population is figured at 8,702,000. The western part of Colombia is traversed north and south by three ranges of the Andes Mountains. The peak of highest elevation is Mount Huila which has an altitude of about 18,701 feet. East of the mountains, the surface of the country slopes gradually down to the valleys of the Orinoco and the Amazon.

The country lies wholly within the torrid zone, and temperatures are generally high, except where moderated by high altitudes, by the northeast tradewinds, or by a cold ocean current off the west coast. Due to the low, hot, swampy lands in the Choco, a good part of the climate is unhealthy. The rainfall, on the whole, is heavy.

The executive power of the government is vested in a president, popularly elected for a four-year term and not immediately eligible for re-election. Legislative power rests with a Congress of two houses—a Senate whose members are indirectly elected for a four-year term, and a House of Representatives elected for a two-year term by direct popular vote.

Agriculture, industry, and mineral products: Although much of the soil of Colombia is extremely fertile, only a small part is under cultivation. The lack of adequate transportation facilities has considerably retarded the agricultural development of the country. Coffee is a great staple product. Colombia exports a large amount of it annually, of which over two-thirds goes to the United States.

2. The beginning of our mission work in Colombia

"And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also must I bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd." John 10:16. It is ever the will of our Lord that others who had not been touched with the light of the Gospel be brought into His fold. Although the Board of Foreign Missions of the M. B. Conference had been sending financial support for mission work among the Indians of the Paraguayan Chaco, the Lord continued to speak to the brethren of the Board about other fields in South America that were totally without the light of the Gospel. The May, 1942, minutes of the Board state "that South America has gained in its appeal to us as a future mission field. However, we feel the need of more information about the opportunities on that continent. It shall be our purpose to obtain this as soon as possible." It was also during this time that the Lord was preparing a number of young people of our Conference for service in South America. In 1942, Rev. G. W. Peters, who was then president of the Western Children's Mission in Saskatchewan, called the attention of the Board to the fact that a number of young people serving in the Western Children's Mission felt a call to go to Colombia, South America. The Board took note of this fact. At the meeting in May, 1943, the brethren of the Board reaffirmed its intention, and asked God for ways and means to open a mission on the continent to the south. Since the missionary opportunities in South America were not well known to the Board, and since the policy of the Board was to proceed cautiously in all of its activities, it was decided to invest some funds in a survey of the northern countries of South America. Because Brother G. W. Peters had several times expressed his interest in that continent, the Board agreed in October, 1943, to subsidize a trip by Brother Peters to South America.

After investigation, Brother Peters recommended that the Board undertake the evangelization of the untouched areas of the Choco of Colombia. The Board accepted the recommendation.

After the Board accepted the responsibility of evangelizing the Choco, it was ready to consider candidates for that task. In 1944, the Board accepted Rev. and Mrs. Daniel A. Wirsche to become the pioneers of the M. B. Mission in Colombia. By the beginning of 1945 these missionaries were ready to sail to South America. Brother H. W. Lohrenz, who was then the Executive Secretary and Treasurer of the Board, had made all arrangements for their sailing. During the very month of March of the year 1945, during which Bro. H. W. Lohrenz went to his heavenly reward, Brother and Sister D. A. Wirsche were beginning their trip to Colombia, South America, arriving at Palmira, Valle, in April. The first letter from Missionary Daniel Wirsche, dated at Palmira April 23, 1945, was answered by the newly appointed Executive Secretary and Treasurer, A. E. Janzen, who had been installed into the office on April 1, 1945.

The Wirsches stayed at Palmira, Valle, to study the Spanish language in the Instituto Biblico of the Gospel Missionary Union before starting the work on the M. B. Field. From this location, Brother Wirsche studied the possibilities of mission work in the Choco and also looked around for a suitable location of a station. In the meantime, an unoccupied independent mission station at LaCumbre, Valle, was offered through Brother Daniel A. Wirsche to the Board of Foreign Missions. It was acquired in 1946.

By this time other missionaries had reached the field. Rev. David Wirsche, and the Sisters Lillian Schafer and Annie E. Dyck had joined the staff. The work was incorporated under the name of "Mision de Los Hermanos Mennonitas de America."

Besides being a place for missionary activities, LaCumbre also constitutes the headquarters, as well as the resort, for the missionaries of the Conference. The main responsibility of the staff, however, is in the Choco, which lies north of LaCumbre and stretches for a distance of 250 miles long and 50 miles wide, clear to the Panama Canal Zone. In the course of months it was possible for the Board to send more workers so that up to date, in addition to the missionaries named above, there are Rev. and Mrs. John A. Dyck at Istmina, Choco; Kathryn Lentzner, Istmina; Lydia Golbek, Istmina; Mary I. Schroeder, Istmina; Rev. and Mrs. Jake A. Loewen, Noanama; Rev. and Mrs. Harry K. Bartel and Miss Ruth Loewen, LaCumbre for the time being.

3. Purpose of our mission work in Colombia

The greatest treasure of Colombia, however, lies in the soul of its people. These, too, have been purchased on Calvary by the atoning death of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The heart of God yearns for their salvation. Because of this, our missionaries are pioneering by going into the inland areas which can be reached only with great difficulty, by river, by burro, or on foot to seek the lost.

There are whole Indian tribes which do not even have a written language and whose dialect is being studied by our missionaries and which, by linguistic efforts, is being reduced to writing in order that the blessed story of the Gospel may be translated into their tongue. There are thousands of colored people who were brought over there from Africa during the slave trade era, who are without the Gospel. There are the Colombians who are a mixture of the Spaniards and the Indians, who are awaiting the Gospel messengers. There are the forsaken Indians in the backwoods. Do we see the outstretched hands of nearly one-half million people on our field in the Choco of Colombia, South America? Pray and give much in order that we may not fall short in our responsibility, as well as opportunity, in reaching these underprivileged people.

A. E. Janzen
Executive Secretary and Treasurer

LA CUMBRE

The National Day School is operating for the second year with Señorita Oliva Para as instructor. The enrollment for this year stands at twenty, four of the students coming from the Choco. The Word of God is accomplishing remarkable changes in the lives of these children, many of whom come to the school from Catholic homes.

The national church at LaCumbre is experiencing a revival. Several backsliders have returned to the Lord recently. To further the development of indigenous leadership in the church, the service style of our Mennonite Brethren Church in its pre-pastor days has been adopted.

ISTMINA



The above picture shows a group of Istmina dispensary patients. This is one of the largest groups that have been attended to in a single day. At present the attendance is somewhat less. Miss Lydia Golbach, the nurse, is faithfully working with two national girls, dressing up ugly tropical ulcers and dispensing medicines as the Lord provides. It is true that many ailments are beyond their help, but even here the Lord works miracles. However, besides receiving medicines for their physical bodies, the patient also receives the gospel every day the dispensary operates.

Missionary Children's School

The Missionary Children's School (below) is in its second year of operation. Miss Lillian Schafer, the instructor, has seven students this year. Five of the children come from the Gospel Missionary Union and two from the Inter-American Mission. The work is making splendid progress under the Lord's continued blessing.

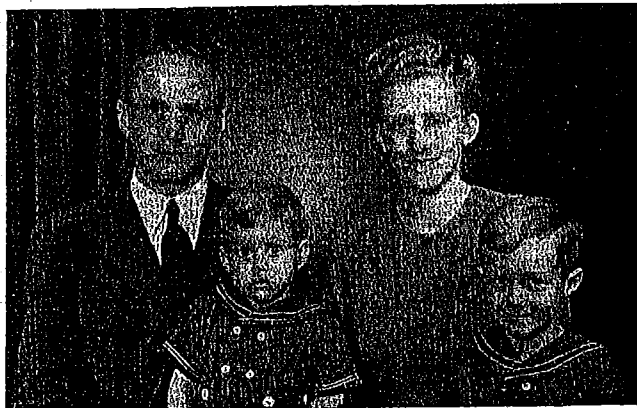


Preaching the Gospel

The below picture shows the Istmina workers preaching the Gospel in the street. Two such meetings are held weekly in the streets of Istmina. Then there are also four services a week in the chapel. Besides these meetings in the village, the workers also conduct services at various points along the San Juan River. The Lord is blessing His Word. Souls are asking for baptism and such a service is being planned in the near future. Truly "the people that walked in darkness have seen a great light."



MEET YOUR



Rev. and Mrs. John A. Dyck and Family

John Abram Dyck was born in Katrinoslav, Russia. His family came to Canada in 1923 and settled at Mullingar, Saskatchewan. Here he was saved at the early age of twelve.

He completed his public school at Redfield, Saskatchewan, and took high school by correspondence. Mr. Dyck is a graduate of the Bethany Bible College, Hepburn, Saskatchewan, the Missionary Medical Institute, Toronto, and the Summer Institute of Linguistics at Briercrest, Saskatchewan. He also attended Tabor College for one semester.

His roster of practical experience in Canada includes evangelism under the Western Children's Mission. He is also the founder, and for two years' instructor, of the Meadow Lake Bible Institute.

In his junior year at Bible College the Lord called him to Colombia. His present duties on the field include the leadership of the Istmina station, the vice-presidency of the Missionary Council, and the chairmanship of the Devotional Committee.

Mary Letkeman Dyck, the fourth child of farmer parents, was born at Aberdeen, Saskatchewan, where she was also born again at the age of 15 under the ministry of the Reverend G. W. Peters.

She completed her elementary and junior high school education at Aberdeen. To date her educational banner also includes graduation from the Bible Course at Bethany Bible College, Hepburn, Saskatchewan, and one session of the Summer Institute of Linguistics at Briercrest, Saskatchewan.

Mrs. Dyck has worked with the Western Children's Mission for several years as Daily Vacation Bible School teacher and gospel worker. She was united in holy matrimony to John A. Dyck in 1942.

Since their arrival on the field and completion of their language work, Mrs. Dyck has been in charge of the women's work at Istmina, and now also serves as chairman of the Committee for Publications.

The Dycks are members of the M. B. church at Aberdeen, Saskatchewan.

Roland Chester Dyck, the first born of the Dyck family, heralds from Saskatchewan. Roland has just passed his fifth birthday, but claims to have Jesus in his heart.

Rodney Eugene Dyck, a native of Palmira, Colombia, was born at the Gospel Missionary Union Clinic. Rodney will be



Rev. David Wirsche

David Wirsche is a native of Oregon, where he was reared in a Christian home. He is a graduate of the Oregon Bible College, Hillsboro, and the Institute of Linguistics, Briercrest, Saskatchewan. He is currently serving as a missionary at Istmina, Colombia.

His interest in the aboriginal people of the West was kindled at the age of seventeen when he was employed as a clerk in the aboriginal department of the Government of Canada.

In Colombia he is in charge of the other stations, and is a member of the Council. He is also a member of the special duty committee.

He is a member of the M. B. church at Istmina, Colombia.

Lillian Schafer is a native of the State of North Dakota where her parents were farmers. She completed her elementary and secondary education near her home, and attended Dakota State Teachers College at Valley City where she was awarded an A. A. degree at Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas. She has also attended the Kansas State Teachers College for several terms.

Miss Schafer's specialty is teaching, and in 1938 she was engaged for more than twelve years.

At the age of twelve she was converted under the ministry of Missionary John A. Wiebe. In 1938 the Lord called her to the field, and this led to her coming to Colombia for missionary children.

On the field Miss Schafer manages the M. B. School, and assists in the work at LaCumbre.

She is a member of the M. B. church at Istmina, Colombia.



Miss Annie Dyck

Annie Elinor Dyck was born at Aberdeen, Saskatchewan. Here she received her elementary education, and later also graduated from the Bible Course at the field, Istmina, Colombia.

Miss Dyck is a native of the State of North Dakota, where she was reared in a Christian home. She came to the field, Istmina, Colombia, where she is currently serving as a missionary.

She came to the field, Istmina, Colombia, where she is currently serving as a missionary. She is a member of the M. B. church at Istmina, Colombia.

She is a member of the M. B. church at Istmina, Colombia.

Mary Irene Schroeder was born to farmer parents at Aberdeen, Saskatchewan, and was saved in her home at the age of eighteen under the ministry of Rev. Henry W. Peters.

She received her elementary education at Aberdeen, Saskatchewan.

MISSIONARIES

He was born at Hodgeville, Saskatchewan, of Lutheran. He completed his elementary education at Flowing Well, Saskatchewan, and his High School at the German-English Rosthern, Saskatchewan. He continued his education at Bethany Bible School, Hepburn, Saskatchewan. In 1945 he was awarded a Th. B. at Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas. He has also completed the summer course of Linguistics.

His missions commenced with his conversion at the age of 16. This grew into a call to bring the Scriptures to the people of Colombia. While at home he served as evangelist for the Western Childrens Mission, and for one year was in the mission press.

Mr. Wirsche has served in various capacities at home and was also the first secretary of the Missionary Society. He is now a member of the Administrative Committee. He is doing linguistic work with the Indians at Noanama. He is a member of the M. B. church at Flowing Well, Saskatchewan.



Rev. and Mrs. Daniel A. Wirsche and Family

Daniel A. Wirsche was born on a farm at Flowing Well, Saskatchewan, where he also received his elementary school training. Shortly after he was saved under the ministry of the Missionary Frank J. Wiens he enrolled in the Herbert Bible School, Herbert, Saskatchewan, but later transferred to Bethany Bible School, Hepburn, Saskatchewan, where he also graduated. His further educational achievements include graduation from the college department of the Bethany Bible College and also the German-English Academy at Rosthern, Saskatchewan.

From 1938 to 1943 Mr. Wirsche served as instructor at Bethany, his alma mater. He also served as director of the Western Children's Mission for two years, and engaged in an effective evangelistic ministry. During these years of service the conviction to serve in the foreign field grew upon him.

The D. A. Wirsches were the first missionaries of our conference to enter the field when they arrived in April, 1945. At the present they are in charge of the LaCumbre station. Mr. Wirsche is the president of the missionary council and a member of the devotional committee.

Elsie Fiedler Wirsche was born at Martin, North Dakota, but came to Canada at the age of five. At Speedwell, Saskatchewan, she completed the elementary school, and at the age of 19 was born again under the ministry of the Reverend G. W. Peters.

She then attended the Speedwell Bible School for two years. From here the Lord led to Hepburn, Saskatchewan, where she attended the local high school, and also graduated from the Missions and Evangelical Teacher Training Courses at Bethany Bible College. In the year 1940 she was united in marriage to Daniel A. Wirsche, and with this step came the decision to serve the Lord in the foreign field.

On the field Mrs. Wirsche's special duty is to teach Spanish to the new missionaries. She also teaches in the national day school and serves as chairman of the language committee.

The Wirsches are members of the M. B. church at Hepburn, Saskatchewan.

Allen Stanley Wirsche was born at Hepburn, Saskatchewan. Stanley was five years old last June. He is the pioneer of our missionary children.

Wesley David Wirsche is our first little "Colombian." He was born at the Gospel Missionary Clinic May 2, 1945.

Peter James Wirsche is also born in Colombia at the Gos-

North Dakota in 1911. She completed her elementary education at Flowing Well, Saskatchewan, and attended North Dakota State University.

In 1941 she was married to Mr. Wirsche at Emporia, Kansas. She is now a member of the M. B. church at Flowing Well, Saskatchewan.

She has been engaged in the ministry of the Western Children's Mission since 1946 as teacher.

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Miss Lillian Schafer

She was born and raised at Winkler, Manitoba. She completed both her public and high school education, and graduated from the Evangelical Teacher Training Courses at Bethany Bible School. Shortly before coming to the field she spent one semester at Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas.

She was converted under the ministry of Missionary Frank J. Wiens, and with her conversion came the desire to serve the Lord. During the years of her Bible training grew into a conviction to serve the Lord in the foreign field. However, even while at home Miss Schafer's talents in children's work.

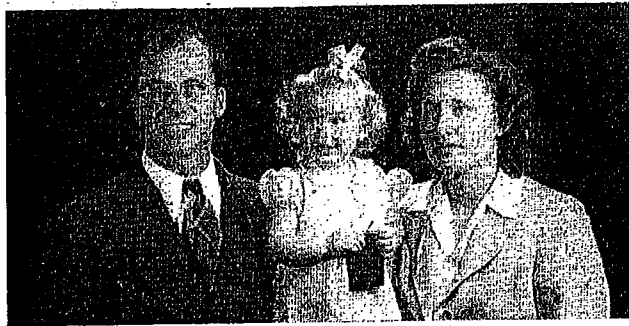
She came to Colombia in January, 1946, and after a time of adjustment she took up the children's work at Istmina. Her contribution to the work is her musical talent, and with great willingness. Besides these responsibilities on the Devotional Committee of the Missionary Society.

She is a member of the M. B. church at Winkler, Manitoba.

She was born at Main Center, Oklahoma, at the age of 16. She is now a member of the M. B. church at Flowing Well, Saskatchewan.

She was born at Main Center, Oklahoma, at the age of 16. She is now a member of the M. B. church at Flowing Well, Saskatchewan.





Rev. and Mrs. Harry K. Bartel and Family

Harry K. Bartel was born at Corn, Oklahoma, where he completed his grade school education. He then attended the Corn Bible Academy, Corn, Oklahoma, and the Immanuel Bible School, Reedley, California, completing his high school at the Tabor Academy, Hillsboro, Kansas. Mr. Bartel has also attended the Pacific Bible College, Huntington Park, California, and Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas, each for two years, and the Pacific Bible Institute, Fresno, California, for one semester.

In the year 1930, Mr. Bartel was born again at a revival service in Corn, Oklahoma. He received his call to the foreign mission field while studying at the Pacific Bible College, Huntington Park, California.

Mr. Bartel's experience at home includes a wide variety of work, like truck-driver, automobile salesman, clerk, handy-man, and missionary to the Mexicans at Lawton, Oklahoma. He also holds his private pilot certificate.

In Colombia Mr. Bartel's special charge will be the construction work on our various mission stations.

Martha Esther Kornelsen Bartel was born in Hillsboro, Kansas, from where her parents moved to Ingalls, Kansas. Here she finished her public school education, and graduated from the Cimarron Consolidated High School. Mrs. Bartel has also attended Pacific Bible College, Huntington Park, California, Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas, and Pacific Bible Institute, Fresno, California.

At the age of eleven Mrs. Bartel was converted, and even at this early age there was a desire to serve the Lord as foreign missionary. This call was confirmed after her marriage to Harry K. Bartel in 1941.

From May, 1946, till November, 1947, the Bartels labored at the Lawton View Mission, Lawton, Oklahoma.

The Bartels arrived in Colombia on November 3, 1948. At present they are at the LaCumbre station studying the Spanish language.

They are members of the M. B. Church at Reedley, California.

Judith Ann Bartel joined the Bartel family at Hillsboro, Kansas, while her parents were studying there. She will be three years old in January.

katchewan, and graduated from high school. Miss Schroeder is also a graduate of the Bible Bible College, Hepburn, Saskatchewan, the Institute, Toronto, and the Summer Institute Briercrest, Saskatchewan.

Her practical experience includes a variety of the province of Saskatchewan with the West. She also served as nurse in various hospitals.

Miss Schroeder came to Colombia in July, 1948, on duty as nursing, and her charge until recently was the dispensary at the Istmina station.

She is a member of the M. B. church at M.



Miss Kathryn Lentzner

Kathryn Lentzner is the home of her family of three.

Miss Lentzner graduated from the Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas, and the Pacific Bible College, Huntington Park, California. She includes junior Christian Education.

Before coming to Colombia, she was a visitor of the Christian Church. She also acted as pastor on the field.

On the field at the Istmina station, she is the secretary of the church. She is a member of the M. B. church at M.

Lydia Golbek, Dinuba, California, arrived in Colombia on November 23, 1947. She received here elementary education in her natal state. After graduating from the Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas, she availed herself of further preparation at the Los Angeles Bible Institute, earning the Certificate of the Evangelical Teachers Training. In 1933 Miss Golbek earned her R. N. degree from the University of California, Newton, Kansas.

Prior to her coming to Colombia Miss Golbek did mission work for seven years teaching Bible districts of the Appalachian Mountains in Kentucky. Ever since her arrival in Colombia she has been a member of the M. B. church at D. Besides teaching Sunday School, she is the Dispensary Committee and carries full charge of the dispensary at Istmina.

She is a member of the M. B. church at D.



Miss Ruth Loewen

Ruth Loewen is a graduate from the Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas, and the Pacific Bible College, Huntington Park, California. She completed a five-year course at the Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas, and from 1941 to 1946 she was a member of the Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas.

Before coming to Colombia, she was a member of the Oklahoma Baptist Church and from 1941 to 1946 she was a member of the Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas.

Miss Loewen is a member of the M. B. church at D. On November 3, 1948, she arrived in Colombia as matron in charge of the dispensary at Istmina.

She is a member of the M. B. church at D.

at Main Center.
course of Bethany
Missionary Medical
of Linguistics at

religious work in
Children's Mis-
sionary Medical
Centers.

1946. Her special
has been the dis-

Center, Sask.



Miss Mary Schroeder

zner, born in Siberia, comes to us from the farm
parents at Larslan, Montana, as the oldest of a fam-

in an honor graduate from the Larslan Public
Tabor Academy, at Hillsboro, Kansas, and the
School, Lustre, Montana. Her further education in-
college at Tabor College, and graduation from the
Education Course at Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.

to the field, Miss Lentzner engaged in a variety
of work. For two years she served as assistant super-
intendence of the Moody Monthly, and also as
personal worker in the Youth for Christ movement.

She serves as director of the young people's work
station, and in April, 1948, she was elected as
a member of the Missionary Council.

member of the M. B. church at Larslan, Montana.

Colombia February
at Inola, Okla-
the Tabor Acad-
the opportunity for
Institute receiving
Training Association.
at the Bethel Dea-

work was engaged in
classes in the rural
the State of Ken-
has served as or-
also a member of
in charge of the dis-

Ubn, California.



Miss Lydia Golbek

is a native of the State of Kansas. She is a
graduate of the Williams Grade School, Marion, Kansas, and
Tabor Academy, Hillsboro, Kansas. In the field of
education, Miss Loewen carries a G. Th. and A. A. de-
gree from Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas. She has also com-
pleted the nurses training course at the Mennonite
College, Nebraska.

When she came to Colombia, Miss Loewen has been matron in
Tabor Academy, Meno, Oklahoma, for two years
and has worked as part-time nurse in the Sa-
lisbury, Kansas.

She was born again under the ministry of Missionary

In 1948, she arrived in Colombia. She is to serve
in the Missionary Children's School, and assist in the
LaCumbre station.

She is a member of the M. B. church at Hillsboro, Kansas.

pel Missionary Union Clinic in Palmira. He was a year old
in September.



Rev. and Mrs. Jacob A. Loewen and Family

Jacob Abram Loewen, born in Orenburg, Russia, comes to
us as the only child of the family. Some time after coming
to Canada his parents translated to British Columbia, where
Mr. Loewen then received his public school education, and
also attended the Chilliwack District Junior-Senior High
School. His further educational achievements include grad-
uation from the Elgin Bible Institute, Yarrow, British Co-
lumbia, and the Missionary Medical Institute, Toronto, On-
tario. In 1947 Mr. Loewen graduated with highest honors
at Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas, receiving an A. B. de-
gree in Humanities. From here he went to the University
of Oklahoma where he continued linguistics with the Insti-
tute of Linguistics.

Prior to coming to Colombia, Mr. Loewen was engaged
in children's work and evangelism work with the West
Coast Children's Mission for a number of years. In Colom-
bia his chief responsibility is translating the Bible into the
language of the Indians, but he also serves as a member
of the Administrative and Publishing Committees.

Anne Enns Loewen was born in Siberia and came to Can-
ada at the age of four. After completing her elementary
school at Yarrow, British Columbia, she entered the Yarrow
Bible Institute where she was awarded the Evangelical
Teacher Training Diploma. She then completed her High
School at the B. C. School of Pharmacy and Science in Van-
couver, B. C. At Tabor College she spent three semesters
studying music and languages, and in the summer of 1947
she attended the Summer Institute of Linguistics at the
University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma.

In her practical experience prior to coming to Colombia
Mrs. Loewen majored in children's work: for five years in-
structing Sunday School and Daily Vacation Bible School,
and for four years teaching in the local kindergarten.

At present Mrs. Loewen is assisting in the Sunday
School and National Day School at LaCumbre, and is also
a member of the language committee. She will join her
husband at Noanamá as soon as provisions for the family
can be made.

The Loewens are members of the M. B. church at Yarrow,
British Columbia.

Gladys Anne Loewen is a native of Hillsboro, Kansas,
where she was born while her parents were studying at
Tabor College. She was one and a half years old in No-
vember.