

# Castaner

# Newsletter

BRETHREN SERVICE PROJECT

BRETHREN SERVICE COMMISSION

Vol. VIII. No. 2 (#86) CASTANER, PUERTO RICO

October 1, 1949

## REPORT OF CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday evening, September 8, following our monthly unit meeting the members of the Church of the Brethren met together for Church Council meeting which convenes every quarter.

The treasurer, Chester Peckover, reported that in addition to the incidental cash on hand, we have \$145.71 in our Building Fund and \$75.00 in our Social Service Fund. For more than a year we have set aside twenty-five percent of our offerings for a building fund,

The following action was taken by the Church Council:

1. The church is to furnish the Academy with the necessary Spanish Bibles for its Bible classes.
2. That we should substitute our Spanish Prayer Meetings for services in English. Another hour is to be set aside for Spanish Prayer Meeting. (Note: Dr. Burke is to have charge of these Spanish services.)
3. That weekly church bulletins be prepared by the pastor for distribution to those in the hospital, to the community, and to other interested persons. The church is to pay one-half the cost of a duplicator and the other half is to come out of the Religious Life Fund.
4. A Communion Service is to be held on World Communion Sunday, October 2.

5. The following officers were chosen for the year:

Clerk-----	Lorna Miller
Treasurer and Usher-----	Vern Hoffman
Chorister-----	Caleb Frantz
Ass't Chorister-----	Violet Harris
Sunday School Superintendent -----	Ruth Ebey
Ass't S. S. Superintendent-----	Yolanda Cerezo
Member of S.S. Board -----	John Metzler
Nominating Committee-----	Elsie Hoffman
	Barbara Hershberger
	Martha Rupel
Messenger Correspondent -----	Elsie Hoffman
Religious Life Committee -----	Barbara Hershberger
	Martha Rupel

At the last Unit Meeting, it was decided that the Unit Religious Life Committee should be in charge of all the English religious services with the exception of the Communion Services. At this meeting, it was also decided to place more emphasis on the dining hall devotions and to have more of them orally. Barbara Hershberger was chosen to be in charge of the dining hall devotions.

The unit chose the following officers for the services in English:

- Sunday School Superintendent-----Wilma Stern
- Ass't S. S. Superintendent-----Vern Hoffman
- Treasurer and Usher-----John Miller
- Chorister-----Barbara Hershberger
- Ass't Chorister -----John Metzler
- Pianist-----Violet Harris
- Ass't Pianist-----Martha Cocanower

A special meeting of the Church Council was called on Sunday evening, September 25. It was decided that twenty folding chairs would be purchased for the church, half the money coming from the Building Fund and the other half from the cash on hand.

Due to the absence of the wives of the official board a committee of three was chosen to prepare the food for communion. These were Martha Rupel, Fern Troche, and Lila Peckover.

Robert Ebey, Pastor

### THE BIG WIND OF SEPTEMBER TWENTY-SECOND

Every year in Puerto Rico we have what is known as the hurricane season. During this season, which generally runs from August to October, there is always the possibility that any of the tropical disturbances which originate in this area may pass over the island. From the time of the first report of a tropical disturbance until the storm either hits or misses, we anxiously await reports on its progress over the radio.

Around noon on Wednesday, September 21, we heard the first report of one of these tropical disturbances. In a later report during the afternoon we discovered that Castaner would be included in the hurricane precaution area. By six o'clock that evening everyone was busy boarding up all the openings in the buildings around the project and getting prepared for a night of heavy wind and rain. As was expected the lights refused to cooperate anymore after 5:40 p.m. and the kerosene lamps and candles were hauled out.



From about midnight on until early Thursday morning we had strong winds and a heavy rainfall. Daylight Thursday morning found a let-up of the storm and we were able to see the damage which had occurred during the night. No buildings were damaged but fruit trees and gardens were hit hard. Many banana trees were blown over and oranges

and avocados were stripped from the trees. After this experience, we are all very happy that we are somewhat protected from heavy damage by the surrounding mountains and are definitely not looking forward to any similar experience in the future.

Vern Hoffman

### BURKE'S HOUSEWARMING

Thursday evening, September 2nd, was the time of much merriment at the new home of the Burkes. With moving all finished Mrs. Burke thought it would be a good time to warm the house. So with the help of all the Unit members the house was warmed, fun was had, and the food was eaten.

It was a requirement that before anyone could partake of food he must perform with some musical number. For those of us who aren't particularly talented in this field it was quite an ordeal for those who listened. But everyone did get something to eat.

We all like their new home very much. It is conveniently located just below the hospital and it is only a three or four minute walk up the hill.

### UNIT PARTIES

At eight o'clock on September 3rd, the unit members gathered on the cancha, or outside basketball court, for an evening of fun and fellowship. Several active games were played which ended up in a game of follow-the-leader. After winding around the grounds the group was led to the pasture. Around a campfire marshmallows were roasted and hot chocolate consumed. Then we all enjoyed singing some of our favorite songs.

On Friday evening, September 23rd, we had another get-together. It was previously decided that we would not only play together but work together also. At six o'clock we could be seen at one end of the cancha leveling off the dirt in order to fill in more cement to lengthen the cancha. This will enable us to have more room for games and eventually have basketball, volleyball, tennis and badminton. The men swung the picks while the women carried the rocks from one place to another. Much activity went on until it became dark when we reconvened inside in the social room for the rest of the program. After playing several games we carried our weary, hungry selves to the kitchen where we found delicious popcorn balls and lemonade. The only casualties of the evening reported were many ant bitten ankles and a few swollen ones.

E. H.

Since there has not yet appeared a map of the Castaner Community after completing the moving program of the project, we would like to give you a birds-eye-view of the new location.

### MAP OF THE CASTANER COMMUNITY

#### UNIT BUILDINGS

1. Hospital
2. Casa Grande
3. Apartments
4. Brethren Academy I
5. Brethren Academy II
6. Community Center
7. Medical Dispensary
8. Doctor's House
9. Pastor's House
10. Center Director's House
11. School Supt. House
12. Industry Building
22. Barn

#### INTEREST POINTS

13. Second Unit School
14. Episcopal Church
15. Saw Mill
16. 1st-3rd Grade School
17. Cooperative Store
18. P.R.R.A. Headquarters
19. Catholic Church
20. Baptist Church
21. Coffee Mill



## VISITORS

We were glad to have the Don Dods family spend a week here as their vacation again this year. The Trembleys from the Zalduondo Project spent a day and night here as Bob and Ruth Ebey's guests. A group from La Plata made a tour of the island and gave us the pleasure of entertaining them overnight. Those in the group were Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Nachtgall, Mr. and Mrs. Justus Holsinger and David, Mr. and Mrs. Royal Snyder, and Lydia Esther Santiago. Louise Burgess and Ray Walsdorf from the Guacio Project paid us a short visit one Saturday afternoon. Rev. Jose L. Santiago Cabrera, a minister from Aguadilla, came over and brought three of his friends from the States. They were Sargeant and Mrs. Nicklos and Mrs. Valle. Harland Gibson visited us for a few days. We are always glad to have our friends drop in.

## PERSONNEL



The unit at Castaner is glad to welcome a new member. This member has not yet made her appearance in Puerto Rico but is planning to arrive with her mother and sister on October 20. She is Susan Louise Metzler, born on September 6, in Elgin, Illinois, and at birth weighed 8 pounds and 2 ounces. We are not sure what her new job will be but at least we know she will keep Anita and John quite busy.

On Sunday, September 18th, Marguerite Burke and Lynn left by Pan American for the States. Lynn is planning to finish his last two years of high school at Oakwood, a Friends private boarding school, in Poughkeepsie, New York. After seeing that Lynn is all settled Marguerite planned to take a short vacation at home in Bremen, Indiana. She plans to return in October.

The same plan saw Ruth Ebey and her two girls, Mary and Alice as passengers. A letter from Ruth's mother brought news of the seriousness of her illness and so it seemed imperative for Ruth to leave as soon as possible. We hope that her mother improves and that Ruth, Mary and Alice may return soon.

## ALUMNI ROSTER

Miss Josephine Anderson, 3749 Whitland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.  
Juan Adrover, 2610 Third Street, La Verne, California  
Gladden Boaz, 4206 Hamilton, San Diego 3, California  
David and Janine Blickenstaff, Box 1000, New York 1, N.Y.

\* Pedro Castillo

Gilberto Claudio, College, North Manchester, Indiana  
Cesar Claudio, College, Bridgewater, Virginia  
Royce Burke, Bremen, Indiana

Wanda Brown Becknell, Bourbon, Indiana  
Mr. and Mrs. Alden C. Douglass, Ponce de Leon & Culto 321, Apt. #3,  
Santurce, P. R.  
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dasenbrock, Sociedad de los Amigos Ave., E. Zapata 25  
Altos Yautepac, Morelos, Mexico  
Mr. and Mrs. John F. Cunningham, 155 W. 2nd. St., Mansfield, Ohio  
Mr. and Mrs. Everett Crouch, Route 5, Box 593-1, Santa Ana, California  
Mr. and Mrs. William P. Coston, %World Service Dept., 347 Madison Ave.,  
New York City  
Mr. and Mrs. George Furse, Glenford, Ohio  
Mr. and Mrs. John Friesen, Morrill, Kansas  
Mrs. Lucian Hood, 301 W. Water Street, Troy, Ohio  
Eduvivo Galarza, 352 S. Homan Ave., Chicago 24, Illinois  
Anson B. Harvey, 1725 Pine St., Philadelphia, Pa.  
Stan and Jean Harbison, Amity Road, Woodbridge, New Haven, Conn.  
Dwight and Imogene Hanawalt, 2605 Sierra Way, La Verne, California  
Mr. and Mrs. Everett Groff, Rtc. 1 Box 3010, Sweet Home, Oregon  
Mr. and Mrs. John Groel, Calle Herodota 60 Apt. #1 Mexico D. F.  
Marybeth Gosnell, Frederick Memorial Hospital, Frederick, Maryland  
Antonia Gonzales, 505 Bond St., North Manchester, Indiana  
Harland Gibson, Div. of Hospitals, Dept. of Health, Santurce, P.R.  
William R. Johnson, Jr., Mt. Sidney, Virginia  
Mr. and Mrs. John P. Jahn, 100 Haven Ave., Apt. 43, New York 32, N. Y.  
Clodomiro Paoli, Jr., Castaner, P.R.  
Roland Hollinger, 2350 East St., LaVerne, California  
Wilbur & Rachel Holderreed, 414 East 4th St., Emmett, Idaho  
Miss Kathryn Hertzler, 912 Marietta Ave., Lancaster, Pa.  
Howard Long, Juniata College, Huntingdon, Pa.  
Rufus & Wanda King, College, Bridgewater, Va.  
Betty Kimmel, 3435 W. Van Buren, Chicago 24, Illinois  
Fred Kidder, 937 Spruce St., Berkley 7, California  
Walter Keiser, Polytechnic Institute, San German, P.R.  
Tom Mathews, 120 N. Pleasant St., Oberlin, Ohio  
James Mason, % Harold Kettering, Standardsville, Va.  
Mr. and Mrs. George Mason % Robert Hungerford - 1725 Wasco, Portland 12,  
Oregon  
James Martin, 175 Winchester, New Haven 11, Conn.  
Larry Moore, 3009 E. 2nd Street, Wichita 8, Kansas  
Vicky Riera, R.N., 1263 Fifth Ave., New York 27, N.Y.  
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Reeves, Route 2, Sunnyside, Washington  
Manuel Quiles, 352, S. Homan, Chicago 24, Illinois  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pope, Calle Ribot # 1260 Apt. 5, Santurce, P.R.  
Dr. Daryl M. Parker, % Mrs. N.E. Neiderhiser, 559 Stanton St., Greensburg Pa.  
Byron Shearer, West Milton, Ohio (R.F.D.)  
Isaac Schmucker, Beulah College, Upland, California.  
Miss Beth Roop, Hospital Nurses Home, Middletown, Ohio  
Miss Iris Rodriques, 3435 W. Van Buren St., Chicago 24, Illinois  
Robert Stanley, Route 2, Salem, Ohio  
Paul Snavely, Route 1, Waterloo, Iowa

Luke H. Bachman, Horst's Mill, Route 5, Lebanon, Pa.

Howard Wolf, 224 Sycamore, Lansing, Michigan.

Howard Sollenberger, U.S. Counciliate General A.P.O.909 % P.M.,  
San Francisco, California

Donald Sollenberger, College, North Manchester, Indiana

Stan Sobel, 13725 Dexter Blvd., Apt. 109, Detroit 6, Michigan

Knight Webster, 1817 Keyes Ave., Madison 5, Wisconsin

Paul Weaver, 1135 Summit St., New Haven, Indiana

Claude Wolfe, Casilla 455, Quito, Ecuador

Herman Will, 4855 N. Lowell Ave., Chicago 30, Illinois

Virgenmina Bobe, District Hospital, Arecibo, P.R.

Dr. Franklin Cassel, 40 Broad St., Lititz, Pa.

Dr. Carl Coffman, Naperville Camp Grounds, Naperville, Illinois

Dr. Francis Helfrick, 14 Westminster Road, Manchester, Conn.

Paul Kindy, Chipman Traylor Court 4044, W. Michigan, Indianapolis, Indiana

Maurice Click, College, Bridgewater, Virginia

Dr. Everett Myer, Adjuntas, P.R.

Cecil Wickline, Box 281, Warrenton, Oregon

Ermelinda Selpa, Castaner, P.R.

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Roesch, 816 W. Bryan St., Bryan, Ohio

Fern Kring Troche, R.N., Castaner, P.R.

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Rohrer, 3435 W. Van Buren St., Chicago 24, Illinois

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Haag, Grace Seminary, Winona Lake, Indiana

Miss Lois Neiderheiser, 105 Central Ave., Mt. Pleasant, Pa.

Mr. James Morgan, 235 W. 3rd St., Anderson, Indiana

In Memoriam: Elmer Hartzler  
Elzie Holderreed  
Harvey Horner

\* - Address Unknown

Elsie Hoffman  
Guest Editor