
Foreword

This year's issue of the *Journal*, Volume 11, includes an index to the first ten years. It is hoped that the Index will not only make it easier for scholars and general readers to find the articles and reviews they are looking for, but also encourage them to order back copies of the *Journal* to make their sets complete. Back copies are sold at \$ 5.00 each, and there are still copies of all issues available, although not too many of the first few years.

We begin this issue with three literary articles. "Escape From the Bloody Theatre: The Making of Mennonite Stories" by Magdalene Redekop, who teaches English at the University of Toronto, is the second lecture of three she delivered in the Chair in Mennonite Studies lecture series at the University of Winnipeg in November 1992. The other two lectures dealt with the "making of Mennonite songs" and the "making of Mennonite pictures." Redekop's informal delivery style has been more or less retained in the article.

Harry Loewen's article "Anti-Menno: Introduction to Early Soviet-Mennonite Literature (1920-1940)," is one of the first publications in this area of study. While we know by now much about the literary work of those Mennonite writers who immigrated to the West in the 1920s, hardly anything is known about the Mennonite writers who chose to remain in the Soviet Union and who wrote there in German in support of the new regime. This article is an introduction to the subject.

"Lucy Maud Montgomery's Ephraim Weber (1870-1956): 'a slight degree of literary recognition'," by Hildi and Paul Tiessen of Waterloo, Ontario, introduces us to a little-known Pennsylvania-German Mennonite writer who associated with the "great" literary figures in Canadian literature and in the end contributed to and recognized and appreciated Canadian-Mennonite writing. This paper was first given at sessions at the Canadian Learned Societies at the University of Prince Edward Island in Charlottetown in 1992.

The following four articles are of a historical-theological nature. Egil Grislis of the University of Manitoba's Department of Religion adds another article to his Menno Simons studies: "Menno Simons on Conversion: Compared with Martin Luther and John Calvin." The Menno articles published in the *Journal* may eventually be published in a book on Menno Simons. John B. Toews who teaches history at Regent College in Vancouver, writes about "The Early Mennonite Brethren and Conversion." To our knowledge, this is the first full-length study on the subject.

Both the Russian government and the Dutch Mennonites at the end of the eighteenth century expressed concerns about the Prussian-Mennonite practice of shunning members who married "outside" their congregations. In 1788 the Dutch wrote a missive to their coreligionists in Prussia and Russia, admonishing them to act in love and harmony when dealing with church discipline. This missive, originally written in Dutch, has been translated into English by Walter Klaassen of Vernon, British Columbia, and introduced by Harry Loewen.

"Cars, Commerce, Church: Religious Conflict in Steinbach, Manitoba, 1905-1930" by Royden Loewen, who recently completed his Ph.D. in history at the University of Manitoba, takes us to the fascinating "Mennonite world" of southern Manitoba. The tensions between religion and culture so vividly portrayed here, will no doubt remain part of Mennonites for some time to come.

We carry two articles that deal with Russian-Mennonite medics in World War I. Al Reimer's "*Sanitäter and Selbstschutz: Russian-Mennonite Nonresistance in World War I and its Aftermath*" was first presented as a paper at the University of Winnipeg in the fall of 1991. Reimer shows the close connection between the services of the medics and the self-defence action of Mennonites during the period of anarchy, 1918-19. David G. Rempel's article, "Mennonite Medics in Russia During World War I," was originally a lengthy response to a photograph of Mennonite medics in the *Mennonite Historian* (Vol. XVIII, No.3, Sept. 1991, p.10). Abe Dueck, director of the Centre for Mennonite Brethren Studies, has edited the article and prepared it for publication. This article may be one of Rempel's last writings before he died last year.

We carry two articles dealing with institutions, one a colony and the other a school. Jeff Longhofer of the University of Missouri—Kansas City, makes the hog feeder dispute among Manitoba Hutterites the occasion for a probing question: "All Things in Common? The Contingent Nature of Communalism Among the Hutterites." Bruno Dyck's "Half a Century of Canadian Mennonite Bible College: A Brief Organizational History," is based on his Ph.D. thesis at the University of Manitoba. CMBC, one of the two Mennonite colleges in Winnipeg, has had a distinguished history as an institution that has successfully combined high scholarship with Mennonite tradition and values.

In our *in memoriam* section we present tributes to two Mennonite leaders who died last year. James Urry of the University of Victoria in Wellington, New Zealand, writes of historian David G. Rempel of Menlo, California, a scholar well known in his field. And Peter Letkemann of Winnipeg pays tribute to Benjamin

Horch who contributed to Mennonite music-making for many decades. Both Rempel and Horch will be missed very much.

A review article by Al Reimer, book reviews, and bibliographical notes conclude this issue. *We should like to encourage publishers to send their books for review directly to our book review editor:* Victor G. Doerksen, Department of German, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2N2. Also, persons wishing to submit articles for possible publication in the 1994 issue of the *Journal*, should send a hard copy, double spaced (together with a computer disk) by the end of November 1993. The editors' study leaves and other logistical factors make this schedule for the next issue necessary.

The Editors