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**WUPPERTAL-BETHEL
EXCHANGE PROGRAM
15th ANNIVERSARY**



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EXCHANGE PROGRAM

15th ANNIVERSARY

A Documentation
compiled and edited
by Henrik Eger

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INTRODUCTION

Twenty-six former Bethel and Wuppertal exchangees plus two exchangees-to-be, as well as several professors in four different countries, have written articles for the upcoming 15th anniversary of the Wuppertal-Bethel Exchange Program. It almost looks like a literary birthday cake. Many thanks to all those that helped with this booklet.

In the first part you will find some early documents and the whole story of the program is told. Then the students, in chronological order, tell about their experiences.

May this booklet strengthen the ties between Bethel College, North Newton, and the Pädagogische Hochschule Wuppertal. Onward Bethel--onward Wuppertal.

Henrik Eger

North Newton, Kansas

May 1965



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"PIONEERING EFFORTS"

Dear Friends of Wuppertal and Bethel:

It is hard to imagine that the Wuppertal-Bethel student exchange program is about to begin its fifteenth year. Certainly through the years this experiment has proved its value in promoting international understanding and goodwill between the two schools, their representatives, students and faculties.

One may note with interest that many colleges and universities since 1950 have adopted programs where students spend some time studying in another country. The "junior-year abroad" concept has taken root in higher education and is continuing to grow. With the additional feature of exchange, as in the Wuppertal-Bethel program, the value is enhanced even more. We may justly take pride in the pioneering efforts in this regard by the two schools.

So we are pleased with the record of the program, the number of students who have studied at Bethel or Wuppertal, and the positive effects that have resulted for both schools. We hope that the program will continue for many more years so that its good work may go on in our two countries.

Sincerely yours,
Vernon Neufeld, President
Bethel College

"LIFE IN THOSE DAYS" by Erna Fast

You ask me to reminisce about the experiences of those years when this student exchange was "born". In spite of the dreadful events which led to my being in Germany immediately after the war, I recall those years with a deep sense of gratitude and satisfaction. As a member of the staff of the Evangelische Studentengemeinde traveling to all PA's, there were so many opportunities to observe student life and to become personally acquainted with fine young people. For me the Wuppertal students represented the finest and best of them. Their willingness to endure hardship and privations for the sake of their search for truth, their eagerness to understand, their willingness to share, plus a precious sense of humor and love for fun in spite of the drabness of much of life in those days - all this is as sharp in my memory today as it was then. These were fine young people preparing to teach others, entering one of the noblest and finest of professions.

It was during this time, too, that the Evang. Studentengemeinde began to see the values of this particular group of "Schmall-Spur" students within the entire ministry of its organization. I have always felt that this was one of the best results of our efforts during that time.

FROM MY FILES:
"SISTER SCHOOL"

"The students at Bethel desire that through this project a bridge of understanding, personal fellowship, and mutual sharing may result. The student body of approximately 400 members hopes to collect enough funds to make a really worthwhile gift available to this 'sister school' in Germany. . . It was suggested that the funds might be divided between three types of aid: (a) scholarships for especially needy refugee students, (b) desired American publications and books to be placed in a 'Bethel College Corner' somewhere in the building for use among students, (c) special equipment and needed supplies to aid the school."
(Letter from January 19, 1950)

"WE WERE IN WANT"

In a personal letter dated December 6, 1950 the students of Wuppertal PA write to thank me for my visit with them earlier in the year and express their gratitude to Bethel College students for the "Spende" in cash. The letter states that "we got some things for our dormitory we were in want of. You saw our rooms yourself . . and I hope you saw that we are happy here, too!" The letter closed as follows: "We thank you . . . as we learnt from you that the Bethel College had to take pains in helping us by money and parcels. On the other side we will try to do our best to get into contact with the students of the Bethel College."

"GRANTS AND GIFTS"

I find great personal satisfaction in this fact since it exemplifies the basic concern which was the underlying factor in my own role in this entire program; i.e. that this become a truly personal relationship and that which had been called "exchange" truly become an exchange in the form of a two-way "street" of traffic of students. Too, it did not seem right to have funds that had been collected by students who cared enough to share in a real way become a part of the huge, anonymous grants and gifts that were being distributed to universities. This was a small gift and was begun in a small way, but God can bless even that!

"THE BETHEL STUDENT BODY" by Jacob T. Friesen

Dr. Hammelsbeck, Dr. Harder, and I spent considerable time reviewing the history and reactions in Wuppertal of the student exchange program. It seems that they have only good things to say

about their past experiences and the effect which it had upon Fritz. (Fritz Potreck, first Wuppertal student at Bethel) Dr. Hammelsbeck was almost at a loss to describe his gratitude and enthusiasm.

An outgrowth of Fritz's return has been the interest of the student body in sponsoring a Bethel student to come to Wuppertal for a year of study. They have been laying plans and building a fund to make the stay in Wuppertal possible. Dr. Hammelsbeck stated that they could see light and were prepared to assume complete responsibility for the room and board of the student. For those of us who know the difficulties of living circumstances in Germany, we recognize this as a definite achievement. However, this does not bridge the gap completely.

I am wondering whether the Bethel student body is fully aware of this possibility and whether their annual project has been decided upon. This would definitely require a school-wide venture. The question of selection would also have to come up very quickly. It is suggested that the student be either a Junior or a Senior, preferably the latter, and that he be obviously an education major preparing to teach.

Since semesters begin about November 1 and March 1, it seems wise to plan for the student to arrive for the beginning of the November semester and complete the second semester at the end of July. This would make it possible for the student to return for the following school term in September.

"HISTORY OF THE PROGRAM" by Prof. Inge Heuser

It seems a very long time ago - our College was still in an emergency building - when I first heard of Bethel College. How did it happen that the name of a college in Kansas became all at once so wellknown to students and faculty of the Teacher College in Wuppertal?

It was in those days shortly after the war when we didn't know where to get textbooks nor even paper to write upon. It was a time when we wrote our lectures on scraps of brown paper left from the packages sent to us from friends in the United States. And quite a few of these highly welcome packages came from Bethel College, Kansas. They contained not only books, bibles, writing material but also food and they did a good deal to make studies possible in those first difficult years. But it was not only the material help that we appreciated but rather the feeling that there were friends somewhere in the United States who cared for us in spite of everything that had happened in our country.

How did it happen that Bethel College selected a small Wuppertal College for its relief action? A college newly founded after the war with no tradition and no reputation? The first contact was made through Johannes Harder, our sociology professor who was a Mennonite. Settlers went to and fro and we learned about the Mennonites and their funda-

mental principle of Christian charity which found its visible expression in the material and spiritual help from Bethel College.

Settlers went to and fro and gradually a pen friendship developed. Then one day a letter arrived that caused great excitement among students. It contained the first invitation of Bethel students to one of our students. Today one can scarcely imagine what ~~that~~ meant in those days. We had lived in isolation for a long time and there was rarely an opportunity for a German student to go to a foreign country, least of all to the United States. And what made this invitation still more valuable was the fact that it came from the students themselves. Bethel students from their own initiative had collected the money and now extended an invitation to a Wuppertal student.

The first student selected for Bethel College was Fritz Potreck; although of course he was greatly envied by all of us, we somehow felt that we all had a share in this year at Bethel College and all his reports were anxiously expected and read with great interest. Soon another invitation arrived and when Rudi Wiemann left for Bethel College we found that life in Germany gradually had become normalized so that we thought we might invite a Bethel student to our College. The Wuppertal students too began to collect money and at last the exchange became a two track one.

Otto Driedger was the first student who came from Bethel to Wuppertal. We still lived in our emergency building and he must have found life in a German college extremely primitive as compared with his own College. There was no campus and no dormitory and a very modest little library. But there were students who were eager to discuss world problems with an American student and everybody wanted to meet Otto. He was a jolly fellow and was well liked among students. He actually came from Canada and we never quite learned to pronounce "Saskatchewan" correctly.

Next came the first girl student: Lillian Galle. Lillian made a lot of friends and still has contact with some of our former students- she learned German rather quickly and was a very eager student.

By this time we did something which looking back I cannot help regretting a bit: We asked the Ministry of Education for financial support of our exchange program. I must confess that I was responsible for this step. Seeing how difficult it was for our students to raise the sufficient money for the Bethel student I was afraid that the program might be endangered and therefore looked for financial support from outside. The Ministry answered our application favourably and from now on half the money came from the Ministry and the other half from the students. Soon, however, without our asking for it the money for our exchange student came totally from the official side. As our colleges all are State Colleges the students who cannot afford to pay get a financial support (Honneffer Modell) and our foreign student was included in this program.

Although this was a great relief in one way as we knew we could keep our exchange with Bethel alive it turned out to be less ideal in another way: The enormous general interest in the Bethel student died down. He was no longer "our Bethel student" but the American exchange student. This change in attitude of our students set me thinking: On a miniature scale it showed that state welfare suppresses the idea of private responsibility for your neighbor!

Although very many students still show a great interest in the exchange program and are eager to meet our Bethel student some of them nowadays know very little of Bethel and it now has become the personal task of the Bethel student to make Bethel known to his German fellow students. In one way that is a good thing too as he personally is responsible to keep the relation between our two Colleges alive and I think many of the Bethel students have been very successful ambassadors of their home College.

I remember all of them - some very well, some not quite as well as they found their friends often in a different department and our College has become so big that you cannot any longer know every one.

Ruby Woelk although she was mainly interested in sociology and theology made friends with members of the English Seminar, too, and she got very attached to our College - she promised to come and see us again and we are still waiting for her.

Eldred Thierstein was a rather silent boy but eager student. He too spent most of his time in the sociology seminar.

Ted Zerger had some difficulties with the German language first but learned a lot and when he left we thought he should now begin his Wuppertal term because it was at the end that we really got to know him well.

Janice Waltner started out with social work in a camp and we were told that her help was greatly appreciated there. She showed particular interest in educational problems and had good contact with students and faculty.

Dilores Rempel is probably among the students best remembered of all as she tried to keep in contact with us after she had left. I remember that she once came to me almost desperate because she wanted to do something really worthwhile. She wanted to serve and found that there was so little opportunity to live a life of fellowship. But I think nobody can overrate what she did for mutual understanding not only within the College but likewise outside. We met her a few weeks ago and everybody of those present enjoyed her heartwarming talks.

Karen Gilchrist was another amiable exchangee who found many friends. We tried to persuade her that skiing was a fine sport and took her right up to a cabin in the Austrian Alps. I am afraid she

did not quite appreciate the sportive side of this excursion but she certainly enjoyed the landscape and the evenings in the cabin.

Ruth Ewy was not only a cherub on skies, but was quite simply one of us. She improved her German greatly inspite of her particular friendship with Daphne Jones our British student; she also went with the English seminar to Juist, and was the backbone of our little English choir conducted by Rudi Wiemann. We had lots of fun with her and hope to see her again.

Mary Janzen was a very bright student, particularly interested in history and political science. But she also was a jolly friend and a never tiring discussion-partner. We felt very sorry when she left Germany and somehow we had the feeling that the political situation in Germany stimulated her historical interest. We wouldn't be surprised if she became a wellknown scholar in the field of history some day.

Bob Pankratz had two main interests: Mathematics and sports. As our College is a Teacher College, I am afraid he didn't find too much he didn't yet know in the field of mathematics. As a basketball star he lead the team to never expected glory. So he finally was made coach for basketball. But also in other fields of sports he excelled and even in skiing which was new to him he developed from a ski baby to a fairly good ski-runner. He is not quite as good in letter-writing I was told!

Pete Trott is still here and he has made many good friends. He improved his German tremendously and recently gave a speech on American Education and on Life in Bethel College in perfect German. He attended the Joyce seminary and was a good supporter in interpretations. He amazed the German students by his sincere studies outside the courses and he set a good example what studying means. And yet he makes good use of his free time, travelling all over Europe. We enjoyed having him in the Zechnerhutte for skiing and he was just as eager on the skiing-slopes as in the seminar. We are very happy that he won't leave us yet, and as he told us that Gordon Ratzlaff is among his best friends in Bethel we know that Gordon has been a good choice.

I am afraid this report is not very thoroughly for I had to write it out of my head as I was not in Wuppertal when I wrote it and therefore I had no access to the "Bethel Archive." More over the report might be very different seen through the eyes of another faculty member or the students.

I should add that I had the privilege to pay a 3 days visit to Bethel College together with my colleague Professor Hammelsbeck on occasion of an "educational trip" through the USA in 1956. So in some respect I feel an "old Bethelite" myself and am always eager to get news from there. But the exchange certainly does not only enrich those who actually take part in it but also many others who learn to see their own country or their own college through the eyes of others. There is a great deal which every individual can do in the way of

understanding other people and other nations. Let us hope that the exchange between Bethel and Wuppertal may contribute to widen our horizons and to learn how to practice understanding and love of our fellow-men in all parts of the world.

"FIRST WUPPERTAL STUDENT" by Fritz Potreck

I was born in East Prussia on November 6, 1928. After visiting the Elementary School for seven years, I went to the Grammar school. In 1945 we had to flee, when the Russians occupied my native place. My father had to become a soldier and is missing since that time. My mother, sister, and brother are living in Western Germany now. After the war, I was able to go to school again and pass my examination in 1950. From 1950 to 1953 I studied at the Teachers' Training College in Wuppertal. During my study I had the great opportunity to study at Bethel College as an exchange student in 1951-52. That time has become one of my greatest experiences up to this time. Whenever I open the 'Grammaroon,' that year at Bethel becomes alive. I remember the different activities on the campus: club meetings, square dancing, talks and discussions on the floor in the "White House," and last but not least the special courses of study. But the most important fact of the year at Bethel was the meeting with so many different and interesting people. I am grateful to my teachers at Bethel and shall always be thankful for the many exchanges at Bethel which have become such an important part of my life.

In 1953 I passed my teacher's examination and became a teacher at an Elementary School in Wuppertal. In 1955 I married Ursula; we have two daughters and two sons. Now I teach at an Elementary School in Tonisheide near Wuppertal.

"BUILDING A BRIDGE" by Fritz Potreck

The "Bridge" which we were talking of so many times has become reality and it is the first step where we have to pause first in order to give our thanks; after having done this it is impossible to stay and to do nothing. The thankful prayer is a channel for the strength which is necessary for the next step.

Do we really always know which are the pillars of our Bridge? I may be wrong, but was it not that great "Love" which caused you at Bethel to start such a project? Yes, I dare to say: It only was that "Christian Belief" which moved hearts to look for a contact with people around them. That is a good base; it is able to carry our Bridge. Therefore, the most necessary thing is that we have "builders" who have this belief, better: Who always know: We cannot do anything without Him. It is my opinion that it will depend on this fact if our Bridge will have a future. In the communion of this group we will get the answers about the how and the when. We must have that fire to make others burn for our program. Our fellowship must convince others to become a fellow-Bethelite. I think that this fellowship is able to

make this program vital to others. Some will first perhaps stand outside and still be willing to further this project but we should not leave them outside. Well, lets have a remembrance day, or let us write pamphlets or something like a big report with the theme, "Building a Bridge," putting in all the experiences in words and pictures. The thing is that we will have supporters when we convince people of the worthwhile program. If this program is vital to those who stand outside, depends on the exchangees. First, they must make their experience a profit for a large circle by reporting--writing and giving programs. Why should we not try to develop something like a newspaper and bulletin in which both Bethel and Wuppertal can have an active part? Let us think about that.

(Letter from Dec. 8, 1953)

"ABOUT FRITZ" by Erwin C. Goering

Fritz Potreck was a very capable and conscientious first exchangee between Wuppertal and Bethel College. He was truly an ambassador, for his sincerity and dependability as a student from Germany won the favor of both schools and Bethel's faculty and students. We are indebted to Fritz for making a very fine beginning.

"THE BIG-BROTHER PROJECT" by Cornelius J. Dyck

Einen Gruss aus Amerika zuvor. Da wir hier in Amerika das zwanglose "you" haben, sprech ich dich auch gleich mit du an und hoffe das es dir recht ist.

Mir ist mitgeteilt worden das du zum Herbst nach Bethel College kommst. Kennst du Fritz Potrick. Er ist ein famoser Kerl. Von unserer Christlichen Studenten Vereinigung ist mir dein Name gegeben worden mit der bitte dich fuers kommende Jahr zu "adoptieren." Wenn dir etwas nicht passt oder fremd ist, sollst du zu mir kommen und mich ausschelten. Ich soll dafuer sorgen das du genug zum Essen hast, das du genug schlaefst, genug Freunde hast usw. Wir nennen es "the big-brother project."

In einem Brief wie dieser, kann man gar wenig schreiben. Wenn du irgend fragen hast ueber was du etwa mitbringen solltest, usw. dann schreibe mir bitte hierher. Wenn nicht, dann schreibe mir wenigstens wann du in Bethel ankommst, damit ich dich treffe und dir bei der registration behilflich sein kann. I trust you already speak some english. Have a good trip, don't get seasick (daran stirbt es sich nicht leicht) and I'm looking forward to seeing you.

(Letter to Rudolf Wiemann, dated July 22, 1952)

"THINKING BACK WITH A LONGING HEART" by Rudolf Wiemann

The wheel of time is turning and has been turning continuously, during all those years, when two institutions and its supporters, Bethel and PA Wuppertal, tried to build a bridge across the ocean. This is

the place to express once more my sincere thanks to all those who thru their initiative and their efforts have started this wonderful project and who have supported it so devotedly, both by financial aid and in prayers. Do you remember those days in Bethel, when our booth was set up, decorated with stripes and strings, and when students and professors, administrators and friends as well came to make their contribution - and they have done it so freely. I felt so petty and unable to respond, sitting there and taking the money, which, I knew was being given to help us Germans come to America, to Bethel. But by the donator's shining and friendly faces I was assured - and that was a lift up, I tell you - that they gave with thankful hearts and the honest desire in it, by their contribution to add another stone to our bridge.

Many months have passed since. Each of us has been busy doing the work given to us. How often do we find ourselves thinking back with a longing heart to our friends on the other side of the ocean. Letters, papers, and bulletins bring us news how the work is going on. We are happy and rejoice with you in that knowledge that we, everyone of us, are brothers in Christ, connected thru that common bond of fellowship which binds us together and makes us workers for one great goal, everybody in his own ways: to create a deep and peaceful understanding among our nations. Is there a higher goal to work for and to consecrate one's energy and thinking to?

The year we have spent at Bethel has passed very quickly--all of a sudden it was gone and the law took us and sent us back again. Many a time I have asked myself: "Did you live up to all that you were expected to? Did you fulfill your purpose in America and did you really add a little stone to our bridge?" Many, many things have been left undone, that's for sure. But will we ever be able to return to Bethel and to do over again those things which we haven't done yet? Let's do it from where we are, helping actively to further the exchange program, both in prayers and deeds. Highpoints in our work towards the common goal are those, when Bethelites come to us for visits or so.

What shall be the future of our exchange project? Let's try to carry it on as long as we can on a mutual basis. But I think we shouldn't limit it only to students, but also give the teachers from our schools the opportunity to change places from America to Germany and visa versa.

The point in how far the program is truly vital not only to us but also to the others is of a great concern to me, I confess. It would be assuming to state here: "They, the others, they just have to support it." We have to try to arise a deep and lasting interest in both the students and teachers, to organize meetings, where we rethink our program and its goal, where we talk about its history and the possibilities for its future, where we talk about its dangers of becoming a routine matter and looking for ways to avoid it. It's too bad that there can't be more students or teachers, who join the program in becoming "exchangeers." We should organize a day or two per year, where we get together in our schools

and exclusively dedicate this day to the memory of Bethel or Wuppertal, "ein Bethel Gedenktag" or "a Wuppertal Remembrance Day", with talks, pictures etc. about these schools, the work in it and around it.

What seems very important to me is the following: As time moves on and with it, we hope, an increasing number of those who have been exchange students or teachers, we should stay in very close contact with each other, so we could divide more effectively our different missions in keeping alive and vital the exchange program between Bethel and Wuppertal.

"STRENGTHENING THE TIES" by Rudolf Wiemann

I was born in 1930 in Horste, a little village in the Teutoburger Wald, spent my childhood there and attended the local elementary school for six years. In 1942 I went to the "Gymnasium" at Detmold (Lippe). "Abitur" in 1950. Then I enrolled at Wuppertal Teacher's College and passed my teacher's examination in 1952. In September of that year I was privileged to be sent as the second Wuppertal exchange student to Bethel College. I graduated there in 1953 (BS in Education). Back in Wuppertal I went into teaching on elementary level until 1956. After a one-year training at Koln Sporthochschule I got a teaching post at one of our local high schools. From 1961 to 1964 I worked as an assistant to the English professor at Wuppertal Teacher's College. After that again up till now I have been teaching English and P. E. at my former school in Wuppertal-Vohwinkel.

My year at Bethel (1952-1953) was in more than one way the experience of my life. It must have been, since everything is still so vividly in my mind that I can hardly believe that more than ten years have passed, the 10th anniversary of our Graduation Day having been celebrated two years ago. Unfortunately I was not able to be present then and read "my letter".

I lived in Goessel Hall, just across the road from Newton to Hillsboro. Goessel Hall, I think, no longer exists. One day these last years they put wheels underneath and moved her away, just as they had done some twenty years before when they needed another dorm on the Bethel campus.

My roommate was Eldo Neufeld. Eldo, his family, and my family and I met a couple of years ago in Wuppertal. I should also mention that there have been various reunions with former Bethelites in Wuppertal ever since I left Bethel in 1953, thus strengthening the ties which connect us with our dear alma mater.

It was not always easy to do all the things one had, wanted, and was expected to do at Bethel: carry rather a heavy schedule load, getting acquainted with the college students and the staff, participating in various activities, making speeches about anything and everything in clubs and churches and schools and what and where not, earning some extra pocket money and so forth. But all this, for various reasons, was never

too much, I must honestly confess, and adds up to those precious memories which will never leave me.

"ABOUT RUDY" by Erwin C. Goering

Perhaps the most intimate insight given me about youth in pre- and post-World War II Germany, came to me through Rudy. He came to Bethel as an exchange student looking for new friendships which would transcend the world he had known as a youth and leader in the Hitlerian era.

Rudy found friends; he extended friendships; he helped build a world of new understanding in the circle of students and community he touched. He gave of himself even as he reached out to new experiences.

"SPARROWS FOR BREAKFAST" by Annegret Gehlhoff

I came to the States in August 1953 together with Theo Harder ("Ted"), who was no exchange student, but he also came from Wuppertal. When we arrived at Newton bus station on a hot afternoon - I can't imagine to have been as tired ever since! - we were met by somebody (I forgot who) and had a first meal at Willis Rich's. The whole Campus was empty and sad, and it was hot. On the next day I met some summerschool students. For three weeks I worked in the Historical Library - and when school started in September, I had got used to climate, new surroundings, and language.

In winter 1953-54 I took part in a Debate Tournament. We were to meet in Greely, Col. As far as I remember we were six students and Mr. Wilkoff, our teacher. We started, as we had planned, one Thursday morning at 5 o'clock, Mr. Wilkoff was driving the station wagon. Having gone for about 400 miles west, were caught at 3 p.m. in a terrible snow storm. I had never before (and I have never since) been in such a snow storm. In less than half an hour we were surrounded by snow, we could not see the street - but we could not stop, because we would have been buried under the snow! We went zick-zack (zig-zag?) and suddenly we saw two lights right in front of us - a car!! I don't know how Mr. Wilkoff managed to get on the right side of the road, and it was just luck that the other car stayed on the left side. All of us were rather frightened. Not long after this adventure we found some houses of a little town or village. We could not get a room in a hotel - all occupied - so we stayed in a private home, where a very nice lady took care of us. (Her home was somewhat like a museum with Hammond organs, and we enjoyed trying to play this instrument.) Next morning the weather was better, and in the hotel we met some other debate groups who could not drive on to Greely. Well, Mr. Wilkoff had the bright idea, since we could not debate, to give a High-School-Program! And so we did. I had to give a talk of Germany, one girl gave a speech about "Peace", and one of the boys played the piano.

On the next day we could go back to Kansas, but it was impossible to go west. In Kansas they had had a bad sandstorm in the meantime. The sky was still yellow and grey, and there was sand just everywhere. Even the food was not free from sand!

In the olden days of 1954 meals were different at Bethel. We began with a prayer - all together, and we finished our meals the same way. Tables were set in the evenings for breakfast, cups turned upside down on the saucers. When the students sat down in the morning, each of us turned his cup. Anyway, one morning there actually were sparrows under 10 or 12 cups... They all flew up, when the cups were turned, they were quite excited, and so were the students. Certainly we could not use these cups. As far as I remember, boys of the football team had caught the sparrows and put them under the cups the night before. Not everybody liked this joke!

"About Annegret" by Erwin C. Goering

Annegret appeared to be a rather shy, unobtrusive individual at first meeting. But as one learned to know her, the depth of experience and character came to the fore and deepened the relationship and respect. Annegret related to some of us her experiences as a girl (teenage) refugee, disguised as a "sub-normal" boy! What a role to play! But it took her safely through situations which would have been impossible as a girl. Resourceful? Absolutely, and deeply sincere.

"FIRST BETHEL STUDENT" by Otto Driedger

Thank you very much for your letter of February 18, 1965. In order to get this to you within your suggested deadline, I better get this reply off. It is a good idea to have a 15th anniversary celebration, and a booklet to review what has happened is a good idea. Following is the information you request.

When I was at Wuppertal I had the privilege of staying at the "Brücke" in Wuppertal-Elberfeld which was the British Information Centre and dormitory for a number of students at the various schools and institutes in the city. As a result there were students in the dormitory specializing in architecture, engineering, and other trades as well as teaching. I had the opportunity to visit in the homes of many of the students, and also to visit several countries and other parts of Germany during vacation periods. We as students that year especially enjoyed the two-week ski trip arranged by the Sports Department to Kitzbühl in spring. One of the amusing things that kept happening to me was that when a group of students would go on a trip or hike, I would assume that at noon we would stop at a café for something to eat. When dinner time came around, we were usually somewhere in the hills or on the train, and no food in sight till the other students pulled out their briefcases and took out their sandwiches. Because of the kindness of all the others, I usually did not go hungry, but on several occasions I was caught without anything to eat.

When I first arrived at Wuppertal, the Student Council had gathered to welcome me and have "tea" with me (coming from Canada they assumed that we followed British custom). We got acquainted and had tea. After my cup was almost empty, the girls offered me more tea, which I accepted. Then, after I had almost finished my second cup, they offered me more. I declined politely, but they kept insisting, so rather than hurt their feelings, I accepted another cup. This kept on and on for several hours, because they kept insisting, I did not want to be rude, so at the last minute always accepted. A month later I found out that the girls had been dashing around the whole dorm trying to find enough tea, because of course their custom was that the host must insist in offering food.

Upon my return, I married Florence Hooze from Manitoba, Canada (I got engaged before I went to Wuppertal). I then began working for the Department of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation of the Government of Saskatchewan. I worked at this in Saskatoon for two years, doing child welfare services. In addition I served a small mission church in the city. I then had a bursary to take my master's degree in McGill University, Montreal Quebec, where both my wife and I took our M.S.W. during the next two years (1956-58). I then worked in Prince Albert Sask. for the the same Department in Child Welfare. The following year (1959) I was appointed a supervisor in the Moose Jaw Region. After working there two years, I came down with tuberculosis of the kidney and was in a San for 9 months, and off work an additional two months. After my recovery I was appointed Regional Administrator of the Swift Current

Region for the Department of Social Welfare, and have been here now since July, 1962. We have a staff of 15 and are responsible for Child Welfare, Public Assistance, Corrections and Rehabilitation in this area.

"PRACTICAL AND HISTORICAL VALUES" by Otto Driedger

Building a bridge is a task that keeps us busy for years, and for the foundation I am reminded of that favorite Mennonite verse "Einen andern Grund kann niemand legen ausser dem, der gelegt ist, welcher ist Jesus Christus". The pillars of the bridge are the students and teachers who support this program, they are the ones that build the bridge, what is our task as the actual exchange students? We are to strengthen the bridge by spanning cords of love, understanding, co-operation, and above all strenghtening the cord of Christian unity. We must have more than only the exchange students making use of the bridge. Probably it would be possible to have a correspondent in each school sending information from one school to the other and that from time to time this correspondent just make^s a few remarks at chapel, telling the Bethelites the last developments in Wuppertal, and vice versa, or they could post the interesting events on the bulletin boards. I believe we need something of a continual connection between the two schools so that each knows what the other is doing.

There is the possibility of us exchange students writing some sort of permanent reports that could be filed in the libraries of both schools. I think this would be very good so that we have some concrete and lasting documents of our program. Probably each exchange student could also donate a few slides to his home college which he has taken in the other country, and this slide library could be made use of very well by the exchange student who is in that college at the time. Whenever he would have to give talks he would always have some slides at his disposal from his home college. They would not only have a practical value, but also a historical value, in that we could see the development and changes in the schools from year to year.

Lets make it our prayer that we not only talk about these things, but that we somehow bring our words into action.

(Letter from Dec. 14, 1953)

"DOWN-TO-THE-POINT" by Rudolf Stubenrauch

In the list of Wuppertal-Bethel exchangees I take the fourth place. When Erwin Goering got me from the bus in McPherson on September 13, 1954, a temperature of some 100 degrees seemed to engulf us! First impressions at Bethel: a dusty campus, James Waltner, then president of the Student Christian Fellowship, to welcome me at Goessel Hall as my roommate, and a nicely cool Historical Library where I met Dr. Krahn.

The first weeks I felt sort of uprooted and planted into new soil. You simply had to get adjusted to thousands of hitherto unknown stimuli, a breathtaking experience for every foreign student!

What impressed me most in the lecture-rooms was the down-to-the-point, unhampered way of tackling and solving problems, and the democratic interaction between students and teachers. On the other hand I should have liked a little more academic freedom in terms of class attendance!

My favorite course during the first term was General Psychology offered by Dr. Kauffman and later Educational Psychology under Dr. Schellenberg. I have taken a special interest in this field of study ever since, and it is due to Bethel experiences that at present, 10 years later, I am a parttime psychology student at Cologne University in Germany! It may be interesting for you to hear that my professor has an utterly different view on human psychological problems than American behaviorism usually takes.

You probably want to know what impressed me with my Bethel teachers in general? They were all very friendly and helpful. You were supposed to call them by their names rather than by their title, as it is frequently the case in German educational institutions. They expected you to work hard but set a good example themselves. They made you really feel at home by inviting you to their families. I especially wish to commemorate the wonderful Sunday-night-programs for foreign students at R. C. Kauffman's home. By the way: Every time I tell my German students that "RC", a busy professor and dean of the college, used to cut my hair in his basement in order to help me keep my pocket-money together, they start laughing and simply won't believe it!

Well, another incident may not go unmentioned: Bethel taught me in addition what "going steady" really means! The funny thing about it is that I had to travel approximately 5000 miles to learn to love Mineke Meerdink, a Dutch music major, who in Holland used to live a hundred miles away from my home in Germany. Our marriage took place in 1958 and our honeymoon in a very romantic Dutch castle close to the North Sea. Nowadays our five-year-old son just loves it to put his nose into our collection of Bethel photos and to keep asking interesting questions.

Just a few more details about our present occupations: I teach English, French and Bible to girls between 10 and 17 (nearest U.S.-equivalent: high-school). We occupy a 3-room-apartment in the outskirts of Wuppertal. Besides being a busy housewife Mineke directs a small church choir once a week.

The old ties to Bethel have been palpably renewed in the past. Erwin Goering and his wife visited our Wuppertal Academy a couple of years ago. In July 1963 the Krahn family unexpectedly dropped in and stayed overnight at our home! We are so happy to meet old friends again that we hereby extend our invitation to all those of you who should tour Europe in the future. Last weekend a spontaneous get-together of 7 former exchange students was arranged on the occasion of Diloires Rempel visiting Wuppertal.

I close this report with heartfelt greetings and thanks to the great Bethel family. May the Wuppertal-Bethel program continue and flourish!

"ABOUT RUDY AND MINNEKE" by Cornelius and Hilda Krahn

Ru di and Minneke (Meerdrink) Stubenrauch belong to those Wuppertales with whom we are in closest touch. We were neighbors of Minneke and her parents in Baarn, the year before she became an exchange student at Bethel, where she and Rudi met.

Rudi distinguished himself as an eager student and a promising teacher. He is making steady professional progress. Minneke became well known through her many musical performances and her friendly outgoing ways.

When we were their guests during our visit in Germany in 1963 we had a wonderful time in their home with them and their children. Christoph and Annette are as charming as their parents.

"WARM WELCOME" by Lillian Galle

I arrived in Wuppertal approximately two months before classes began at the P. A. Through the help of the then Annagret Volker's two months with a minister's family (in Elberfeld). I was to help care for; their 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -year old daughter. Their daughter did me a good favor by teaching me German!

As I remember, school started in November. I had, by then, learned some German; also, I had begun to learn how to find my way around in Wuppertal. The P. A. was still located then in its old, old, building. I remember the very warm welcome that was given me by all the students and faculty there. I found the classes different from the ones at Bethel; but the students were much the same in their interest (or lack of interest) in particular classes; and in their warmth toward each other; and most meaningful to me was the efforts they made to make me feel less a stranger among them.

As I remember, my days there were filled with the same types of activities as at Bethel--attending classes, many discussion groups between classes, practicing music--or sports; and then there were the extra-curricular activities--as the concerts, and occasional movie, several dances, many, many "Singfeste", and many parties, or gatherings of students.

The most memorable activity of my year was the ski trip in early March. I remember this trip for a number of reasons--there were many "firsts" for me--as, the first time I was so high in the mountains, my first time on skis, etc. I can't really say that I learned a great deal about skiing, but I did learn to dance! The most exciting part of this trip (for me, anyway) was that we celebrated my birthday while there, and this made it the most "special" birthday I've ever had! The most fun of all was being awakened that morning to the strains of "Happy Birthday"--in English yet! And again being serenaded (in English) as I came to breakfast. In fact, I have memories of various people singing "Happy Birthday" to me whenever they saw me throughout the day!

There were many other occasions that also were memorable for various reasons. Playing volleyball, trying to learn to swim, long walks through the woods, and the "spring festival" held at the zoo. It was in so many ways a year full of unforgettable experiences. The best part of the whole experience was certainly the many friends I made--the people who helped to make my stay there so pleasant and wonderful. I think of these people often, and wonder what has happened to them all in the past ten years. Perhaps, soon, I will be able to travel again to Germany, and see for myself!

"SOCIAL WORK" by Lillian Galle

I am one of a family of seven children; was born and raised in Valley Center, a very small town near to Wichita, Kansas. In 1952 I traveled to Bethel College; and I finally graduated from there in 1957. In the summer of 1957, I began a job with the Sedgwick County Welfare Department as a social worker. This was a job working with the poverty stricken who received financial assistance from the government because of their inability to provide, financially, for themselves.

In 1960, I moved to the big city of Chicago to attend graduate school. After I received my Master's degree here (1962) I began work with a Children's Agency here in the city. The Agency is a "non-sectarian, private, agency"--whose function is to place children in adoption and/or in foster homes. My work is with the "foster care" aspects of the Agency. I find it a very interesting and challenging (and sometimes sad) kind of work to be doing. I must also add that I continue to find Chicago an interesting and exciting city; there is always much happening in a city such as this, and it is rather thrilling to feel that you are a tiny part of it all.

I would like to cordially invite all Bethel-Wuppertal people to visit me here when they are in this area. In fact, I will be hurt if you do not!

"AMERIKANISCHE GASTFREUNDSCHAFT" by
Elisabeth Friedewald

Wie für alle Wuppertaler Mädchen so bedeuteten auch für mich die 'rules' zunächst einen inneren Kampf. Ich wollte mir zwar nicht unbedingt die Nächte um die Ohren schlagen. Aber das Bewusstsein, jeden Abend zur bestimmten Zeit im 'dorm' sein zu müssen, störte meinen Freiheitsdrang. Nun, Im Laufe der Zeit gewöhnte man sich daran und fügte sich mit einem lachenden und einem weinenden Auge. Umso mehr genoss man dann einen 'special leave.'

'Homecoming' mit seinen Schlachtrufen "Flush the Swedes" und "Shave them", mit der grossen farbenprächtigen Parade und dem football game, dessen Regeln ich zunächst nicht im geringsten verstand, konnte ich in Bildern festhalten, die noch heute meine 'kids' erfreuen.

Ein Ereignis, das Amerikaner und Deutsche in besonderer Weise verband, war das Konzert der Trapp-Familie während ihrer letzten

Konzertreise durch die USA. Sei sangen in englischer und deutscher Sprache und beeindruckten uns durch ihre vielseitige Instrumentalbegabung.

Aber unabhängig von allen einmaligen Ereignissen hat mich die Erfahrung der amerikanischen Gastfreundschaft tief beeindruckt. Überall fanden wir ausländischen Studenten offene Türen. Und doch muss ich einen Namen besonders hervorheben, weil er für mich eine zweite Heimat verkörperte. Dr. R. C. Kauffman und seine Frau waren Freunde und Eltern zugleich. Jederzeit durften wir zu ihnen kommen, und manchen Sonntagabend verbrachten wir in ihrem Haus mit Singen, Musizieren 'ping-pong game', Schachspiel etc.

Diese menschlichen Erfahrungen scheinen mir überhaupt das Wichtigste am ganzen Austauschprogramm zu sein. Wir 'exchangees' haben die grosse Chance, ein anderes Volk unmittelbar zu erleben und uns dadurch ein eigenes Bild machen zu können. Darum können wir besser helfen, in unserer Heimat Verständnis für das andere Volk zu wecken und nach besten Kräften Vorurteile abzubauen.

Ich hoffe, dass um dieser wichtigen Aufgabe willen das Austauschprogramm zwischen Bethel College und der PH Wuppertal aufrecht erhalten bleibt.

"SCHOOLS WERE CLOSED" by Elisabeth Friedewald

I was born on June 26, 1933. Attending grade school, World War II was already going on. But I did not realize it until in June 1943 when Wuppertal - a city of ca. 400.000 inhabitants - was bombed. Our home was destroyed and the family had to find another place to live. Then my father and the oldest brother had to become soldiers.

After the war, in the fall of 1945, schools which were closed for about a year, started again. In spring 1953 I graduated from high school. After having worked for a few months in an office, I left for Switzerland where I worked in a French speaking family as a housemaid. I went back home the next spring and started my studies at the Teacher's Training College in Wuppertal. In summer 1955 I left for Bethel College. In 1956 I took my exam in Wuppertal. Since then I am teaching at an elementary school in Wuppertal.

"ABOUT ELIZABETH" by Erwin C. Goering

Elizabeth was "in" with the students from the first day on our campus. Intelligent, sensitive, and competent, she gave a good account of herself. Never will I forget her presentation in Convocation. She gave the reading which is punctuated with sound effects. It was a tremendous performance. Elizabeth developed close friendships, for she knew how to relate effectively.

"THE CALENDAR LIES" by Ruby Baresch

My stay as an exchange student in Wuppertal. . .can it really be ten years ago that I went to Germany? As this is 1965, it must be, but it hardly seems possible. . . . I lived first with the Fritz Potreck family, then with a family in Elberfeld, and finally rented a private room near the school. . .That was a year of anticipation for the students of the Paedagogische Akademie, as construction had begun on the new school and it was hoped that the move could be made the next year.

The move was much hoped for, as the building the school was using had little to recommend it as far as physical characteristics were concerned. . .yet one could not hope to have a more worthwhile or more meaningful experience in the most modern gleaming environment than I had in the old Akademie. . .Gruppe 8 took me into the fold. . . Gruppe 8 had rather older students in it, some refugees, most of them very serious students. . .everyone worrying about Examen. . .it all comes back. . .no, I know it wasn't ten years ago!

Classes Monday through Thursday and on Friday practice teaching and observing. . .how well I remember Rudy Wiemann's English classes which I was privileged to visit numerous times. . .also accompanied the class on a field trip or two. . .which reminds me of the many weekend trips (the words "Ausflug" and "frei Zeit" come to mind) I made with many different groups. . .I was invited to join groups that I was not a regular member of. . .one trip to Amsterdam and The Hague with an art class. . .lovely times in youth hostels. . .I recall one trip during which a movie was made depicting life among the students of Wuppertal. . .not to mention a week in Paris during spring vacation!

Spring vacation. . .I joined an international work camp in Gummersbach and found to my surprise that I was the only girl among seven men at the CVJM home! Three Germans, two Yugoslavians, a Spaniard, and an Argentinian. Two of the Germans were from East Berlin. (This of course was in the pre-wall days.) In any case, it fell to the women of the camp to do the cooking. . .did I work! Cooking breakfast for "my" seven men, then putting in the hours at the wallpaper factory where the campers were employed. On Easter Sunday I slept late, finally went to the kitchen and was going to start the coffee. . . looked in the pot and found a nest of Easter eggs! All seven denied being the Easter rabbit. I still value the experience of that work camp--not only the association with the other campers, but also the glimpse into the life of factory workers in Germany that was provided. For a number of years I corresponded with the friends made there.

Most valuable of all, I think, were the many, many times students and professors invited me to their homes for tea, or dinner, or even a whole weekend. Many hours do I recall in pleasant gemuetlichkeit, sharing ideas and impressions with the people who opened their homes to me. Hardly a Sunday or a weekend passed without an invitation, and Christmas holidays were spent with a wonderfully warm family that celebrated a lovely old-fashioned Christmas.

School was out far too soon. . .but nothing else to do but go home. . .first two weeks in London. . .making the most of sight-seeing opportunities everywhere. . .then onto the Arosa Star and sail for home. . .and I still say the calendar lies!

"AW = AFTER WUPPERTAL" by Ruby Baresch

The story of my life. . .A W (After Wuppertal). . .back to Bethel College in Newton. . .graduated in 1958 with a Bachelor's Degree in English. . .then to work as a social worker at the Kansas Children's Service League, a private adoption agency. . .then to graduate school at the New York School of Social Work in New York City. . .that experience second only to Wuppertal in richness. . .back to Wichita in 1960 and work at the same agency. . .very challenging and interesting work. . .also got married in 1960. . .worked until 1962 when my first child was born. . . now have two children. . .little girl is three years old. . .little boy is two years old. . . My husband is an electrical engineer at the Boeing Co.

For nearly two years have been studying the theatre. . .one course at a time, due to family responsibilities. . .not working for degree. . . hope to be active in the theatre in due time. . .at present have written a play about adoption for a club of adoptive mothers. . .will direct same this spring. . .again very challenging work and very rewarding as well.

I would like to say that future plans include a return visit to Wuppertal, but it doesn't look likely at the moment. But maybe someday. . .

"CHANGES IN MY LIFE" by Christiane Runger

I had my second teacher's exam, which is hard for a person who has to do the professional work beside the other duties coming up with household, husband and a little son about two years old. Besides I am teaching in a "Hilfsschule" (school for mentally retarded children) in Berlin-Neukolln. I like to work with that kind of children, but it takes strong nerves to make it.

Many changes in my life are the reason for my extensive silence since I left Bethel College, where I spent an extraordinary time of study and experience. Never in my life had I learned so much at a time. Courses, Chapel-time, washing dishes, social activity, long talks with roommates in Kliever Home, longer talks with people outside the campus, Misses Lorraine and Lilian Galle, Miss Dugan, etc., long trips to different women-clubs every second week, working in a Cafeteria "Guest House" on Sundays and after school in June when only a few students remained on the campus. And then the big trip all over the States, going west to Washington State, working there in a few canneries, night- and day-shift, alone among those seasonal workers who are much different from the Americans I got to know on the campus or during our vacation trips to Oklahoma and South Dakota--travelling down the West coast along Oregon, to California, Utah, Colorado,

Kansas and so on to Chicago, Washington D.C. and New York, where I stayed another five days, before we left the States on the 'Maasdam.' I was terribly young when I came to Bethel, that's why the American experiences could become so engraving, but besides I must admit, that throughout all the years after that I never found as many people as friendly, kind and above all tolerant as in the United States. I was homesick for them and for the wonderful wide country for about one year, so much, that I planned already to go back. But after my first teacher's exam at Wuppertal I had received a scholarship to study Slavonic languages, which I did not want to lose. So I stayed and studied in Bonn and Berlin for about four years. Just before my MA I changed my personal status and married. But after a few months I was sure that this could not last a life. I wanted to complete my studies in Berlin, but during the marriage I had lost my scholarship and I could not get it back. Without any financial support I was forced to find a way to earn money for my living. So I became a teacher, starting to teach in January 62. Seeming to be the worst development it turned out to be the best. I was happy with my work and the regular life and after one year in January 63 I married Rolf Renger, a student and now "Referendar" of law. Our son is called Alexander. And I am expecting our second child in October. I am still teaching, because a German Referendar does not earn enough to make a living. But we are very happy together since we help each other and thus have much time together with our lovely son.

"ABOUT CHRISTIANE" by Dr. Henry A. Fast

Christiane Klein, exchange student of 1956-57, made a rapid adjustment to life on the Bethel College campus. Her ready smile, her friendly disposition and her gracious manner quickly won her friends among students and faculty. Her careful attention to her person and her good taste in the matter of clothing added to her pleasing appearance. All of this combined to a serious application to her studies earned her the respect of faculty, students and of others who met her. She was frequently requested by local church and community groups and youth gatherings to talk to them about herself, her people and their schools, customs and their problems. She was one who went out of her way to be friendly to others and so she made friends not only for herself but also for the German people.

"PERSONAL SHOCK" by Eldred Thierstein

My headquarters during 1956-57 in Wuppertal were in an attic apartment of the Conservatory in Wuppertal-Elberfeld, where I roomed with five other boys from the P. A. Many free hours were spent at the Max Friedewald home where I was almost part of the family.

Incidents that come to mind are such things as running for the Schwebe bahn when we missed the last street car.

I always wondered why noone supported the football (socket) team from the P. A. The year I was there they won the city championship

and few students showed up to watch. Since two of my roomates (Hugo Wieman and Peter Käfert) played, I was particularly interested.

Other incidents were the Ski trip with Spohn and Heuser, Psychology trips with Dahms, and the visit to the Hammelsbeck home.

Of course no report is complete without the mention of Dr. Harder, the wonderful hospitality of that family and his bouts with the communists. I recall the personal shock when I had my first meeting with East German Communists and sat and discoursed with them, only to find to find that they too were people, and quite nice ones.

One of the happenings that was outstanding in my mind was the English girl that spent the winter at the P.A. because the English school she wanted to attend was full. Her inability to speak German and her enthusiasm gave the school new life.

Last but not least the P.A. offered to the boys a good ratio of girls to boys. Space does not permit for elaborations upon such things as to the Opera, the Theatre, and a truly wonderful trip by P.A. to Ki. Ho. students to see Faust at Schloss Burg.

"Music Education," by Eldred Thierstein

Born and raised at Whitewater, Kansas. After returning from Wuppertal in 1957 I finished at Bethel in 1958. Went into the service and married in 1959. For the school year of 1960-61 Joan and I taught in Woodstock Newfoundland, Canada. During which time Joel was born. Then I attended Indiana University for two years and earned a Masters in Music Ed. Upon graduation from I.U., Gretchen was born and we moved to Hamilton, Ohio, where I teach Jr. High School Vocal Music and do some work at Cincinnati University College Conservatory during the winter and sing with the Cincinnati Summer Opera Co.

"American Students In Germany" by Karin Mühlen

I was born in Mettmann, near Düsseldorf, on February 28, 1936. I spent most of my childhood in Wuppertal, until in summer 1943 my mother was evacuated with my two younger brothers and me to Mecklenburg, East Germany. There we lived on a farm until we had to leave in spring 1945 before the Russian troops moved in. We got back to our home in Wuppertal by fall 1945, this still being our family residence.

Soon after my graduation from high school I started my training at the PA Wuppertal. When I heard about the Bethel-Wuppertal Exchange Program I became quite interested in it. I was fortunate enough to be chosen to participate directly and I ventured out to a year that I still look back upon as a great and important year in many ways. I lived at Goerz Hall during the school year of 1957 and was enrolled as a senior, and, therefore, I could graduate with the class of 1958.

I had not only the chance to meet and live with the people in the United States, but also to see some of the natural and scenic beauties of America.

Upon my return to Wuppertal I completed my training at the Akademie and I graduated in March 1959. I started working as a German language teacher at the Munich American High School, trying to teach German to American 7th, 8th and 9th graders - that's the job I am still holding presently. I am planning to terminate here at the end of this schoolyear, though, and I would like to teach in England next year.

"ABOUT KARIN" by Dr. Henry A. Fast

Karin Mühlen, exchange student of 1957-58, in her bearing and manner radiated a seriousness of purpose and maturity of character that enlisted respect. The quality of her academic work soon demonstrated not only this maturity of purpose but also her ability as a student. There were depths to her thought and being which did not easily rise to the surface but they did find expression when occasion appeared to demand. She was active in international student affairs and in these contacts she contributed toward better understanding among people of different races or nationalities. In her campus as well as in her community contacts she reflected the solid character and the thoroughness of the people she represented.

"INFORMAL ACTIVITIES" by Ted Zerger

Although the traveling and sight seeing was exciting at the time, the personal contacts with the people constitute the real, lasting experience of my year in Wuppertal.

Since I arrived in Germany several weeks before school started, I spent this time working on a farm by Lippstadt, I also spent Christmas with these people. This still remains as one of my most vivid memories.

My year in Wuppertal was the first in which the new campus was used. I recall mainly the informal activities and conversations, although Prof. Riemecks lectures will not soon be forgotten.

I especially enjoyed the frequent invitations to visit in the homes of students.

"TEACHING MATHEMATICS" by Ted Zerger

I will include only what has happened since I was in Wuppertal.

I finished my schooling at Bethel and then went to the University of Arizona for my Master's degree in mathematics. For those who might have known him, R. C. Kaufman is assistant dean of liberal arts at the University of Arizona. While there I had several occasions to visit with the Kaufmans.

After completing my Master's degree I taught mathematics for 3 years at Kansas Wesleyan University. I am presently studying and teaching at Kansas State University. Next year I will be studying at the University of Oklahoma.

In 1959, I was married (and remain so) to the former Vera Harder of Mountain Lake, Minnesota. We have 3 children; Rebecca (age 4), John (age 3), and Thomas (age 1).

"TROUBLE" by Klaus Sowa

I was an exchange student to Bethel College from 1958-1959. The topic of my arrival in the USA and of the first term at Bethel College could be trouble. When I left the ship in New York, somebody of the Menno-Travel-Agency picked me up and took me to the bus-station. But as soon as he had left, I noticed it was the wrong station. Can you imagine how I felt? I didn't dare to talk to someone since my English was so poor. On the other hand I didn't dare to take a taxi, because many people on the boat told me, the New York taxi drivers would charge me a lot of money in case they noticed that I was a stranger and wasn't accustomed to the country. All the money I had was less than a hundred dollars. Finally a man talked to me and told me that for one dollar he would carry my trunks to the right station. I was really glad and accepted his offer. But you should have seen me following him like a policeman, since now I was afraid he might steal my trunks.

Nevertheless I arrived at Newton and finally at Goering Hall. The trouble, however, was that Ted Zenger, my roommate and last exchange-student to Wuppertal wasn't there and was not even expected back before late at night. The more surprised I was when someone knocked at my door and a Chinese boy entered. Well, it was John Chang. We soon became friends and later on roommates. It was he who helped me to overcome all the difficulties, since as a foreign student himself he knew all the problems foreign students have. The fine meals he prepared during our vacations I remember especially well.

After the enrollment--I was a few days late already--I had to study very hard to catch up with my English and to keep pace with the other students. So I thought, if I had to study so hard, I might as well study even more and try to graduate. So I did and today I don't know whether it was right or not, since by studying so much I may have missed many a contact with the American students. On the other hand social life on the campus seemed to me too much organized. I remember this wonderful student lounge in Goering Hall and I never saw students sitting there with whom you could get into contact. Well, very different from student life in Germany--problems!

But I will stop talking about problems except for one more. Christmas vacations had started and it was for the first time that I was able to sit down and relax. Goering Hall was left by the students already, so I thought I might as well really relax and smoke a cigarette, especially since it was almost midnight and there was no danger of being caught. But the trouble was that Mrs. Rich knocked at the door, when I had not even finished my cigarette. Well, she had a good nose and I had bad luck.

Then time went on with studying. I followed invitations to friends' homes. I gave speeches about Germany and German life. It was funny, when I tried to teach American students to play football (soccer) or when I gave swimming lessons. (I think, that's the reason that among all those swimming stars at the Olympic Games there were only Californian students and none of Kansas.)

According to Bob Voran, I had driving lessons under his supervision, I was however not very skillfull, because he told me all the time, "You missed him again, Klaus."

"MENNONITE IDEAS" by Klaus Sowa

I was born in 1935 in Gelsenkirchen-Buer, an industrial town in the Ruhr-Valley. We lived there until 1943. When the bombing raids became too dangerous, we were evacuated to a small town in the country, Ibbenbüren. Shortly after wards my father was called up to the army and a few months later he was killed in the war. For the following years we had a very hard time. When the war was over I went to high school and I finished school in 1957. I wanted to become a teacher and so I had to make up my mind to which college I wanted to go. By chance, I met Professor Joh. Harder on a student conference. When I learned that he was teaching at Wuppertal PH, I went to Wuppertal.

Here, I became acquainted with Mennonite ideas and Mennonite students. In order to become more familiar with the Mennonite belief and American people, I applied for the exchange-student scholarship to Bethel College and studied at Bethel from 1958-1959. In 1959, I graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education. After two more semesters at Wuppertal PH, I past my first teaching examination in Germany.

In October, 1962, I married Helga Blödorn, a former Wuppertal student, now a teacher too. Last year I passed my second teaching examination and, though still teaching, I started studying again in order to become a Secondary school teacher. Latest news: We are expecting a baby in almost a month from today, June 1965.

"ABOUT KLAUS" by Professor J. Lloyd Spaulding

Klaus Sowa was a thorough and scholarly fellow, who, whatever his frustrations in adjusting to the environment of Bethel College, spared himself no effort to profit by the academic opportunity. I recall that he once observed that he found American sources tending to be a little biased against Marxian views. This was upon the completion of an independent study on some phase of Marx's writing.

"NO ONE TOLD ME" by Janice Waltner Sevilla

My memories of the year in Wuppertal are already fading into a sort of glowing, dimly-remembered haze. Most certainly, by now I only remember the "good parts." I'm sure this must be a sign of aging, or something.

I remember very well the little gardens and garden houses just down the hill from the "Studentenheim." Aside from the friends I knew, this is the first memory which comes to mind when I attempt to recall life in Wuppertal. There was something very beautiful about those little individual efforts at gardening in the middle of the city and something very quieting about a walk down the hill on the garden paths.

I also remember activities--the skiing trip in Austria (I was a terrible flop); acting the part of the French maid in Georg Büchner's "Leonce und Lena" (I mispronounced several words, but no one told me until after the performance); sitting in on Frau Heuser's English seminar and being amazed at the way in which the students were able to discuss Shakespeare in ENGLISH!

I remember trips to the Erwin Goerings, my aunt and uncle, who, by some stroke of luck, were living and serving in Kaiserslautern at the same time that I was in Wuppertal. Whenever I felt the need of an American household and a little "family reunion", I boarded the train and imposed on the Goerings. Together we toured Italy and saw Paris, and my mother rested better back home in Kansas knowing I had someone to "look after me."

I remember friends--there were so many, and most names would mean little to the reader, so I will not attempt to pay them tribute here. They were, however, what really made my stay worthwhile. It is always a little surprising, I think, to even the most sophisticated person, to learn that people really ARE the same all over. It is wonderful to discover this for one's self. I believe this is why the program was established and why it is lauded by those who participate and proclaimed to be a high point in their lives.

Since leaving Bethel, I have taught for three years in a suburb of Denver, Colorado; married a fellow teacher; and am currently teaching English and Drama at Glenville High School, Cleveland, Ohio.

"AMERICAN STUDENTS IN AMERICA" by Barbara Chang

Wuppertal is neither the town of my birth nor of my early childhood, but it certainly means home to me, especially now that I am looking back to it from my new home in the United States.

In 1946, my family of five (I have a younger brother and a younger sister) came to West Germany as refugees from the Eastern part which is now under Polish administration. After spending fifteen years of schooling at Wuppertal--from grade school through high school and PH--I stayed in that town to take my first job after graduation: teaching the third grade (1961-62).

In 1962, I was offered the chance of returning to the United States on a "Governor's Award for the Development of International Relations" which Idaho State University, Pocatello, gives to two foreign students each year. Actually some of my former Bethel professors had the largest share in providing this opportunity for me. I am grateful to Miss Becker, Dr. Neufeld, and Dr. Gross who wrote recommendations to I. S. U. on the basis of which I was accepted.

I did graduate study in English at I. S. U. and received the M. A. degree in 1964. Since September of that year, I have been teaching Freshman English and German Conversation at I. S. U.

"ABOUT BARBARA" by Hilda & Cornelius Krahn

Barbara Schmidt was a well-liked, hard-working, Wuppertal student at Bethel College. She made a very fine contribution in the classes she took; adding considerably to the enrichment of views and the learning process. We hope she and John Chang, whom she married, will come and look us up sometime.

"WUPPERTAL REVISITED" by Diloires Rempel

...And now for a brief "Lebenslauf." By the way, I just had to laugh when I wrote that sentence because it reminded me of the time I was telling the students at the PH that Frau Prof. Heuser had asked me to write my "Lebenslauf" for the Akademie's files.

Anyway, I was born on a farm near Hillsboro, Kansas, on July 17, 1939. I loved school. We moved to town when I was about four years old. I think that a major event in my life was when my family and I moved to Newton when I was about fifteen. It was then I suddenly found myself in what seemed a huge school and town, I realized that to have a friend is to be a friend. I had always hoped that when I went to college, I would be good enough to sing in the Choir and tour Europe during a summer. The more I thought about traveling, the more interested I became in the Wuppertal Program, because I felt that I would like to live and experience living in another culture and country rather than just "go to look at the natives, take a few pictures, etc." I was lucky that in 1959-60, my dream came true. After a year and summer school at Bethel, when I returned

from Wuppertal, I graduated with a major in Elementary Education and a minor in German. I then taught a second grade at East Avondale Elementary School in Topeka, Kansas for three years. I can truly say that I am glad I chose teaching as my profession. Thank goodness, in this profession I was given a chance to again scratch my "itchy feet." I am presently a Fulbright Exchange teacher to Bristol, England, and am already looking around for another opportunity to travel and exchange again, somewhere else.

To give a short description of a whole year's stay as an exchangee in Wuppertal is mighty nigh impossible for me. Even though I thought I remembered so very much, I was surprised how much I had forgotten when I revisited friends and places in Wuppertal this February. When I think back, I remember my disappointment when I found out that not every fellow ran around in Lederhosen. I remember my surprise that I saw so many bright colors in clothing, decorations, etc. How well I remember my first taste of "quark"--I thought for certain that it was finely chopped chalk. I remember how I thought that the word "Pickel" was so fitting for such a disgusting thing as a pimple. I was fascinated by the market places. How surprised I was to see a "Woolworths" in a foreign country. How frustrated I was not to be able to get a hamburger, malt and french fries. How I soon adoped the German sausages and forgot our, then, brilliant red hot dogs. How astonished I was to hear the German children speak such good German! How silly it sounded to hear a woman scolding her dog in German. How I liked the hikes I went on with Prof. Brockhaus and sometimes with Prof. Harder and Frau Prof. Heuser--especially the evenings when we would sit around a fire or in the Youth Hostel, singing folksongs.

I particularly remember the feeling of finally being able to say more or less what I wanted to say--in other words, express myself in understandable German. I found, however, I was constantly learning and making mistakes. I'll never forget the time in particular when our girl's basketball team was playing another PA's team. I was just learning the basketball terminology. The game was terribly exciting--anyway, I thought so. At home the cheerleaders would have been going wild, and the spectators wouldn't have just calmly watched. Finally I forgot myself and blurted out just as one of my teammates had a perfect chance to shoot--"Scheisse, scheisse" instead of "Schiesse, schiesse." Oh dear...!

"OH THOSE THRESHERS!" by Ursula Schumacher

Once in a while, whenever I move to a new apartment, I find my scrap box with all the souvenirs of my year at Bethel. It takes me two hours until I get back to my packing job: two hours spent looking at photographs, paper clippings, Christmas cards, tickets and programs, maps, and ribbons and needles of corsages. Every item stands for a special experience.

Being the Wuppertal exchange student of 1960-61, my experience probably did not differ very much from those of the other exchangees, but to me that year was unique. Never will I forget my first date with a promising Junior Bethelite, my first football game (oh those broad-

shouldered Threshers spurred by the enthusiasm of popping ra-ra-shouting cheerleaders), the gray-maroon corsage I got for Homecoming, talks I gave in church basements, high school gyms, clubs and classrooms. I remember well Miss Becker's Shakespeare course, the Kennedy-Nixon TV debates I saw in "Contemporary Pol. Issues," the mock election in Chapel predicting Nixon as the winner of the presidential race. I was overwhelmed by the friendliness and hospitality which I enjoyed in many American homes over weekends and during vacations. Back in Germany, soft ice cream was not the only thing I missed.

For two and a half years now, I have been teaching school. In my basic English classes, I have passed on my experience to younger generations.

"ABOUT URSULA" by Dean Esko Loewen

Ursula was at Bethel in 1960-61. We called her "Utsch" and knew her as a cheerful and pleasant friend. The girls in the dorm were particularly grateful for her. She gave of herself in a very fine way.

"FRIENDSHIPS THROUGH THE YEARS" by Karen Gilchrist

After entering this world on a hot June mid-afternoon day my parents were aghast at the sudden news that I had not been alone all those months. June 30, 1939, my twin sister, Donna, and I were born to hard-working farmers, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Gilchrist, at Walton, Kansas. It still is a small, quiet little town, a pin-point on the map; but we grew up there and it was fun. The high school is no longer operating and sometimes I wonder about the profundity of an education whose hallowed walls are so transient. Our family, Mother, Dad, my older brother Larry, and we twins, all got our thought processes oriented there; that is, there and the Methodist Church. College time came and the Mennonites didn't look too foreboding, so on to Bethel! The first two years at Bethel are a fog (intentional loss of memory). Somehow I found myself cheerleading the Bethel Graymaroons (at that time) and acquainting myself with all those little incidentals of college life that don't point to anywhere--that I wanted to go. When I finally woke up in my junior year, I found myself spending much of my social time with international students. Some of my most fond memories at Bethel center in the friendships with non-American students. Interestingly enough, it is those friendships that have persisted through the years. The world looked different that year and the Wuppertal exchange idea grew with leaps and bounds. Indeed the world has not looked the same since! The decision was made.

That next summer I forced myself into slave labor to earn money. I painted three houses (by myself!), did wallpapering, and many little laborious tasks that females are not usually equipped to do. The year in Germany came and went so rapidly. It was a wonderful year and life seemed so much rounder and unified when I came back. The following year I finished my degree at Bethel and worked part time for the General Conference

Publication Office in Newton. The Mennonites have really taken me in, but I have come willingly. The next two years, 1962-64, I taught everything I could think of in the English, speech and drama worlds at Halstead Rural High School. It really is amazing how intelligent most kids are! That is the reason I am now enrolled in graduate study in English at Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas.

"LIFE GUARD" by Hans Sieper

I was born in Remscheid, a tool manufacturing center, which is situated between Cologne and Wuppertal. Now I am twenty-two years of age.

My main interest is traveling, seeing other countries and modes of life. I have made several trips to the countries neighboring Germany including Holland, France, Belgium, Italy, and Austria. I financed these trips by working for spells in some of the local factories. This district lies to the south of the famous German River Ruhr, and an able-bodied young man never has any trouble in getting fixed up during the summer vacations, which is very handy.

I, a rather "dyed in the wool" European, am very curious about America, your way of life, how things are done at your college, and a host of other things.

I do a lot of swimming and hope you have a good swimming pool in Newton. During the summer holidays I have an engagement as life guard at one of the open air swimming pools which are now all the rage here. Being life guard is a lucrative pastime well paid, and not much work, attractive because the only people who go to swimming pools can swim, and, anyway, most Germans would rather drown with dignity than be dragged out of the water by a life guard.

(From the March, 1961 Collegian)

"ABOUT HANS" by Dean Esko Loewen

Hans arrived at Bethel playing the role of an observer. He went through the adjustment of understanding the American accent which was something of a barrier. He lived in one of the older dormitories, the White House, now to be dismantled. As the year progressed, several very important qualities in Hans became evident. He understood in depth the problems and issues of the day and could ask penetrating questions. He gave himself in an unstinting way in furthering the program of exchange. When the students ran low on funds, Hans went to work in the dining hall to help raise additional funds and to help sustain the program which at that point was having difficulty. Hans spent the summer working in California and traveling extensively.

"FIRST IMPRESSIONS" by Ruth Ewy

The winter semester began on November 6 here at the Paedagogische Akademie. I'm not taking as many hours this semester as I intend to next semester, partly, because of the language difficulty, and partly, to give myself a chance to meet people and take part in extra-curricular activities. For instance, I went "night wandering" the other evening with a group under the leadership of the "Erdkunde"--geology professor, who really took us through everything--forest, brooks, fields. I never before enjoyed (7) hours of walking so much as I did than! When a group like that travels together they get special train rates that amount to practically nothing, and it's an excellent way for me to see the real Germany.

There is very little visible evidence left of the war, but I was genuinely shocked to find out that every family, practically without exception, has their own story to tell.

We think in such general terms about the number of people it affected. I noticed immediately, too, that the people still very vividly remember what it means to go hungry. When I watch someone eat an apple, I see the whole thing disappear, core and all. But people who have had sawdust mixed in with their bread, just so their stomachs were full, can very well appreciate having an apple seed to swallow.

I have been here already seven weeks, but even that long isn't long enough to unlearn things I've done since little on up. I'll bet I lose 15 minutes a day turning doorknobs, keys, etc. the wrong way; they turn the opposite way here. When I eat, I have to handle the fork with my left hand, and keep my knife in my right. Both hands must always be above the table--just what I learned was wrong. I've had a lot of fun learning these things, tho', and am enjoying myself immensely! I already feel the time slipping by a little too fast.

(Letter from November 1961)

"I AM SO PROUD!" by Christiane Vesper

Needless to say that I am so proud to be a member of the Wuppertal-Bethel program.

Bethel was quite an experience for me. I realized the value of my stay there when it almost got to its end. The first couple of months you have to get clear with all the differences you are facing. I think an important fact that makes you feel at Bethel live in a great family is that most of the students live on a campus and don't see each other for just a few class hours.

There are so many impressions coming to my mind when I remember Bethel. For instance the awfully hot summer winds in September and an extremely cold winter when we did ice skating at nights (saving a "special") and afterwards drove to Larry's for a hot chocolate. I also enjoyed the many football and basketball games, especially because of the cheerleading, which was new to me till then. Finally the most

interesting thing was to get acquainted with a different church background and to experience in the Bethel College life Mennonite history and thoughts.

"IN A COUNTRY SCHOOL" by Christiane Vesper

I was born in Wuppertal on November 11, 1939. After elementary school I entered a girls' high school in 1950. In 1960 I entered the Pädagogische Hochschule in Wuppertal. In summer 1961 I attended Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg in Breisgau. The 1962-63 school year I spent at Bethel College. I finished school in March, 1964. For 6 months I taught 5th and 6th grade at an Essen elementary school. Now I am teaching 1st to 4th grade in a country school close to my home town Wuppertal.

"ABOUT CHRISTIANE" by Dean Esko Loewen

Christiane was the quiet one! She was very much a participant in the activities and events of the school year. She was very much involved in the seminar meetings discussing questions of the Christian faith. She was always very friendly and interested in all that went on. She brought something to the campus out of her background and experience which was different from the average student--and she was able to communicate her perspective. She was very much a friend.

"ANOTHER CULTURE" by Mary Janzen

One of the reasons every Bethel student who applies for the Wuppertal exchange program gives for wanting to go to Europe is: "I want to learn to know another culture." At the student council interview in 1962 when I was chosen to study at the PH, I too said this rather glibly. But when I actually began living and studying among German students, I learned what "another culture" means. For one thing, it means that your manners, customs, and habitual ways of doing things are not the only possible, or even necessarily the most desirable way. Some of these alternative ways I found delightful, others quite disturbing.

One of the customs which I enjoyed was that of shaking hands at each meeting and leave-taking, although in a large group this occasionally became ludicrous. German table customs were sometimes not so delightful. It took me half a year to learn to put my hand on the table when eating (and a whole year to learn to put it back in my lap again). I never did learn to get through a meal in comfort without drinking water, or to eat neatly without a napkin.

Language is not always thought of as an alternative offered by a culture, but I found it so when I tried to express my thoughts and feelings, in other words to be myself, without the familiar props of the English language. It startled me to realize that it never occurred to a German that a chair could be other than masculine. I also had to be especially careful whom I addressed as "Du" and whom as "Sie." I would

have been horrified to find myself saying "Du"--so like the English "you"--to a Professor, but fortunately this never happened.

One of the German words I came to dislike was "selbstverständlich." To a foreigner, few things are selbstverständlich. And when I returned home to America and Bethel, many things in my own cultural tradition no longer seemed selbstverständlich. Yet I found within that tradition a richer range of alternatives than I had seen before. Operating in "another culture"--learning alternative ways to act, and see, and think--this was the most lasting benefit of my year at Wuppertal. These expanded horizons will last when the sights of Europe become hazy in my mind's eye and the friends become warm memories.

"I REMEMBER" by Mary Janzen

I remember well the first time I heard Fr. Heuser lecture at the PH because it was the first lecture I fully understood. After straining to understand German for a month, her English was soothing to my brain.

I also remember that the English WS students were the first to take an interest in me--this I appreciated very much. I was only sorry that they wanted to learn "English" rather than "Amerikanisch," because I couldn't help them as much as I would have like to.

I will always remember Wuppertal fondly as a place in Germany where Americans are unique. Instead of being one more "Ami" among many, I was "unsere Amerikanerin."

"HISTORICAL MEMORY" by Mary Janzen

I was born in Hillsboro, Kansas, on March 23, 1943, the third child of Dr. Herman F. and Gwen Galle Janzen. My childhood was happy and quiet. I was very average and extremely good. I went through the Hillsboro Public School system and entered Bethel College in the fall of 1961. The summers before and after my freshman year in college, I worked as a lifeguard and swimming instructor at the Hillsboro Municipal Pool. In 1962-63, I was Bethel's exchange student to the Pädagogische Hochschule, Wuppertal. Having been inspired by Europe's historical memory, I chose a history major during my junior year at Bethel. The summer of 1964, I served in Mennonite Voluntary Service in Atlanta, Georgia, working with Negro girls. This year, 1965, I will graduate from Bethel College. Next fall I will begin graduate study in history at the University of Chicago.

"FRIENDS, REAL FRIENDS" by Katrin Frowein

I stayed as the 1963-64 exchange in hot and dry Kansas, and Kansas always means Bethel College and Bethel College means,--well, that's too much to say in one sentence. Bethel--a fairly high-ranked academic liberal arts college, a gay and happy and close student

community, a place where the world is divided into men and - women very obviously, a place where you find friends, real friends when you need them and a place where you learn to pop corn, where you learn not to think the football guys die while they are tackling someone down, and a place where you learn to sing "Onward Bethel, onward Bethel..." very proudly, because you feel at home, nice and comfy!

I stayed in Bethel College for exactly five months, then I had to leave the place in less than two hours because my father died. That was sad, too sudden a change from a secure school-life to a broken-up family-life. But the first weeks at home I remembered very often the things that happened to me, when I still was at school.

I remember my first job as a baby-sitter. I came home in the evening telling my roommate Theora Pauls about what I did: "He, listen kid, you know what I did tonite? Guess what, I sat on babies!! Well, of course, idioms are kind of difficult to use. - The most exciting thing I ever did was watching my first football game. I really thought the guys would return half dead from the playground, and, according to that idea I shouted and got very nervous on my seat, so that the Bethel cheerleader Pete Trott, at least, helped me to understand the rough, but great game. (I told you, the Americans are barbarians!)

Another, not to be compared incident, was the assassination of President Kennedy. A whole country, the whole world, all Bethel students suffered very much from losing such a man. The cafeteria line for lunch had just started, the kitchen crew had just decided to get to work, when someone turned the TV on in the student union. There, suddenly, we all came together hurriedly, when a guy shouted that an idiot in Dallas had shot Kennedy, while he was driving in his open-covair through town. Never before did I see such massy campus organization than on this very day. Everybody seemed to be daydreaming, nobody really wanted to believe the news. I took a funny position in these days. I felt terribly sorry and lost. I was no American, I didn't lose my president, but I lost a politician whom I'd trusted very far, especially after he had visited Berlin and I'd seen him there. I was impressed by his speeches, because I really think he meant what he said. During the "black Friday" it was the first time I cried, since I was in Bethel, not because of Kennedy, but because my friends lost a friend, their president.

"Wooden sandals and short hair" by Katrin Frowein

I was born in Berlin on the first of April 1942. One year after my brother Karl was born in 1945 we left Berlin and fled to Wuppertal, because the Russians were in the process of occupying the whole area. In 1949 my parents founded the business we are still living on. In May 1962 I entered the PH Wuppertal.

At the moment I am in the process of working for my exam. I am going to become engaged next month; doing the final exam in September and then get married as soon as possible this year.

This is the story of that funny Wuppertal girl, who always ran around in wooden sandals and always had that terribly short hair.

"About Katrin," by Dean Esko Loewen

Rare are the people who are outgoing, who easily and quickly become acquainted, who have a rich sense of humor, and a capacity for appreciation and examining varied and different viewpoints. Katrin was all of this. Her lively effervescence, her open spirit and her eager mind, her empathy all made of her a most charming and exciting person. Sad was the day in January when her stay was abruptly ended by her father's illness. A cable came calling her home as he became worse - previously there had been phone calls home - and in a matter of hours flight was scheduled, she was packed and on the plane headed home. Many are the fond memories of those brief months acquaintance.

"Completely International" by Bob Pankratz

Tja, Wuppertal - when I think of Wuppertal there are a hundred and one things to think about- experienced impressions, places, but most of all when I think of Wuppertal I think of people - of all the many people that went out of their way to do nice things for me. I came back completely international in my thinking. Some of the interesting and memorable experiences which I had would include playing on the championship basketball team and the celebration after we had won the championship. I remember such things as Wuppertal in the rain, hearing the Vienna Boys Choir, the hills of Wuppertal in fall, riding the monorail, the marketplace on Saturday, hiking in the hills, carnival in Köln, the trip on the Rhein, the student retreat on an island in the North Sea, skiing in Austria, the student trip to Paris, and so many, many other things. One very memorable experience I had was the trip I took with my roommate through central Europe to Greece and then back over 5,000 miles and through 10 different countries. Someday soon I plan to go back.

"The American Indian" by Bob Pankratz

I was born in 1942 in Kansas and spent my boyhood in various towns- I went to four different high schools before I came to college. I have lived most of my life on the farm and have been interested in all forms of outdoor sports and recreation. My main hobby is the American Indian and as a result I have a collection of Indian arrowheads and artifacts which I have found. I plan to teach and continue my studies and then to return to Europe.

"NO FOREIGNER" by Henrik Eger

I cannot believe it, but my year at Bethel College has come to an end. Already now do I realize of how much I have learnt, academically as well as socially. Knowing that Bethel is a high ranked liberal arts college has made me feel proud; knowing that Bethel has so many nice teachers and such a lively student body has made me very happy. Actually, I never felt like being a 'foreigner'.

I was treated like everybody else, getting compliments as well as critique. One of the reasons for this was my taking part in several extra curricular activities. I wrote a column on international affairs for the 'Collegian' (This way -- that way), later on I reported on international affairs that happened on our campus; for almost one year I read international news over KBCT (campus) radio and also a 'daily comment'; and for the schoolyear of 1964/65 I was president of the International Relations Club. Sometimes I thought I would not have the time to do all this, but there always was a way to do it - and I really enjoyed myself: working together with fellow students.

Some of the highlight during this year were the cheerleader tryouts in Memorial Hall (I thought I couldn't believe my eyes), several talks by guest lecturers, the Mem Hall Series programs, the play 'The Sign of Jonah' in which I played the title role, trips to Minnesota, Colorado, Texas and Christmas in Canada, the fund drives for the exchange program, talks to clubs and various other invitations, the faculty theater show and the faculty-student picnic.

It has been proved again and again that Bethel is a large family. 'Wuppertal' seems to be an adopted child. I do hope that the ties that have been established between our two schools, remain as tight as they are.

"FOUR STATIONS" by Henrik Eger

MUNICH: On November 9, 1941, I was born there. My father (journalist) was killed in Russia, two months before my sister was born.

WUPPERTAL: Our family of three moved there in 1947. From 1948 till 1959 I attended schools. Then I was trained as a 'Buchhändler'.

LONDON: Went there for one year and a half, importing European books. Took Cambridge examination and had a jolly good time altogether.

NORTH NEWTON: Started to study at the PH Wuppertal and was selected exchangee to Bethel. Learnt much and made many friends there. Will be German assistant at Colorado College, Colorado Springs, during this summer.

"ABOUT HENRIK" by Dean Esko Loewen

Henrik Eger is the 1964/65 exchangee from Wuppertal. He has had a particular interest in the program preparing the booklet on Wuppertal-

Bethel. He sought particularly to firm up the exchange program by contacting those who have been participants in the program.

An international night was a new feature on campus which was almost entirely Henrik's work. It consisted of international foods and programs from various countries. An entertaining evening resulted. Other interests were the civil rights question, much and varied travel during the year, numerous speaking engagements etc.

Henrik is characterized by great enthusiasm for the program and an almost fearless capacity to inquire and question.

"OUR OWN CREATION" by Pete Trott

Since I have been drifting about among the German people everyday for the last nine months, seeing how they live and act, I am much more pleased with myself. Of course, we are physically and mentally made up in such a way that we unconsciously compare everything with ourselves and inversely, ourselves with everything. In this act of association I sometimes find happiness or misery in the objects with which I compare myself, and thus the solitude which I want proves to quite painful.

Our imagination, instantly compelled by its self-nature to elevate itself, and nourished by the fantastic images of literature, creates a series of beings of whom we are the lowest, and everything outside ourselves seems more splendid to us: everyone else is more perfect than we. I suppose the process is quite natural. We often feel that we lack many things and the very things we lack someone else often seems to possess. In addition we also attribute to him all that we have ourselves plus a certain ideal contentment into the bargain. And so the happy man stands there in perfection ... our own creation.

However, on the other hand, if we continue to work laboriously, and weak as we are, we often find that we can get farther than others and there is a true feeling of satisfaction in keeping up with or even outdistancing others.

"MASSACHUSETTS" by Pete Trott

Up until the age of 18 I lived in Braintree, Massachusetts, with my family. During these years I completed my high school education plus an extra year of college preparatory work at a private school in Boston. At present I have finished three years of academic study at Bethel College. After graduation in 1966 I plan either to go into the field of secondary education or the Peace Corps.

THE 15th EXCHANGE" by Heinz van de Linde

A year ago today I was expectantly looking forward to a new period of life. The daily routine of office work would be finished and college life would begin in May. I well remember the day in December 1963 when I was summoned to my boss of a large steel company in Duisburg: "I want to send you to Egypt, to work there for our firm," he said.

I could not believe my ears. I had applied for being admitted to the PH Wuppertal, now I was offered a job in Egypt. My boss did not know about my application. I asked him for time to think about it and told him I would let him know by afternoon.

All day long I racked my brains. The struggle I was in I had to get out of by myself. There was no one to help me. In the end my decision was firm: I would stick to my plans and reject the offer my boss had made. I told him the reason why and felt as having gained a victory over myself.

I passed the entrance examination and took up studies at the PH Wuppertal. As to the stay in Egypt which I then missed: I was doubly remunerated by being chosen exchangee to Bethel College.

"ABOUT HEINZ" by Prof. Inge Heuser

Heinz van de Linde ist, glaube ich, eine gute Wahl. Er ist im Englischen einer der Interessiertesten und Eifrigsten. Pete Trott sagt von ihm: "He is so much fun!"

"ABOUT GORDON" by Dean Alber J. Meyer

Gordon has been a special friend of international students at Bethel. Active in the Comparative Religions Seminar and the International Relations Club he is eager to talk with people of viewpoints different from his own. He is a seeker who wants to transcend the confines of Midwestern -- indeed, Western -- ways of thinking. He will certainly find next year at Wuppertal a time of exciting new experiences and acquaintances.

"APPLICATION FOR WUPPERTAL" by Gordon Ratzlaff

I was born on a farm in a very small Mennonite community close to a very small town called Meno, Oklahoma. I was unearthed from that farm almost eight years ago and shifted to the budding metropolis of Wichita, Kansas. Six years later I was enrolled at a small liberal arts college in North Newton, Kansas. The first year of my college life, I tried out for the position of exchange student to Wuppertal, Germany.. I am again applying for the same program and shall try to limit myself to a discussion of the

reasons why I would like to go to Wuppertal; the qualifications I have that would make me a worthy representative; and what I should hope to gain from a year of study in Germany.

I feel that I could adequately convey a true picture of our racial problems to the students of Wuppertal, as well as to others in Germany. Since the fourth grade through high school, all my classes contained Negroes. I recently took an extended tour through Mississippi and was starkly brought face to face with the civil rights problem. I doubt if there is anyone that will ever understand this problem to the fullest extent, but I firmly believe that the exchange student must certainly have at least some understanding of the problem. Just talking with Katrin and my roommate Henrik has made me acutely aware of the effect that our Negro's fight for freedom and equality has upon our American image in Wuppertal.

During the past four months I have hitchhiked from New York to New Orleans, from Minneapolis to San Antonio. Altogether I hitchhiked over 10,000 miles, meeting many different people and seeing many different things.

From a personal standpoint, the privilege to study abroad would certainly further my education and be rewarding as a means to end the four years of German that I have studied in school, besides becoming acquainted with new customs, Ideas, a different culture, and most important of all, meeting people and gaining new friends. However, it would be rather selfish to place my individual goals above those of others, as a Wuppertal exchangee. By the very nature of the title, an exchange student is committed to the transfer of a new way of life; a new language, new ideas; different habits and traits from a different culture; and school tradition and beliefs. If selected, I would try my best to complete this cultural exchange from Bethel to Wuppertal and then again from Wuppertal to Bethel.

(Application to Student Council)

ADDRESSES OF WUPPERTAL AND BETHEL EXCHANGEES1951 - 1966

<u>WUPPERTAL STUDENTS TO BE THEL</u>	<u>SCHOOLYEAR</u>	<u>BETHEL STUDENTS TO WUPPERTAL</u>
1. Mr. Fritz Potreck Agnes-Miegel Weg 9, 5606 Tönisheide	1951-1952	NONE
2. Mr. Rudolf Wiemann, Weststr. 73 56 Wuppertal-Elberfeld, Germany	1952-1953	NONE
3. Mrs. Annegret Gehlhoff (Völker) Post. 37, 506 Bensberg-Refrath Germany	1953-1954	Mr. Otto Driedger, 444 Third Ave., S.E. Swift Current, Saskatchewan, Canada
4. Mr. Rudolf Stubenrauch, Staasstr. 29, 56 Wuppertal-Ronsdorf, Germany	1954-1955	Miss Lillian Galle, 477 Deming Pl., Chicago, Ill., 60614, USA
5. Miss Elisabeth Friedewald, Arren- berger Str. 41, 56 Wuppertal-Elber- feld, Germany	1955-1956	Mrs. Ruby Baresch (Woelk), 257 N. Rutan, Wichita, Kansas, USA
6. Mrs. Christiane Renger (Klein), Grainauer Str. 5 a, 1 Berlin 30	1956-1957	Mr. Eldred Thierstein, 674 Wood- ford, Hamilton, Ohio, USA
7. Miss Karin Mühlen, Am Thurn 25, 56 Wuppertal-Sonnborn, Germany	1957-1958	Mr. Ted Zerger, 901 Osage, Manhattan, Kansas, USA
8. Mr. Klaus Sowa, Grossroosting- hausen 15, 5679 Dhünn, Germany	1958-1959	Mrs. Janice Sevilla (Waltner), 15500 Lake Shore Blvd., Cleveland, Ohio, USA
9. Mrs. Barbara Chang (Schmidt), 1056 S. 4th, Apt. 2, Pocatello, Idaho, USA	1959-1960	Miss Delores Rempel, 1409 West 8th, Newton, Kansas, USA
10. Miss Ursula Schumacher, Kamp- weg 7, 4408 Dülmen, Germany	1960-1961	Miss Karen Gilchrist, 2224 Taft, Wichita, Kansas, USA
11. Mr. Hans Sieper, Am Bruch 14 Remscheid, Germany	1961-1962	Miss Ruth Ewy, R.R. 1, Halstead, Kansas, USA
12. Miss Christiane Vesper, Schra- berg 16, 56 Wuppertal-Barmen	1962-1963	Mary Janzen, 212 S. Jefferson, Hillsboro, Kansas, USA
13. Miss Katrin Frowein, Lennep Str. 130, 56 Wuppertal-Barmen	1963-1964	Mr. Bob Pankratz, Route 1, Casso- day, Kansas, USA
14. Mr. Henrik Eger, Freyastr. 43, 56 Wuppertal-Elberfeld, Germany	1964-1965	Mr. Pete Trott, Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas, USA
15. Mr. Heinz van de Linde, Egerstr. 4, 4131 Orsoy, Kr. Moers, Germany	1965-1966	Mr. Gordon Ratzlaff, Studentenwohn- heim, Pädagogische Hochschule, 56 Wuppertal-Barmen, Germany



Erna Fast in post-war Germany
doing relief work



Prof. Hammelsback, Prof. Harder,
Otto Driedger: square dance at
Wuppertal

Karin Muhlen
graduation at
Bethel 1958

Front cover:

1. Pädagogische Hochschule Wuppertal
2. Administration Building at Bethel College

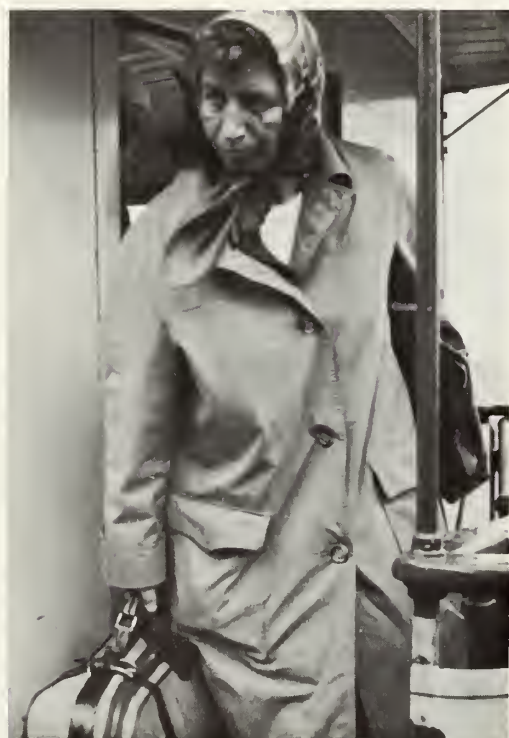
Back cover:

3. Aerial view of the Bethel campus including new Fine Arts Center
4. Preparations for the "Winterfest" at the PH Wuppertal





Reunion Advent 1958 at the Friedewald's



Professor Inge Heuser



Gordon Ratzlaff and Henrik Eger

