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**AMISHMEN TO
GO TO MEXICO**

**Report Says Many Have
Joined Together to Purchase
3,000 Acres There.**

News has come from Amishmen of the old Mennonite faith in the southeastern part of Wayne county and adjoining districts in other counties that they have pooled their finances and have purchased a 3,000 acre tract of land in Mexico, where they hope to start a colony in which their own ideas of school education may be carried out.

For several months there have been mutterings in Wayne county by some Amishmen against the Ohio laws that compel their children to go to school. Several Amishmen have been arrested in Wayne and Holmes counties in the past year on charges that they did not send their children to school. Two fathers, who confessed that they kept children out of school, spent several days in the Wayne county jail rather than pay fines imposed by a Wooster court. A number of fathers have been fined in recent months for not sending children to school, but the men fined have paid the amounts assessed by the courts in Wooster and Fredericksburg.

A report from Wilmot, a town in Stark county not far from the Wayne and Holmes county lines, says that many Holmes county Amishmen will take part in the exodus and that if present plans are carried out the exodus of this group of Mennonites will leave Holmes county practically without any members of the faith.

NEW PITTSBURG

Mrs. Gail Ganyard is caring for her niece, Miss Catherine Kaufman who has been very sick in the hospital.

Howard Ogden and family spent Sunday with Will Robb's.

Mrs. John Fortney has gone to Canton for a couple of days.

Mrs. Ganyard and daughter spent Sunday with Dr. Ganyard.

Miss Helen and Florence Gulliford went home over Sunday.

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BISHOP TELLS WRITER ABOUT NAMING PASTOR

Sect Frowns Upon Member Who Buys Tractor Until He Removes Gears.

When Fred Charles, Cleveland newspaper man, was driven down into the Paint township Amish settlement by Adrian Tasker, of Applecreek, he was shown one place where an Amish farmer, taking possession of a pretty residence, had plowed up the front yard and planted it to cabbages.

The front porch was piled high with firewood, lightning rods were torn down, because they were "an attempt to defeat the will of God," window brackets were removed and decorated cornices torn down.

Charles froze an ear white walking across country, to see Sam Yoder, Amish bishop, and at the bishop's home a rag wet with cold water was put on it to draw out the frost. The writer continues as follows:

During his treatment I discussed with the bishop the tenets of the Amish creed.

The bishop himself is an example of how the sect remains an un-leavened mass in the midst of an American community. He was born in Holmes county, has lived all his life in either Holmes or Wayne county, yet he cannot read English, speaks it with a decided accent, and looks quite as "foreign" as though he had just stepped off a ship.

"Why are you opposed to education?" I asked.

"We ain't opposed to education," he said. "But we think nine months a year, too much schooling. We want our kinder to home to help us with the work. Our boys don't become doctors or lawyers, but farmers. And they don't need much book-learning to be good farmers.

"If they get too much education they may go to the city and drift away from us."

"I wish I had had more education. I went to common school one term in Holmes county and one term to our Amish school, but we ain't allowed to have our own schools any more. I can figure good enough, but I wish I could read a little English and talk it better."

Makes Window Look "Common"

The floors of the bishop's home are bare, except for a rug rug before the stove. A calendar is the only wall-decoration. A horse-hair sofa and an old-fashioned secretary are the only furnishings of the "settin' room" aside from three or four plain chairs—rockers usually are taboo.

The windows had been made with one large pane in each of the sashes, but the bishop had fashioned sticks so that each pane would appear to be divided into six sections to look more "common."

There were no curtains at the

windows. Some homes, I was told, are permitted to have curtains, but they must be of plain, dark materials, and may not be divided in the middle. The curtain may be pulled back and fastened at the side, but it must not have the appearance of decoration.

The bishop told how the elders, or ministers, are selected, referring me to Acts 1:24:161

And they, prayed and said, thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two thou has chosen.

That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.

And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias, and he was numbered among the eleven apostles.

"We do the same way," the bishop said. "The congregation takes a vote to see who shall be minister. Those who receive two or more votes are handed a hymn book. In one of the hymn books this passage from the Scripture is inserted on a piece of paper. Whoever receives that hymn book is the minister. Bishops are chosen in the same way among the ministers."

Serves by Will of God

This procedure varies occasionally, the names of the men in the congregation being written on slips of paper and inserted in the Bible. The book is then opened at random, the election falling upon the man whose name is disclosed.

The man chosen may be quite unprepared to assume the responsibilities of spiritual leadership; he may weep at his fate, but it is more than fate—it is the will of God. And he serves.

The Amish of Holmes county have one or two regular houses of worship but in Wayne county services are held in the barns or the homes of the members, usually lasting most of Sunday, and entirely in German. The women wear little white caps, stiffly starched, to church, and the mother of a large family and large families are the rule—may spend most of a day washing, pleating and starching these caps.

"If that isn't vanity, what is?" a non-Amish woman of the neighborhood exclaimed.

"One Amish farmer, who bought children from starvation. It maintains 38 hospitals and 9 clinics. It supports 124 orphanages; 64-107 children are wholly dependent; 50,000 others are partially dependent."

Dr. Edward Rafferty, editor of Baptist Sunday school publications will become editor of the new International Journal of Christian Education on March 31st next. The new paper will be the organ of the International Sunday School Council of Religious Education.

In Spain Protestants have organized a national Sunday school union, bringing together seventy schools with more than 4,800 pupils. Portugal, too, recently organized a national Sunday School committee, which has applied for recognition as a section of the World's Sunday School Association.

The annual meeting of the Council of Cities of the Methodist Episcopal church is to be held in Pittsburg, Pa., February 27 and 28. Those who have attended the sessions in previous years are well aware of the high quality of the programs which are arranged for these meetings.

A commission of influential men has been appointed by the British government to adjust all matters of religious administration in Palestine. Among these matters is the conduct and control of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, Jerusalem, which has been the scene of many disgraceful episodes between Christians, with Moslems as peacemakers.

President Walter Dill Scott of Northwestern University, has announced a \$3,000,000 gift, the largest single donation ever received by the university, from Mrs. Montgomery Ward, wife of the late Chicago mail order merchant. The money will be used for building the center of the medical unit on the McKinlock campus in Chicago, and will be named the "Montgomery Ward Memorial."

Recent discoveries made by investigators from the University of Michigan show that the Philippine Islands were formerly occupied by the Chinese. In addition to the human bones, were discovered stone and iron implements and weapons, copper and bronze articles, gold in-laid teeth and gold, shell, coral, glass and stone ornaments, some of these of great commercial value today.