

Mustard Seed

February 1980

Faith Mennonite High School

Vol. 2, No. 5



Aaron Beiler, building committee chairman.

Two miles west of Gap on Mine Road, one can find a small dairy farm along the road. On the opposite side of the road is a long broiler house. This is the farm where Aaron Beiler, chairman of the building committee, and his wife live and where they raised their family of five boys and one girl. Aaron is a past member of the Linville

Work Begins on New Lot

They called it the "music of the future", the whirring of 10 chain saws, the periodic crash of falling trees, the shout and animated conversation of men and women at work. On Saturday, February 9, the first real physical work began in building the new Faith Mennonite High School. Volunteer workers began arriving around 7 o'clock at the site of the new school, which is located about two miles west of Gap along Smyrna Road. Workers continued to arrive until mid-forenoon bringing tractors, dump trucks, flat-bed wagons, chain saws, and axes. A bulldozer owned and operated by Eli King, a patron at Faith, aided in pushing over trees and pushing underbrush out of the way. Also in operation were two hydraulic woodsplitters which were managed by a few young fellows. There were a few manually operated splitters present who claimed they could split wood faster than the hydraulic ones!

Complete cooperation and willingness to work combined to make a good-sized dent in the woods. By the end of the day over 60 trees had been cut down. Most of these trees were only trimmed of their branches; then dragged out by tractors. They were laid in rows in the meadow where they will be picked up by Lapp Lumber Co. in the near future.

The branches and the trees too small to save for lumber were cut into pieces for firewood. Men were busy all day loading up these pieces onto wagons or dump trucks. The wood was then hauled a short distance away where the woodsplitters (both kinds) unloaded, split and piled the wood. By the end of the day they had accumulated approximately twenty cords of firewood.

Although most of the wood was picked up, much of it, in addition to about 15-25 trees to be cut, remained for the following Saturday.

Dwilyn Beiler

Meet the Building Committee

Hill Menn. School board. He was also involved in the property committee at Faith during its first several years. He was a patron of Faith for its first four years until his youngest son, Naaman, graduated with the class of '79.

The seven-member committee is responsible for working out the details of the building itself. They check other buildings and find out how many and what kind of windows, type of heat, room layout, and other such details. They need to direct the blue printing and iron out problems as

they arise. In addition to these responsibilities they are involved in accepting bids from various contractors.

Some of the most recent decisions and steps of progress the committee has made are that the gym building will be a steel construction. The classroom wing will be 72' x 274'. Plans for the building will soon be available for bidding. A most recent controversy for the committee was whether to have electric heat or gas heat. Their decision will be determined in relation to cost. As of January 28, 1980 the Lancaster County Planning Commission has approved the site of the school to be on the John Glick property.

In addition to Beiler the building committee includes six other members.

Paul Brenneman, father of four children, was chairman of the building committee for New Danville Mennonite School during their expansion two years ago. Brenneman has two students at Faith.

Norman Hahn, president of Conestoga Wood Products, East Earl, is the father of one of the

juniors at Faith.

Don Sensenig, a board member, is a builder in Lititz where he lives with his family of four boys and two girls. Sensenig was chairman of the building committee for the new Lititz Area Menn. School.

John K. Harnish, is a chicken farmer, and pastor at the Lincoln University Mennonite Church. He is the father of one of the seniors at Faith, and is also a member of the education committee.

Chris D. Kennel, the treasurer of the school board, is self-employed for many years as a partner in Keystone Builders, Atglen. He is currently employed by Paul Rish, Associates, a general contractor for commercial buildings.

Aaron Lapp, Jr. also a board member, is secretary of the building committee. Lapp is a dairy farmer and the father of one FMH alumnus and a current senior.

In addition to these members, Harold J. Ranck, school board chairman, and James E. Gochnauer, principal, regularly visit with the building committee as advisors.

-Marv Stoltzfus



Faith is . . .

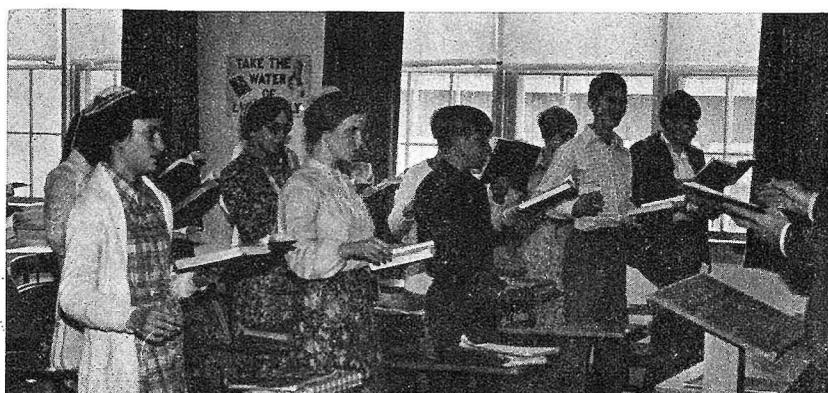
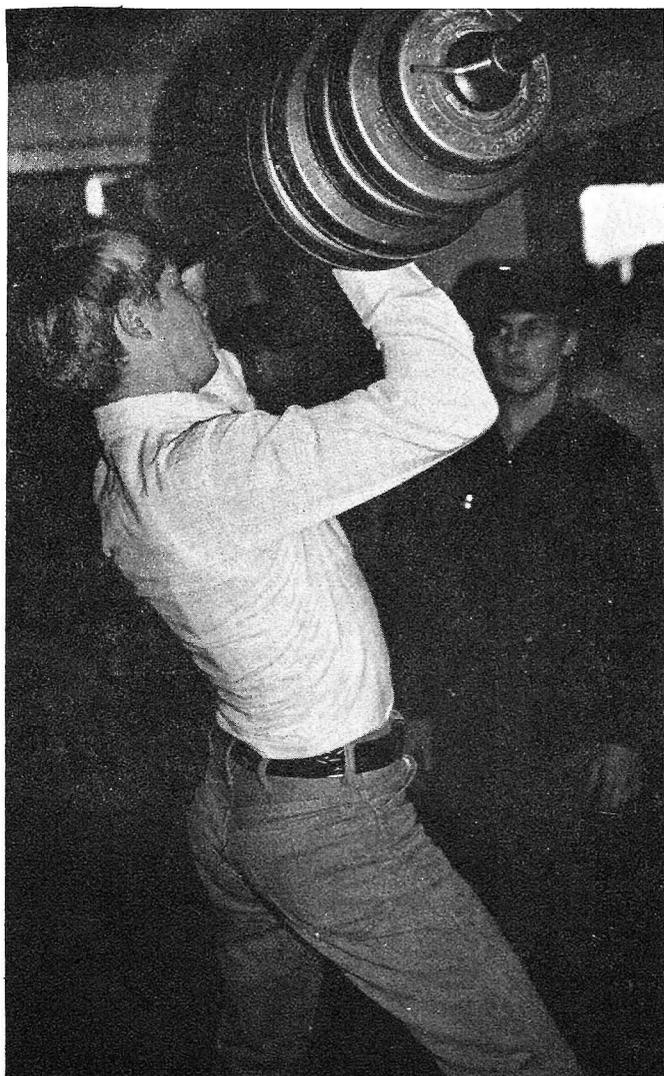
...Worshipping

Bible and chapel are a key part of a student's experiences at Faith. Responsibility for both is shared among the school faculty. Here, Noah Hershey leads the seniors in a discussion of Acts (far right).



...Leading

Students with leadership potential develop their skills by participating in student counsel, class offices, or on student organization. At right, Mustard Seed reporters select pictures for an upcoming issue.



...Playing

Phys. Ed. promotes indoor and outdoor group games and individual competition. Dale Hess (left) discovers he really can do it!

...Singing

The music program at Faith sizes our heritage of acappella s. Students in Music Theory (abc) taught theory, sight singing, s leading. They use the at learned by participating in c and leading chapel s

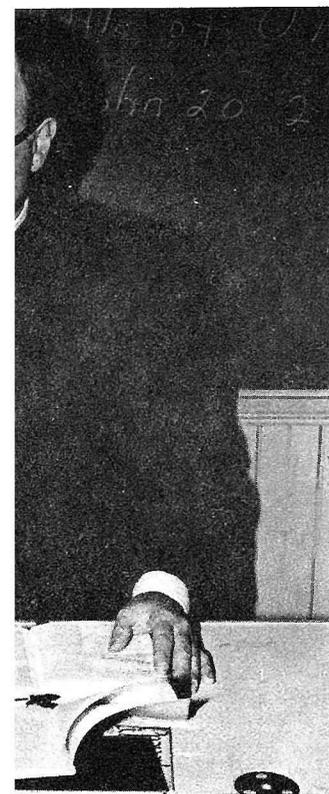
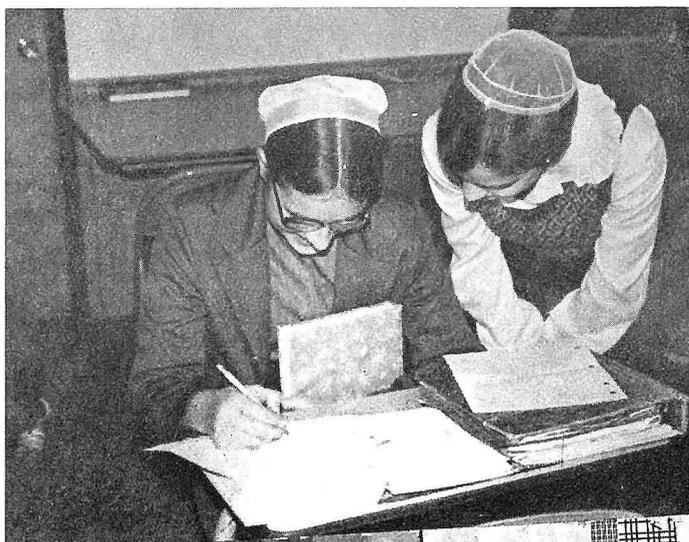
...Exploring

Sharon Boll (right) is amazed to see what salt really looks like. A well-equipped lab help students to experience science, not just memorize it.



...Studying

Students learn to share with each other. Below, Valerie Bèiler is helping Ruth Ann Stoltzfus.



...Learning

Personal use electives including typing, shop, home ec, first aid, and driver education are offered which encourage the students to develop their abilities and face new challenges. In addition, advanced courses in various areas help develop vocational skills. Heidi Beiler (left) types with ease.



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Principal's Corner

Well, we've finally started!

On Saturday, February 9, the building committee began to clear the lot for the new building. Helping were patrons, alumni, students, and teachers of FMH. By their diligent effort, more than half the area needed for the new school was cleared in one day. The rest was cleared a week later.

By 10:30 the first day more than 40 people were on the site. By 11:30, many more were there. Except for a short time when there seemed to be more "Indians" than "chiefs" everyone was busily working.

I extend my congratulations to the building committee for a very good start.

My sincere appreciation goes to the patrons who took a day away from home to help, to the students who came to "school" for the sixth day that week, and to the alumni who have not forgotten us.

Thanks also to the New Era for the delightful photo coverage of this event. They have indicated a continued interest in this work and are prepared to keep our community informed.

Also worthy of note is the very good response to the finance committee's initial plea to the patrons and friends for funds. To date, over \$100,000 has been received in cash and one-year pledges.

Let's not lose sight of our goals and continue



Guess Who!

Our "Guess Who?" for last month was Cloyd Craft. Cloyd is a sophomore at Faith and comes to us from Weaver-town Mennonite School.

Datebook

- Mar. 16 - Gospel Team program, Farr Creek
- 20-21 - Senior trip to Washington, DC
- 23 - Faith Chorale at Nickel Mines
- 31 - End of the third quarter
- Apr. 3 - Easter vacation begins at 2:00
- 5 - Gospel Team program, at Weaver-town Track Band
- 8 - Easter vacation ends at 8:30
- 11 - Report cards due
- 16-20 - Chorale tour to Indiana

to work for the honor and glory of God in this project. Through our energetic, concerted effort, we can have a school by fall. Join us in praying and working to that end.

Letters...

Editor's note: This column is devoted to your comments. Responsible letters will be printed from students, parents, friends, and alumni/ Lengthly letters may be summarized and appreciated. Help make this **your** paper by addressing your letters to "Letters", c/o Faith Mennonite High School, Rt.#1, Box 270 Paradise, PA 17562.

Chapel Critiqued

Dear Editor:

Several changes in our chapel have been made which I feel are for the better. This year, we have song services every Friday morning instead of every other Friday as it was last year. I feel singing is a way of praising God, that we, the student body, can praise him together.

However, I think we should have more singing groups from outside of FMH invited to share as well

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as more student involvement in giving speeches and small group singing. Another improvement could be made in having small prayer groups during chapel.

Variety is the spice of life and I feel that this saying includes chapel also. - Rose Esh

Alumni News...



weeks there, Kathy would like to find a secretarial job.

Although she graduated last year, Sylvia Gehman is continuing to write the alumni news for Mustard Seed. This month we have asked her about her job and activities. Sylvia is enjoying her work at Gehman's Mennonite School as secretary and librarian. Her jobs vary- including typing the newspaper, working on the yearbook, and helping some third-grade boys with reading. She also has several smaller jobs such as answering the telephone, acting as messenger, and opening stacks of mail. Sylvia said she appreciates the opportunity to work with the students in the library, and finds school life is filled with various experiences which make life interesting.

- Sylvia Gehman

It's quite interesting to learn what the alumni are doing since they graduated. For this month I talked to Kathy Stoltzfus, a 1979 graduate. Kathy is still her happy, bubbling self. Just recently she quit her cashier job at Farmer Browns. When I had talked with her she was anticipating an exciting learning experience at Calvary Bible School in Arkansas. After her 3

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Route 1, Box 270
Paradise, Pennsylvania 17562