

The Wonder of BOOKS

By Martha Epler

HANSI
By Maria Anne Hirschmann,
Published by
Tyndale House, 1973

"I had been chosen from among many thousands of students to be further educated in one of Hitler's special schools...I bubbled over with joy...How could it be true that I, fourteen-year-old peasant girl, was permitted to be in Prague?"

These are the words of Maria Anne Hirschmann, author of HANSI, an incredible autobiographical account of a young girl's experiences in Nazi Germany and her subsequent emigration to America, the "land of the free."

Especially impressive is the account of Maria's search for spiritual truth and meaning within the framework of Hitler's atheistic regime. She writes of her overwhelming allegiance to Der Fuhrer and the disillusionment which followed when Nazi Germany collapsed.

She writes of her struggle to rediscover the faith in Jesus Christ which she possessed as a young child, and the victory which was hers when at last she succeeded!

HANSI is a book so absorbing, so filled with excitement and drama, that the reader will feel compelled to read, nonstop, until Maria has completed her powerful narrative.

Many times the author vividly describes close encounters with dangers of all varieties and with death itself. She muses as to why her life was spared, attributing her safety to an unseen entity, her Lord Jesus Christ.

Perhaps the greatest value of all to be gained through reading HANSI is a newly-found appreciation for our homeland, America. We "see" our country as Maria saw it upon arrival here as a German immigrant in the early 1950's. We share her constant amazement at the warmth and generosity of the American people.

But, what impressed this young German woman the most of all was Freedom itself--the right to confess and teach one's own heartfelt beliefs! It was this last aspect of the American Way that led the author to apply for United States' citizenship!

Especially moving is a passage in which Maria relates her experience (as a new United States Citizen) in saluting HER new flag--the deep-seated emotions that welled up within her. Truly, the reader may look anew at aspects of American life that sometimes are taken for granted.

Impressive indeed is the

wisdom with which the author writes. We sense her wisdom and feel that it is true because it is authentically born through experiences of suffering and hardship. Maria lived through a historical period marked by hatred, violence and deceit, as well as by the trauma of war.

We cannot help but admire Maria's proud German determination. Against many odds, she and her German-born husband have arrived at a high degree of success in this, their adopted homeland.

Today, Maria is a teacher in a high school in the San Bernadine Mountains of California. She is in great demand as a speaker and lecturer over a large area.

We salute Maria Hirschmann for her courage, ambition, intelligence, and

Cub Scouts Visit Wheatland Home

Cub Scout Pack 136 held its committee meeting on Thursday, April 4, at the home of Patricia Brian.

Attending were: Robert Mark, John Shireman, Jay Heller, David Raudabuagh, James Grady Sr., Evelyn Duke, Carolyn Waltz and Sara Demmy.

On Saturday, April 6, Den 4, under the leadership of Cubmaster Robert Mark and Den Mother Ann Mark, toured Wheatland in Lancaster.

Boys making the trip included Brian McCurdy, Nathan Wilson, James Grady Jr., Scott Young and Jay Ulrich.

faith. We thank her for a revitalized faith in God and America.

Emergency Medical Calls

SATURDAY
AFTERNOON
AND
SUNDAY
AND
EASTER MONDAY
DR. THOMAS W. O'CONNOR

Niemeyer

(Continued from Page 1) active work with a national telephone company, has been commended for the very worthwhile efforts which he has given in behalf of the Easter Seal Society.

As a "senior citizen", he has spent a great deal of his time doing cabinet work, maintaining all types of equipment and operating equipment which is germane to the basic functions of Easter Seal.

You're Never Too Old To Hear Better

Chicago, Ill.--A free offer of special interest to those who hear but do not understand words has been announced by Beltone. A non-operating model of the smallest Beltone aid ever made will be given absolutely free to anyone requesting it.

This is not a real hearing aid, but it will show you how tiny hearing help can be. It's yours to keep, free. The actual aid weighs less than a third of an ounce, and it's all at ear level, in one unit. No wires lead from body to head.

These models are free, so write for yours now. Thousands have already been mailed, so write today to Dept. 9673, Beltone Electronics Corp., 4201 W. Victoria St., Chicago, Ill., 60646.

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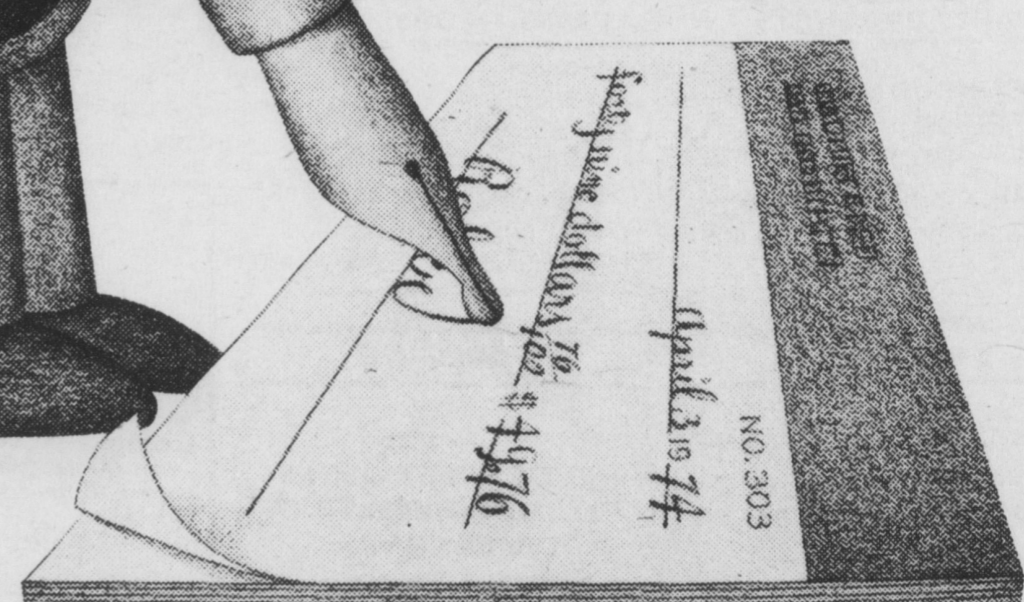
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CENTRAL
BANK**



the light,
the joy,
the hope of
Easter are
captured in
beautiful spring
flowers and
plants



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