

O B I T U A R Y

It is the mission of Seventh Day Baptists to carry the truth of the Sabbath, together with all the other doctrines which Christ lived and taught, to the knowledge and acceptance of all men, whether outside the Church or within all the various churches and denominations of Christendom. The very success of that mission will, of necessity, radically modify the organization of the instrument to be used of God for the accomplishment of this end. May God hasten the day!

We have lamented the shrinking numbers enrolled in many of our churches in America in the recent passing years. I share that regret, while I rejoice with you in the growing numbers of Seventh Day Baptists in other lands.

It is a more vital test, however, of efficiency in the instrument, to ask whether the Christian world as a whole has gained in these years any broader knowledge or keener appreciation of the principles for which Seventh Day Baptists stand. Here, too, we have not measured up to our desires and our responsibilities. But we have, I believe, under God's guidance, been making greater progress in this direction in the past quarter century, than ever before in our history. The leaders of Christian bodies in America and Europe and in the Orient, today, know better and more sympathetically Seventh Day Baptists, and what they stand for, than ever before. I cannot here enumerate the proofs of this statement as I know they exist, after close observation for more than half a century. The proofs may be found in education, in missions, and in church councils in America and in Europe.

What then, shall we say of the future? Shall we plan retrenchment and talk defeat as though we were not building on the sure foundation, Jesus Christ, and his Word? God forbid!

With "truth eternal" as our slogan; with "vision, courage, and loyalty" as our motto; and with our building erected on the sure foundation—what though the rains descend, and the floods come, and the winds blow and beat upon that house?

It will fall not, for it is founded upon a rock! God keep us building on the rock!

"Who's that talkative woman over there?"

"My wife."

"Sorry. My mistake."

"No, mine."

—*Watchman-Examiner.*

LARKIN.—O. Eugene, oldest son of George Sheffield Larkin and Anna Sheppard Titsworth, was born in what is now Dunellen, N. J., on May 6, 1855, and died in Milton, Wis., August 12, 1938, following several months' illness.

He was graduated from Milton College in 1878, and after teaching in Big Foot Academy in Walworth County and in the public school at Viroqua, entered medical school in New York. He was graduated from the medical school of Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., and practiced in Deerfield and Albany, Wis., before going to Chicago.

He was married to Lillian May Graves of Albany, Wis., on May 14, 1890. Dr. and Mrs. Larkin were notable in their hospitality, their home in Chicago being open to their many friends, and especially to Seventh Day Baptists who found themselves otherwise alone in that great city.

Early in life Doctor Larkin joined the Seventh Day Baptist Church. He was one of the first deacons of the Chicago Church, and till the day of his passing continued to carry its burdens on his heart.

He is survived by his youngest sister, Mrs. Jay W. Crofoot, of Milton, Wis.; and his daughter, Mrs. Paul Ewing, of Glen Ellyn, Ill.; and three grandchildren: Barbara, Robert, and Nancy Ewing. Memorial services were conducted in Milton at the Crandall Funeral Home on August 15, 1938, by Pastor Carroll L. Hill. Interment was in Milton cemetery. C. L. H.

TOOTHMAN.—Ina Mae, daughter of E. G. and Lillie Bond Bee, was born at Berea, W. Va., April 10, 1895, and passed away at her parent's home, Roanoke, W. Va., June 10, 1938.

She was united in marriage to William Lark Toothman June 16, 1917. To this union were born: Helen Louise, Robert Arden, Sarah Josephine, Clara Belle, and Etna Anna.

Mrs. Toothman was baptized in early life and joined the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Berea, W. Va. She patiently endured suffering during the last months of her life. Farewell services were conducted by her pastor, E. F. Loofboro, and she was laid to rest in Hevener Cemetery. E. F. L.

RECORDER WANT ADVERTISEMENTS

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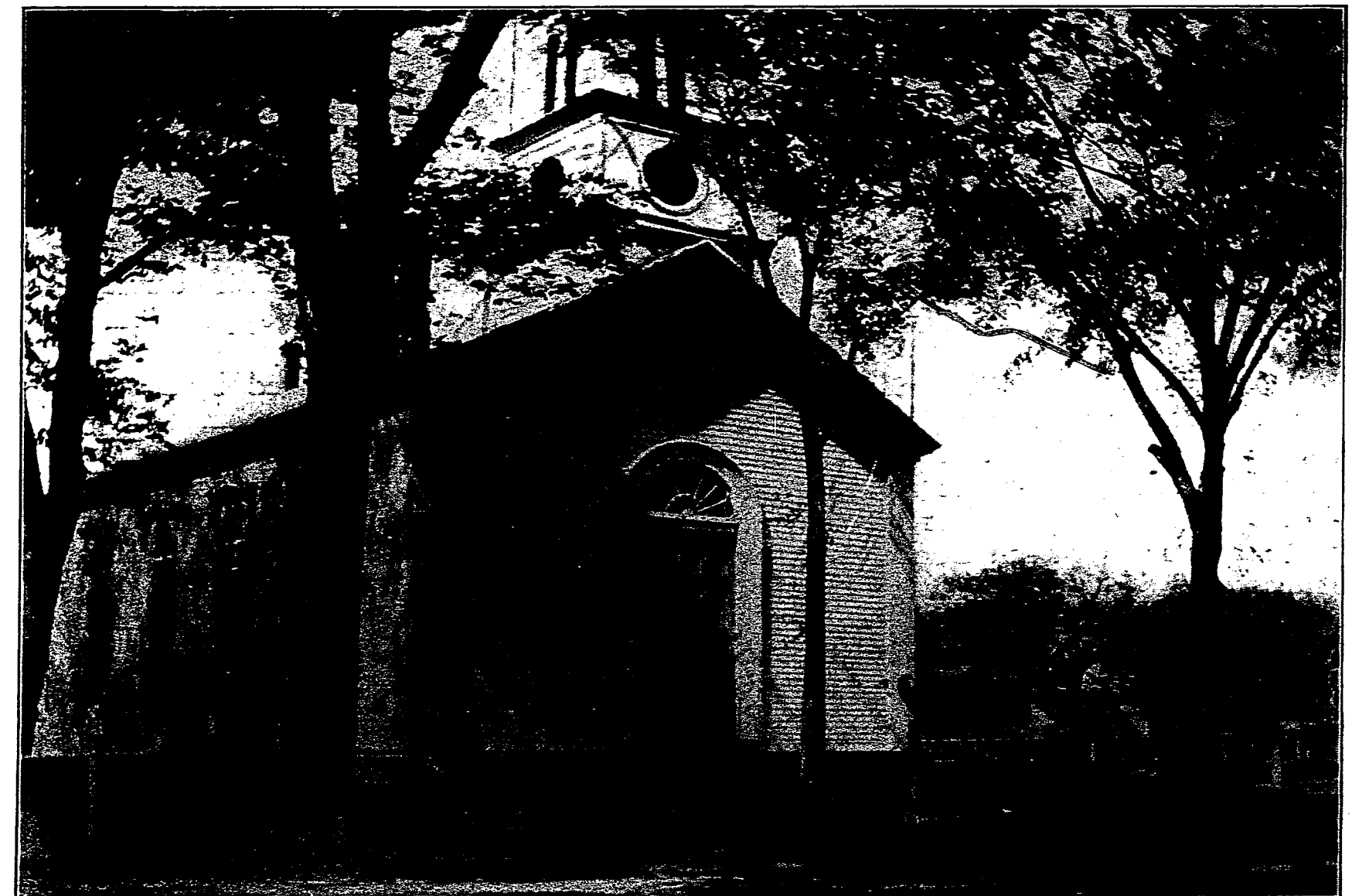
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The Sabbath Recorder

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SEPTEMBER 12, 1938

No. 11



Co-operating Churches in Conference Entertainment
PISCATAWAY S. D. B. CHURCH, at New Market, N. J.

(The mother church)

(Plainfield Church on last page)

Conference Number

No. 3

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(Established in 1844)

A SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST WEEKLY

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More About Conference "Wonderful Conference"; "Perfect weather"; "Inspiring addresses"; "Heart-warming sermons"; "Sorry it's all over"; "I'm going home and do something." Many such expressions give one the feeling that our Council-Conference was highly successful, and the delegates helped and inspired.

The Education Society Program

On Thursday morning the Education Society's program was presented, Dean Ahva J. C. Bond presiding at the request of the society's president, Rev. Edgar D. Van Horn, who was still weak from several days' sickness.

A stirring address was given by the corresponding secretary of the society, Rev. Walter L. Greene. The address will be printed in due time so further report is unnecessary. Dean Bond brought the main address of the hour on the subject of "A Theological Education for a Seventh Day Baptist Minister." Prefacing his address with an expression of his sense of the need of more than the education schools can give, he went on to urge our conviction of the need of an educated, a trained Seventh Day Baptist ministry. Six specific objectives were named and ably discussed: (1) Religious experience, (2) a vital, usable

knowledge of the Bible, (3) a sound theology, (4) the history and nature of the Christian Church, (5) denominational beliefs, (6) functions and technique of the pastoral relations. In conclusion he said Alfred Theological Seminary can do any of these things better than some schools, and some things better than any other school. In a discussion following, much interest was shown in the work of training ministers and also in training laymen to work in the church. All were interested to see the theological students present, who stood on the invitation of the dean.

The Sabbath School Board Program

Following the "Conference in Prayer," Thursday morning, the program of the Sabbath School Board was presented with its president, Rev. John F. Randolph, in the chair. In the address, "Relation of the Local Church to Religious Education," Rev. Erlo E. Sutton, leader in religious education, urged that the church must more earnestly accept responsibility for training its leaders. As always, the speaker had given much thought to the problems and spoke with earnestness and conviction. The paper appears in "Our Pulpit."

In the report reviewed by President Randolph it appears that membership increases among our churches is largely shown among those holding Daily Vacation Bible Schools. There is a wonderful opportunity in this phase of our work to do real home missionary work.

Rev. Edward M. Holston gave a valuable paper on "The Book and This Modern World." It will appear in condensed form later, we hope.

Historical Program

Dr. Corliss F. Randolph was confined at home by illness, wherefore the hour allotted to the Historical Society program was conducted by Dr. Esle F. Randolph of Great Kills, Staten Island, N. Y. Rev. James L. Skaggs gave the address—"An Appreciation of Church History." It was a challenging address. We must know history if we are to know ourselves, the speaker said. Without history our religion would be without form or value. Too much we are a generation of historical illiterates. Our Historical Society is a symbol of our interest in the history of our church. We hope to publish this splendid address in full.

The program was introduced with a devotional service conducted by Luther W. Crich-

low of Washington, D. C., with a meditation on "Divine Discontent." He asked Miss Leah Giles of Washington to sing a favorite song of the late Dr. Lewis C. Sheafe, "I Cannot Drift."

"Obstacles — Blocks or Stepping-stones?" was the subject of the address at the Woman's Board hour, by Mrs. Eugene Davis. Never was there a better chance afforded to make difficulties, by overcoming them, count more for Christ and his Church than now. Great opportunity is now afforded us, as never before, to have passed on by China the blessing which we can take to them.

On another page of this RECORDER will be found the report of the Commission which should engage the careful attention of all our people. It would well furnish the strong meat of one helpful sermon at least. This reporter hopes every Seventh Day Baptist minister will use it.

Tract Society Program

First Vice-President James L. Skaggs presided over this program in the absence of President Corliss F. Randolph. The worship service made an inspiring beginning for the sermon given as the only item of this hour. Rev. Claude L. Hill of North Loup, Neb., spoke forcefully and optimistically on the theme, "The Living God and His Living Church," text Matthew 16: 16. The Church, he said, was called into existence in a world needing what the Church has to offer—"life more abundant." "Christ is God's perfect idea of what a man ought to be."

In part the sermon follows as caught from his rapid delivery:

The theme that I wish to ask you to think about is the Living God and his Living Church. Last Monday night when the chairman of the various committees that have made up at least a part of this Council were gathered in the assembly room of the Denominational Building and the time had come for prayer, the one who had been selected to lead the prayer gave voice to an expression like this: "The Seventh Day Baptist Denomination is facing the greatest crisis in its history." It is almost a truism for one to say that for all individuals, communities, and nations, we are in a crisis time. Every epoch and age of life reaches a time of crisis. The facts in the case are, there can scarcely be life without a crisis. Every mother knows that, in the history of her experience as a mother. Every doctor and pastor has stood in a sick room and looked down in the face of a life that has had a crisis. A master has painted a

picture better than I can with words; it is the picture of a doctor waiting for the crisis as a result of his best labor.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST IS FACING A CRISIS

Jesus Christ came into the world to give the church and individuals life more abundant and everlasting. The church calls us to a place of duty and power to which we have been selected by the Son of God who consented to be made as a man that he might redeem us.

Jesus came not only to redeem, but to be our example. He became God's perfect idea of a human being. On that side of the picture we have failed. We realize that God was made flesh in Jesus. He was God's conception of what man ought to be, man in the image of God. Practically every father knows the disappointment when a son has gone wrong, knows the sorrow when he has not been what his father expected of him. I say that one of the greatest sorrows that parenthood can possibly know is a child at home gone wrong and lost in sin. The suffering of fathers on earth is not comparable to God's suffering. The heart of God sweats with sorrow and shame because of the shame and unjust conduct of men and women.

A GREAT QUESTION

In the New Testament, God was made flesh and there was revealed to us the love of that Father. Jesus said, "Who do men say that I am?" That same question is being asked of every one of us. Who do you say that the Son of God is? The answer that Peter gave back to his Lord and Master was something that Peter had thought through. You will remember that flesh and blood had not revealed it, but our Father who is in heaven. Out in the world you will find men and women everywhere who are saying that "God is not true. The Church has taught a false doctrine."

When I was visiting a lone Sabbath keeper, almost the first thing asked me was, "How long will Seventh Day Baptist denomination continue to exist?" The answer that I gave him was, "The Seventh Day Baptist denomination will never die, and the Church of Jesus Christ will never die, and truth will never pass away, for God is truth and life. You have a living God and I have a living God, the same yesterday, today and tomorrow."

NO TIME FOR DISCOURAGEMENT

Rather than discourage you, I say there never has been a time in the history of the world when such an opportunity was open to the Church of Christ. It was practically under such conditions that the Church of Jesus Christ was given birth. And tonight the same question is being asked of individuals and denominations. So far as I am concerned, there never was a time in the history of the denomination that was filled with responsibility as the hour in which we have entered.

To be sure, there are dictators and opposition to the Church of Jesus Christ, but when has there been a time that was not? It failed more when the going was easy.

I have talked with scores of men who would like to sell property, but, if a man were to sell his property, what would he do with the money? We are bound down by a commercialized life that is bound down by fear. *We have everything*

to live with, and nothing to live for. Money can not give relief to the aches in our hearts. One of the tragedies of life is to come down to the end of life without a single syllable of the pass word that admits us into the presence of our Lord and Savior. We look not upon the things that are seen, for the things that are unseen are eternal. I have asked myself again and again, "If the last hour of your life were to come, could you look into the face of your Father, could you say to him 'Into thy hands I commend my spirit'?"

The mission of the Church of Jesus Christ does not mean comfort without labor, but it means comfort and peace and labor. That is the mission of the Church of Jesus Christ, as I see it today. Let me say to you tonight that, in my thinking, the Church is a group of right-minded people. It is helping to make men and women Christlike. I believe that the worship program of the Church of Jesus Christ is better than ever before.

If we have a living God, then we must of necessity have a living Church. The truth that has kept it going for nearly two thousand years will drive it on as long as time shall last. Preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and live it. The greatest source of power today is the human soul, the power of a soul hidden with God in Jesus Christ.

The Church of Jesus Christ and the plan of Jesus Christ always carry on. The Church of Christ moves on and on. Men and women have different characteristics; there are lifters and leaners—high way, low way, and misty, smoky way in between.

Seventh Day Baptists are neither conservative nor liberal; they are a group of men and women with a mighty heritage.

"Did not our hearts burn within us as he opened the Scriptures to us?" It seems to me that there is no other message that the world needs that can compare with the message of Jesus in an hour of any crisis. If Jesus Christ had been in the lives of men, we would never have had a World war.

Preaching is a serious business and Christian living is a serious business. They mean responsibility, sacrifice and devotion. "If any man would come after me, let him take up his cross and follow me. If he loves father, brother, sister more than me, he has no part with me." There is power enough in the Seventh Day Baptist denomination, if we could release it, to "turn the world upside down".

"Religion Functioning Socially" The Christian Church has been increasingly becoming conscious of a social responsibility that cannot be discharged by the preaching of personal salvation, however basic and therefore vital personal relationship to God through saving faith is.

Because of the Christian message and the readjustments of personal life, splendid results in socialization have been accomplished through extra church organizations and institutions. Community social agencies have car-

ried the work in a remarkable manner, encouraged and largely supported by church people.

But it is pointed out in a refreshing booklet just off the press—*The Social Responsibility of the Churches*, copyrighted by The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America—"There are other social services which it is the duty of church agencies to administer as well as promote." And among outstanding duties is emphasized "the development and practice of a scientific technique in the use of religion as a therapeutic factor in the life of a person suffering from maladjustments." The findings of physicians and psychiatrists bear constant witness to this fact. Jesus emphasized the goal "that a man may have life and have it more abundantly."

The church's responsibility, the prefatory chapter of the booklet points out, is "not in the paralleling of the social work of other agencies, not by substituting their techniques for religious endeavor in its own programs, and not in shouldering off on to them its own responsibility," but it is found in "providing specific religious aid with a technique as intelligently scientific and skillful as other agencies."

The church must awake and become "aggressive in the release of those forces in religion which will give dynamic force to life, awaken sensitive social vision, and which will give the abundant life a realistic meaning."

The booklet contains eight chapters on vital and suggestive themes, items within each chapter being treated by different men, leaders in their respective fields. The names of Foster, Kaiser, Tippy, Myers, among the thirty or more authors, suggest variety, scholarship, and devotion. The booklet should be in the hands of every Seventh Day Baptist pastor, and may be had from the Federal Council, 297 Fourth Ave., New York City, at 30 cents a copy or ten for \$2.50.

ANNUAL MEETING OF EDUCATION SOCIETY

The annual corporate meeting of the Seventh Day Baptist Education Society will be held at 2 p.m. on October 9, 1938, at Alfred, N. Y.

L. R. Polan,
Recording Secretary.

REPORT OF COMMISSION

To the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference in session in Plainfield, N. J., August 23 to 28, 1938.

Your Commission would respectfully submit the following as its annual report for the year ending with this session of the General Conference.

Members of the Commission for this year were as follows: Harold O. Burdick, Alfred, N. Y.; Orville B. Bond, Lost Creek, W. Va.; Paul H. Hummel, Boulder, Colo.; D. Nelson Inglis, Milton, Wis.; John H. Austin, Westerly, R. I.; Courtland V. Davis, Plainfield, N. J.; William L. Burdick, Ashaway, R. I.; Corliss F. Randolph, Maplewood, N. J.; and Carroll L. Hill, Milton, Wis. James L. Skaggs, Salem, W. Va., was secretary.

The Commission held three meetings: in Shiloh, N. J., August 29, 1937; and in Plainfield, N. J., December 27-30, 1937, and August 17-21, 1938.

At the Shiloh meeting the following were absent: Orville B. Bond, Corliss F. Randolph, John H. Austin, and Paul H. Hummel. At the first meeting in Plainfield all members were present. At the second meeting in Plainfield, Orville B. Bond was absent.

Harold O. Burdick was elected chairman of the Commission and has presided at every meeting.

Howard M. Barber, Westerly, R. I., was designated to countersign the checks of the treasurer of the Denominational Budget, and A. Lovelle Burdick, Milton, Wis., was designated to sign the checks of the treasurer of the General Conference.

Hurley S. Warren, Plainfield, N. J., who had been elected corresponding secretary of the General Conference, resigned his office, saying he would be unable to serve as the 1938 Conference would be held in Plainfield. His resignation was accepted, and James L. Skaggs, West Englewood, N. J., was appointed to fill the vacancy.

It was voted that a mid-year meeting be held in Plainfield, beginning December 27, 1937, at 7.30 p.m.

The Auditing Committee of the Commission has scrutinized and signed all bills presented to the Conference treasurer for payment, and certifies that the reports of both the treasurer of Conference and the treasurer of the Denominational Budget have been properly audited.

Communications

Correspondence was received as follows and disposed of as indicated.

1. A letter from Rev. Erlo E. Sutton concerning denominational reorganization. A portion of the letter was referred to the Council-Conference Committee on Denominational Administration and another portion to the Conference Committee on the Consolidation of Boards.

2. A petition on Christian Social Action, signed by a considerable number of people, was referred to the Council-Conference Committee on Christian Social Problems.

3. The report of a Commission Committee on Community Survey was referred to the Pastors' Conference and to the Council-Conference Committee on the Local Church.

4. A letter from Dr. S. M. Cavert concerning a Commission on Ecumenical Relations was referred to the Conference Committee on Christian Co-operation.

5. A letter from Rev. Ahva J. C. Bond making a financial report on his expenses in attending the Utrecht, Holland, Conference was read and filed in the minutes.

6. A letter from Burton B. Crandall concerning the percentage of the Denominational Budget allotted to the Young People's Board and reporting new members appointed to the board. The portion concerning finances was referred to the Commission Committee on Denominational Budget, and the portion concerning new members of the board was referred to the Committee on Nominations of the General Conference.

7. A letter was read from Rev. Harold R. Crandall, treasurer of the Denominational Budget, asking that he not be re-elected to that office. His request was referred to the Committee on Nominations of the General Conference, and the secretary was requested to write Mr. Crandall expressing regret at his decision and appreciation of his fine service and co-operation during many years.

The official list of ministers of the denomination has been drawn up for publication in the 1938 Year Book and is now in the hands of the secretary for examination by any who may be interested.

It is expected that certificates of church membership, which were offered in typewritten form a year ago, will soon be printed and available for use in all our churches.

Upon the recommendation of the Commission at its December meeting, a Pastors' Con-

ference was planned by the faculty of our School of Theology and was held at Alfred, N. Y., June 20-22, 1938. The conference was reported as highly successful and helpful. The Commission voted its approval of a suggestion that another Pastors' Conference be held in 1939.

The idea of a training camp for young people is still before the Commission, and it is hoped that eventually some feasible plan may be developed.

At the December meeting letters of fraternal greeting and encouragement were sent to our missionaries in the Far East who were in great danger because of the invasion of China by the armies of Japan.

The Commission in its August meeting, learning that A. Lovelle Burdick had been ill for several weeks, voted that Carroll L. Hill be authorized to sign checks as may be necessary during the illness of Doctor Burdick.

At the December meeting authorization was given for a delegate to attend a meeting in Washington, D. C., of denominational representatives to elect ten delegates to a World Conference in Utrecht, Holland, for the possible organization of a World Council of Churches. Rev. Ahva J. C. Bond attended the meeting and was made an alternate delegate. His principal being unable to go, Doctor Bond attended the meeting in Utrecht and participated in working out a plan for a World Council of Churches.

Council-Conference Committees

Endeavoring to follow the expressed wish of the 1937 General Conference, the Commission at its December meeting set up fourteen committees which are to be known as Council-Conference Committees, each with its nucleus, and generally in a limited area, that preliminary studies might be made in preparation for the work at Conference time. The following is a list of the committees with chairmen indicated:

1. Spiritual Life and Religious Development, Rev. Alva L. Davis, chairman.
2. Denominational Outlook, J. Nelson Norwood, chairman.
3. Denominational Administration, Mrs. Herbert C. Van Horn, chairman.
4. Financial Methods, Karl G. Stillman, chairman.
5. Missionary Interests, Rev. Jay W. Crofoot, chairman.
6. Sabbath Interests and Promotion, Rev. James L. Skaggs, chairman.

7. Publishing Interests, Allison L. Burdick, Jr., chairman until Conference time; Rev. Edward M. Holston, chairman at Conference.

8. Religious Education, A. Lovelle Burdick, chairman until Conference time; Rev. Leslie O. Greene, chairman at Conference.

9. Woman's Work, Mrs. Luther S. Davis, chairman.

10. Vocations and Employment, George B. Utter, chairman.

11. The Seventh Day Baptist Building, Charles A. Chipman, chairman.

12. The Ministry, Esle F. Randolph, chairman.

13. The Local Church, Rev. Ralph H. Coon, chairman until Conference time; Rev. Albert N. Rogers, chairman at Conference.

14. Christian Social Problems, Rev. Claude L. Hill, chairman.

It is recommended that the regular reports to Conference be referred by Conference to Council-Conference Committees as follows:

Missionary Society Report to the Committee on Missionary Interests.

Tract Society Report to the Committee on Sabbath Interests and Promotion.

Historical Society Report to the Committee on Denominational Outlook.

Reports of the Education Society, Sabbath School Board, and Young People's Board to the Committee on Religious Education.

Woman's Board Report to the Committee on Woman's Work.

Religious Life Committee Report to the Committee on Spiritual Life and Religious Development.

Report of the Committee to Promote the Financial Program to the Committee on Financial Methods.

Vocational Committee Report to the Committee on Vocations and Employment.

Recommendations

The Commission recommends:

1. That the Conference Budget be the same as the items listed last year.

Proposed Expenditures

World Conference on Faith and Order ..\$	25.00
Baptist World Alliance	40.00
Federal Council	75.00
Year Book	600.00
Religious Life Committee	100.00
Committee to Promote Financial Program	100.00
Expenses of Conference	1,200.00
Contingent Fund	310.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,450.00

2. That the denominational agencies having presented budget reports for participation in the Denominational Budget as follows: Missionary Society \$18,600, Tract Society \$4,541.50, Education Society \$2,140, Sabbath School Board \$2,500, Woman's Board \$250, Young People's Board \$250, Historical So-

ciety \$250, Ministerial Retirement \$1,026, Seventh Day Baptist Building \$2,653.88, General Conference \$2,450, the Conference direct that the receipts for the Denominational Budget during the current year be distributed on the following basis:

Missionary Society	45.2 per cent
Tract Society	11.5 per cent
Education Society	6.0 per cent
Sabbath School Board	7.5 per cent
Woman's Board	0.5 per cent
Young People's Board	1.5 per cent
Historical Society	0.8 per cent
Ministerial Retirement	6.0 per cent
Seventh Day Baptist Building	9.0 per cent
General Conference	12.0 per cent

3. That an item of \$2,300 for the balance needed for the clearing of the debt on the Seventh Day Baptist Building be raised independently of the regular budget, and that the Tract Society be requested to serve the Conference in this respect, as last year.

4. That the Tract Society be requested to continue its efforts in behalf of endowment for the Seventh Day Baptist Building.

5. That the plan of asking the Sabbath schools to make an offering each quarter for the denominational boards or other agencies be continued and that the offerings be made as follows:

First quarter 1939—Missionary Society.

Second quarter 1939—Tract Society.

Third quarter 1939—Sabbath School Board.

Fourth quarter 1939—Education Society for the School of Theology at Alfred University.

The Commission suggests that the organization for which the offering is to be made call attention to this fact to the Sabbath schools at least two weeks before the quarter begins, and if possible, furnish information that might be interesting and instructive and that could serve as a basis for the presentation of the work of the organization before the Sabbath schools.

6. That the General Conference authorize the Seventh Day Baptist Education Society to plan with the Seventh Day Baptist churches for a special offering about Christmas time to help meet the current expenses of the School of Theology.

7. That the findings of the Council-Conference Committees be collected, edited, and printed along with such other materials as may

well appear in a printed volume and be distributed throughout Seventh Day Baptist churches.

8. That the president of the Conference appoint a committee to carry into effect the above recommendation.

9. That the cost of this printing and distribution be an expense chargeable to the General Conference.

In Conclusion

It was not without hesitation that the Commission and the Conference president accepted the responsibility of planning the Council-Conference and the setting up of the necessary committees. However, as the nucleus committees swung into action, it soon became evident that there was an increase in interest in denominational affairs. Many people have been at work preparing material for this Conference. Numerous committee meetings have been held, and many letters have been written to pastors, laymen, and officers trying to sound out the will of our people concerning denominational policies and activities. The Commission feels certain that this denomination will be benefited for many years through the interest aroused by the Council-Conference and the subsequent studies which the Commission trusts will be carried on in our churches this coming year.

While we deplore the conditions in China and recognize the present handicaps in missionary work there, we must not falter in our zeal or relinquish our hope for the triumph of the gospel of Christ in that great country. Our real interest in our China Mission and in our missionaries was very evident last autumn when the askings of the Missionary Board were generously oversubscribed for the relief of loved ones who were endangered there.

Our interest in our work here at home has been evident in the maintenance of our churches, in contributions to our Denominational Budget, and in the response to the appeal through the Tract Society for the Seventh Day Baptist Building Budget.

We have reason also for encouragement when we look toward England, Holland, Germany, Jamaica, and read the reports of the good work which is being done.

And let us devoutly pray that through our deliberations here, we may see new and enlarged visions of possible achievements for

our churches and for the denomination and that we may have the faith and the courage to go forward.

Harold O. Burdick,
Chairman,
James L. Skaggs,
Secretary.

MISSIONS

THE ABUNDANT LIFE FOR ALL

When Christ was discoursing regarding the good shepherd he said, "I am come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly." As the shepherd defends each member of his flock, plans its welfare, and seeks for it an abundance of all that is good, so Christ came to rescue men, defend, guide, and give them an abundance of the best this world and the glorious hereafter have to offer the sons of God.

This is the missionary spirit, the example of Christ. We are here for a purpose. Every one has a mission and can say, if he has Christ's spirit, "I am come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly." It is not enough to leave people alone, to do others no overt injury. That is not the missionary spirit, much less the Christ spirit. The passion to bring to others an abundance of all that is good was the one which did and still does flame in the heart of Christ and God the Father. In this matter Christ contrasted himself with the "hireling" and the "thief."

We have an especial duty to help those with whom we are associated closely in the affairs of life; but today our opportunities, and therefore our duties, reach to the ends of the world, and every professed follower of Christ should be able to say, "I am come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly."

NEWS FROM HOLLAND

(Excerpts from Rev. Pieter Taekema's annual report)

Haarlem, July 6, 1938.

Dear Brother Burdick:

It grieves me that I must deprive myself the privilege of writing to you oftener. But life in my new environment (pastor of our churches in Haarlem and The Hague) is busy. Many days and weeks pass with receiving and paying visits. I have to keep contact with

nearly all our people who live scattered, and need that contact. Sympathizing and getting acquainted with the flock is a necessity. You can in many cases do so much good with a little cordiality. My wife is a great help to me in all things.

My entrance into this new sphere of activity was a nuptial benediction of two members of the Amsterdam Church. In the course of the year I had to preach yet a nuptial sermon for two members of the Rotterdam Church and for two of the Amsterdam Church.

July 3rd I made my entrance into the mother church, Haarlem. This was a touching fact in my life. Our departure from the north (the Groningen Church), where we passed 18 years, has given a great deal of trouble to me and Mrs. Taekema by the breaking of ties. Brother Westerdall welcomed me cordially into the Haarlem Church. The Rev. and Mrs. Barendregt of the Baptist Church were also present, and he addressed me with appreciating words. July 10th I was welcomed as pastor of our church in The Hague by Brother Baars, and his words I will not easily forget.

Permit me to mention some remarkable things: August 20-22 we held our 1937 Conference in our old chapel at Haarlem, where we feel ourselves most at home. My wife and I were very glad to meet eight from Groningen. Elder Conradi was also in our midst, and his prayer at the Communion table was a comfort. Before the prayer meeting Friday evening we had a film. A daughter of our deceased Brother Velthuysen, Mrs. Grullemans, showed to us for some moments out of the celebration of his 70th birthday feast and nearly the whole interment. The morning of the Sabbath was spent with sermon and the Lord's Supper. The meeting in the afternoon lasted till 7 o'clock and inter alia Brother Conradi dwelt on the new action among the Adventists which demands full attention for the Prophetess White. Sunday morning took place the first business meeting of our alliance without Brother Velthuysen, and it seemed so strange. In the afternoon occurred the meeting for the youth. In the evening and the following day we were visited in our new dwelling by many members from abroad. The fact that the Conference meets a need is emphasized each year. It is a spiritual feast. May it be so increasingly! We will remain lovers of the family life of the church.

Very often I am not in the Haarlem Church, firstly because I am alternately on the Sabbath in Haarlem and in The Hague. Also during the year I have spent several Sabbaths in Rotterdam and Groningen. The visits received and paid vary per week between 15 and 20, the highest number was 30. Visits made during the year were 583, visits received 260, total 843.

By what many detached Sabbath keepers have experienced they are disappointed and have become shrinking from joining any organization, but with more than one that fear has been overcome. On the other hand there are those who, although they worship with us, call church organization something human. There are those who cannot bear that you hold another opinion about any point, and there are fanatical persons whom we cannot possibly desire as members.

From the nature of things the first year of my stay here has not given me much contact outside our churches. I had some conversation with a former Baptist pastor here and I attended the inducting of the new pastor, and preached two times for the Baptist Church. My removal has caused much extra work. Many things are left to me and different function must be performed by me; but though I am a factotum, my work is a joy and I feel myself supported by the appreciation of all.

We are very grateful to our American brethren for their faithful help, that makes possible my life work, and thankful to God for the honor which he grants to us in giving us the privilege to co-operate in the struggle for his truth and to place a stone to the building of his temple here on earth.

Many thanks for your kind letter.

With hearty greeting, I am

Faithfully yours,
P. Taekema.

CHINA

REPORT OF GRACE HOSPITAL, LIUHO, KU,
CHINA, JUNE 24, 1938

The report this year really covers only two months hospital work and as we have lost most of our records there can be no statistical report. June and July were very busy months with a full hospital and good financial returns which was fortunate. For this reason or balance is not so much less than it was a year ago.

Early in July we began to feel that war was imminent and by the first of August we were clearing out our in-patients although we kept up our clinics until the day we evacuated, August 12. Before leaving we had gradually been taking out some of our more expensive equipment such as microscopes, X-ray machine, instruments, our own clothing and bedding and quite a good deal of the hospital bedding. But, of course, much was left behind and of that there is not now one thing remaining. Before some of the heavy furniture was left and our books were practically undisturbed but this time not a table, not a chair is left. The books were used for fuel.

The hospital was occupied first by the Chinese army but was shelled so badly that they had to vacate. After the Japanese came they occupied what was left of the buildings for two months. After they left I put a trustworthy servant in charge and I hope the place is being cared for as well as possible with so many shell holes in the buildings. I have not been granted a pass to visit the place since Mr. Davis left. There is also a former servant of Doctor Palmborg's staying at the church. Doctor Palmborg's house suffered least of all.

All of our staff who are here have found work. Doctor Pan and the technician are in the Baptist hospital at Shaoshing about 200 miles south of here. Mr. Dzau, the superintendent, is helping in Grace High School. The nurses are in nursing jobs, mostly in refugee hospitals. All are doing worth while service.

I have been more or less busy here caring for the health of the many people in the compound and of some old patients outside. I have held a daily clinic here most of the time. In the fall and winter I did clinical work in several refugee camps and later worked for some time in the Chaiotung University hospital. That hospital had to move and was unable to find adequate quarters and is now much reduced in size. I am now just starting work in a clinic in Nantao (South Shanghai in Japanese occupied territory) in the Nantao Institute of the Southern Presbyterian mission. This brings me into contact with the needy outside of refugee camps.

I have also been helping in the industrial work which Doctor Palmborg had. Many of the girls are in Shanghai and welcome an opportunity to earn a little. We are paying out in wages about \$40 per month and have been able to dispose of most of the work.

There is no limit to the work which needs to be done in the midst of such suffering but, of course, we are hindered more or less in what we would like to do by the obstacles placed in our way by the over-lords of the country.

We hope that our people at home will always keep in mind the terrible struggle through which China is passing and pray the Lord that his plan for this people shall be completed and that they may be willing to be molded into a people of God.

We are very grateful for your prayers and assistance in our efforts here.

Respectfully submitted,
Grace I. Crandall.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS LIFE

For the year ending, June 30, 1938

As adopted by Conference on recommendation by the Council-Conference Committee.

I. Objectives

The objectives for which the Committee on Religious Life has worked this year are the same as in former years. Briefly stated they are as follows:

1. The development of the individual Christian life through the cultivation of personal prayer, Bible study and devotional reading.

2. The enrichment of family life through the encouragement of family worship and Sabbath observance, and the training of children in the home in Christian living and devotional habits.

3. The development of church life through the preaching and teaching of Christian truth and through co-operation in Christian service in the community and in the spread of the gospel abroad.

II. Activities of the Committee

With the purpose of promoting these objectives, the Committee has held four meetings during the year. It has called attention to the value of preaching missions, urged the churches to hold them if possible, and encouraged the Missionary Board to arrange for them. Through the SABBATH RECORDER and otherwise it has emphasized the importance of daily personal and family devotions, and recommended the use of "The Upper Room" as particularly helpful.

In order to discover any results of the Committee's activities and to learn the spiritual conditions and the methods being used in our churches to promote spiritual life, a questionnaire was sent to each church. Thirty-five, or better than half were returned. Twenty-one reported that a preaching mission or similar meeting had been held during the year, their average length being eight to nine days. Nearly all resulted in a noticeable increase of interest in the church, and some in decisions for Christ.

Several churches reported increase in church attendance, in loyalty and willingness to participate in worship, in Bible study, and in giving. In eighteen churches reporting, an average of about 60% of the homes have family devotions or prayer at meals. Approximately 175 homes use "The Upper Room." Some use the daily readings in the "Helping Hand," "The Christian Herald," and such booklets as "The Fellowship of Prayer," "Today," and "Follow Me." Fifteen churches reported a total of ninety-six baptisms or conversions. Twelve of these churches held a preaching mission during the year.

The expense of the Committee for the year, chargeable to the General Conference, is \$40.81. An itemized statement is appended to this report.

III. Recommendations

As an aid to our churches in their efforts to achieve the objectives outlined above, the following recommendations are proposed with the hope that they will be carefully and prayerfully considered, adapted to local conditions and seriously tried in every church during the coming year.

1. *Evangelism.* The committee recommends that every church, so far as possible, hold some form of evangelistic meetings during the year. Whether we call them revivals or "Preaching Missions" makes little difference. The following suggestions are offered:

a. Plans and organization. These should be made to meet local conditions and needs. Revivals are not made to order. The tactics of big business do not apply. Our problem is how to preserve a place for the freedom of the Spirit within the complex machinery of our modern church organizations.

b. Spend much time in prayer. Since the work of evangelism and building Christian character depend not primarily upon methods of organization but upon the power and pres-

ence of Christ and the gracious work of the Holy Spirit, the heart preparation of the people is the first great need.

c. *Expectancy.* Make the best possible use of local talent. Get outside aid if possible. Make great ventures in prayer. Ask for great things and expect great things. "Sanctify yourselves; for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you."

d. *Enlistment.* We recommend that a missionary evangelist be put in the field as soon as an available man can be secured, and that the women of our denomination be asked to assume the support of the evangelist as a faith project. As an aid in promoting the project, we suggest that the Missionary Board make available a chart showing the home missionary fields; also that local churches enlist the services of young people and other laymen to conduct missionary work in nearby neglected fields.

2. *Religious Instruction.* In order to conserve the gains that evangelism may accomplish, as well as to build up at all times the Christian faith and world outlook of our members, a continuance course of religious training is recommended for every church. Courses in Bible study, missions, stewardship, as well as in the great Christian doctrines contained in our Statement of Belief would all be valuable. These studies may be taken up at such special times as during Daily Vacation Bible Schools, or may be introduced into the regular weekly program of the church. We recommend that courses in the history and beliefs of Seventh Day Baptists be offered in our colleges; and that the Teachers' Manual, the publication of which was authorized by the last General Conference, be made available as soon as possible for the younger groups in our churches.

3. *The Church Program.* We recommend that the pastors give more thought to the building of the program of the church, not only the worship service, but to direct his teaching and preaching ministry so as to form a well balanced program for the year that will lead his people into a deeper appreciation of the Bible and prayer, of Christ and the Church. In this program there must be a regular place for evangelism and missions, for an intelligent and systematic presentation of denominational interests, for a study of the great basic truths of the Christian faith including baptism and the Sabbath; a program in which the church life, the home life, and

the social life shall have such a rightful place. The object of every service is to win the unsaved to Christ and to make every member of the church a messenger of Christ to the world.

4. *Worship.* The Committee on Religious Life, believing there will be a strengthening of our spiritual powers by an increased cultivation of the devotional side of life, recommends that there be an endeavor to promote an understanding of worship—its aims, form, and procedure. The following types of worship should be promoted:

a. *Individual Worship.* Each one individually is responsible to God. Let there be encouraged the cultivation of daily private devotions.*

b. *Family Worship.* The family is a unit of great influence for good. Let there be encouraged some form of regular devotions including the whole family.* In view of the great possibilities of the radio for good or ill, we urge that careful discrimination be exercised in the selection of programs to be heard in the home; that pastors call attention to the best religious and devotional programs, valuable as an aid, but not to be used as a substitute for other devotions; and that the SABBATH RECORDER carry a weekly notice announcing such programs.

c. *Public Worship.* It is urgently recommended that particular attention be given to the enrichment of programs and surroundings to produce an atmosphere conducive to awe and reverence.** Feeling that there is offered, in many of our churches, little opportunity for individual expression in public prayer and testimony, we recommend that these opportunities for sharing of Christian experience and convictions be made available through Christian Endeavor, prayer meetings, and other agencies.

The Committee would further suggest that the following may prove a means of promoting worship: (a) A survey of religious practices in the families in regard to the individual and group life, to serve as a guide in stimulating regular religious habits; (b) Classes or clinics among church people for the purpose of studying the aims and means of worship.

* Aids: "The Upper Room," M. E. Church South; "Today" and "Follow Me," The Westminster Press.

** "Creative Worship," Dwight Bradley (The Commission on Evangelism and Devotional Life of the National Council of Con-

gregational Churches). "Music in Worship," Albert N. Rogers.

5. *Church Loyalty.* Loyalty to the church is loyalty to the body of which Christ is the head. The cost of loyalty to him was his life in service and sacrifice. Perhaps the cost to us will be as much but it will pay. Evidences of disloyalty are apparent on every hand. Denominational ties and the claim of the Sabbath on our lives are held very lightly by many. This is a challenge to the rest of us to create and maintain a deep sense of devotion to our cause.

There are many tests of loyalty. For instance, are we willing to co-operate, or can we work only alone or when we dominate what is done? To work faithfully with others, to bear with their shortcomings, real or apparent, is one of the surest evidences of loyalty. Let us as Seventh Day Baptists meet this challenge of loyalty and do our task nobly and faithfully, whatever position we hold individually, and together we shall see his church built up. The success of the church, his body, demands our loyalty, individually and co-operatively.

IV. Leadership

This entire suggested program is a call to our ministry for a rededication of their lives to Christ. If we are to have a revitalized home and church life; if the fires of loyalty to Christ and the Sabbath are to be relit, or made to glow with more fervent heat; if we are to have a genuine revival of religion and vital godliness in our churches, the leadership in such movements rests upon the ministry.

The most precious privilege of the Church is to meditate the Word of Life to the world.

"Christ for the world, we sing
The world to Christ we bring."

The Christian message calls for prophetic preaching. The Church began in a blaze of glory with a sermon on the day of Pentecost. Gradually the prophetic fire burned down and the priest took the place of the prophet. There is always a tendency for the prophet to degenerate into the priest, into a man who merely performs ceremonies, "tithers of mint and anise and cummin." Let the pulpit decay and the cause of Christ goes into eclipse. No power under heaven is equal to the power of a Spirit-filled ministry. And never has there been a greater need for the prophet's voice than in this hour.

"Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Till I am wholly Thine,
Until this earthly part of me
Glows with Thy fire divine."

Respectfully submitted,

A. L. Davis, *Chairman*,
Neal D. Mills, *Secretary*,
H. L. Polan,
Paul S. Burdick,
O. W. Babcock,

—*Religious Life Committee.*

TO CHURCH TREASURERS

BY HAROLD R. CRANDALL

Having served as treasurer of the denominational budget for thirteen years and, at my request, being relieved of the office at our recent General Conference at Plainfield, I would like to take this means of expressing my sincere appreciation to the treasurers of churches and other organizations for their ready and continued co-operation with me, in promptness in remitting and in clearness of instructions, when some donation was for other than the budget fund. It has been a real pleasure to render these years of service. I shall miss doing the work and I shall miss, too, the friendly correspondence which so frequently accompanied the remittance. I feel that I have many friends all over the denomination that I otherwise might not have had.

The new treasurer is Morton R. Swinney and his address is Niantic, Conn. I bespeak for him the same kindly co-operation that has been accorded me.

118 Main St.,
Westerly, R. I.,
August 31, 1938.

ANNUAL MEETING AMERICAN SABBATH TRACT SOCIETY OF NEW YORK

The annual meeting of the members of the American Sabbath Tract Society of New York, for the election of officers and directors and for the transaction of such business as may properly come before them, will be held in the Seventh Day Baptist Building, Plainfield, N. J., on Sunday afternoon, September 18, 1938, at two-thirty o'clock.

Corliss F. Randolph,
President,
Courtland V. Davis,
Recording Secretary.

WOMAN'S WORK

THE CHINA MISSION BULLETIN NO. 14

Dear American Friends:

The horrible war is still going on with all the terrible suffering and death being repeated again and again in city after city. The threat of cholera in Shanghai has not developed to epidemic proportions because of the vigorous use of the T. C. Vaccine (combined anti-cholera and anti-typhoid vaccine). Typhoid is very prevalent now. The Japanese have helped in enforcing the use of the inoculation by requiring certificates of completed inoculations from every Chinese who passes their sentinels.

I have continued my clinics here in the church with a growing number of patients. We treated thirty-five yesterday P. M. Many of our former patients from Liuho have found us and more and more the people of the neighborhood come to us.

The past few weeks I have been doing some new work. The Presbyterian Mission of South Gate, old friends and neighbors of our Mission here, have for several years had an institution called "The Nantao Christian Institute," situated east of us just beyond the limits of the old native city. After the occupation of Nantao some of their missionaries returned there and have opened what they call "Goodwill Industries." They solicit old things that people have no use for and have them made over into something salable. They have the poor people living about them do the work and pay them in money or rice enough to keep them alive.

They also have a clinic but the doctors who had charge of it had to go elsewhere and they asked me if I would help there. I was very glad to do so and am finding it a stimulating work. I spend three forenoons a week there, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Since the hot weather the patients have increased until we are treating nearly fifty in the half day. The work goes rather slowly because I have no nurse and have to do my own laboratory work. My helper is a missionary from Hangchow who is not used to such work but she does very well. Besides these two clinics I have had quite a few out-patients and the care of the sick in our compound. Then there are a good many errands to do with the car, collecting medicines and supplies, doing the banking for the mission funds, the Industrial Mission Work funds, the hospital accounts, etc. Thus I do not find that my time hangs

heavily upon my hands; in fact, I am busier than I was usually at Liuho but I am well and I think it must be good for me.

The Industrial Work of which I spoke above is continuing. The girls who worked with Doctor Palmberg in Liuho are many of them now living in Shanghai and Miss Lok, Doctor Palmberg's efficient helper, got together ten or twelve of them and they have continued the work here. They come once or twice a week and get the work and do most of it in their homes. There has been very little time when they were not busy. I keep the books, do the correspondence, help about buying materials, and assist in ironing and packing the finished articles. Most of the work is sent to America and recently we have had a number of orders so that the girls are very busy just now.

I sent a package of samples to my sister-in-law, Mrs. Adelaide Blanchard Crandall, in Storrs, Conn., and she has done quite a rushing business for us. She refused to take the commission which was her due because she wanted to help the Chinese so I decided to give the girls a bonus. I distributed only about \$10 U.S. money among them but they were very happy over it and the extra money will ease the strain of existence in Shanghai for them for a short time. Most of them have lost their homes and most of their possessions while here they have to pay for them. High rent and their daily expenses are much more than in the country. What they can earn here hardly pays for their food. We told them just why this extra was possible and they were very pleased and grateful.

Since I have been going to Nantao I have realized that although the people in the Concessions are having a hard time, those in the occupied zones are suffering much more. There most of them have no business and no way of earning their daily bread and many of them do not have enough food to fill their stomachs to say nothing of the proper kinds. Fortunately my friends have been very generous in sending money to me to help the needy so that I have funds to use to help these people. It is a little difficult to know just how to get money to those who most need it and one cannot distribute money to individuals about whom one knows nothing. But through the Institute I can give out food to the sick who come to the clinic as nutrition needed. For instance, I am giving arrowroot to dysentery cases, an easily digested bean food to those

who need protein and beans to those who have nothing but rice. Of course, I am giving away many dollars worth of drugs at the clinics. Most of the people pay nothing for medicines. Those who are able, though, ask very quickly the price of medicines and pay for them. That is in the clinic here. In Nantao they pay for nothing. The people are all very appreciative and grateful and one hears no suggestion of anti-foreignism now.

Although many new hospitals have been opened in the Concessions, under the International Red Cross, these mostly care only for the sick from refugee camps, while the regular hospitals are severely overtaxed trying to meet the needs of Shanghai's swollen tenement population. Many of the larger hospitals have increased their number of beds one half or more with the same staffs. Everyone is working very hard in these places.

All of the hospitals and sanatoria in the International Settlement which was grabbed by the invaders and on the outside roads which are policed by the Settlements normally were put out of commission. As many of these places cared for chronic conditions like leprosy, insanity, tuberculosis, there is now very little provision for such people. Regular hospitals cannot fill their beds with chronic cases when there is such a need for acute conditions. So there is no place for thousands of the tuberculous to go excepting to high priced institutions which are impossible to them. They are thus left in hot, crowded quarters to infect those about them.

One of greatest needs in Shanghai right now is a good, moderately-priced hospital for tuberculosis. I wish that Doctor Thorngate could come and I am sure we could find some way to start some work here until it is possible to return to Liuho. Doctors are not being allowed to do much of any work outside of the Concessions now. Even in some of the other cities American doctors have been told that they are not needed nor wanted at their old places.

May God guide us all in our plans.

Most sincerely yours,
Grace I. Crandall.

July 22, 1938.

"The resources of God are promised only to those who undertake the program of God."

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN SOCIAL PROBLEMS

(As adopted by Conference)

We as Seventh Day Baptist Christians assembled in Conference August 22-28, 1938, believe that loss of homes, of means of livelihood, of health, and of moral self-respect, working havoc with the peace of the world, is in direct opposition to the establishment and continuance of the kingdom of love on earth. We also believe that the present world conditions of aggression and oppression, with their attendant suffering inflicted upon unknown millions of lives, are contrary to the mind of Christ. To that end, we raise a voice of protest, and pledge our renewed efforts in helping to bring in the kingdom of God by bringing Life to all whom we can touch.

We suggest:

1. That a Day of Prayer for the Christians of China and the missionaries working there; for the Japanese Christians and the missionaries in Japan, be observed in all our churches.

2. That a Day of Prayer be recognized and observed in each church for our own country, its President and all in authority with him, and for our people, that God's will may be found and done through America in relation to ourselves and all other nations regarding health, security, labor, money, crime, war, through the Life of the Spirit in each individual.

Therefore, we recommend that the Sabbaths of October 8 and 15, 1938, be set aside in all our churches for the observance of these days of prayer, and that a copy of these suggestions be sent by the Religious Life Committee to each pastor or church.

3. We suggest, furthermore, that our people seek more earnestly to know God's will in supporting our missionaries the world over, and in helping through them to feed the hungry, heal the sick and wounded, release those who are bound by fear and oppression.

We deplore the state of mind of any nation which seeks for self-aggrandizement by oppression and inhumanities accorded to any race, class, or adherents of any creed. We ask our people to seek by study, thought, and prayer to understand the principles of the Sermon on the Mount, revealing Christ's love and ministry to his enemies as well as his friends.

We acknowledge our personal and national sins of selfishness and decry the part we have

taken in feeding the fires of hatred anywhere the world over; that individually and collectively we pledge ourselves to the life and message of love which is the only means of victory available to man.

Claude L. Hill,
Chairman.

CHILDREN'S PAGE

OUR LETTER EXCHANGE

Dear May:

Now at last I can answer your welcome letter of last week. Wasn't that a cute photo which then took the place of any answer I might have made? I am sure you must have liked it as I did.

I am sorry to say that not many of my RECORDER children were at Conference. Miss Ada Keith again had charge of the children's meetings but only about five children were there every day, though there was a better attendance Sabbath Day. I went that afternoon and was glad to see fifteen children there.

There was a flower show at the Andover Methodist church on the twenty-fourth of August, too, but that was while we were at Conference so I missed it. However some of my Lady Slippers were taken to the show and really won a prize. I hope you won a prize on your flowers and carrots.

Does your school begin next Tuesday as it does here? I hope you will enjoy your fourth grade work.

Your loving friend,
Mizpah S. Greene.

Dear Oscar:

I was beginning to think it was high time I was hearing from you and May again when your letters reached me, forwarded to Plainfield from Andover. It was nice to know that you had not forgotten to do your part in making the children's page readable.

Only a few days and you will be busy in school once more. You will have a busy year with your fifth grade work and piano lessons. Here's hoping you will do well in both and still find time to write now and then to us of the children's page.

You must have a very interesting goat family. Do you just have them for pets or do they furnish milk for you. Goat's milk is very good I think and richer than cow's milk but I believe I'll stick to the cow kind. What do you say?

We are beginning to feel that cold weather is almost here, for one night this week we almost had a frost, the temperature going down to forty degrees above zero. Was it that cold in Milton?

Your affectionate friend,
Mizpah S. Greene.

Dear Mrs. Greene:

This is the first time I ever wrote to our letter exchange. I would like to join the RECORDER boys and girls.

We have reached home safely from Conference. I am eleven years old. My birthday is in October. I am in the second part of the sixth grade.

I have a sister and her name is Alice. She is going to be ten on November 27.

My daddy is a plumber.

Well, it's my bed time and I must close. I had a very good time at Conference.

Your RECORDER friend,
Eugene Fatato.

1628 Foster Ave.,
Schenectady, N. Y.,
August 30, 1938.

Dear Eugene:

It was nice to receive your good letter so soon after seeing you at Conference, and I am very much pleased to have you join the RECORDER boys and girls in writing for the SABBATH RECORDER.

I, too, had a wonderful time at Conference, but just the same I was happy to get home again. We started from Plainfield about eight o'clock (daylight saving time) and drove into our own driveway at exactly five minutes of five (sun time), a distance of over two hundred and ninety miles. Don't you think we made good time?

No doubt you will be glad to get back to school next week after your long summer vacation, both because of the good times you will have with your schoolmates, and because your school work grows more interesting every year. A good education is a fine thing to have, isn't it? A little girl once said, "I wish I didn't have to go to school. I wish I had vacation all the time." And her mother asked her, "Do you want to grow up to be a know nothing?" Don't you think this little girl decided that she was very fortunate to be able to go to school?

Now that you have become a RECORDER boy, in good standing, I hope you will write

often. I was so glad to see and learn to know you at Conference. I hope Alice, too, will join my RECORDER boys and girls.

Affectionately your friend,
Mizpah S. Greene.

OUR PULPIT

THE RELATION OF THE LOCAL CHURCH TO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

BY REV. ERLO E. SUTTON

(An address on the program of the Sabbath School Board at General Conference held at Plainfield, N. J., August, 1938.)

It is generally recognized that before a real program of religious education can be developed, or enough leaders for the many activities of all the churches can be equipped for their tasks, each church must realize that it has a primary responsibility for determining the kind of program it needs and the type of training necessary for educating its leaders. Unfortunately this does not mean that every church will have equally good programs or leaders of the same ability or skill, but it does mean that each church that is interested in growth and development must assume the primary and basic responsibility for the guidance of such growth.

That proper programs for religious education and proper leadership are lacking in many churches is commonplace with most of us. Too often the feeling that this condition is common has been used by those churches that felt that their program and possible leadership were limited, as a sort of excuse or defense against doing anything to improve conditions. On the other hand, there are churches that seem to think that because of the general educational standing, the social position, or the business success of their membership, there is no question concerning the efficiency of their program of religious education and that their leaders have no need for the special tasks of Christian education. There is no better way to secure competent workers in the field of religious training who will work out or adapt programs to meet the needs of a given situation than to develop them, and no church has the right to expect some other agency to develop people for this special work when the church does not assume any responsibility for it.

The emphasis that I am making concerning the responsibility of the church for religious

education and the training of leadership does not assume that it will be confined to the walls of the local church, or that any one church, likely, will be able to do all that should be done. This should be clearly understood, for oftentimes when an emphasis is placed upon the responsibility of the church it is taken for granted that the one speaking or writing is thinking in the narrow terms of the four walls of the local church. It must be recognized that when a church assumes its responsibility in this matter it will take advantage of many agencies, some of which it had not known before. It is fair to say that when a church assumes its responsibility it will cease to think of any one particular agency and will seek agencies that will help its program and leaders to grow. If this could happen, and it should happen, it is evident that no four walls of the local church could confine such a program, nor would the limits of the community. What a change this would be from the point of view that a few twenty-minute class periods during the year for pupils, or that a single course in leadership training is sufficient for training workers.

When the local church feels its responsibility for religious education in all its phases, through the pulpit and pastor, the Bible School, the Vacation School, Christian Endeavor societies of the various age levels, and other groups within the church, it will seek every available means to develop its program and leadership. It will send its pastor, superintendents, teachers, and such workers to conventions, institutes, training classes, and the like, that they may become better prepared for their work. Churches that realize their responsibility in this matter might well insist that Christian colleges that do not already have such, establish departments of religious education on a par with other departments in the college, in which courses in Bible study and religion are offered, which shall be of the same scholastic level as other subjects; and that in addition to such subjects as the history of religious education, the philosophy of religious education, and the psychology of religious education—which are generally offered and which are good in their way—such courses as the work and program of the Christian religion, the work and program of the local church—both of which give a vision of the possibilities of religious work—and then such practical courses as organizing and conducting a Bible school, the Vacation Bible School,

work in the various departments of the Bible School, young people's work, etc., be given.

While it is desirable that all the churches in a community or district or a denomination shall co-operate in programs and training of leaders, in a large measure each church must proceed independently of other churches. When a church has once recognized its responsibility in this matter, it may be necessary to work independently, for others may never co-operate, and even if they do the local church must never come to feel that it is a community enterprise and take the attitude that "we are not responsible." Even in co-operative work in programs or training, each church must feel that the work is its responsibility.

Sometimes a church may vision a fine program through the leadership of the pastor or some other person who has sensed it, but the program cannot be carried out because of the lack of other capable workers. Therefore it is necessary that training for Christian service in the form of leadership be made a part of the on-going program of the church. As each year comes, it brings its own requirements for new workers in the church. Some for one reason or another retire, others move away, and at times the work needs to be enlarged and there is need for additional workers, or for unusual services. In this connection we are too apt to forget that young folk from year to year are coming to that point where they should be making their contribution to the work, and that they should be equipped beforehand for this work. This preparation cannot be accomplished by any sort of sporadic or slipshod program of training. Nor has the church a right to depend on outside training alone for this work of preparation. Unless the church feels its responsibility for training workers, not many will be trained, either in its own classes or in co-operative classes in the community. Even if there are those who catch the vision through some outside influence and are willing to take training with the hearty co-operation and sympathy of the local church, there should always be something of a local coloring, for each church has its peculiar problems or denominational slant, and all programs of work should be adapted to the situation in which leaders work. It is not often that the same program will fit exactly two or more situations, so that we may well say, the best education takes place on the job. However, the preparation should be well under way

in the presence of the job before the individual actually goes on the job.

The church that sees its responsibility and has a vision of a program of work will seek out a wide variety of means for training workers, and as already suggested, it will involve the full use of every opportunity to be found in its own on-going program of education. The work of the older departments and the various societies will provide opportunities for training youth in the fundamentals of the work of the church. Through careful supervision and care in such divisions of the church it will be possible to select those who show ability, and set them apart for fuller and richer training.

If the church really senses its responsibility and is serious in the matter, there will be a constant study of the personnel of the church to discover those who have potential possibilities as workers, nor will this be confined to the young people, but will include younger groups, perhaps at times even children. The small child who seems especially interested and to have unusual possibilities should be early discerned and given guidance—a feature of our work which we trust will be more and more provided for.

When a church begins to take seriously its responsibility for religious education in all its phases, as indicated earlier in this address, such as the pastor and pulpit, the Bible School, Vacation School, and various groupings, it will see not only the need of finding and training leaders in knowledge and skill, but it will also see that it must provide for the development of their vital religious experience that will create a desire in their hearts to do the work of the kingdom of Jesus Christ in the world. When pastors must beg people to undertake to lead others to Christ through teaching them, something is wrong.

When our churches sense keenly their responsibility for religious education, they will begin to recognize the worker who does good work, and make demands upon workers that they prepare themselves for their work. In most cases neither is done.

Our churches are responsible for religious education and for finding and training workers, and it is a responsibility that cannot be dodged.

"That which captivates you captures your soul."

THE SMALL CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

BY H. N. WHEELER

The young man or woman who is enrolled as a student in a small Christian college is indeed most fortunate. In such a school the student receives more personal attention from the kindly, understanding teacher who knows or learns the family history and the background of that student, than the teacher in the larger school who probably knows you only by name or number. Of course, there are kind instructors in the mammoth institutions. Many of them have reached the highest pinnacle in training and education. These institutions have their place. But there is more to education than learning the deep mysteries of the past ages, of the philosophies of great thinkers, of the lives and works of great sculptors, painters, and poets, of the intricate problems of higher mathematics, physics, and chemistry, as important as these things are. Yes, and there is more to education than to learn a profession by which one may earn his daily bread, or be able to write a book or preach a sermon, correct in orthodoxy and in literary composition.

Unless a person has learned the spirit of service he is only partially educated, no matter how far he has gone. One may learn service in a larger institution, but he is more likely to absorb it in the small, Christian institution where it is every day apparent in the lives of his teachers and associates. A prominent citizen has said, "Service is the highest commitment of life." One will get some ideas of service and imbibe some inspiration from reading books of biography, history, and even of fiction, but he needs the daily contact of self-sacrificing individuals, consecrated to service so that he will unconsciously absorb the true spirit of service.

In the small college the student has a chance to become a leader in one line or another. What percentage of chance has he in a school of ten thousand? In the small college he develops initiative and self-reliance and other accomplishments so important for a successful business or professional career.

Seventh Day Baptists are very fortunate in having three such Christian colleges—Milton College, Alfred University, and Salem College. It is really remarkable that our forefathers were so interested in Christian education and were so farsighted as to establish these fine schools on such a firm foundation

that they continue to this day. They are training our young people in ways of Christian leadership, while fitting them to cope with the economic problems of life.

ANNUAL CORPORATE MEETING OF THE SABBATH SCHOOL BOARD

The annual meeting of the corporation of the Sabbath School Board of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference will be held at the Gothic, in Alfred, N. Y., on Wednesday, September 14, 1938, at 2.30 p.m. All duly elected or appointed delegates who have attended the 1938 General Conference are entitled to vote in person or by proxy.

The question of consolidation of the Education Society, the Sabbath School Board, and the Young People's Board will be considered.

J. F. Randolph,
President,
R. W. Burdick,
Secretary.

ANNUAL MEETING AMERICAN SABBATH TRACT SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

The annual meeting of the members of the American Sabbath Tract Society of New Jersey, for the election of officers and trustees and for the transaction of such business as may properly come before them, will be held in the Seventh Day Baptist Building, Plainfield, N. J., on Sunday afternoon, September 18, 1938, at two o'clock.

Corliss F. Randolph,
President,
Courtland V. Davis,
Recording Secretary.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MINUTES OF THE SABBATH SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

The regular quarterly business meeting of the Sabbath School Board was held at the Milton church on Sunday evening, June 5, 1938, at 8.15 o'clock, with the president, J. F. Randolph, in the chair. The following trustees were present: J. F. Randolph, C. L. Hill, L. C. Shaw, Mrs. L. A. Babcock, Mrs. E. Morse, E. Shaw, J. W. Crofoot, R. E. Greene, and R. W. Burdick.

Prayer was offered by Rev. C. L. Hill.

The secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, and reported on the call of the meeting.

The Field and Publications Committees gave reports of progress.

R. E. Greene, chairman of the Finance Committee, reported disbursements from the Educational Fund made to various schools or their representatives for Vacation Religious Day School work. A gift of \$100 from Dr. A. S. Maxson of Milton Junction was also reported. By vote, this report was accepted.

The treasurer's report was read, accepted, and ordered filed with the secretary.

Robert Green, *Treasurer,*

In account with the
Sabbath School Board
General Fund

Receipts

Balance on hand March 20, 1938	\$ 1.17
Harold R. Crandall, Denom. Budget	120.00
Cheeseboro Building	14.85
Farm Mortgage Company	6.00
Harold R. Crandall, Denom. Budget	72.00
Dr. A. S. Maxson, gift	100.00
Total receipts	<u>\$314.02</u>

Expenses

Rev. E. E. Sutton, salary	\$ 75.00
Share of <i>Year Book</i>	22.10
Rev. E. E. Sutton, salary	75.00
Transfer to Educational Fund to repay loan	55.00
Total expenses	<u>\$227.10</u>
Balance in General Fund June 5, 1938 ...	86.92
	<u>\$314.02</u>

Educational Fund

Receipts

Balance on hand March 20, 1938	\$ 45.00
Transferred from General Fund to replace loan	55.00
Total receipts	<u>\$100.00</u>

Expenses

Guy Thorngate, books	\$ 14.50
Rev. E. T. Harris, books or supervisor ..	10.00
Rev. Albert Rogers, books	10.00
Mr. Kay Bee, books	11.25
Miss Ada Keith, supervising at Berea	15.00
Miss Ada Keith, supervising at Farina ...	15.00
Total expense	<u>\$ 75.25</u>
Balance in Educational Fund, June 5, 1938	24.75
	<u>\$100.00</u>

The secretary read a communication from Courtland V. Davis regarding the Conference program. The president, secretary, and director of religious education, were appointed by vote as a committee to arrange the program.

It was voted that the gift from Doctor Maxson be earmarked for educational work.

It was voted that the secretary send a letter of appreciation to Dr. A. S. Maxson and notify him of the action of the board in designating that this gift be used for educational work.

It was voted that the president appoint a nominating committee of three members. Edwin Shaw, Mrs. L. A. Babcock, and R. E. Greene, were appointed.

It was voted that the secretary be instructed to proceed with the preparation of the annual report of the board.

It was voted that \$10 be appropriated for this work.

It was voted that the secretary be authorized to have the annual report printed or multi-graphed in suitable form for presentation to Conference.

The minutes were read and approved.

By vote, the meeting was adjourned to the call of the chair.

Russell W. Burdick,
Secretary.

MARRIAGES

SARGEANT-LENNON.—At the Seventh Day Baptist Church, Verona, N. Y., August 21, 1938, Mr. Bentley Sargeant, of Ellenburg, N. Y., and Miss Eula Lennion of New London, N. Y., were united in marriage by the bride's pastor, the Rev. A. L. Davis. The new home will be Ellenburg, N. Y.

OBITUARY

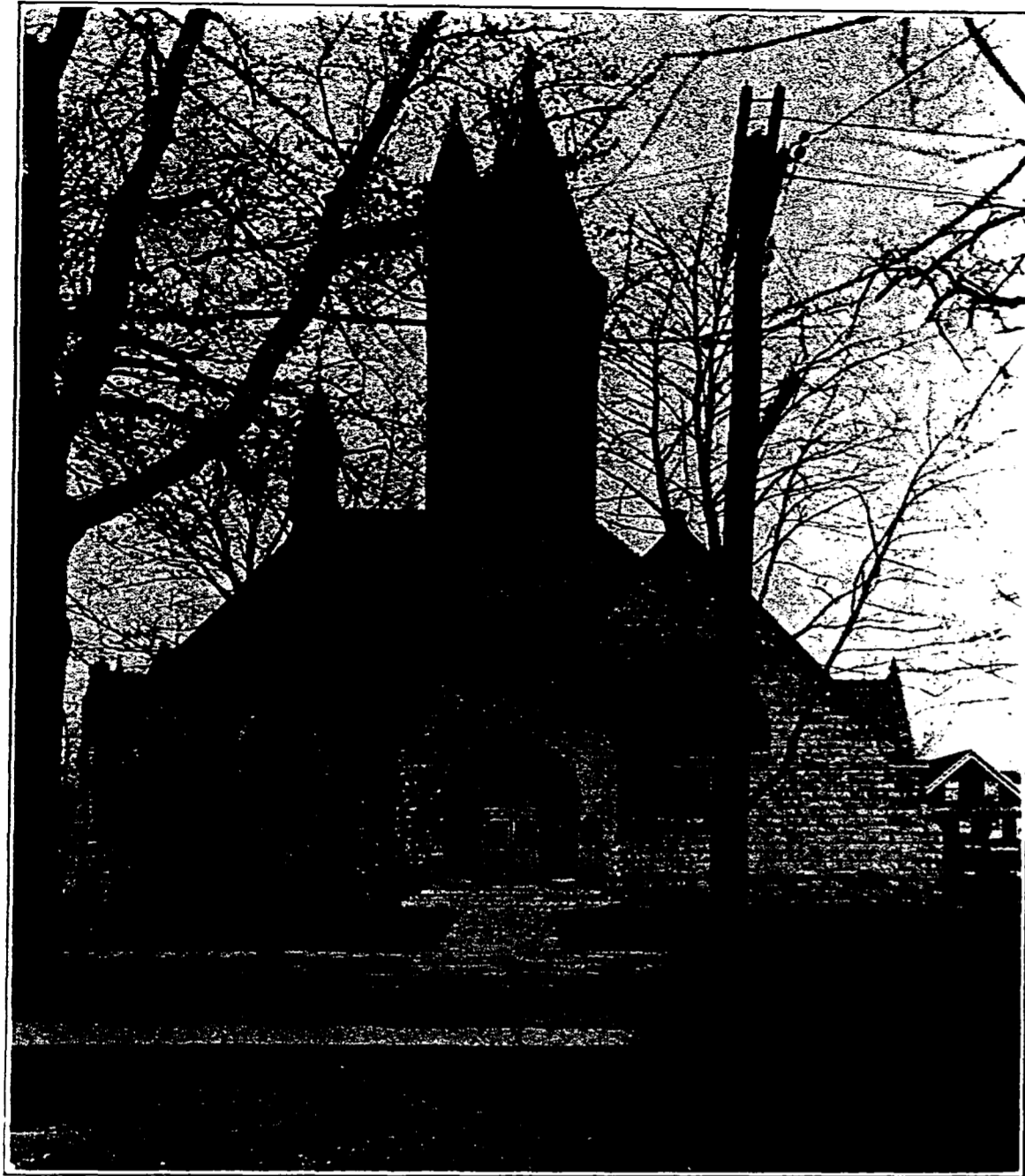
SOCWELL.—Harriett Lukecart Socwell was born near Chillicothe, Illinois, Dec. 10, 1858, and died at her home in Dodge Center, Minn., July 28, 1938.

She was united in marriage to Eugene H. Socwell, Dec. 25, 1875 at West Hallock, Ill. Rev. Mr. Socwell preceded her in death a few years ago.

To them were born four children, two of whom survive, Charles, and Mrs. R. F. Hall of Minneapolis. Eleven grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren also survive.

Mrs. Socwell was interested in art, having taught that subject, and has left a number of her own paintings. She was a lover of flowers and of the wide open country.

Farewell services were conducted by her pastor, Charles W. Thorngate. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery. C.W.T.



◆
 SEVENTH DAY
 BAPTIST CHURCH
 OF CHRIST AT
 PLAINFIELD, N. J.
 ◆

DENOMINATIONAL "HOOK-UP"

WHITE CLOUD, MICH.

A two weeks' session of Vacation Bible School was held here in July. About 68 pupils were enrolled, about twenty per cent of whom were from our own church. Seven teachers, including the ministers of two neighboring churches, made up the teaching staff. A demonstration was held on the last Friday evening of school and a fine interest was shown. We hope that the seed sown will bring forth much fruit.

The Ladies' Aid Society is financing the painting of the woodwork on the outside of the church and the Young People's Auxiliary has cleaned and re-decorated the entire basement, making a great improvement in the appearance both inside and out.

The Tithe and Birthday Club have recently sent \$15 to the Hargis family in Jamaica to

help in the work there. This money was made up for the most part, of the pennies, nickels, and dimes brought in by youngsters who faithfully bring their tithes unto God's storehouse.

We have added one new member to our midst by baptism this summer. This young woman, a school teacher, has been convinced of the Sabbath truth and is joyfully keeping the Sabbath and letting her light shine before her friends.

Corresponding Secretary.

ALFRED STATION, N. Y.

The night of September 3, instead of the all church night with the 3 cent supper, will be a church business meeting. The purpose will be to see about a pastor to fill Pastor Van Horn's place, whose resignation will take place between the 1st and 15th of September. It is hoped all that are interested will be present.

—Alfred Sun.

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A PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO GO TO COLLEGE

We thank thee, our heavenly Father, for our institutions of higher learning; for the men of vision who have established them, for the multitude of earnest men and women who have supported and maintained them, and for the highminded scholarly instructors who have made them what they are. May thy blessing rest upon them as they begin the work of another year. May all teachers realize their responsibility and seek to impart above all else the true wisdom that is rooted in thy word of truth and light. Bless the young men and women who take up their studies and help them all to recognize and appreciate that the path of the righteous is as the dawning light, and to keep their hearts with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

—From the Messenger.

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