

another year, his twelfth, was extended. Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: church clerk, Flora Chase, to be assisted by Martha Main; treasurer, Bernice Rogers; treasurer of Denominational Fund, Esther Burdick; chorister, Avis Schrag; trustee for three years, Deacon Bert Welch. A committee was appointed to work toward securing a new furnace for the parsonage.

Bernice D. Rogers,
Correspondent.

Little Prairie, Ark.

Dear friends among Seventh Day Baptists: For a good many years the Christian work on the Little Prairie field has been on my heart and mind. I have given to it all my time and strength. For two years I have stayed, knowing the task was too great for me, but hoping that some one would come and take charge of the work and care for the parsonage. It is my prayer that the work may go on—that someone else will take it up and carry it on even in a larger way. It is a needy field and one open to the message our people have to give. I hope and pray that our denomination may find it a field for service.

I wish to express my gratitude for the many gifts both spiritual and material that so many have appreciatively and sympathetically sent to me. May God bless you all.

My own continuation in the work will be impossible. At the present time I am in Room 303, University Hospital, Little Rock, Ark., where I shall remain under doctors' care for some weeks to come.

Mrs. C. C. Van Horn.

MARRIAGES

De Land - Coalwell. — Earl De Land and Persus Coalwell, both of Milton, Wis., were united in marriage in the Hammond, La., Seventh Day Baptist church, at high noon, on December 25, 1940, by Rev. R. J. Severance. Mr. and Mrs. De Land will make their home at Milton.

Vance - Davis. — Robert Vance of La Porte, Iowa, and Pauline Davis of Hammond, La., were joined in marriage on December 25, 1940, at the home of the bride's grandmother, Mrs. Edna Campbell. Rev. R. J. Severance performed the ceremony.

"Doubt digs the grave of faith."

OBITUARY

Burdick. — In Preble, N. Y., December 6, 1940, Louis Kinyon Burdick of Westerly, R. I., aged 71 years.

Mr. Burdick was born in De Ruyter, N. Y., June 20, 1869. He was the son of Kinyon William and Olive Ellis Burdick. He was educated in Alfred Academy, the De Ruyter Institute, and Hornell Business College. On June 14, 1897, Mr. Burdick was united in marriage with Miss Gertrude Witter. To this union two children were born, Stanton A. Burdick of New York City and Martha E. Burdick, wife of Arnold W. Ames of Preble, N. Y. Besides his wife and children Mr. Burdick is survived by a sister, Mrs. J. Reed Burdick. For more than thirty years he was employed in the office of the C. B. Cottrell and Sons Co., retiring in May, 1939. He was a member of the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church and a few years ago served as superintendent of the Sabbath school.

Farewell services were conducted at his late home, 33 William Street, Westerly, by his pastor, Harold R. Crandall, and interment was in River Bend Cemetery.
H. R. C.

Haskins. — Almond Delos Haskins, son of Almond and Angeline Grow Haskins, was born May 19, 1865, in Dodge Center, Minn., and died in Mercy Hospital, Janesville, Wis., December 20, 1940. He was the youngest of ten children.

On November 22, 1887, he was married to Miss Victoris Fox in Flandreau, S. Dak. All but two years of their married life were spent in Milton. In 1895, Mr. Haskins joined the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church by letter. He was a member of the I.O.O.F. Lodge.

Surviving are his wife; a daughter, Mrs. Nina Summers of Milton; two grandchildren, Stephen and Norma Summers; and one brother, Roswell Haskins of Alexandria, Minn.

Funeral services were held in the Milton Seventh Day Baptist church, conducted by Pastor Carroll L. Hill, assisted by Rev. Edwin Shaw. Burial was in Milton cemetery.
C. L. H.

Jones. — William P. Jones, son of Thomas P. and Abigail Saunders Jones, was born in the town of Adams, N. Y., November 1, 1867, and died at his home in Adams Center, N. Y., December 4, 1940.

He has always resided in this township, where he received his education, taught school, and was active in the Grange for many years. Early in 1882, he was baptized and became a member of the Adams Center Seventh Day Baptist Church, and was an ordained deacon for over thirty years, a staunch and upright Christian.

He is survived by a brother, Frank S., of Adams Center, and a few cousins.

Funeral services were held from the home December 8, conducted by his pastor, Rev. Orville W. Babcock, assisted by a friend and former pastor, Rev. E. A. Witter. Burial was made in Union Cemetery.
O. W. B.

They's nothin' patheticker'n jes' a-bein' rich!—James Whitcomb Riley.

The Sabbath Recorder

Vol. 130

PLAINFIELD, N. J., JANUARY 27, 1941

No. 4

THE WEAVER

Then I shall know even as I am known.—1 Corinthians 13: 12.

My life is but a weaving
Between my Lord and me;
I cannot choose the colors
He worketh steadily.

Ofttimes he weaveth sorrow,
And I in foolish pride
Forget he sees the upper,
And I, the underside.

Not till the loom is silent
And the shuttles cease to fly
Shall God unroll the canvas
And explain the reason why.

The dark threads are as needful
In the Weaver's skillful hand
As the threads of gold and silver
In the pattern he has planned.

He knows, he loves, he cares;
Nothing this truth can dim;
He gives his very best to those
Who leave the choice with him.

—From the Western Recorder.

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The Sabbath Recorder

A Seventh Day Baptist Weekly Published by the American Sabbath Tract Society, Plainfield, N. J.

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EDITORIALS

MANY LAMPS

The legend is told of the origin of a noble church, but one without hanging lamps to light its beautiful interior. It seems a nobleman had built it to commemorate his own long life. On taking one of his daughters to inspect it he was asked what about the lighting—there were no lamps. "That, my dear," he replied, "is a pet scheme of your old father's. There will be no hanging lamps. Each one will carry his own. I have provided small bronze lamps, one for every person in the village up to the number the church will hold."

Then he added slowly, "Some corner of God's house will be dark and lonely if all his sons and daughters do not come to worship him at the appointed time." These words were carved over the doorway.

Four hundred years ago this church was built. The bronze lamps, it is said, have been handed down from father to son and carefully treasured. When the sweet-toned bells of the old church ring, the village people wend their way up the hill, each carrying his own lamp. The church is nearly always filled, for no family wishes its corner to be dark and gloomy.

"In my Father's house" Will our lamps be there?

A WISE PRONOUNCEMENT

We believe the report of Rev. Albert N. Rogers, pastor of the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of New York City, contains encouragement not only for members of this institution which has an honorable history

of ninety-five years but for many others, wherever located. There is no justification for the spirit of defeatism. We need to sink our roots deeper, or—to change our figure of speech—deepen our channels. We are glad to pass on the following paragraphs of Pastor Rogers' report:

Not a few times in conversation with one or another of our members, your minister has noted references to a certain defeatism which has raised its ugly head in the recent history of this church. The burden of financial problems, the two years without a minister, the passing of several trusted leaders, and the removal of others were doubtless some of the factors which spawned this defeatism; although I do not believe that its existence was ever openly acknowledged.

A more fundamental factor was probably what has been called "suburbanitis": the victims become confused between their responsibilities to the communities in which they reside and their loyalties to the spheres of their occupational or—in our case—religious activities, with the result that they come to exert no creative influences in either place. This is not a new disease, for Elijah was suffering from it when he lay under the juniper tree and wished that he might die; but it is valuable for us to recognize that our church is more highly susceptible to this provincialism now than ever before in its history, because of the conditions under which its members live.

It is not possible to make out a case against neighborliness, and your minister would not wish to do so if he could; it is good and right that we should enter as fully as possible into the social life of the various suburbs in which most of us make our homes. Our predominance in the professional fields makes this easy and more than desirable, and in so doing we approach that very valuable social structure seen in an old New England village or an English country parish. Your minister believes deeply in the value of **community** in religion. He has been rather active in a number of expressions of the contemporary yearning for it. But he is unwilling

to give up his alternative belief—and he would not be faithful to his calling as your minister if he did—in the value of the **separatistic** in religion on which all sects have their foundation. From this point of view community relationships are horizontal areas of experience; and we are justified, it is held, in cutting vertically across these areas with our separatist philosophy and fellowship on the grounds that it is only as we share some definite principles and traditions that we can work and worship together effectively. To put it concretely, your minister would not discourage any man or woman from taking part in a community church or any organization for social betterment in so far as he may wish to mingle his prayers and idealism with that of his neighbors. He should do this. But if he is of a Seventh Day Baptist family and recognizes the cogency and tenableness of some or all of the principles of Seventh Day Baptists, he should keep vital and fresh his relationship to the most available church of that faith. When he ceases to do this he lays himself open to infection with "suburbanitis" or spiritual defeatism.

Against the background of this your minister wishes to declare the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of New York City, as he has come to see it through the nine months of his ministry, as a going concern, and not at all an institution whose days are numbered, although working under handicaps to be sure. If each member could stand in the pulpit from week to week and call in homes as the minister does, he could not fail to see that many more souls are interested in our work than are ever at any one time present in a Sabbath congregation or at a social gathering. And by the strategy of our location this number is yearly and almost monthly renewed from the ranks of other churches of the denomination. There are more of us than we are inclined to believe; and while support of our Sabbath service is not as wide as we often wish, it is wider than anyone who is not present every Sabbath has reason to think. It is clear from the biographical sketch of Stephen Babcock, written by the clerk of the church and published recently in the Sabbath Recorder, that affairs pertaining to the church life were many times worse in the seventies of the last century than we now see them. Your minister holds the belief that you have never openly denied that we can wisely support our church with our means as well as our prayers.

MOTIVES

There is an old fable about a dog that boasted of his ability as a runner. One day he gave chase to a rabbit and failed to catch it. The other dogs made much fun of him. He retorted, "Remember, the rabbit was running for his life and I was only running for my dinner."

What a difference the motive makes in one's endeavors. Success in life depends upon the motive. One out in the race merely for a meal ticket will put less energy into the running than he would were his am-

bition deeper. A good father used to say, "It's better to aim at the stars in the heavens than at some shining pebble in the mud." With the right motive the chance for success will be much greater.

In the Christian race the motive is not for place, power, or preferment. "I have fought a good fight," said Paul, and he saw the prize in Christ Jesus ahead of him. But that was not his motive—rather was it that Christ should live in the lives of others; that others should have the blessing, for he shouts in his exaltation, "and not for me only, but to all those who eagerly await his appearance."

EXAMPLE VERSUS PRECEPT

"What you do speaks so loud I can't hear what you say." Not a little should one heed the warning in this often repeated quotation. We teach and witness quite as much by attitudes and actions as by words. Parents, especially, should take to heart the thought implied. The matter is put in other words by Andrew Murray—that the power of training lies "not in what we say and teach," but "in what we are and do."

As a good illustration: A visitor asked a small boy his age. "Is he a conductor?" asked the boy of his mother. Surprised, she answered, "Why no." Relieved of embarrassment, the child answered, "Then, sir, I am six years old." One easily imagines the mother's embarrassment at that point. It is plain that some time the mother, to save half fare on the train, had represented the boy to be five or less. A bit of money had been saved, but at what a price! Grounds of untruthfulness had been laid in the mind of an innocent child—that might bear fruit in lies and a character of unreliability.

"Not as we **think** an ideal for our children," quoting Andrew Murray again, "but as we **live**, do we train them."

Then this holds true in our carrying the witness of Christ to others, or preaching the Sabbath.

ENOUGH—FOR THE PRESENT

Mr. Frank Jeffers writes that in answer to his request printed recently in the Sabbath Recorder, he has received all the Recorders he can use at present. He expresses satisfaction and appreciation of the response people have made to his appeal.

It is gratifying at headquarters that our folks are anxious to share their Sabbath Recorders with others as evidenced in the response to Mr. Jeffers' appeal. As soon as he is caught up in his distribution he will let us know of his need for more.

Besides distributing Recorders he hands out many tracts, and is able to "use an unlimited supply" of such tracts as "Pro and Con" and the Sabbath postcard.

He writes that the friendly co-operation of our folks helps him and his wife to be of good courage in serving the Lord. He wishes for the blessing of God upon "all of the Recorder family."

May the Lord bless him and his wife in their earnest endeavor to serve in building up the kingdom of God among men.

MISSIONS

MORE MISSIONARIES BOOKED TO RETURN

Our missionaries in Shanghai are on the minds of all Seventh Day Baptists. We know that the situation may suddenly change for the better or the worse, and we wonder what the state of affairs connected with our missionaries and the mission is. A letter received by the treasurer of the Missionary Board three or four days past from Doctor Thorngate states that he has secured bookings for three of our missionaries to start on the homeward journey March 1. It is also known that two or three of our missionaries in Shanghai may seek employment in unoccupied China.

There are two things Seventh Day Baptists can do which are especially needed. One is, they can constantly bear our mission, the missionaries, churches, and native workers to the Throne of Grace. Much can be accomplished in this way, as all the history of the church proves. "Men ought always to pray and not to faint."

The other thing that is particularly needed at this time is funds to meet the emergency caused by the necessity to bring the missionaries home. This matter was mentioned in the Missions Department some time past and the response on the part of several people and churches was prompt and generous, but more is needed. Treasurer Stillman reported at the meeting of the board,

January 19, that while in the neighborhood of \$800 had been received to meet the emergency, over \$1,000 more is needed. If Seventh Day Baptists will take this situation to heart, the raising of this extra fund will be a very easy matter.

This statement of conditions is given that people may know the needs, and that knowing, they may meet them without delay. Our missionaries and our Master are depending on us and we are not going to fail them.

Sec. W. L. B.

FELLOWSHIP OF PRAYER DURING PRE-EASTER SEASON

Most churches have come to use what we call the Easter season as time for special devotion and services in the home and church. This season is approaching and many pastors and church leaders will soon begin to plan for it.

For many years (twenty-three years) the Commission on Evangelism has been fostering what is known as the Fellowship of Prayer the six weeks before Easter, and for twelve or fifteen years the Missionary Board has joined in the promotion of this evangelistic movement.

As many of the readers of the Sabbath Recorder know, carefully prepared booklets are provided to help in the united observance of this season. These booklets give a Scripture reading, a prayer, and comments for each day. They have been prepared by Dr. Gaius Atkins and may be secured from the Department of Evangelism, 297 Fourth Ave., New York City, at the cost of 2 cents each. Copies of the Fellowship of Prayer have been mailed, by the Missionary Board, to all our pastors and church leaders where there are no pastors.

This movement is called the Fellowship of Prayer because Christian people over all the world will unite in it. A countless number of individuals will use the booklet in their private devotions; families will use it day by day; and entire churches will use it unitedly by meeting once a week or oftener for prayer and discussion of the topics.

A booklet entitled, "A Children's Fellowship of Prayer," has been provided. It is "intended for use in family groups and by children four to fourteen years old," and may

be secured by addressing the Connecticut Council of Churches, 18 Asylum St., Hartford, Conn., single copies 10 cents; twenty-five or more 8 cents prepaid.

Sec. W. L. B.

NEWS FROM JAMAICA

(Gleanings from a letter written by Pastor Luther W. Crichlow)

Dear Brother Burdick:

Enclosed find my quarterly report for the quarter just passed, three reports of monthly payments to native workers for months ending September 30, October 31, November 30, 1940, and my traveling expense account for December.

I believe I mentioned to you in a recent letter that the government was going to bring a law into effect beginning with the first of the year making it compulsory for all motor vehicles to carry third party insurance. I, with many others, was hoping that something would happen to delay the coming into effect of this law. But nothing happened, and the law has now come into effect. I went down on the second of this month and got the car insured, which cost me £6.19.6. With the pound worth \$4.04, I figure this to be \$28.18, which I have entered as part of my expenses. I have paid this already.

I went to Bath on Sunday, December 8, where I baptized three persons, and welcomed these three and three others into our fellowship on behalf of the Bath Church and the Brooksland company. It had been raining all the early morning (the baptism took place at 8 a.m.); but just before time for the baptism the sun broke through the clouds for about an hour, long enough for the baptism to go through, when it started to rain again and continued fitfully all day. It is something to be out in the early morning and to listen to the folks as they make their way from the church to the place of baptism beside the river, singing hymns along the way. It is the general custom here to have prayer meeting in the church before baptisms and then to march to the baptismal place in a group, singing hymns. If you happen to be way off from the group, as I was, you first hear singing coming softly a long way off and then you hear it grow stronger as the group ap-

proaches. It is beautiful, and impressive, and satisfactory to the spiritual man. Though I have had the privilege of taking part in many similar baptisms in the time I have been here, I think this one stands out in my memory.

Things are moving along well. As I report in my quarterly report enclosed, we gave a special concert in the Kingston church on December 1, as a means of raising funds with which to renovate the church building. We made about \$20 in U. S. currency, which we have put aside, and we hope to put on similar projects in the future in order that in the near future we may renovate the building completely, for it is sadly in need of repairs and painting.

We wish you Godspeed as you enter upon a new year of work.

Faithfully yours,

Luther W. Crichlow.

27 Charles St.,
Kingston, Jamaica,
January 16, 1941.

TREASURER'S MONTHLY STATEMENT

December 1, 1940, to December 31, 1940

Karl G. Stillman, Treasurer,
In account with the
Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society

| Dr. | |
|--|------------|
| Cash on hand December 1, 1940 | \$1,891.41 |
| Battle Creek, Mich., Church, missionary travel expense | 63.00 |
| New York City Church, China emergency | 25.00 |
| A. Friend, Milton, Wis. | 10.00 |
| First Alfred, N. Y., Church, White Christmas Gift Fund, for Dr. Grace Crandall | 15.00 |
| Julie E. H. Flansburg, Atlantic City, N. J., foreign missions | 1.00 |
| Adams Center, N. Y., Church, Missionary Emergency Fund | 86.65 |
| Dodge Center, Minn., Sabbath school, Missionary Emergency Fund | 15.30 |
| Dodge Center, Minn., Church | .50 |
| Rev. and Mrs. C. W. Thorngate, Dodge Center, Minn. | 2.00 |
| Dodge Center, Minn., Sabbath school, Missionary and Tract Societies | 6.80 |
| Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Wilkinson, Freeland, Mich., Missionary Emergency Fund | 10.00 |
| V. F. Randolph, Wellsville, N. Y., Missionary Emergency Fund | 5.00 |
| Mrs. Lucia McNanny, Venango, Pa. | 1.00 |
| Rev. A. L. Davis, Verona, N. Y. | 10.00 |
| Karl G. Stillman, Westerly, R. I. | 76.96 |
| New Auburn, Wis., Church | 2.50 |
| White Cloud, Mich., Church | 20.00 |
| Milton, Wis., Church | 3.00 |
| Milton Junction, Wis., Church | 50.00 |
| Peoples S.D.B. Church, Washington, D. C., Jamaica | 5.00 |
| Hebron, Pa., Church | 1.00 |
| Syracuse, N. Y., Church, China emergency | 15.00 |
| Salem, W. Va., Jr. Baraca Philathea Class, China emergency | 2.00 |
| Fouke, Ark., China emergency | 5.00 |
| Leonardsville and Brookfield, N. Y., C. E. societies, return of missionaries | 5.00 |
| First Hopkinton, R. I., Church | 5.00 |

| | | | |
|---|-------------------|---|-------------------|
| Rockville, R. I. Church | .78 | G. D. Hargis, salary | 40.00 |
| Verona, N. Y., Church, return of missionaries | 30.46 | Wm. L. Burdick, salary | \$112.50 |
| Little Genesee, N. Y., Int. Sabbath school class, China | 1.15 | Rent | 25.00 |
| Plainfield, N. J., Church, China emergency | 5.00 | Office supplies | 14.10 |
| First Alfred, N. Y., Church | 15.00 | Clerk hire | 33.34 |
| First Alfred, N. Y., Church, return of missionaries | 10.00 | Travel expenses | 26.30 |
| Battle Creek, Mich., Church, return of missionaries | 14.00 | Treasurer's expense, clerk | 211.24 |
| New Auburn, Wis., Ladies' Aid society, for debts | 6.50 | China payments: | 20.00 |
| Miss Abbie Kenyon, Ashaway, R. I., China emergency | 5.00 | Rosa W. Palmberg | \$ 30.00 |
| Transferred from Permanent Fund income | 495.52 | Dr. George W. Thorngate, salary | 75.00 |
| Share Denominational Budget receipts for December, 1940 | 739.84 | Allowance | 37.50 |
| Liuhoo Ku, China, Church | 20.00 | Principal Boys' School | 25.00 |
| | <u>—\$ 106.45</u> | Boys' School | 12.50 |
| | | Incidental Fund | 18.75 |
| | | H. E. Davis, salary | 75.00 |
| | | Allowance | 12.50 |
| | | Grace I. Crandall | 31.25 |
| | | Anna M. West | 31.25 |
| | | | <u>348.75</u> |
| | | Heinrich Chr. Bruhn, work in Germany | 41.67 |
| | | G. Zijlstra, work in Holland (includes 2nd and 4th quarters) | 250.00 |
| | | China payments for November: | |
| | | Dr. George Thorngate, salary | \$ 75.00 |
| | | Allowance | 37.50 |
| | | H. E. Davis, salary | 75.00 |
| | | Allowance | 12.50 |
| | | Principal Boys' School | 25.00 |
| | | Boys' School | 12.50 |
| | | Incidental Fund | 18.75 |
| | | Grace I. Crandall | 31.25 |
| | | Anna M. West | 31.25 |
| | | | <u>318.75</u> |
| | | Debt Fund share Denominational Budget receipts, December | 94.94 |
| | | Net overdraft December 31, 1940 (amount due missionaries and others for salaries and allowances but unpaid) | —1,866.50 |
| | | | <u>—\$ 106.45</u> |

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT

| | Receipts | | | Expenditures | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | Dec. 1939 | Dec. 1940 | Change | 12 Mos. Ending 12-31-39 | 12 Mos. Ending 12-31-40 | Change |
| Memorial Board income | | | | \$ 1,271.58 | \$ 2,212.63 | \$ 941.05 |
| Permanent Fund income | 582.85 | 495.52 | 87.33* | 3,652.56 | 3,225.92 | 426.64* |
| Denominational Budget | 587.60 | 739.84 | 152.24 | 8,053.91 | 7,537.23 | 516.68* |
| Organizations | 116.95 | 390.24 | 273.29 | 1,750.76 | 2,479.44 | 728.68 |
| Individuals | 243.69 | 120.96 | 122.73* | 5,390.10 | 3,605.26 | 1,784.84* |
| Special gifts | 54.07 | 18.40 | 35.67* | 248.14 | 227.38 | 20.76* |
| Loans | | | | | 425.00 | 425.00 |
| Other | | | | | 2,250.00 | 350.00* |
| Debt Fund investment | | | | 2,600.00 | 2,250.00 | 350.00* |
| | <u>\$1,585.16</u> | <u>\$1,764.96</u> | <u>\$ 179.80</u> | <u>\$22,967.05</u> | <u>\$21,962.86</u> | <u>\$ 1,004.19*</u> |
| Corres. Sec'y and expenses | \$ 213.32 | \$ 211.24 | \$ 2.08* | \$ 2,531.04 | \$ 2,607.99 | \$ 76.95 |
| Gen. missionaries and expenses | 151.51 | 96.25 | 55.26* | 1,392.44 | 2,102.53 | 710.09 |
| Churches and pastors | 182.90 | 80.82 | 102.08* | 2,188.75 | 1,740.84 | 447.91* |
| China | 451.02 | 380.06 | 70.96* | 7,551.08 | 6,078.73 | 1,472.35* |
| Holland | 125.00 | 250.00 | 125.00 | 500.00 | 625.00 | 125.00 |
| Jamaica | 287.09 | 188.95 | 98.14* | 3,358.39 | 2,875.13 | 483.26* |
| Treasurer's expense | 101.99 | 96.96 | 5.03* | 584.78 | 637.02 | 52.24 |
| Interest | 31.28 | | 31.28* | 745.48 | 598.15 | 147.33* |
| Loans | | | | 2,600.00 | 2,250.00 | 350.00* |
| Taxes | | | | | | |
| Printing | 55.91 | | 55.91* | 227.58 | 110.40 | 117.18* |
| Foreign Missions Conference | | | | 3.00 | 53.00 | 50.00 |
| Special gifts | 54.07 | 18.40 | 35.69* | 270.40 | 216.18 | 54.22* |
| South American field | | | | | 7.50 | 7.50 |
| Germany | 41.66 | 41.67 | .01 | 500.00 | 458.35 | 41.65* |
| Miscellaneous | | 13.32 | 13.32 | | 15.32 | 15.32 |
| Debt Fund investment | 85.93 | 94.94 | 9.01 | 1,299.11 | 1,169.63 | 129.48* |
| | <u>\$1,781.68</u> | <u>\$1,472.61</u> | <u>\$ 309.07*</u> | <u>\$23,752.05</u> | <u>\$21,545.77</u> | <u>\$ 2,206.28*</u> |

* Decrease.

DAILY MEDITATIONS

(Prepared by Rev. Everett T. Harris, Alfred, N. Y.)

Sunday, February 2

Philippians 4: 13—I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. (Read 2 Corinthians 11: 24-30 and 12: 9.)

When the Duke of Wellington was about to enter the battle against Napoleon, his knees shook so badly that he had to have assistance to mount his horse. Looking down ruefully at his shaking knees, he was reported to have said, "Go ahead and shake, knees, you would be knocking worse than that if you knew where I am going to take you today."

It is no disgrace to be "scared half to death," but it is a disgrace to yield to it when we have a source of spiritual strength and power in Christ Jesus that can enable us to meet any emergency.

Prayer—Enable me today, O God, to leave the safe and easy way and to venture out with nothing but my faith in thy sustaining power. Challenge me, and then empower me to do that difficult task that I have tried to evade—for I know thy grace will be sufficient through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Monday, February 3

Luke 6: 38—Give and it shall be given unto you. (Read Luke 9: 18-24.)

The principle of giving applies to all of life, not alone to giving of our money to church or charity. Behind every public-spirited leader who appears to be giving his life in service to God and his fellow man, there are those who gave and are giving of their lives to make it possible.

Behind Helen Keller, who is opening a new world to the blind, there is Ann Sullivan Macy. The editor of the Christian Herald tells of an evening when he saw these two on the stage before a great audience. Helen Keller put her finger tips on the violin of a great master while he played Victor Herbert's "Sweet Mystery of Life."

She began to sway gently and to keep time with her free hand as she caught the rhythm; and she turned to the audience when the "Sweet Mystery" was done, to say, "I have found life to be so beautiful!" Back in the shadows, out of the spot light, getting none of the applause and wanting none, stood Mrs. Macy—who had made it possible for life to be beautiful for Helen Keller.

Prayer—Teach us to give our lives without stint to others, O God, confident that our own lives will be enriched and blessed in the giving. Amen.

Tuesday, February 4

John 15: 5b—(Jesus said) for without me ye can do nothing. (Read John 15: 1-5.)

Some skeptic may say, "Bosh, I can build my home, business, and social life without Christ." But as we observe homes, businesses, and nations toppling all around us, we cannot help being skeptical toward the widely accepted philosophy of the worldly-wise skeptic. And we ask again, "Can one single thing be done without Christ that will endure even a lifetime, to say nothing of building for our children's children?" Can a man build a home that will abide unless he weaves the Christ Spirit of love, of giving of self, of patience, and forbearance into the very texture of it? Can a business expect to survive unless it is built on Christ's principle of service?

Can a nation hope to endure except it is built on Christlike relations between nations? The great wealth of our nation will not save it. It may even be the cause of our downfall. The security of our nation rests not in a huge army and navy, but in the extent to which we give Christ's Spirit and teachings a place in our international relationships. Will we use our great wealth and power to alleviate suffering, to feed the hungry, to help bring in and maintain a new world order based on justice and equality for all people? Upon the answer of such questions depends the future of our nation. Without Christ we can do nothing—either as individuals or as a nation.

Prayer—Not by might nor by power, but by thy Spirit would we build our homes, our industries, and our nation. Establish thou the work of our hands. Amen.

Wednesday, February 5

Psalms 139: 23, 24—Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. (Read Psalm 139: 1-10.)

"Sometimes I shut the door on all the world, And go alone into that most sacred place Where there is only God, . . . And while I find it often hard to bear The burning of God's knowing eyes on me, I feel me stronger grow, just from their gaze; And my nakedness, it seems to me, is clothed

In raiment new that is most wondrous fair.
When next I venture forth—sincerity
Is the gift that God in secret gave to me."

Prayer—In humility yet with boldness I come before thy throne of grace today, O God, acknowledging my failures, my selfishness, my sinfulness. Yet I am emboldened to ask forgiveness and another opportunity to serve thee. Let thy great redemptive love which caught my heart so long ago continue to hold me and to work in me that which is well pleasing in thy sight. Cut away from me all show and pretense, grant to me sincerity of purpose, that I may labor as unto thee alone. In Jesus' name and spirit I ask it. Amen.

Thursday, February 6

Matthew 18: 11—For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost. (Read Matthew 28: 16-20.)

The late Rev. Lewis Sheafe, of Washington, D. C., spoke in a Conference address, of a Boy Scout with a new uniform, standing on a street corner looking in a speculative way at an elderly lady who was timidly trying to cross the street. Mr. Sheafe said the young fellow seemed to be trying to decide whether or not to go to her help—meanwhile she crossed the street alone; whereupon Mr. Sheafe went up to him and said, "Young man, either live up to the standard set by that Scout uniform, or go home and change your clothes."

It was a just rebuke, but sometimes we Seventh Day Baptists deserve the same rebuke. We are an evangelistic people, historically and by persuasion. We do not belong to the liturgical churches. We have no miracle of the mass to perform. Our reason for existence is to preach the power of Christ to change lives and really to change them by that preaching. Our Sabbath is a part of the whole gospel which puts the Bible back as the foundation of Christian faith and practice. We've "got something there," but we dawdle on the street corners, trying to make up our minds. Either we must live up to our name or take down our sign.

Prayer—God forgive us our indifference and half-heartedness. Give us zeal mixed with good sense. Amen.

Friday, February 7

Psalms 119: 105—Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." (Read Psalm 119: 9-16.)

We search the world for truth, we call
The good, the true, the beautiful,
From graven stone and written scroll

And all old flower fields of the soul
And, weary seekers of the best,
We come back laden from our quest
To find that all the sages said
Is in the Book our mothers read.

Scott.

There was a time when I felt superior in learning to my mother. She would listen so eagerly when I expounded some newly found truth in my studies.

Now as I take down her well worn Bible and read her notes, I find that she knew these things and had thought them out more fully than I. She only wanted me to express myself. Her interest and eagerness were for me as much as for the truth. I no longer feel superior. I find that I am traveling the same way she traveled and am arriving at about the same conclusions. I also have found a deeper sense of fellowship with her and with our God.

Prayer—I thank thee, O God, for thy Word, which meets the needs of each succeeding generation. Grant that its truth may lighten my path and guide me to my eternal home, where loved ones have gone on before. Amen.

Sabbath, February 8

Luke 4: 16b—And as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day. (Read Hebrews 10: 16-25.)

Jesus was brought up to go to church regularly. There was no question of "to go or not to go" in his home. It was their custom to go, and they made preparation accordingly.

A fond parent made this excuse for not attending church with the children: "When I was a child I had to go to church and I grew to hate it; so I am letting my children go or not go, just as they choose." Does the parent let the children choose to go to public school or not? No, they must go and the parent accepts it. Does the parent let the children decide whether or not they will wash and keep clean? No, they must wash. The children may object ever so strenuously. They may claim they hate it—but they wash nevertheless.

Let us give emphasis to spiritual health that is at least equal to physical and mental health.

Prayer—We thank thee, O God, for homes where no debate occurs on Sabbath morning, but when the bell rings, father and mother and children get ready and attend church together. To such families, grant thou the peace of that home in Nazareth. Amen.

WOMAN'S WORK WORSHIP PROGRAM FOR FEBRUARY, 1941

By Katherine V. Silverthorn

China's Dream of Freedom

Hymn: "Faith of Our Fathers"

Read Galatians 5: 13-26.

Dr. Sun Yat-sen dreamed a dream of freedom for his beloved land and people. It was so wonderful and impelling a dream that it drove him to its partial fulfillment, and that dream is still driving China to seek its complete realization in the days that are to come.

Freedom is the inalienable right of every people, but today we see the sad spectacle of totalitarian powers around the world trying to restrict that freedom, and denying both God's sovereignty and his creation of man, whom he has endowed with the power of choice and with intrinsic worth. The heart of the Christian religion is that an individual soul is of inestimable value to God. In these verses we see both sides of this situation: freedom restrained by love, and tyranny ruled by envy, hatred, vainglory.

St. Paul says we have been "called to liberty." What an inspiring call to the Christian! God has given us intelligence with which we can do our own thinking, and a will to make our choices. He does not coerce us. But the Christian has an inner drive through Christ who dwelleth in him to use that liberty for his own strength and upbuilding and for the good of his brother.

"Love is the safeguard of liberty and is the fulfilling of the law."—Romans 13: 10.

Prayer: Thanksgiving for this liberty with which we are endowed.

Petition: (1) That we may use this liberty for our own Christian growth and for the good of our brother man and not allow it to become license; (2) that the rulers of this world may be restrained from their curtailment of personal liberty; (3) that we may appreciate more deeply and strive ever to retain the religious, personal, and political liberty of our country; (4) that China may ultimately secure her liberty and then use it for the furtherance of God's kingdom in the Far East.

Hymn: "O Christ, Forget Not Them Who Stand." (This may be sung or read as a prayer.)

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

The Woman's Board met in regular session Sunday, January 12, 1941, at the Salem parsonage, with the following members present: Mrs. J. L. Skaggs, Mrs. G. H. Trainer, Miss Lotta Bond, Mrs. Homer May, Mrs. Okey W. Davis, Mrs. Edward Davis, Miss Greta Randolph, Mrs. E. F. Loofboro, Mrs. O. B. Bond, and Rev. Marion C. Van Horn.

The devotional service consisted of reading from Psalm 46 and prayers around the circle.

The minutes of the December meeting were read.

As the treasurer was ill, there was no report from her.

The Ways and Means Committee presented a report of progress. This report with its accompanying recommendation was accepted. The committee recommended that Rev. Marion Van Horn attend the Christian Mission in Pittsburgh, beginning January 26, and ending February 2, 1941. Voted that \$25 be advanced to Mr. Van Horn toward his expenses.

The committee to purchase stationery reported its work completed and presented a bill for \$5, which was ordered paid.

Mrs. T. J. Van Horn asked to be relieved of preparing the worship programs for the Woman's Page in the Recorder. The release was voted, and the corresponding secretary was instructed to write to Mrs. Van Horn, expressing to her the board's appreciation of her work.

Rev. Marion Van Horn, promoter of evangelism, presented his first monthly report, which was accepted. This report is filed with the secretary. Mr. Van Horn gave also a verbal report of a brief survey of the Arkansas field near Nady. He was enabled to make these observations while there recently visiting his mother in her illness.

Voted that Mrs. W. D. Burdick be asked to prepare the worship program for the Recorder for three months.

Correspondence from Mrs. John Randolph was presented by the corresponding secretary.

Voted that Miss Lotta Bond and Mrs. O. B. Bond be a committee to receive the Historical Sketches of our Ladies' Aid Societies and prepare them for filing.

Voted that the usual expense allowances for the board officers, also \$10 expense allowance for the Ways and Means Committee be allowed and ordered paid.

These minutes were read and approved. Adjourned to meet the second Sunday in February.

Mrs. E. F. Loofboro,
President,

Mrs. O. B. Bond,
Secretary.

PROMOTER OF EVANGELISM

Report of Promoter of Evangelism for Month Ending December 31, 1940

To the Woman's Board:

Upon arrival in Salem on November 26, 1940, and until after the ceremony of installation on December 9, my time was taken up with settling our home and office.

Visitation was begun in Smithburg with the following results: 90 per cent of families contacted belonged to some church in the village; 20 per cent use some such devotional aid as the "Upper Room"; 50 per cent would like to have such aid; the remaining 30 per cent not interested in it. The 50 per cent group had not been introduced to such aid by any church organization. One family had no church connection; they supposed they should, but never had. They knew one of the local pastors who had visited them once. I would remark that the one day's work I did in Smithburg was interesting and very enjoyable. There is certainly a place for this kind of work, but I cannot draw any definite conclusions as to its ultimate value, on one day's experience.

I am sorry for the delay of the work made necessary by my mother's serious illness and my presence with her in Arkansas from December 14 to January 9. Her condition has sufficiently improved so that I felt it possible to return to the work and will continue work immediately.

I have ordered tracts and materials from our own publishing house and from others where there has been no cost. Also, copies

of past issues of the "Upper Room" and "Secret Place" have been ordered, free of charge, for distribution to those homes not yet acquainted with such devotional aids. The letter to all pastors which was recommended to explain and to introduce the work and aims of the project in evangelism is in process of preparation and will be ready for mailing soon.

Respectfully submitted,
Marion C. Van Horn.

January 12, 1941.

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION

The Commission of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference met on Friday, December 27, on the evening after the Sabbath, December 28, and on Sunday, December 29, 1940, in the office of President Emeritus Boothe C. Davis and Vocational Counselor Ben R. Crandall of Alfred University at Alfred, N. Y., with Chairman Holston presiding and members Erlo E. Sutton, Ben R. Crandall, Edward M. Holston, Everett T. Harris, Harley D. Bond, and L. Ray Polan present. Courtland V. Davis was secretary. All members were present throughout the session.

Rev. Ahva J. C. Bond, dean of the School of Theology, was present and led in a devotional service at the request of the chairman.

Dean Bond read Acts 1: 1-11 and spoke briefly on the lessons which it holds for Seventh Day Baptists, emphasizing that the return of the Christian Church to the Sabbath, with all which such a return would imply, would be the greatest contribution any group could now make. In the prayer that followed, with all standing, Dean Bond asked Divine guidance for the members of the Commission in their efforts to direct the witness of Seventh Day Baptists to the world.

The chairman announced that, with the approval by correspondence of individual members of the Commission, the treasurer of General Conference was authorized to borrow over the signatures of the president and corresponding secretary of the General Conference the sum of four hundred dollars, to meet expenses of the Conference and in lieu of making a preferred claim. It is expected that the regular allotments from the

Denominational Budget will cover this amount later in the Conference year. By vote this action was approved.

The Commission requested a complete financial statement from each of the agencies participating in the Denominational Budget in ample time for consideration at the pre-Conference meeting of the Commission, in order that the Denominational Budget may be made up in complete fairness to all agencies.

In response to a communication from Recording Secretary Osborn it was voted that the recording secretary be instructed to include in the minutes of the Conference prepared for publication in the Year Book only necessary explanations and final actions, but in the original minute book to include all details of preliminary actions.

A letter was read from the pastor of the church at Auckland, New Zealand, acknowledging the greetings of the Conference and making inquiry concerning the duties of the church in relation to the Conference. He also requested suggestions for a Preaching Mission to be held early in the new year, and in closing asked that all our churches pray for the work in New Zealand.

The Commission suggested to the Tract Board that, after careful consideration of possible cost, advance sales of the Manual for Study of the Statement of Belief be solicited in the hope that such sales will be sufficient to carry the cost of printing and thus make immediate publication possible.

The Commission approved the action of the Education Board in vigorously promoting its work through young people's conferences and summer camps.

The Commission's committee on study of affiliations with interdenominational bodies (Year Book, p. 59) reported at length, including an extension survey of denominational opinion. It was pointed out that the action of the Commission in setting up this committee included in its field of study only the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America and the World Council of Churches. It was agreed that it was the intent of the Commission to include in the study all similar organizations of which Seventh Day Baptist denominational agencies are members, and the committee was instructed accordingly.

The committee was continued and instructed to prepare a report which can be included in the Commission's report to the 1941 Conference.

The resignation of L. Ray Polan as a member of the Commission was presented.

It was voted that the resignation be accepted, effective at the close of the midyear meeting with the deep regret of the members of the Commission that conditions make it impossible for him to attend further Commission meetings.

Harold R. Crandall was elected a member of the Commission for the unexpired term.

It was voted that the Commission make and publish the following statement:

Every effort is being made to make the united Denominational Budget a true and accurate budget and anticipated funds have been allocated on that basis.

In view of this the Commission does not approve of any special denominational solicitations and has not authorized any such solicitation for the present Conference year as in the past—the only exception to this being the present solicitation by the Missionary Board for funds to provide for the emergency return of our missionaries in China.

The Commission would respectfully call the attention of those who may wish to make special contributions, to Recommendation No. 10, page 44, 1939 Year Book, which is as follows:

10. That while we urge our people to give to the Denominational Budget without specifying any particular object, yet henceforth it shall be considered that all gifts which are specified to a particular object or objects within the Denominational Budget and which pass through the hands of its treasurer shall be accredited to the church or individual from which such gifts come, as a part of their contribution to the Denominational Budget. Such funds shall be forwarded by the denominational treasurer directly to the agency or object specified.

Everett T. Harris was elected a member of the Auditing Committee to take the place of L. Ray Polan, resigned.

The Committee on Church Membership Certificate consisting of Hurley S. Warren and Corliss F. Randolph, upon making a report at the pre-Conference meeting of the Commission in Battle Creek, Mich., was asked to explore the possibilities of a combined Certificate of Baptism and Church Membership.

The committee reported that it is of the opinion that:

1. Two different and distinct purposes will be served by the certificates. Therefore, they should be separate.

2. The Certificate of Baptism should be available to our ministers and pastors who have the right to baptize and would be signed by them.

3. The Certificate of Church Membership should be available to churches for issue to their entire membership if so desired. This certificate would be signed by the church clerk. (Pastors would naturally take the initiative in the matter and co-operate with the church clerk in carrying out the plan. An impressive ceremony for the presentation of the certificates might well be conducted. And having begun the custom, the presentation of membership certificates would properly take place each time new members are received.)

The committee has arranged for the publishing house to print a limited stock of the two certificates, set their price, circulate, and handle the details of sale to pastors and churches.

The report of Ben R. Crandall as the committee to assign the various parts of the Five Year Plan to appropriate agencies and follow up their activities in response to the assignment, was presented verbally, including a prepared questionnaire to be sent to the churches as a yardstick by which progress in carrying out the plan in the local church can be definitely measured.

It was voted that the report be received as a report of progress and the committee continued, the hope being expressed that the committee will carry out completely the actions creating it.

These actions were as follows:

In the report of the Section on the Five Year Plan to the 1940 Conference (Year Book, p. 47) the following recommendation was adopted by Conference: "We recommend that the Five Year Plan be referred to the Commission for presentation and assignment to various denominational agencies."

In following out this recommendation the Commission at its August 26, 1940, meeting voted "that Ben R. Crandall be a committee to assign the various parts of the Five Year Plan to appropriate agencies and follow up their activities in response to the assignment."

Other matters discussed, but on which no final action was taken, included the refugee problem, the circulation of the Sabbath Re-

recorder, and the provision of alternative service for conscientious objectors.

It was voted that the plans for the Conference program be approved and referred to the president for final action.

The Commission wishes to express to the people of Alfred who have entertained members of the Commission in their homes its thanks for the many courtesies extended, and to Dr. Ben R. Crandall, Dr. Boothe C. Davis, and Alfred University its thanks for the use of the comfortable and well furnished office in which its meetings were held.

Edward M. Holston,
Chairman,
Courtland V. Davis,
Secretary.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

We trust an editor for the Young People's Work may soon be found. Doubtless others than the contributor of the following verses have missed the department. Mr. Bond is a student at Wheaton College and in his interest offers this prayer.—Ed.

A PRAYER By Allen Bond

O Christ, this day I stop to think
Of thee, who saved me from the brink
Of hell and dark despair.
Today I lift my heart in song,
Because I know before so long
I'll meet thee in the air.

O Christ, I did not always know
Thy matchless love, or love thee so
That I would give thee all.
There was a time when I was lost;
I had not stopped to count the cost
Or listen to thy call.

But thou, O Christ, by pleading still,
Didst speak unto my heart until,
In agony of soul,
Deserving wrath, I came to thee,
And found—a pardon, full and free!
My Christ had made me whole!

And now, O Christ, in thee I'm found,
Where heavenly joys do all abound;
And I am well content.
Since thou hast met the law's demand,
My life I'll place within thy hand
In full acknowledgment.

Wheaton, Ill.

LONE SABBATH KEEPERS Can a Christian Just Stand Still?

By Mrs. Minnie Green
(Concluded from last week)

Another experience was this fall at the beach near Los Angeles. Oh, how I love the ocean! I like to stand with my feet in the edge of the water and let the small waves come up over them, but when I see a large wave coming I immediately run for higher, firmer ground. I know from a former experience, which I had years ago, that the large waves would take my feet out from under me and perhaps carry me out into the ocean. Had I just tried at that time this fall to stand still when the large waves came, I might not be here to tell about it. Anyone who has been to the beach knows how hard it is to hold one's own with the large waves.

When the little things in life irritate and discourage us, let us not wait for the larger things to come and envelop us, but let us seek for higher ground. My husband used to say, "It's not the large things in life that affect me so much as it is the little things." The little, thoughtless things one says or does often cause more grief than does some great calamity. So let each one of us watch our words and actions, and let no little thoughtless word of mine be a stumbling block to others.

James tells us that "the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth." James 3: 5.

"I'm pressing on the upward way,
New heights I'm gaining every day;
Yet, still I'll pray, 'til Heaven I've found,
Lord, plant my feet on higher ground.

"Lord, lift me up and let me stand
By faith on Heaven's tableland,
A higher plane than I have found,
Lord, plant my feet on higher ground."

Clovis, Calif.

"LAND OF LIBERTY"

By Samuel McCrea Cavert

A film of exceptional interest to all religious, as well as civic and educational, groups is being released in the motion picture theaters of the country on January 24. Entitled "Land of Liberty," it is a pageant of American history and its meaning. Every

churchman will be interested in the film because of the high quality of its patriotism and its portrayal of the home, the church, and the school as the basic institutions of American civilization.

The film, which runs for ninety-eight minutes, was produced by the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, Inc., as their contribution to the World's Fairs at New York and San Francisco. It is now made available to the wider public by an agreement under which all the proceeds, after the costs of distribution have been met, will be donated to war emergency welfare work. This is a further reason, in addition to the intrinsic merit of the film, why ministers, Bible-school teachers, and leaders of young people's groups in the churches will be eager to do everything possible to promote interest in it. They can be of practical assistance by urging local exhibitors to book the picture and by encouraging the constituencies of the churches to see it.

The film was produced in a unique way. Excerpts were made from hundreds of feature plays, short subjects, and newsreels and were pieced together with such amazing skill as to produce a continuous and thrilling narrative. The direction was in the hands of Cecil B. de Mille. Professor James T. Shotwell, of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, was the historical consultant. Among those who had a major part in the production of the film was Francis S. Harmon, formerly general secretary of the International Committee of the Y.M.C.A., now executive assistant to the president of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America. The film is being distributed by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

As a result of "Land of Liberty's" being a mosaic of excerpts from a great number of film classics, the audience has the unusual experience of seeing a whole galaxy of Hollywood stars in this one motion picture. The portrayal of Lincoln, for example, is by Raymond Massey. Robert Montgomery appears in scenes which show the fight against disease in the tropics. Claudette Colbert is the pioneer woman who helps to build a home in the wilderness.

The first part of the film follows a chronological sequence from the days of John Smith at Jamestown to our own time. The

second part is topical in arrangement, illustrating the development of American government, agriculture, industry, invention, science, education, medicine, social ideals, and democratic life. It is noteworthy that the place of the Church is not overlooked. The circuit rider of pioneering days appears as one of the splendid figures. The central motif is that the same spirit of sacrificial devotion which made America is necessary for its preservation.

A poster reproducing some of the vivid scenes from the film and suitable for a church bulletin board can be secured, on request, from the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, Inc., 28 West 44th Street, New York City.

CHILDREN'S PAGE

OUR LETTER EXCHANGE

Dear Mrs. Greene:

I have been sick and missed a day of school. I am much better now.

I do not think I have written to you before in a long time. My mother reads the Sabbath Recorder and reads the letters to me.

I have a sister eight years old and her name is Georgia. I have two brothers. Paul is six years old and Frank is six months old. We live on a farm. We have a dog and four or five cats. We have a pony and a colt. We haven't named the pony, but the colt's name is Peanuts. The dog's name is Paddy.

Georgia and Paul are skating. I am in the third grade, Georgia is in the second grade, and Paul is in the first grade. I will be ten June 12.

I wrote to you once and told you about Bible school.

Frank is playing with a piece of cellophane paper. He stands up in his carriage and falls out, so he wears a harness to keep him from falling out. I am going to feed Frank now, so I had better end my letter.

Helen Ruth Green.

Trumansburg, N. Y.

Dear Helen Ruth:

I am sorry to hear that you have been sick but glad you are "all better," again,

as our little Joyce says. I hope you are entirely well by this time.

With your dog, cats, pony, and colt you surely have quite an animal family. We just have our cat, Skeezics, but the neighborhood has many dogs, so we can very well get along without one. For that matter, nearly every house has a cat; our next door neighbor has three.

I was glad to hear about your baby brother, Frank, for you see I didn't know you had a baby brother. Joyce's baby sister, Gretchen, is nine months old. She wants to stand up most of the time. Yesterday she started to climb up the stairs and may have a bad tumble if a gate is not placed on the bottom step.

I think your mama began to write for you before you were old enough to write yourself. It is nice to get such a nice letter, which you have written yourself.

Your true friend,

Mizpah S. Greene.

Dear Mrs. Greene:

Perhaps you know we are living now in Hammond, La. My Grandpa Severance is pastor of the church here.

Hammond is a city of about seven thousand. We have good schools, and we have a college here with nice new buildings and a full four-years' college course. The grade school where I go is less than three blocks from the parsonage. I am in the fifth grade. The grade work is completed in less time here, and we pass from the seventh grade into the high school.

I have a kitty now. It has brown stripes and its ears have a reddish orange color. Its name is Orson. I like her very much. We also have several canary birds.

Yesterday Grandma picked a bouquet of roses and took them to church.

I am sorry I have waited so long to write.

Your friend,

Rolleesa Godfrey.

404 E. Coleman Ave.,

Hammond, La.

Dear Rolleesa:

Yes, I knew you were living in Hammond now, and I was thinking the other day that it was about time I was getting a letter from you.

I knew Hammond was quite a city but I didn't realize there was a college there. Has it been there very long? It will be nice if you can attend college there when you have completed high school.

In some of the larger towns in New York State, in Wellsville for instance, the eighth grade and first year high are called junior high, and I noticed that in Washington, D. C., pupils had to graduate from junior college before they entered regular college.

Isn't Orson rather an odd name for a girl kitty? When we lived in Dunellen, N. J., I had a kitty named Teddy. After we moved away from there, the next door neighbor to whom we had given Teddy wrote, "Your Teddy has four little kittens."

It would seem queer to me to pick roses in January, but I'd like to live in a place warm enough to have that happen. We haven't had much real cold weather so far this winter, but no one has been able to pick any roses or any other flowers for that matter. Today it really seems like real winter, for it has turned cold and is snowing and blowing at a great rate. And here is the end of my page.

Your true friend,

Mizpah S. Greene.

ANNUAL MEETING OF FOUR CHURCHES

Report of the Fourth Annual Meeting Held at Nortonville, Kan., October 18-20

By Miss Nannie Greeley

The fourth annual meeting of the Denver, Boulder, North Loup, and Nortonville churches convened at Nortonville, October 18-20.

The general theme chosen for the session was, "In Tune With God."

The Sabbath evening service was opened with the congregation singing the theme song, "In My Heart There Rings a Melody," led by Ansel Crouch.

After a rousing song service the moderator, Royal Crouch, extended to the guests a hearty welcome to which Rev. Ralph Coon, as the delegate who had traveled the greatest distance, responded with a few remarks, commenting on our theme, "In Tune With God."

Miss Margaret Lamont had charge of the devotional service, using Dueteronomy 10: 12-14 and Psalm 150 as a basis for her remarks on the theme.

The evening meditation, as given by Mrs. Cora Hemphill of North Loup, led each of us to see himself as a different instrument in a great orchestra, who needs to turn to God to be tuned. We must test ourselves by the teachings of the Sermon on the Mount and the thirteenth chapter of First Corinthians. The need for prayer, good reading, special work, and trust in God were also brought out.

Sabbath Day

Rev. Erlo Sutton led us in a helpful worship service, a feature of which was the anthem, "O Come Ye Disconsolate," rendered by the choir.

The children's sermon by Rev. Mr. Coon of Boulder was enjoyed by all—both young and old. A small wooden cross was used to represent Christ; a large platter, the Church; and an electric light bulb, the individual Christian. Growth of grace in the Christian was demonstrated by the brightness of the light increasing as it approached the Cross.

During Pastor Sutton's morning sermon we visited, in fancy, Muscle Shoals and Boulder Dam and observed the great dynamos in action generating electricity to supply surrounding regions. Only those connected with the dynamo can receive the power. So God has plenty of power, but we must be in connection with it to have that power effective in our lives.

After Sabbath school the church and guests enjoyed a bountiful dinner in the church basement.

The young people presented the program of the afternoon, using as a theme "His Work, My Work," and as Scripture, Esther 14b, "Who knoweth but that thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

Marvin Stephan led the group in the praise service, after which Reba Kenyon conducted the devotions on the subject, "Personal Devotion and Consecration."

Ida Mae Babcock and Muriel Brannon sang, "I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go," and Julia Stephan led in the prayer of the afternoon.

The seminar that followed consisted of:

1. The Need: "The Field Is White"—Daryl Barber
2. His Call: "Who Will Go?"—Donis Stephan
3. My Answer: "Here Am I"—Audrey Wheeler
4. The Commission: "Go Thou"—Rev. Ralph Coon.

A solo, "A Voice Is Sweetly Calling," by Alma Bond, and the songs, "God Bless America" and "God Bless the Nations," were features of the afternoon program.

That night a social hour was enjoyed by members and guests in which each state contributed something to the entertainment: Miss Mary Davis of Nebraska whistling various bird calls; Pastor Coon telling interesting things of his home state, particularly a climb up Long's Peak; Miss Reta Crouch bringing greetings from Albuquerque, N. M. Wendell Stephan led the Jayhawkers in singing the Kansas State Song. A program of music and readings followed, after which refreshments of sandwiches, wafers, and coffee were served.

Sunday

The forenoon song service was led by Wendell Stephan, after which Pastor Sutton led us in prayer.

The theme of the devotions, led by Claud Stephan, was "The Christian in the World of Today." Mr. Stephan raised the question—What is the Christian's place in politics, in business, and in war?

Francis Saunders, in the sermon of the morning, stressed the importance of love as a phase of "Keeping in Tune With God," citing passages from the epistles of Paul, Peter, and John to prove his point.

The service was closed with a duet, "Whispering Hope," by Claud Stephan and Ansel Crouch, also a number by the men's chorus composed of men from all of the churches represented.

In the afternoon we enjoyed a song service in which Ansel Crouch, the leader, sang "Jesus Took My Burden," the audience joining in on the chorus.

Devotions, in charge of Mrs. Nina Lewis of North Loup, were opened by a solo, "One Sweetly Solemn Thought," sung by Mrs. Gladys Christenson. After asking God's

blessing upon the meeting, Mrs. Lewis led us in a meditation on the theme of "Keeping in Tune With God in Ecumenical Fellowship." From the words "Our Father" she drew the idea of familyhood. She cited the example of Jesus ministering to all kinds of human need, and to those of other nationalities as well as Jews. No individual, nation, or denomination can live by itself alone. We grow closer to God as we shed abroad his love. Ida Mae Babcock and Muriel Hamer closed this service with the duet, "Somebody Did a Golden Deed."

Pastor Coon chose as his Scripture reading Ephesians 4: 4, and continued the theme introduced by Mrs. Lewis. While the Church is but one body in Christ, it has different branches, that each may express a different truth, or phase of a truth, overlooked by the others. To have enthusiasm, we need a great appealing cause, an emotional cause, leadership, a world-wide challenge, and hope and faith that our cause will be victorious; all of which we may find in the Christian religion.

Harriet and Rachel Crouch brought a beautiful message in song.

Sunday night in a short business session led by Moderator Royal Crouch it was decided to hold no session in 1941, because of General Conference meeting at Denver, but to convene again at Boulder in 1942.

A stirring service of congregational singing was led by Pastor Coon, introducing a service which will linger long in the memory of all present for its spiritual uplift and inspiration.

Miss Gladys Mae Meyer, a teacher in the Nortonville High School, who is the state missionary superintendent of the Kansas Christian Endeavor, led us in the evening devotions on the theme, "That in All Things He Might Have the Pre-eminence." Her reading, "The Flame of Sacrifice" showed how the life of a medical missionary in Africa exemplified the following prayer and poem:

Burn, flame of sacrifice,
Burn first within my heart;
I cannot kindle other flames
Till selfishness depart.

Burn, flame of sacrifice,
My shrouded soul make bright,
That I may lead my fellowmen
From darkness into light.

In the story of the Prodigal Son which Pastor Sutton presented as a drama of human experience, we saw in act 1 the steps in getting out of tune with God; in act 2, the results of tunelessness; and in act 3, the steps in getting back into tune with God.

After words of appreciation from Moderator Royal Crouch and Deacon Maris, and a parting song, we bade our friends farewell after a meeting which left us all feeling that we were drawn closer to God and to each other, because of having been together.

Boulder in 1942.

OUR PULPIT

A COMMUNION MEDITATION

Faith in God and Man the Lover

By Rev. Hurley S. Warren

Text: ". . . God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him." 1 John 4: 16.

"When faith in God goes, man the lover loses his fairest vision. When we say our worst about mankind, this redeeming truth remains, that each of us has some one for whose sake he willingly would die. The very love lyrics of the race are proof of this human quality, from homely folk songs like 'John Anderson, My Jo, John' to great poetry like Mrs. Browning's sonnets. We call them secular, but they are ineffably sacred. And when one seeks the faith that has made these loves of men radiant with an illumination which man alone cannot create, he finds it in religion. Love is not a transient fragrance from matter finely organized—so men have dared believe; love is of kin with the Eternal, has there its source and ground and destiny; love is the very substance of reality. 'God is love, and he that abideth in love, abideth in God, and God abideth in him' (1 John 4: 16). Man the lover is bereft of his finest insight and love's inner glory has departed, when that faith has gone."—The Meaning of Faith, Fosdick, pp. 20, 21.

In this quotation the writer has mentioned the love lyrics of the race which he calls "ineffably sacred." He also refers to Mrs. Browning's sonnets.

Let us give regard to one of her sonnets.

First, the setting. During their courtship Miss Barrett wrote forty-four sonnets which were not shown to Mr. Browning until after their marriage, in 1846. These were published in 1850, under a disguised title, "Sonnets from the Portuguese." To better understand this poetry, it should be remembered that Miss Barrett was in middle life and had been an invalid for a long while. F. G. Kenyon, in his work on Mrs. Browning's Letters, says: "With the single exception of Rossetti, no modern English poet has written of love with such genius, such beauty, and such sincerity, as the two who gave the most beautiful example of it in their own lives."

Now, the sonnet which is the next to the last of the forty-four:

XLIII

How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.
I love thee to the depth and breadth and height
My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight
For the ends of Being and ideal Grace.
I love thee to the level of everyday's
Most quiet need, by sun and candle-light.
I love thee freely, as men strive for Right;
I love thee purely, as they turn from Praise.
I love thee with the passion put to use
In my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith.
I love thee with a love I seemed to lose
With my lost saints—I love thee with the breath,
Smiles, tears, of all my life!—and, if God choose,
I shall but love thee better after death.

"Ineffably sacred," yes. And indescribably sublime.

As we regard the beauty and purity of such poetry and the lives from which that poetry came, we take courage to hold fast the vision of love.

Friends, let us hold fast the vision of Love. When the skies are black, and the wind is blowing a gale, and the mind becomes befuddled, and the knees weak—hold fast the vision of love. When the coals of divine love even seem to die on the altars of the human heart, when the warm hand which once steadied and guided its life companion grows clammy through dread and fear, even when the inner glow of the soul grows dim and the dark settles in as a black-out—hold fast the vision of love.

Listen to one of the most practical, yet most sublime descriptive utterances of the vision of love:

Love is very patient, very kind. Love knows no jealousy; love makes no parade, gives itself no airs, is never rude, never selfish, never irritated, never resentful; love is never glad when others go wrong, love is gladdened by goodness, always slow to expose, always eager to believe the best, always hopeful, always patient. Love never disappears.—1 Corinthians 13: 4-8a (Moffatt).

This is Paul's vision of love. As he concludes the well-known love chapter he says, "Thus 'faith and hope and love last on, these three,' but the greatest of all is love." (Moffatt.) "Make love your aim." Hold fast the vision of love.

The one life that has completely shown forth the love of our heavenly Father for us is that of Jesus. In John 15, we find revealed "the mutual love between Christ and his members." Some of his tenderest and most assuring teachings follow:

As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.

If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

These things I command you, that ye love one another.

—John 15: 9-17.

This is Jesus' vision of love.

As we turn to the teaching of our text we understand anew that, "God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him."—1 John 4: 16.

God is love. Where God is, there love is. And where holy love is, there God is. It works both ways. But the fountain of love is God. God is there first. The point is, if we experience the presence of love in its truest and purest form, we can be sure that God is near. And as we live a life of love, we live in God who is love, and God who is

love lives in us. We understand anew that God is love.

This love becomes most real to us as we accept the highest expression of God's love unto us, his children, through Jesus Christ, his Son, our Lord.

Now, as we draw near the Lord's table, let us come with faith in God and love in our hearts, for "God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him."

DENOMINATIONAL "HOOK-UP"

Independence, N. Y.

The Ladies' Aid society held its annual meeting, Monday afternoon, January 13, 1941, at the home of Mrs. Floyd Clarke, with Mrs. John Illig presiding.

Mrs. Milford Crandall conducted the devotionals, consisting of a prayer and repeating the sixty-seventh Psalm in unison.

It was voted to raise our pledge to the Woman's Board toward their effort to support the missionary-evangelist, in some special way during the year. Mrs. Walter Greene is the key worker in our efforts to carry out the suggested program of the Woman's Board.

The officers for the ensuing year are: president, Mrs. R. A. Clarke; vice-president, Mrs. C. M. Crandall; second vice-president, Mrs. Louis Mingus; secretary, Mrs. S. W. Clarke; treasurer, Anna Laura Crandall; solicitor, Mrs. W. D. Clarke; press committee, Mrs. R. E. Spicer.

While telling some things about our Ladies' Aid, I might also mention the annual meeting of the church which was held Sunday, January 12, 1941, at the parish house.

The reports of officers and committees showed there had been progress throughout the year.

It was decided to invite the Western Association to convene at our church for its next session.

Financial reports showed bills all paid and some balance to start next year's work. The officers of last year were re-elected.

The dinner committee, consisting of the Clarke men — Sam, Will, Robert, Floyd, Charles, Carl, and Decatur—served the members and their families pancakes with maple syrup and sausage. The meal was very much enjoyed.

Sunday night before Christmas a Christmas carol and candlelighting service by the young people, followed by a social hour, was held in the parish house under the direction of Pastor W. L. Greene and Miss Hilda Clarke. It was greatly enjoyed and well attended by the community. A "white offering" for the Red Cross and "bundles for Britain" were received.

Press Committee.

Adams Center, N. Y.

The Adams Center Community Chorus presented the Christmas cantata, "Star Over Bethlehem," in our church Thursday evening, December 19. The chorus was directed by Mrs. Jessica Brown Davidson, with Miss Mary Ellen Green, accompanist. This cantata pictured The Annunciation, The Shepherds, and The Wise Men at the Manger with appropriate solo, duet, and chorus parts, and suitable costumes and lighting effect. This beautifully rendered Christmas music seemed to bring the Christ Child nearer, and brought a feeling of restfulness and peace in the midst of all the disturbing elements abroad in the world, to those who were fortunate enough to hear it.

The annual Christmas dinner of the Adams Center Church was held in the church parlors Sunday, December 22, with a large attendance. There was a lovely tree with suitable gifts for the children, and a gift was presented to our pastor; at this dinner those whose birthdays occurred in October, November, and December were honored with a birthday cake and cards suitable for birthday and Christmas. A special collection had been planned for this occasion, and a goodly sum was realized; it was sent to the Missionary Board as planned, to be used for the return of our missionary friends in China, if and when needed for this purpose.

Our church parlors are being used this winter as headquarters for Red Cross activities. One of our members, Mrs. DeChois Greene, is president of the local chapter.

S. K. W., Correspondent.

Andover, N. Y.

The annual business meeting of the Seventh Day Baptist Church was held Sunday, January 5, with a noon-time dinner preceding the business session. The following officers were elected: moderator, Edson

Langworthy; secretary, Mrs. Agnes Langworthy; treasurer, Mrs. Clifford Burdick; organist, Mrs. Florence Bines; assistant organist, Mrs. Henry S. Livermore; ministerial committee, Fred S. Potter and Henry S. Livermore.

A special committee was named to arrange for the educational, financial and evangelistic program of the year, with the following on that committee: the Sabbath school superintendent, Clifford Burdick; the pastor, Rev. Walter L. Greene; and the Ladies' Aid, represented by Mrs. Fred S. Potter.

—Alfred Sun.

Farina, Ill.

Fellow Christian Worker:

The church membership at Farina wishes for you a very happy and useful new year and we pray that you may be blessed with good health and opportunity for useful service.

The past year has been good to us here, in that our efforts have been blessed with an increased membership, good attendance at all our services, sufficient contributions to meet our obligations, and best of all a very friendly co-operative spirit has prevailed.

We have a fine group of young people who are just coming to that age where Christian life means something to them and their attendance and interest are encouraging features of our work.

Christmas eve we enjoyed a very fine presentation of the Christmas story, in pageant form, and were glad to welcome many visitors from the village. As is our custom, candy bags were distributed to the children and young people.

Our annual dinner and the business meeting that followed were well attended. Officers for the coming year were elected, reports were given, and the program of work for the coming year was outlined.

December 28, 1940, at the regular hour of service we rededicated our newly decorated and remodeled church in a very impressive service.

We plan to celebrate the seventy-fifth anniversary of the church organization some time this year, but have not as yet decided upon a date. The date of organization is April 14, but we may move it into the vacation period so that students and teachers will be free to come.

Now a word as to the future and the work ahead. We at Farina are greatly encouraged when we hear from you and when you express interest in the work. We need you and we feel that you need us. More than that, we know our denomination needs us and what we can do. I have read the last China Mission Bulletin and am convinced more than ever that our workers there are a consecrated, efficient, and a courageous group. Our workers on the home field also are an able group and work hard and serve for a very small salary. They are a consecrated group also.

Church work must constantly depend upon the "long look" rather than upon any present day endeavor for results. On the whole, if one could expect, and I think we can, the same results in the next two thousand years that the world experienced in the first two thousand years of Christian endeavor, we would say, It is well worth the effort. Jesus said, "Greater (works) than these . . . shall ye do." Let us believe that and work together, and with him, in these greater things. God helping us we will.

—C. L. Hill, in a pastoral letter.

New Market, N. J.

The annual union Thanksgiving service of the Baptist and Seventh Day Baptist churches in New Market was held in our church on Thursday morning, November 21. The sermon was given by Rev. M. R. Palmer, pastor of the Baptist Church.

The Christmas season opened in our church with a vesper service, December 13, planned and conducted by one of our young people, Harold Kellogg. He presented a service of well arranged Scripture, poems, and Christmas music of the great masters brought to us by means of electrical recordings. The following Friday evening the prayer service hour was turned over to the Sabbath school for its religious Christmas service. The vesper of miscellaneous numbers closed with a short play, "Angel of Light," written by Pastor Sutton and presented by his Junior-Intermediate class. A supper and Christmas social sponsored by the Sabbath school was held December 22, at which program white gifts were received for the needy, and candy and gifts for the children of our school were given. Each

Sabbath for three weeks the pastor gave Christmas sermons—"Christ Foretold," "A Son Is Given," and "Christ Born in Men." Special music was prepared by the chorister. Our season closed with an informal "fire-side" service of carols and a story at our prayer service of December 27.

Union Week of Prayer services were held at the Baptist church on Monday and Tuesday evenings, January 6 and 7, conducted by the pastor of that church, and at our church on Thursday and Friday evenings, January 9 and 10, conducted by Pastor Sutton. Prayer was the theme also of the Sabbath morning services January 4 and 11.

Correspondent.

Thou biddest me to utter
Words that I scarce may speak;
And mighty things are laid on me,
A helpless one, and weak:
Darkly thy truth declareth
Its purpose and its way;
Speak, for thy servant heareth,
And heareth to obey.

Julia Ward Howe.

OBITUARY

Davis. — Edward Elmer Davis was born near Alden, Minn., and died in his home in North Loup, Neb., October 1, 1940.

He was the second of four children born to Elmer Eugene and Floretta J. Davis. His father died when Edward was a lad and he, at an early age, had to share with his mother the responsibilities of the family. When he was fifteen years of age, he with his mother, grandmother, and two sisters drove a covered wagon to North Loup, a distance of more than five hundred miles.

On July 4, 1892, he was united in marriage to Rena Holes. To them were born four daughters; three remain: Merle, Addie (now Mrs. George Gowen), and Doris (Mrs. Vernon Williams).

At an early age he united with the North Loup Seventh Day Baptist Church and remained a faithful, consistent member until his death. Besides his three daughters he is survived by his wife, three grandchildren, two sisters, Mrs. Ida M. Brown and Mrs. Louisa L. Barber, all of North Loup.

Funeral services were held in the church conducted by his pastor. Burial was in the local cemetery. A. C. E.

The need of the world today is not so much for more Christians, but for better Christians, for Christians that are filled with the Spirit.

Dr. M. A. Cooper.

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PLAINFIELD, N. J., FEBRUARY 3, 1941

No. 5



Rev. C. L. Smellie and Family

(Mr. Smellie is pastor of the Luna Seventh Day Baptist Church, Jamaica, B. W. I. See Who's Who in this Recorder)

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