

preserve our loyalty to this as an example of complete obedience to the clear and expressed will of God.

All time is sacred, but God especially blessed the Sabbath for man's rest and worship. I believe that God created the Sabbath as an institution for man's good, and that any other Lord's day is mockery of God's power to create those things necessary for man's good. I believe that Jesus Christ kept the Sabbath and that he taught the true principles of Sabbath observance which should be followed in his church. I believe that God's creation and blessing of the Sabbath sanctifies all men's efforts to bring the kingdom on earth. Whether or not our generation sees the kingdom of God established on the earth, the proper use of our six days work and of the Sabbath of rest and worship puts the blessing of God upon all our days. Respect for the Sabbath makes the intent of our labors their real evaluation, rather than the number of days spent for God's work or the amount of money or property given to its upbuilding.

The Sabbath is a pledge of the eternal rest and a guardian of those deeds by which God judges who shall receive that rest.

XI. Evangelism

I believe evangelism is one of the chief tasks of the church and that the local and denominational members of the Christian body should organize agencies for the spreading of the good news of Jesus Christ.

I believe that all Christians should promote through some channel the work of teaching and preaching the gospel, and that no Christian should be "ashamed of the gospel of Christ" in his personal contacts.

I believe that each Christian should follow the commission of Christ by considering in what way he can support the world-wide spread of the gospel and acceptance of Christ by those who hear that gospel. I believe that evangelistic efforts should be continually re-examined to find new means and ways of spreading Christ's gospel.

I believe that Christians should support by their own rewards from labor or by their own efforts the teaching and preaching agencies of the church.

Note: In giving my statement of belief, the statements of belief accepted at the 1937 Seventh Day Baptist Conference were read in their respective places as expressing my belief also.

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 17, at two o'clock.

Lavern C. Bassett,
President,
Courtland V. Davis,
Recording Secretary.

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 17, at two-thirty o'clock.

Lavern C. Bassett,
President,
Courtland V. Davis,
Recording Secretary.

Marriages

North - Lindflad. — Mr. Merton Douglas North, New Auburn, Wis., and Miss Lois Lorraine Lindflad, Chetek, Wis., were united in marriage at the New Auburn Seventh Day Baptist church, Sabbath afternoon, August 19, 1944, by Rev. C. B. Loofbourrow. Their home is on a farm a few miles out of New Auburn.

Wheeler - Shipman. — Mr. Winston Wheeler, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Wheeler, Nortonville, Kan., and Miss Eva Shipman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Shipman, Larkinburg, Kan., were united in marriage in the Larkinburg Christian church on June 15, 1944, by the groom's brother, Rev. Alton L. Wheeler.

RECORDER WANT ADVERTISEMENTS

For Sale, Help Wanted, and advertisements of a like nature, will be run in this column at one cent per word for each insertion, minimum charge 50c. Cash must accompany each advertisement.

FREE — Sabbath tracts emphasizing that it makes a difference what day we keep. Original illustrations, Bible examples, and direct Bible teachings used to make the point clear. Also has a message on Salvation. Any quantity, or single copies. Allen Bond, 60 Oak St., Salem, W. Va. 7-31-2t

The Sabbath Recorder

Vol. 137

PLAINFIELD, N. J., SEPTEMBER 11, 1944

No. 11

Conference Special

ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIRST SESSION

of the

SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE

Organized 1802

Incorporated: Rhode Island, 1927; New Jersey, 1938

Convened with

THE FIRST ALFRED CHURCH, ALFRED, N. Y.

AUGUST 22 to 27, 1944

Theme:

The Church of Christ in the World Crisis

The Sabbath Recorder

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

HERBERT C. VAN HORN, D.D., Editor

L. H. NORTH, Manager of the Publishing House

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

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Jeanett B. Dickinson

Mrs. Okey W. Davis

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Editorials

ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIRST SESSION

The one hundred thirty-first session of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference (organized in 1801) convened in Alfred, N. Y., at 7.30 p.m., August 22, 1944.

Rev. Albert N. Rogers, pastor of the Second Alfred Church and president of the Conference called the session to order after an inspiring vesper service conducted by Dr. Ray W. Wingate. One of his own arrangements, "Church Echoes," was rendered by Mr. Wingate at the great organ and Dr. R. O. Hitchcock at the piano. Two ringing anthems, Schubert's "The Omnipotence" (Virginia B. Spicer as soloist) and "I Love the Lord" by Hosmer (Dr. Rae Whitney as soloist) were used; Mr. Henry Pieters sang Huhn's tenor solo "Song of Praise." The National Anthem was sung and fervent prayer was offered by Chaplain Leon M. Maltby by whose presence we were blessed throughout the Conference.

As Rev. Everett T. Harris of the local church welcomed us he made reference to the Conference of one hundred years ago at Verona, N. Y., when the exhortation was given to a richer spiritual life and deeper consecration of selves and means; he welcomed all to similar experiences. "For two years Alfred has been looking forward to this day," he continued. In spite of a somewhat hesitant invitation wherein "you were asked to come, then not to come; later, come but leave your children at home, bring your ration books—in spite of all this you are welcome to our homes, church, university, and community." If any doubted the sincerity of the welcome,

in the days that followed he found all doubts cleared away by the cordiality and warmth expressed by Alfred folk.

University Chaplain William H. Genné extended greetings in a few well chosen words, and as a representative of the community church expressed an appreciation of the Conference and of the influence of Seventh Day Baptists upon the life of the Christian Church and the world.

Panel Discussion

Instead of the usual president's address President Rogers introduced for discussion "The Church of Christ in the World Crisis."

Courtland V. Davis offered several activities under the subject, "What the Churches are Doing." The churches are carrying forward their usual work in bringing Christ and the hope of salvation to the world. The arm of the church is extended with increasing usefulness through its chaplains in the armed service. Seventh Day Baptists are proud of their four chaplains and are happy in the security afforded them in their work by the support and backing of a united and vocal Protestant America. Seventh Day Baptists help in the support of the Service Men's Christian League in its organ "The Link" in their participation in the work of the Christian Commission for Camp and Defense Communities, through aid to the Commission on Aliens and Prisoners of War, in support of the American Bible Society in supplying Bibles and Testaments to millions of service men and women, and in participating in foreign relief work through regularly organized channels.

Outstanding service is being rendered by the churches to the Commission to Study the Problems of a Just and Durable Peace.

Dr. J. Nelson Norwood spoke on "Thinking it Through"—the "it" meaning "what can we hope for from allied victory?" It means this: getting a chance to go on perfecting a good way of life; living above bitterness and enmities, hate, and world strife. In two respects we will be ahead: 1. With a new faith in ourselves and 2. A lot of rubbish brushed out of the minds of our enemies concerning us. Then we are going to get some kind of international organization to preserve peace. It will not be a full-grown plan to begin with—nor a perfect one. Readjustments must be made in the idea of national sovereignty—ideas too often mythical. The world is whittled down so that no nation can live or exist in itself and for itself alone. A new organization will not be enough; a public opinion must be grown to support it.

Dean Ahva J. C. Bond spoke on "World Christian Fellowship and Leadership of the Churches." "The walls," he said, "are down, and God must be our defense. Walls of force and power have been shown to be poor defense. Building must be on a new foundation." The dean's address will be found in full in this issue. Don't miss it.

Rev. Paul S. Burdick spoke for minority groups on the topic, "The Role of Non-resistance." He spoke appreciatively of the difficulties young people have in reconciling war with the teaching of Jesus and believes the world would be surprised and find itself further ahead by the route of non-resistance. He cited cases where advances had been made in the problem of Negro and whites in America and of gains made in India through the principles advocated by and illustrated in the experiences of Gandhi. He looks for a definite place after this war for non-violence.

Rev. Carroll Hill, president of Milton College, discussed the topic of "Education in These Times." Is liberal education a war casualty? It is truly in danger. He cited a college that this spring graduated four people out of ninety-six who began as freshmen four years ago. Of that class, fifty-seven are in war service and the rest honorably accounted for on farm or in other production work. While the government is offering educational advantages he could not hold that a training in chemistry, physics, mathematics, and physi-

cal culture is enough to constitute a liberal education. Liberal education embraces a training to wonderment, a love of books, of nature, appreciation of life and a deep-seated longing for better things. "There are folks longing for immortality who would not know what to do for themselves if left alone for fifteen minutes." Life could be likened to an auto engine's gears—low, intermediate, high, and supercharger. Efficiency of operation results "in high gear." So with life. There are no short cuts to maturity of life in true education.

SECOND DAY

In spite of every effort to favor addresses and other spiritual messages there is always a great deal of important business to attend to: appointment of many committees, reports of many standing committees and the Commission, and other matters of vital interest. President Rogers proved an able and efficient presiding officer and kept business matters in good proportions, expediting affairs without undue haste or being unmindful of people's liberty of speech.

The naming of committee personnel manifested thoughtful care and good judgment.

Reports of boards and standing committees were presented in form and referred to various committees appointed for the purpose of study and action.

The report of the commission was read in full and referred to the proper committee to be more fully considered in sessions later.

The address of the morning was presented by Professor J. Fred Whitford, principal of the Bolivar, N. Y., schools. He spoke earnestly on the question of "What Is Wrong with Seventh Day Baptists?" His opening sentence was really a challenge—"A world at its worst must have a church at its best."

It is being recognized by many groups that the church is not functioning as well as it should. Seventh Day Baptists must be aware of this condition within itself. If we can discern back of the world's colossal war the purpose of God, we shall be helped to correct many things. It may be to cause men to know God more intimately and to be turned to him in prayer. A young soldier writes, "We all pray because it is the natural thing to do."

The first thing wrong with the church, the speaker believed to be *lack of courage*. "Are Seventh Day Baptists perturbed about anything?" Many of our problems are un-

solved because of fear. Too many of us forget there are other commandments besides the fourth. The second thing wrong, in the speaker's mind, was a tendency to break with other Christians in worthwhile tasks needing a united church front. We cannot be Christian isolationists. Are we in danger of racial hatreds? There is a lack of aggressiveness. We must make opportunity for winning souls to Christ and the Sabbath. We must be rid of inferiority complexes.

Seventh Day Baptists are not indoctrinating their constituency. Probably the failure is along the line—the home, the Sabbath school, and the church. We must prepare our children to know and be able to give a reason for their faith. Probably our failure is observable in our practice of Sabbath observance. We fail in our financial support of the Lord's work.

The church is wrong in locking its doors so large a part of the time. Why not be open for a worshiper to enter at any hour? Why not set aside recreation and reading rooms? It is hoped that Mr. Whitford's address will be furnished for the Recorder.

Historical Society.

President of the Historical Society, Dr. Corliss F. Randolph, reported the tasks and some of the accomplishments of the society with some of its aims and purposes. Few realize the full value of the society or the vast amount of research and other work it accomplishes. With small support from the United Budget it is supplying needs being recognized more and more by our people and others. Weeks upon weeks of the librarian's and assistant's time are given to research in order to compile materials for church histories, biographies, family records, and so forth. Some three hundred pages of the "William Davis" genealogy are being photostated from galley proofs for a permanent record. The library is constantly being used by outsiders as well as ourselves in search of material to be found nowhere else. In these ways and in many others the society is serving the denomination.

A striking example of the successful functioning of the institution was illustrated in the inspiring address on the life of Alfred University's former president—Booth C. Davis. It was very fitting at this time—the first of the denomination's Conference since Dr. Davis' death—that such an address should be given on the life of one who for fifty years

was not only an eloquent and powerful preacher among us, but recognized as a leader throughout the state in higher education. No attempt can be made in our present space adequately to report this address which will no doubt be furnished for publication soon.

The Sutton Installation

Wednesday evening was devoted to the program of installing Rev. Harley Sutton as executive secretary of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education. It was conducted by the board's president, Dr. Edgar D. Van Horn, and was an inspiring service from the opening song, "Our God Our Help in Ages Past," through invocation, scriptures, historical statement by Dean A. E. Whitford, charge to the secretary by Pastor Everett T. Harris, acceptance by Mr. Sutton, and prayer of dedication by Dean Ahva J. C. Bond. By the time Secretary Sutton finished the address of the evening on "Teaching the Truth," the audience must have felt that, in choosing and setting him apart to this important field of service, the board had made a wise choice.

As this program will be reported through the Christian Education Board's department no further attempt will be made here. Dean Whitford's Historical Statement, published in this issue, should be given the careful reading it deserves.

THURSDAY MORNING

Action on Federal Council

An interesting session was largely occupied by the report of a special committee on Relations with the Federal Council with Rev. Lester G. Osborn and Rev. Jay W. Crofoot as co-chairman. The report is as follows:

After two years of existence and considerable correspondence and several meetings both before and during Conference, so far the committee finds itself unable to prepare any statement or recommendation with regard to the issue it was appointed to consider. Like certain juries, we find ourselves compelled to disagree as to withdrawing from the Federal Council. Since a letter from the Boulder Church asking that this session of Conference does not take action this year has been received, we therefore recommend that the present committee be discharged.

The report with its recommendation was adopted. Whereupon a resolution was offered from the Conference floor for Conference to appoint a committee to present the opinions of those who are dissatisfied with membership in the Federal Council. The mo-

tion to adopt this resolution was lost by a vote of forty-three to seventy-eight. The action seemed to be based, in part at least, on disapproval of Conference appointing and authorizing a committee to state in the Recorder one side only of an agitating question.

Bible Society Representative Speaks

Rev. Harold E. Dickins, representing the American Bible Society—a society which we support and in which we have appointed representation—spoke in a most interesting and inspiring way. The address was full of information concerning the society's work and effort to meet the strain of the times in publishing and distributing the Word of God.

Board of Religious Education

The recently amalgamated Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education, President Edgar D. Van Horn presiding, presented a program of carefully prepared, inspiring worship. The prayer was offered by Rev. Erlo E. Sutton who for so many years has prepared and edited material for our Sabbath school paper, the Helping Hand. Dr. Van Horn presented the work of the board in a challenging address on Christian education in the post-war world. He warned against the danger of losing realization of the longing for a "higher better" life in our fondness for programs and showy organizations.

He spoke of the widening chasm threatened between those attracted by the emotional pentecostal type of religion and the groups seeking the "more excellent way" illustrated by the thirteenth chapter of 1 Corinthians. We must steer, he urged, between excessive emotionalism and calm formalism. Through the spirit let us not submerge our differences but commend them as helpful in higher living.

A Gospel Sermon

The morning session closed with a stirring gospel message by Rev. Lester G. Osborn, of Shiloh; he spoke so all could hear—a practice which more of our ministers and public speakers should follow. It is discouraging for a congregation to sit through long sessions straining to hear what some one is saying. We especially commend those who seriously heed the admonition: "stand up to be seen, speak up to be heard, and sit down to be appreciated." Many of us would do well to give attention to these things.

Pastor Osborn brought a biblical message on the righteousness which is from above,

with which we must be clothed as "born again" men and women. No righteousness of our own by good works, training, and service, is enough to avail (as important as they are). The speaker closed his message and appeal with the words of "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross." We hope to have the sermon for the Recorder readers.

Stirring Missionary Hour

The afternoon of the third day of Conference was given to the work of the Missionary Society under the direction of President Harold R. Crandall. On the platform sat representatives of our foreign and home mission fields. By the president and some of the others it was pointed out that distinctions were growing less between "home and foreign fields."

You will be interested to have presented those on this program's platform. As they appeared to the reporter at his right were Mrs. George Thorngate, Mrs. Luther W. Crichlow, Mrs. H. Eugene Davis, Dr. H. Eugene Davis, President Crandall, Rev. Orville W. Babcock, Rev. Earl Cruzan, and Rev. David S. Clarke; Secretary Burdick sat near the platform.

"The Church," said President Crandall in his address, exists to promulgate the gospel; that is the business of the Missionary Society and its board. Every generation and organization of the church must be missionary. We are co-workers with God.

Helen Thorngate (Mrs. George) read an excellent paper prepared by the society's treasurer, Karl G. Stillman, who could not be present personally. To us who know him intimately his personality was easily recognized in the address on "The Fine Art of Giving." As this appeared in the Missions' Department of the Recorder last week we need say no more than that by it we were encouraged and cheered by its forward look.

May R. Davis (Mrs. H. Eugene) spoke on their appreciation of the opportunity they have enjoyed serving in China. Just thirty-seven years ago at Alfred Conference she and Mr. Davis were set apart to this work. China is their home and has their heart. Three things she urged by telling story and pointed illustration: responsibility, caring and sharing. Of the Christians in China six per cent are listed in "Who's Who," a good showing of one hundred years in this ancient nation. Why

not have our General Conference in Shanghai in 1947—our mission's centennial year?

Dr. Davis gave a good demonstration of the advice quoted above about being seen, heard, and appreciated. Holding up a portion of a Chinese Bible he said, "Our missionary Dr. (D. H.) Davis put the Sabbath in that book. . . . You folks must go back home and start missionary societies among the boys—teaching them that God is true." He told of a group of people (alumni of our school) who, though in most straitened circumstances, pledged \$2,000 (Chinese money) monthly to care for Mrs. West because "Anna was there," during these times when American money is not reaching her and Mabel. "Suppose we all go back home and start work for God."

"Betwixt and Between"

"That's how our work in Jamaica seems to Martha Crichlow (Mrs. Luther W.). Hardly "foreign" and not quite a "home" mission field. In fact it seems to take less time to fly from Kingston, Jamaica, to Miami than from Salemville, Pa., to Alfred by means of land transportation.

Mrs. Crichlow described some of their feelings and reactions in reaching and finding out about Jamaica where five years were spent in the service. A school is greatly needed there and steps are being taken toward such an institution. Until such an organization can be effected, help is being sought and provided for some accredited young person to come to America for school privileges. People giving for this special work for Jamaica should indicate in making their gifts whether it is for the future school fund or for the current use of educating a Jamaican in this country. "Let love guide your gift. Where duty will give 1.00, love will give \$1.50." An extract from a letter of greetings was read from Mrs. Smellie, wife of our present representative, Rev. Charles Smellie.

Home Missions

Three strong addresses by missionary pastors gave encouragement and a challenge to enlarged endeavors on the home front. If the home base is not strengthened and enlarged, the work abroad will suffer and die.

Rev. Orville W. Babcock, pastor at Salemville, Pa., described location and interests of the church; he observed that its influence upon the community was out of proportion to its relative size. This has been made possible by the support of the Missionary Board. The

church is stronger than others in the community because of a "paid ministry."

Rev. David Clarke is the recently located and ordained minister at Jackson Center, Ohio. He laid emphasis on the need of every member being a missionary. The aggressive sects—Pentecostal, Jehovah's Witnesses, and others—offer us a challenge. Consecrated laymen can do more than the ministry in local witnessing for Christ. He declared that "too many wants" are influencing people to leave the Sabbath in order to gratify their desires.

"The time is here," he said, "to part with use of popular expressions like 'good luck,' 'thank your lucky stars,' and others, in favor of using a 'God bless you,' or 'Godspeed,' which is more Christian. Too, we must eradicate a 'part-time' Christian attitude of life."

We must not be interested only in down-and-out people but in bringing busy, successful men to Christ and to a richer, more devoted Christian life. The Church must make closer, more helpful contacts with absent members, especially those who are lone Sabbath

(Continued on page 182)

COMMISSION'S REPORT

[The report of the Commission was adopted by Conference as presented with a few minor changes. No amended report was printed or furnished to the Recorder for publication.

The fourth recommendation is given as amended—as your editor understood it. A minor change was made in wording of recommendation six; the addition of \$25 for Baptist World Alliance was made to the budget for 1945-46 without changing the total asking; and a phrase, "in the prosecution of the war," was eliminated from paragraph three of the Conclusion.—Editor.]

Your Commission would respectfully submit the Seventh Day Baptist Year Book for 1943 as its annual report for the year ending August 17, 1943, and for the year ending with this session of the General Conference, August 27, 1944, the following:

Members of the Commission for this year were as follows: Harley D. Bond, Salem, W. Va.; Harold R. Crandall, Westerly, R. I.; Leslie O. Greene, Salem, W. Va.; Perley B. Hurley, Riverside, Calif.; Hurley S. Warren, Plainfield, N. J.; and Albert N. Rogers, Alfred Station, N. Y.. Courtland V. Davis, Plainfield, N. J., was secretary.

The Commission as reorganized at the close of the meeting held at Conference time in 1943 has held three meetings: at Alfred, N. Y., August 17, 1943, for organization; at

Plainfield, N. J., April 10-12, 1944; and at Alfred, N. Y., August 15-20, 1944.

Albert N. Rogers and Perley B. Hurley were absent from the organization meeting, Perley B. Hurley and Harley D. Bond from the April meeting, and Hurley S. Warren from the pre-Conference meeting. Mr. Warren has been accepted as chaplain in the United States Army.

Harold R. Crandall has served as chairman of the Commission and has presided at every session.

The president of Conference, Albert N. Rogers, was instructed to prepare the program for this meeting of Conference.

The Auditing Committee of the Commission has scrutinized and approved for payment bills presented to the Conference Treasurer; it certifies that the reports of both the treasurer of Conference and the treasurer of the Denominational Budget have been duly audited by competent auditors.

The official list of ministers of the denomination has been drawn up for publication in the 1944 Year Book and is now in the hands of the secretary for examination by any who may be interested.

After due consideration the Commission at its April meeting unanimously voted in favor of holding the annual meeting of the General Conference, August 22-27, 1944, as scheduled.

The Commission ratified the action of the president of Conference in recognizing William D. Burdick as an additional member of the Committee to Promote the Financial Program.

The Commission records its appreciation of the painstaking plans and aggressive action of the Committee to Promote the Financial Program.

Victor W. Skaggs was made chairman of the Denominational Committee on Relief Appeals in the place of Mrs. Frank J. Hubbard, resigned.

A report of progress by Lester G. Osborn, chairman of the Committee to Study Seventh Day Baptist Relationship with the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America was presented to the Commission.

On the nomination of Lester G. Osborn, chairman, Loyal F. Hurley was appointed a member of the Committee on Relationship with the Federal Council to succeed Leon M. Maltby, resigned.

A sum not to exceed \$30.00 was allocated to the Committee on Relationship with the Federal Council to be used for travel expenses necessary for meeting of the chairman and co-chairman.

At the request of the Conference Committee on Relief Appeals the Commission points out that the Missionary Board has committees already at work planning for postwar reconstruction of our overseas responsibilities.

The Committee on Relief Appeals and the committees of the Missionary Board at work on this matter are entrusted with the preparation of the information to be used in the appeal for the extra giving for reconstruction.

The possibility of including in our denominational fund-raising the request for funds for interchurch or united projects both in Europe and in Asia is referred to the Missionary Board for study and recommendation to the Commission.

The following action was taken by the Commission and presented to the executive committee of the Federal Council at its meeting on May 16, 1944:

It was voted that the Commission of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference wishes to record the objection of that body to the unnecessary inclusion of the word "Sunday" in the material published by the Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America for use in the churches upon the occasion of World Wide Communion.

Because Seventh Day Baptists are constituent members of the Federal Council and have maintained that membership and taken an active part in that organization throughout its entire existence, because the observance of Sunday as a special day of rest and worship rests chiefly upon custom and convenience, and because Seventh Day Baptists choose to follow the dictates of the fourth commandment and the example of Christ in observing the seventh day of the week as the Sabbath, we feel that they are entitled to the courtesy of a hearing in this instance, and the consideration, by the Executive Committee of the Federal Council of a definite policy to be followed in this matter in future publications.

Our communication was referred to their advisory committee for consideration and report at the next meeting of the executive committee. Meantime we note that recently issued items of literature for World Wide Communion have met our point satisfactorily.

At the request of the National Council of the Service Men's Christian League an amount of \$35.34 has been included in the Conference Budget for the year beginning October 1, 1944, for that organization.

Herbert C. Van Horn and Harley Sutton were appointed representatives of the denomination on the National Council of the Service Men's Christian League.

Since Ahva J. C. Bond has been appointed to assist in the work of visitation in the Civilian Public Service Camps, an item not to exceed fifty dollars for his expenses has been allotted from the contingent fund.

The Commission believes that special attention should be given to the maintenance of contact with members of our churches and congregations who are temporarily or permanently located in the larger Metropolitan areas, particularly in the New York City and Chicago areas, urges pastors and laymen to keep the corresponding secretary of the Tract Society promptly informed on names and current addresses of all members of their churches and congregations who may be residing temporarily or permanently outside their immediate territory, and commends the corresponding secretary of the Tract Society for his activities in this direction and urges him to enlarge them as his other duties will permit.

There is a shortage of Seventh Day Baptist ministers to fill the pulpits of our churches. Several pastors have been called to other fields of denominational work and to the chaplaincy of the army. Theological students completing their course at Alfred this year were employed as soon as available. Realizing that the war will deter some from making their decision to prepare for such work, the Commission would urge our churches to give this matter their prayerful consideration and canvass their membership with the hope that young men may be led by God's Spirit to decide to enter this most important kingdom task.

The secretary of the Commission is directed to annually request from each of the boards and agencies participating in the denominational budget seven copies of its proposed budget in full, its estimated income by sources, and the amount which it believes should be included in the denominational budget for its work.

The Commission expresses to the local committee and to Alfred University its appreciation of the services offered in entertainment of the Commission during its meetings at Alfred.

Recommendations

The Commission recommends:

1. That the following be our representatives at the proposed conference called by the Commission on a Just and Durable Peace to be held in Cleveland, Ohio, January 16-19, 1945: The incoming president of Conference; Ahva J. C. Bond, who is a member of the Commission on a Just and Durable Peace; J. Nelson Norwood; Elmo F. Randolph; and Marion C. Van Horn.

2. That the Conference approve the proposed organization of the Committee in the United States for the World Council of Churches and that our representative and alternate be included in the report of the nominating committee.

3. That the Committee on Relief Appeals in the Churches be continued and that it be urged to enlarge its work of disseminating all useful information and continually keeping before us the dire needs of humanity that we, as a denomination, may better serve our Lord and, in his name, our suffering fellow men.

4. That the editor of the Year Book wait not later than October 15 for reports and other materials meant to be included therein. No supplement of material received later will be printed.

5. That the name of the Committee to Promote the Financial Program be changed to the Committee on Budget Promotion.

6. That the Commission study the possibility of establishing a uniform plan for retirement for pastors, employees, and missionaries. That this plan should include minimum and maximum ages for retirement and a livable retirement allowance depending upon the period of service.

7. That Conference recommend to the Missionary Board that temporarily a revision be made in its budget, reducing the amount allotted for foreign missions and increasing the amount for home missions so that a pastor may be placed for a period of years on a living salary, in a promising field. The Commission has made such a revision in the proposed allotment of funds to the Missionary Board from the Denominational Budget.

8. That the president of Conference be authorized to ask other members of the Commission to represent him in visiting the churches, with expenses paid by Conference within the limits of the budget for the traveling expenses of the President.

9. That the following be adopted as the Denominational Budget for the year beginning October 1, 1944, and ending September 30, 1945:

Missionary Society		
Home Missions	\$3,800.00	
Foreign Missions	2,100.00	
Administration	900.00	
Retirement Allowances	500.00	
Evangelistic Work	500.00	
Debt Reduction	400.00	
Reconstruction and Rehabilitation	600.00	
		\$ 8,800.00
Tract Society		
Sabbath Recorder	\$ 500.00	
Administration	1,090.00	
General Printing and Distribution of Literature	1,200.00	
Light and Janitor Service	150.00	
		2,940.00
Board of Christian Education		
School of Theology	\$2,000.00	
Administration	1,905.00	
Church School Work	575.00	
The Beacon	100.00	
Young People at Camp and Conference	100.00	
International Council of Religious Education	70.00	
		4,750.00
Women's Society		160.00
Historical Society		
General Fund	\$ 250.00	
Light and Janitor Service	150.00	
		400.00
Ministerial Retirement		2,200.00
Seventh Day Baptist Building		
Maintenance	\$ 800.00	
Repairs and replacement	200.00	
		1,000.00
General Conference		
World Council of Churches	\$ 25.00	
Federal Council of Churches	80.00	
Year Book	420.00	
Binding Additional Year Books for Historical Society	10.00	
Committee to Promote the Financial Program	150.00	
General Commission on Army and Navy Chaplains	120.00	
Committee on Relief Appeals in the Churches	50.00	
Expenses of Conference	800.00	
Contingent Fund	345.00	
		2,000.00
		\$ 22,250.00

10. That the Conference propose to the people for study that the budget for the year beginning October 1, 1945, and ending September 30, 1946, be as follows:

Missionary Society		
Home Missions	\$3,800.00	
Foreign Missions	2,500.00	
Administration	900.00	
Evangelistic Work	500.00	
Retirement Allowance	600.00	
Reconstruction and Rehabilitation	700.00	
		\$ 9,000.00
Tract Society		
Sabbath Recorder	\$ 500.00	
Administration	1,150.00	
General Printing and Distribution of Literature	1,200.00	
Light and Janitor Service	150.00	
Field Work	500.00	
		3,500.00
Board of Christian Education		
School of Theology	\$2,000.00	
Recruiting for the Ministry	200.00	
Administration	1,905.00	
Church School Work	575.00	
Young People's Work	400.00	
Young People at Camp and Conference	100.00	
International Council of Religious Education	70.00	
		5,250.00
Women's Society		200.00
Historical Society		
General Fund	\$ 350.00	
Light and Janitor Service	150.00	
		500.00
Ministerial Retirement		2,500.00
Seventh Day Baptist Building		1,000.00
Supplementing Pastors' Salaries		1,000.00
General Conference		
World Council of Churches	\$ 25.00	
Federal Council of Churches	80.00	
Year Book	420.00	
Binding Additional Year Books for Historical Society	10.00	
Committee to Promote the Financial Program	150.00	
General Commission on Army and Navy Chaplains	120.00	
Committee on Relief Appeals in the Churches	50.00	
Expenses of Conference	1,000.00	
Baptist World Alliance	25.00	
Contingent Fund	320.00	
		2,200.00
		\$ 25,150.00

Conclusion

Our hearts overflow with gratitude to God for every evidence of his goodness and the infilling of his spirit in guiding our deliberations and activities.

Since the establishment of the Commission of the General Conference never have there been more extensive and more serious responsibilities imposed upon it than has been the lot of this present Commission—because of the omission of the session of Conference in 1943 and of the continued nervous and emotional strain caused by world conditions. Serious and arresting are the problems that have confronted the Commission and that concern General Conference and the Seventh Day Baptist denomination. In every session of the Commission the responsibility has been impressive and utter dependence upon divine grace and guidance recognized. A devout spiritual tone has marked the devotional periods and a spirit of humility and reverence has always been present as we have sought to be true co-laborers with our heavenly Father in the advance of his kingdom in the earth. There has been a gratifying unity of spirit and purpose as the business and problems that have been ours have been freely, frankly, and fully discussed.

The Church of Jesus Christ never has had more imposing and far-reaching responsibilities than it has in these days. There is no time for bickering or quibbling. Divisiveness can never be productive of progress. United effort continually is held before us in national affairs in these times. Unless there is co-operation and united effort among the nations and unless there is a unity of purpose permeated by the spirit of the Prince of Peace, there can be no hope of enduring peace. There will be no Christian spirit prevailing in the world unless it is apparent in the Church. The spirit of Christ can prevail only to the extent in which the individuals who compose his Church are willing to let his virtues, greatest of which is love, be apparent in their lives. This means you and me—each one of us. "God is not the author of confusion, but of peace." (1 Cor. 14: 33.)

That the spirit of God may prevail in the life of each one of us to the advancement of his cause and to his glory, is our devout prayer as we submit this report.

Harold R. Crandall,
Chairman,

Courtland V. Davis,
Secretary.

Missions

Rev. William L. Burdick, D.D., Ashaway, R. I.

Correspondence should be addressed to Rev. William L. Burdick, Ashaway, R. I.
Checks and money orders should be drawn to the order of Karl G. Stillman, Westerly, R. I.

ANNUAL REPORT
(Conclusion)

The foregoing paragraphs give only a bare outline of the work done and the good accomplished. Neither do they portray the faithfulness of the board members and missionaries, home and foreign, some of whom have endured unusual hardships.

The Board of Managers are grateful to all who have supported the work with their funds, influence, and prayers, and are devoutly thankful to the Father for his blessings on our efforts and for the protection of our missionaries.

Seventh Day Baptists have had an unbroken history in America for nearly three hundred years. In England their oldest church, now extant, was founded over three centuries past; in Europe and Asia they have been active since the days of John the Baptist.

Our forebears have had parts in the accomplishments of nineteen hundred years. The apostles and others who established Christ's kingdom and founded churches in all of the then known world were Seventh Day Baptists. Today instead of being discouraged because we are not a larger denomination, we ought to thank God that with the gospel he has given us the knowledge of the Sabbath of Christ, that he has called us to proclaim the truth, and that he has given us grace to uphold the Bible Sabbath though others neglect it.

This is a day of great uncertainty and turmoil. The states and kingdoms of Europe and Asia are tottering. Some have already fallen and dark clouds sometimes appear on the skies of our beloved land. Christianity is the hope of all nations and peoples; but Christianity is struggling for an existence.

This is true in America, and in some other countries there are movements to blot it out entirely. Christ established Christian missions that all nations might be Christianized and all men redeemed. His churches must not falter in this day of crisis. Seventh Day Baptists must not fail him. As already stated they have had part in the advancement of his kingdom from the beginning. We, their children who have inherited so much, must dedicate all to him and carry forward Christian missions, home and foreign, with renewed vigor, and then we may sincerely sing:

"Faith of our fathers! living still
In spite of dungeon, fire, and sword,
O how our hearts beat high with joy
Whene'er we hear that glorious word!
Faith of our fathers; holy faith,
We will be true to thee till death."

In behalf of and approved by the Board of Managers,

William L. Burdick,
Corresponding Secretary.

Westerly, R. I.,
July 23, 1944.

TREASURER'S MONTHLY STATEMENT
July 1, 1944, to July 31, 1944

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

Dr.	
Cash on hand July 1, 1944	\$2,587.10
S. D. B. Memorial Fund income for quarter ended May 31, 1944	1,162.23
1st Hebron, Pa., Vacation Bible School for Jamaica	6.35
Semiannual meeting Northern Wisconsin and Southern Minnesota churches	12.50
Jamaica School Fund gifts as follows:	
Mrs. D. Burdett Coon, Attica, Kan.	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Ervin W. Bevin, Attica, Kan.	10.00
Waterford, Conn.	5.00
Mrs. A. F. Randolph, Plainfield, N. J.	5.00
First Alfred, N. Y.	10.00
Rev. and Mrs. C. F. Knott	5.60
Waterford, Conn. for American Bible Society	10.00
First Hebron, Pa.	15.00
M. Carrie Rockwell Fund, Westerly, R. I., for foreign missions	7.12
Mrs. M. M. Lanphear, Proberta, Calif., for Dr. Grace Crandall China Relief Work	5.00
Clifford F. Lamson, E. Taunton, Mass., for missionary evangelistic work	10.00
Mrs. A. F. Randolph, Plainfield, N. J., for Ministerial Retirement Fund	5.00
Mrs. Abbie Burdick, Lockport, N. Y.	1.00
Denominational Budget (additional for period from October 1, 1943 to June 30, 1944)	157.19
Denominational Budget—on account of July	125.36
Chicago, Ill.	5.00
Verona, N. Y., for China	1.00
Little Genesee, N. Y.	5.00
First Hopkinton, R. I.	68.00
Milton Jct., Wis.	15.00
Battle Creek, Mich.	16.00
Marlboro, N. J., for work of C. A. Beebe	6.00
North Loup, Neb., for Missionary Travel Fund	15.00
Rockville, R. I.	2.75
First Alfred, N. Y., for China	10.00

First Alfred, N. Y., for Mrs. D. Zan Wai Ting	10.00
c/o Dr. Crandall	5.40
Gentry, Ark.	248.36
Permanent Fund income	
	<u>\$4,551.96</u>

Cr.	
Jamaica Payments as follows:	
Rev. C. L. Smellie	
Salary	\$66.00
Native workers	39.59
Jamaica Mission School gifts for July	35.00
	<u>\$ 140.59</u>

Rev. Neal D. Mills	27.50
Rev. Earl Cruzan	27.50
Rev. Orville W. Babcock	27.50
Rev. Verney A. Wilson	16.67
Rev. Clifford A. Beebe	27.50
Rev. William L. Burdick	
Salary	\$125.00
House and office rent	25.00
Clerk	33.33
Office supplies	6.23
	<u>189.56</u>

Rev. Herbert L. Polan	10.00
Rev. E. S. Ballenger	20.00
Treasurer's expense	20.00
Rev. David S. Clarke	27.50
Mrs. George P. Kenyon	10.00
Rev. R. R. Thorngate	10.00
China Payments as follows:	
Rev. H. Eugene Davis	\$75.00
Dr. Rosa W. Palmberg	30.00
	<u>105.00</u>

Debt Fund share additional Denominational Budget receipts for period from Oct. 1, 1943, to June 30, 1944	20.50
Debt Fund share portion July Denominational Budget	16.35
Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Fund share portion July Denominational Budget	6.52
Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Fund share additional Denominational Budget receipts for period from Oct. 1, 1943 to June 30, 1944	8.17
American Bible Society—Waterford gift	10.00
Cash on hand July 31, 1944	3,831.10
	<u>\$4,551.96</u>

Accounts payable as at July 31, 1944:	
China	\$3,437.44
Germany	2,166.67
Holland	2,150.00
	<u>\$7,754.11</u>

REPORT OF REV. C. L. SMELLIE FOR
QUARTER ENDING JUNE 30, 1944

I respectfully submit this report to the American Missionary Board through its corresponding secretary. To God I ascribe the glory, praise, and honor for the strength to accomplish that which I have done—although permanently unwell.

Each weekly Bible school I have attended for the quarter, held at one place or another, and have given all the help I can; neither has a Sabbath or Sunday night passed that I did not preach at one of our churches.

I was privileged to serve the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on three occasions, and conducted or attended vesper each Sabbath. Just once have I fasted for the quarter, and this occasion was with the Kingston Church.

The holding of missionary meetings has been a new item to us, and so we have staged three for the quarter. These efforts call for a lot of my time, but the benefits derived therefrom more than compensate for the energy. Apart from bringing before the public and our people the way their contribution is used and the result by converts, these meetings have added £10.16.5½ to our Missionary Fund. Kingston contributed £8.2.9½ for this grand contribution. I have congratulated her as a church, and informed her of the pleasure it affords me to be associated with her as pastor. Bowensville, under the leadership of Pastor N. H. Grant, £1.5.0; Luna, under Brother A. S. Finn, £2.13.9; and Cottage, under Brother J. Allen, £1.8.8. Here I must give a word of praise and appreciation for their co-operation and the field in general for its moral and financial support. A crown of righteousness awaits them if they faint not.

Following our Lord and Master's example, I have been mindful to ask God's blessing on five infants.

I was able to make eleven sick and family visits; five business visits on behalf of the denomination; presided at, or gave material help to, five business meetings; and conducted five Bible studies. I also gave three addresses; presided over C. E. once, when the officers were inducted into office for the ensuing year; and wrote twelve letters to the field and abroad. Mrs. Smellie has written nearly as many and has made many of these visits with me—and others of her own.

These activities along with the field in general have been responsible for the addition of two new members against one death. I was responsible for the funeral service.

1 Slipe Pen Road,
Kingston, Jamaica,
August 6, 1944.

WORLD CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP AND THE LEADERSHIP OF THE CHURCH

By Dean Ahva J. C. Bond

(Address given during the panel discussion
of the first session of Conference.)

I raised my eyes and looked, and lo, there was a man with a measuring line in his hand! Then I said,

"Where are you going?"

He said to me,

"To measure Jerusalem, to see how broad and how long it should be."

And lo, as the angel who talked with me was going away, another angel came forth to meet him. And he said to him,

"Run, speak to that young man yonder, saying, 'Jerusalem shall be inhabited like unwalled villages, because of the mass of men and beasts within her; and I will be unto her,' is the oracle of the Lord, 'a wall of fire round about her, and I will be the splendor within her.'"

The walls are down. Those still standing, held up by force, are crumbling. Certainly it is not the plan of God now, no more than it was in Zechariah's time, to build new walls on the old foundations. Rapid transportation and communication await the end of the war. Co-operation and interpenetration will continue and increase. All mankind must live as in unwalled villages, with God their protector round about and their splendor within.

It was just thirty years ago now that Rev. Gerard Velthuysen, Jr., of Holland, was a delegate to our Conference held here in Alfred. He suddenly left in the midst of the sessions to hurry home on account of the war in Europe. And how remote from us the affairs of Europe seemed at that time. But no longer! And never again! The walls are down. And while Gerald Smith of the "America First" party and his ilk would try to rebuild on the old foundations, the angels of the Lord give warning and call for a policy of expansion.

I have spoken of Elder Velthuysen's experience in 1914. Holland stayed out of the war that time. Six years ago his son-in-law said to me in Holland, "Our country is in danger because members of our own government are following Nazi leadership." There were no barriers against ideas or ideologies. But here is the fact on which to build: if there are no barriers against ideas coming in, there are none against their going out. The important thing is, what kind of ideas shall be cultivated and transmitted.

There are two important thoughts in my theme. At first they seemed rather widely separated. On further consideration I was convinced otherwise. "World Christian Fellowship and the Leadership of the Church" can be discussed as a single theme.

In view of what I have said about the world as an unwalled village and the important question being what kind of ideas are to be cultivated and transmitted, let me say here that this is no time for any denomination or group of Christians to unhitch

from the team and tug at something less than the main load. They may be found guilty of dividing the body of Christ! Only those beliefs are worth contending for, or holding at all, which give strength to the whole Church of Christ. Let me be concrete here. Whatever beliefs or practices Seventh Day Baptists have that others have rejected or overlooked should be preserved and strengthened. But why? First, because they add spiritual strength to our own life. And second, because they enrich our contribution to the work of the whole Church in the world. Run, speak to that young man yonder. World terms, and nothing less, can express our total Christian interest. World needs challenge our efforts.

The encouraging thing about my conversation with Brother Zijlstra in Rotterdam was the fact that I was returning from his ancient city of Utrecht with a constitution for a World Council of Churches. And let no one think for a moment that that movement is dead, or that the organization is not functioning. I believe with many others that the next century will be the century, not of the dictator, but of the Church. The situation in all lands, even in Japan and Germany, supports that conviction.

From that far vision and broad picture of the world-field of Christian responsibility and opportunity I turn to the second thought in my topic, with no sense of being affected by astigmatism or myopia—of crooked vision or nearsightedness. I turn my thoughts to any young pastor of a small church and see him as a leader in the Church of God as he leads in his own parish. God's protecting fire and gracious splendor reach beyond the horizon of that small parish to the outer rim of the world.

If walls are down and boundary lines of ideas are wiped out, then the potent ideas which he holds, and the vital, vibrant spirit which he and his people have and cultivate, and the Christian tasks which they perform, affect the life of the world through the Church of Christ. The half-gods must go. And the half-hearted followers of the true God must sense anew the splendor of his presence and the power of his love.

I know our Conference president, who assigned me this subject, expects me to say something about our School of Theology and

its place in the training, of leaders in the Church. I shall make it brief. Our first graduate after I became Dean of the School finished in 1938. Beginning with Luther Crichlow, graduate of that year, I give you these young ministers as evidence of the quality of work done in Alfred School of Theology.

But let me pass on to you information concerning the teaching staff, by which these results are accomplished. Of course you know about the three men who do the larger share of the teaching. You may not know of the men in retirement who also teach. You know that students may elect work in the College of Liberal Arts. You may not know that, during the last three years, our students have taken work under six college professors. You know we have brought to our campus some of our leading ministers for a series of lectures. You may not know that they have included Secretary Burdick of the Missionary Board; Secretary Van Horn of the Tract Board; Secretary Sutton, now of the Board of Christian Education; Pastor Rogers, our Conference president; and Pastor Osborn, its recording secretary.

Besides the regular teachers and the supplemental teaching of the men now retired, and besides the opportunity to take work in the college, and the special lectures, next year three of our younger ministers will teach classes. I would like to name them here. They are Rev. Everett T. Harris, Rev. Harley Sutton, and Rev. Albert N. Rogers.

We need your continued and increased financial support in order to strengthen our teaching force. We need your informed and intelligent co-operation and your sincere and earnest prayers. Together with all these things, which we need and must have to succeed, continue to send to Alfred your young men who have heard the call of God. Send your brilliant young men? Yes, if you have them. Send us the scholarly type? By all means, yes. Send your young men of pleasing personality and who are good mixers? Well . . . yes. But whatever else they may have, or may lack, send us young men with good common sense and at least average ability; young men with warm hearts and open minds; young men of vision and consecration, with devotion and courage; young men with a will to seek the truth wherever it leads, who will put up their measuring

lines, lest they wall out the splendor of God, and who will challenge the world with the saving message of Christ. It is our desire and purpose, with your united assistance, to prepare here at Alfred young men big enough and brave enough and with consecration enough to be a part of a world Christian fellowship as leaders in the Church, in a small denomination and without apologies.

Woman's Work

Mrs. Okey W. Davis, Salem, W. Va.

ANNUAL REPORT OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WOMEN'S SOCIETY OF THE SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE 1943-44

The work of the board has been carried on almost entirely by committees this year. The work entrusted to the Ways and Means Committee has been the supervision of the project of evangelism. Our evangelist, Rev. L. O. Greene, has been working under very difficult circumstances due to travel restrictions. Since our last annual report he has made a trip through the northwest; spent three months with the church at Jackson Center, Ohio; and several weeks on the Florida field. This summer he has visited the churches of the Eastern Association. Somewhat detailed reports of his work have been printed in the Sabbath Recorder. The many expressions of appreciation which have come to this committee show he is being well received on the field and is supplying a real need in our denomination. Many calls are coming for Evangelist Greene. More work is waiting to be done than Mr. Greene can do. The need for assistants is very evident. Perhaps, in the near future, we will be able to provide more workers for all or part-time service. The committee appreciates the loyal support our women have given and the spirit of co-operation shown by the churches and boards. We are looking forward with faith that such co-operation with our evangelist may bring about a real spiritual awakening.

Following is a brief summary of the annual report of the Promoter of Evangelism:

On July 1, 1943, Rev. and Mrs. L. O. Greene were near the close of a two months' period of work with the church at Middle Island, W. Va. Then followed two months of work with the First Hebron Church near Coudersport, Pa., after which Mr. Greene started with Rev. H. C. Van Horn on a mission to Jerome, Idaho. The churches in

We propose to send out leaders true to the Word of God—more concerned to keep the power channels open upward and the service channels open outward than to withdraw behind the walls of tradition and dogma, making way for the protection of God round about and the splendor of God within, with no power for service except in him and no other glory of achievement.

Albion, Wis., Denver, Colo., and the mission in Des Moines, Iowa, were visited en route.

War time restrictions limited the work at Jerome. Local Sabbath keepers were greatly encouraged; and people in Boise, Idaho, and in Utah and Colorado were visited.

The program of visitation evangelism was presented in the Boulder Church, where a group was organized for study in preparation for the work. At North Loup, Neb., the Ladies' Society responded to the invitation to join in the program of personal work.

Three months were spent with the church in Jackson Center, Ohio, followed by three months at Daytona Beach, Fla. While at Daytona two visits were made to Palatka and Carraway in Putnam County to assist Rev. Elizabeth F. Randolph who is giving her best efforts in every way to the task of building up that church.

On the way north from Florida, the first week in June was spent at Franklin City, Va., where Ella Mae Davis is conducting a small mission in her home. This is a very promising field. There are now fourteen Sabbath keepers and at least three others awaiting baptism.

At the close of June, Rev. and Mrs. Greene are spending a weekend with each church of the Eastern Association organizing groups that will devote some definite time to Christian witnessing. Pleased with the response everywhere, they have great faith that our people are going forward carrying the message of salvation.

A summary of the work to June 30 shows visits and calls made 322; sermons or addresses 146; letters written 164; receipts on the field \$77.00; traveling expenses \$329.82; other expenses \$39.54; salary \$1,020.00.

The Spiritual Welfare Committee has very earnestly striven to promote the spiritual life of our men and women in military service. An Honor Roll of our women in service of our country was compiled, and Christmas and Eastern greeting cards were mailed to these women. The Honor Roll of the churches published in the Recorder of July 10, 1944, was compiled by this committee. This list is incomplete because so many women's societies failed to answer the request for names. It is hoped that as corrections and additions

are noted by Recorder readers they will be mailed to Mrs. Okey W. Davis, to whom much credit is due for the compiling of this list, or to Mrs. Ottis Swiger, chairman of the committee. The committee feels overwhelmed by the immensity of the project of promoting the spiritual welfare of those in service. They feel the need of the prayers of all our women that they may really be of service in this work, and they will welcome helpful suggestions. They greatly appreciate the co-operation of key workers and others who have assisted them.

The Histories Committee has received thirteen histories of women's societies and has compiled them in booklet form to be sent to Conference at Alfred, N. Y. Mrs. Gladys Vincent, Salem, W. Va., hopes to receive histories of the other societies soon.

The chief problem of the Peace Committee is the choice of the most suitable study material from the multiplicity of material now available. From time to time brief reviews are prepared and appear in the Recorder as the result of the study of this committee. The committee purposes to stimulate co-operation with other denominational groups studying the problems of peace; as suggesting the observance of a Peace Sabbath.

The Christian Culture Committee has prepared the worship programs for the Women's Societies throughout the year. The reading material studied and suggested by this committee has been largely correlated with that of the Peace Committee, keeping in mind particularly that which relates to problems of peace and postwar planning. The committee has endeavored to assist Evangelist Greene in his program of personal evangelism. Two sets of letters have been sent to the societies. The ultimate goal is to enlist a thousand workers who will pledge them-

selves to try to win at least one person to Christ during the year.

Mrs. Okey W. Davis is the board's representative on the World Literacy and Christian Literature Committee of the Foreign Missions Conference. The dual function of this committee, making illiterates literate and preparing suitable material for the newly literate, has particular appeal to a people deeply interested in Christian education as is our denomination. Mrs. Davis was unable to attend the meetings of this committee in New York but did represent the board at the Jubilee meeting of the Foreign Missions Conference in Chicago in January. As editor of the Woman's Page of the Recorder, she has furnished material for each regular issue, except when mail was late, and for several special issues. We commend reports from the various societies and appreciate the helpful contributions of individuals.

Mrs. Frank J. Hubbard is the board's representative of the Foreign Missions Conference; she did not attend the meeting this year.

The goals prepared by the Goals' Committee, adopted by the directors, and recommended for the use of the societies were used by most of the societies reporting.

A large number of societies have been active in Red Cross sewing, knitting, and folding of surgical dressings. Some societies have purchased war bonds.

We regret that no reports have been received from the Central, Southwestern, and Washington, D. C., associations at the time this report must go to press.

It is through the co-operation of the correspondents of the associations and the secretaries and key workers of the societies that the following statistical report is possible.

Lotta M. Bond,
Corresponding Secretary.

NAME	Society Reporting	Number Members	Local Work	United Budget	Other Projects	TOTALS
Eastern	8	369	\$ 580.26	\$ 739.50	\$ 651.55	\$1,971.31
Western	9	257	608.60	405.00	139.00	1,152.60
Northwestern	8	390	1,535.47	669.21	582.40	2,787.08
Pacific Coast	1	.....	158.75	100.00	76.25	335.00
Southeastern	5	153	1,264.71	174.00	237.26	1,675.97
Central .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Southwestern .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Washington, D. C. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals	31	1,169	\$4,147.79	\$2,087.71	\$1,686.46	\$7,921.96

Annual Report, June 30, 1943—June 30, 1944
Venie E. Bond, Treasurer

Debit		
Balance, June 30, 1943	\$	782.05
Treasurer, S. D. B. Denominational Budget:		
Denominational Budget	\$171.29	
Specials	363.50	534.79
Contributions:		
Church and societies	\$844.00	
Individuals	155.50	999.50
L. H. North, refund on expenses for Year		16.50
Book space		16.50
	\$2,332.39	
Credit		
The Fox Printing Company:		
Annual reports to Conference	\$8.00	
Envelopes	3.85	11.85
The Recorder Press, space, Year Book	38.50	38.50
Foreign Missions Conference of North America		20.00
Mrs. Okey W. Davis:		
Expenses as delegate to Jubilee meet-		
ing, Foreign Missions Conference,		
Chicago	\$25.78	
Registration fee	3.00	28.78
Mrs. Audrey Stephan, typing and supplies		6.71
United Council Church Women, fifty sets ma-		
terial for World Community Day		2.24
Ed. Lipscomb, hauling for Rev. L. O. Greene		1.65
Expense of committees		12.00
Officers of the board, postage, etc.		14.00
Rent for Rev. Leslie O. Greene		145.00
Rev. Leslie O. Greene, Promoter of		
Evangelism:		
Office supplies	\$ 7.74	
Salary to June 15, 1944	1,020.00	
Transportation to May 31, 1944	285.30	
Room and meals, en route	23.45	
	1,336.49	
Balance, June 30, 1944	715.17	
	\$2,332.39	

Salem, West Virginia,
July 13, 1944.

Compared with books and vouchers and found correct.
Sylvia K. Davis.

WHAT THE CHURCHES ARE DOING

(The panel address given by Courtland V. Davis on the opening program of Conference.)

Anything I may tell you tonight of what is being done by the churches in this world crisis I shall base on the assumption that you and I know that the churches of our land are carrying forward their usual work in bringing Christ and a hope of salvation to those about them and in strengthening and teaching those who have chosen Christ and are trying to follow him. There is much of evidence to support this assumption, much to indicate an even more vigorous approach to these tasks, for these are first things.

Are there others?

Extending the arm of the church and widening its area of usefulness in these first things are the chaplains in our armed services. Through them the churches work.

But whence came the chaplains? How arose the opportunities that are afforded them? In a period of nearly a year of service in the army of the United States a quarter of a century ago and including six weeks in an army hospital, I never saw a chaplain. My son, now in the army, had a chaplain at his side in recruit camp, in training, in illness in the army hospital, and on the troop transport, as well as in camp overseas. Fundamental to this difference is a new attitude toward the chaplaincy on the part of authorities in the Army and Navy—due largely to the joint activities of the churches through the General Commission on Army and Navy Chaplains. This organization has served to make the chaplaincy understood in the churches, to recruit applicants, to clear the endorsements of denominational sponsors, to give voice to the Protestant churches of America in their dealings with the services, to furnish easily accessible and officially recognized backing and encouragement to the individual chaplains on active duty. Seventh Day Baptists are proud of their four chaplains now in the United States Army and are happy in the security afforded them in their work by the support and backing of a united and vocal Protestant America.

Seventh Day Baptists help in the support of the Service Men's Christian League and its organ "The Link." There were more than a thousand known organized units of the League at the close of 1943. In less than two weeks after the first combat units went ashore at Pantelleria a unit had been organized and was at work. More than two and a half million copies of "The Link" were distributed during the past year. More were asked for than the League was able to supply.

The Christian Commission for Camp and Defense Communities is co-ordinating the work of many denominational and interdenominational agencies in these sore spots. People torn from their accustomed communities and tossed, crowded, lonely, and often unwelcome into the hastily constructed and temporary housing of these camp and war work communities find little of the stability of the normal community, much to invite laxness and degeneration. The church has a special mission to such people. Some of our churches are situated where they can help in this work and are vigorously active

in it. For most of our churches the help given is through our membership in the Federal Council, sponsor of the Christian Commission for Camp and Defense Communities, and our membership in the International Council of Religious Education.

The Committee on Foreign Relief Appeals now known as the Church Committee on Overseas Relief and Reconstruction has been the arm of the churches in their effort to bring spiritual reconciliation, physical emergency relief, emergency rehabilitation, and finally general reconstruction to war devastated peoples. This committee has raised funds for and worked through nine established service agencies in this field and representing Christian relief. Individual members of the Churches have of course taken their part in the generous giving toward war relief work that has characterized Americans as a whole. But through this arm of the church and through these agencies our churches have been able to channel additional and special aid as Christians to brothers in need. The response has been generous and the work, world-wide in scope, has been prompt and efficient. With the release of other peoples from totalitarian rule the needs increase and will continue to increase for some time. Our efforts, individually and as churches, must be redoubled in this outpouring of Christian sympathy.

You have read in the public prints of the difficulties faced by our government in handling the Japanese people in this country and of the difficulties faced by well-intentioned Japanese in adjusting to the unfortunate situation in which they find themselves. Through the Commission on Aliens and Prisoners of War the churches have done much to help in securing the prompt return of these evacuees to normal society and life in those areas where resettlement is permitted, in developing a friendly public opinion toward the evacuees, in opening employment opportunities, in housing, and in religious and social fellowship. Few, if any, of our churches have been in position to be active directly in this work but again all have shared through Seventh Day Baptist membership in two of the sponsoring groups. Through this Commission, too, we have had a part in the chaplaincy service for the rapidly increasing number of prisoners of war in this country.

The Bible must be today—as it has always been—the churches' source book, the background and basis of all its activities. More and more the church must emphasize and practice its historic function as a teaching institution. In a literate world that means a larger and yet larger circulation of the world's all-time best seller among books. The responsibility for the use of the Bible and its circulation among all the nations rests primarily upon the churches' leaders in Bible distribution; the American Bible Society has had the support of Seventh Day Baptists throughout the years. Through that agency we are having a part in meeting the tremendous demand for Bibles in the armed services and among people torn from their accustomed moorings and adrift in seas for which they lack both chart and compass, the world around.

The churches, too, are realistically facing the problems of tomorrow already taking shape as nations are freed from totalitarianism to fall, unpracticed and untutored in democratic procedures, into a morass of conflicting isms and ideologies, leaving ready openings for ambitious and unscrupulous traffic in human welfare. Probably no proposal for dealing with these problems has faced the situation more squarely, nor dealt with it more adequately than the proposals drawn up by the churches' Commission on the Bases of a Just and Durable Peace. It is significant that the proposals of this Commission have drawn the serious attention and approval of religious and secular groups and leaders throughout the world and that the Commission's chairman has been recently and publicly invited to a consultation with our own State Department upon these problems. Of the activity of this Commission and of Seventh Day Baptist participation in it, you will, I think, shortly hear more.

As we draw toward that longed-for V-Day, may we pray that God may keep our churches free, active, not seeking their own lives—lest they lose them—but seeking to know and to do his will, that his kingdom may come on earth in very truth—and in our time.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON
FOR SEPTEMBER 23, 1944

Religion in the Life of a Nation.

Scripture—2 Samuel, Chapters 6 and 7.

Golden Text—Isaiah 60: 19.

Young People's Work

Jeanett B. Dickinson, Editor

Please send all material and suggestions to 510 Watchung Ave., Plainfield, N. J.

YOUTH AT CONFERENCE

Although we were disappointed not to have the younger of the young people with us at Conference this year, we were delighted with the number of those over sixteen who were there.

Activities for the young people began on Wednesday afternoon when a special meeting was held in the Brick (college dormitory where most of the young people stayed). Rev. Everett T. Harris, pastor of the host church, presented the local committee in charge of young people's activities—Norma Jacox and Lois Sutton, both of Alfred. Rev. Charles (Charlie) Bond, Little Genesee, chairman of the Young People's Committee of the Board of Christian Education, was presented and discussed with us future activities.

A fellowship supper for young people was held Wednesday night; around fifty attended. While those in the main dining room were being served, Rev. Trevah Sutton, Rockville, showed slides of our churches and other points of interest to Seventh Day Baptists. This was not only educational, but was interesting as well. We joined in singing favorite songs until we were served.

Because of a felt need expressed by some of the young people, prayer and worship services were held Thursday, Sabbath, and Sunday mornings at 9:00 in the Gothic Chapel. These periods of meditation together were so planned to draw us closer to God, our Creator, and Jesus Christ, our Saviour; Charles Bond, Harmon Dickinson, De Ruyter, and Zack White, Independence, each led us in one of these morning devotion periods.

When the Thursday afternoon Conference meeting was over, a hay ride was ready for those who wished to go to Alfred Station and play pingpong, basketball, etc. Later we enjoyed a free supper together as served by the ladies of the church there; Rev. Paul Maxson, Berlin, was in charge of the fellowship during that hour. We were taken by means of cars and the hay ride back to Alfred in time for the evening service.

A large group attended the fellowship breakfast held in back of Dean A. J. C. Bond's home on Friday morning at seven o'clock.

Norma, Lois, and Mrs. Sutton were busy cooking bacon and eggs as we arrived; other goodies helped to make the breakfast a very delicious and filling one. The worship program was planned around the theme of Abundant Living. Melvin Nida, White Cloud, led in the singing of hymns, the scripture was read by Charles Bond, Victor Skaggs, Piscataway, led in short meditation thoughts, and the male quartet brought a message in song. Rev. Marion C. Van Horn, Lost Creek, brought a challenging talk at the close of the service.

Special Conference Service

The night after the Sabbath during Conference was in charge of the young people with Charles Bond presiding. Rex Zwiebel, Hebron, was presented as having charge of the worship service. "Faith of our Fathers" was used as the opening hymn and was followed with a girls' trio, "The Touch of His Hand on Mine," sung by Reva Stearns, Coudersport, Sandra Zwiebel, and Margaret Swienhart, both of Jackson Center. The scripture of the twenty-fourth Psalm was read by Kenneth Van Horn, Albion; Melvin Nida led the congregation in prayer. Clayton Stearns, Hebron, sang as a prayer solo, "Have Mercy on Me, O God."

Charles Bond, in behalf of all the young people, thanked the Alfred Church and community for the good times made possible for the youth during Conference. He then asked those representing the various Seventh Day Baptist camps to come to the platform.

Lewis Camp was represented by one who attended as a student camper, Paul Osborn of Shiloh. After telling of the classes and other camp activities he told us that four young people had accepted Christ as their personal Saviour, and two young fellows had expressed the desire to prepare for the ministry.

Rev. Marion C. Van Horn told of the West Virginia camp held at Middle Island; as a result of this camp one young person accepted Christ and was baptized. He concluded that plans are in the making for a permanent set-up for the Southeastern Association to have a four year course of study.

The Battle Creek Bible Camp was represented by the director, Miss Alma Bond. She

gave the purpose of the camp as follows: "to bring to young people a knowledge of the saving power of Jesus Christ—the plan of salvation. . . . Too many times we learn about the Bible and Jesus without having him as a personal Saviour." She continued that acceptance of Christ is only the beginning; when a child is born he needs to grow. Likewise, those who accept Christ need to grow. Growing with Jesus was stressed in camp. Camp also gave a splendid opportunity for practical experience in Christian living—it wasn't all fun, it wasn't all study, there were duties also. Testimonies indicated the following results of the Battle Creek Bible Camp: acceptance of Christ, knowing Christ better, understanding of the Sabbath, an atmosphere of consecration, and determination to read the Bible more and spend more time in private devotion. Three boys and two girls decided for baptism.

A male quartet composed of Lt. Ford Lewis, Sgt. Gerald Bond, Rex Zwiebel, and Kenneth Van Horn harmonized on the challenging hymn, "Our Best." Others representing our camps replaced those who had previously spoken on the platform.

The pastor of the Boulder Church, Rev. Earl Cruzan, told us of the Rocky Mountain Camp. "We believe this camp to be a place to get close to God." The results being that all but two who were at camp are now members of one of our Seventh Day Baptist churches.

Rev. Loyal F. Hurley told us of the three camps running consecutively on the Pacific coast. "Our young folk had some experiences which very few people—old or young—ever had." The camp location is such that they are alone with each other and the Lord. He said that one thing is different; young people from other churches and denominations request the privilege to attend this Seventh Day Baptist Camp. He gave the results of this camp to be as follows: some, assurance of salvation; some, consecration of their lives to the Lord; and others, understanding of what the Christian life is all about. "We pray that you will pray that we folk way out on the west coast will hold up the Lord Jesus before the children there; we covet your prayers." Mr. Hurley said they were happy to have Chaplain Leon M. Maltby with them at camp part of the time.

The Board of Christian Education sent Rev. David S. Clarke, Jackson Center, to the Lake-

side Conference of Christian Youth. David hopes that Seventh Day Baptists will send at least one representative to the World Conference of Christian Young People. "Taking part in such conferences may play a large part in what we are looking forward to—the acknowledgment of the Sabbath by the world." He told of a young person from California saying to him, "Then Saturday is your seventh day?" David replied, "It's your seventh day too." An interdenominational leader who heard the conversation remarked, "You better watch out—you might make a convert."

The young people's Conference program was closed with a song, "Those Pals of Ours," rendered by the male quartet and dedicated to the service men and women attending the Conference and those who were absent because of duties for our country.

Such meetings as summarized above, far from cover all the activities of young people during such a Conference; it would be impossible to tell, or even for one individual to know them all. We feel special mention should be made of the splendid service rendered by several of the young people in the kitchen and dining room; it was impossible for them to attend all of the meetings because of their working hours—we missed them, especially at some of the young people's meetings.

President Rogers assigned young people to the committees to consider the reports of the various boards and societies; this made it possible for each young person to have a better understanding in at least one line of denominational work.

We were sorry that Willard Burdick, De Ruyter, found it necessary to remain in bed most of the Conference time because of an infected foot. A group went to his room Sabbath morning and had an informal service of songs, scripture, and prayer with him since he could not attend the Communion or regular church service.

Another high light for all those young people who wished to take part, was the informal hymn and chorus sings in the Brick after some of the evening meetings.

In behalf of all the visiting young people at Conference, we wish to express our appreciation to those in Alfred and Alfred Station who helped to make our stay there such a delightful one.—J. B. D.

ADJUSTMENT OF YOUTH TO ABUNDANT LIFE

By Rev. Judson Harvey Stafford

(Several of the young people who attended Conference had the privilege of meeting Mr. Stafford and were at the meeting Sunday night when he was received as a newly recognized Seventh Day Baptist minister. He loves young people and has a message for them.)

Many young people of today are experiencing difficulty in adjusting themselves to this modern world with all of its confusion and strife. Boys and girls are very apt to get reckless in their thinking, and that makes for carelessness in living.

First of all, and in spite of global strife, racial prejudices and the clamor of many strident voices against the way of life as it is revealed in the Bible, we must never overlook the fact that this world belongs to Almighty God. Therefore to find our proper adjustment—or orientation—to the world and its problems, we first must be adjusted to the living God.

If we are not adjusted to him through our Lord Jesus Christ we can expect nothing in the final analysis but sorrow, trouble, and final disaster to soul and body for eternity.

Sometimes we read or hear opinions expressed by well-meaning, but mistaken, leaders in national or civil power concerning the "abundant life," and these expressions sound quite attractive; but we must recognize the fact that our own selfish ways and desires will never make life abundant for us. Only by adapting ourselves to God and the way to the true abundant life as revealed to us by his son, can we proceed along the road to that life. There is no other way than this—in spite of all that worldly-minded objectors to the message of the Cross have to say against it.

Young people must not, however, think that the storms will not beat against them fiercely; they will; it is inevitable, and our Father has never promised that our lives will be placid and unruffled. If we are proceeding daily with a living, virile faith in Him and walking in obedience to his Word, when the storms of life break around us we have nothing to fear.

It is strange, but true, that a young man or woman can stand anything that may come if he is surrendered to Jesus Christ. The non-Christian cannot understand how this can be and scoffs at it, but we who are older and

more experienced know that it is blessedly true. We—by experience—know that when the winds of adversity blow the hardest, our hearts know the peace and real joy that only the Son of God can give; and that trouble cannot take from us.

Somewhere ahead of you, my young friend, there is an opportunity that God himself has ordained for you to embrace. In order to see it clearly when you come to it, keep your spiritual vision unclouded by prayer, regular meditation on God's Word, and by loyal support of his church by your presence at divine worship on Sabbath days. Decide now that—come what may—you will trust in the Lord; and keeping your hope shining, you will walk confidently and courageously on the one path to true abundance of life. I, who years ago found God's highway after treading other paths where I found bruises and sorrow, urge you who read these lines to turn completely to Christ Jesus who alone is "the way, the truth, and the life."

SHIPS IN THE NIGHT

By Alice Annette Larkin

The Story Thus Far

Linda Sherman, a consecrated Christian, is now at Hilltop Farm helping to care for her Aunt Penny who was seriously ill. Living with Aunt Penny are two young children, Lucy and Peter, who are grateful to her for taking them into her home. Her own son, Donald, left home several years ago when his mother spoke unkind words about his bride-to-be. No one in the family has heard from him since, but he and Frances are happily married and living on a tenant farm. Frances has been earnestly praying that Donald would accept Christ as his personal Saviour; he has recently done so and is extremely happy. While listening to a radio religious broadcast, Aunt Penny and Linda hear the announcement that Mrs. Frances Barnes was the violin soloist. Aunt Penny is sorry for her treatment of Donald and his wife; she sends a letter in care of the station with the hope that this lady is her son's wife. Due to a severe storm, some of the families in the valley come to Hilltop Farm seeking shelter and lodging; Aunt Penny welcomes them and realizes for the first time in years the true happiness resulting from the sharing with and making others happy.

The Story Thus Far

Chapter XVII

Quiet had come again to Hilltop Farm. For a few days after the freshet Mr. Herbert and Mr. La Pietra had been working on a bridge to take the place of the one washed away, and one could hear the sound of their sledges and hammers; but now the task was finished, and Lucy and Peter were once more crossing the river on their way to and from school. This new structure was only temporary. There wasn't enough lumber on the farm to build a good bridge. That would have to wait until later.

As the days went by, more and more reports of the freshet came to the farm—stories of houses surrounded by water (the only access to them being by boat), stories of small buildings rushing down the river. When the water had gone down and the homes of the Herberts and the La Pietras had had a chance to dry out, the families returned to them. Their gratitude to Aunt Penny and Linda was unbounded, but both felt that the favor was not all on one side. Never could one find more helpful guests and they were no longer strangers; they were friends. Because of this friendship, a great worry had been taken from Aunt Penny's mind. She would no longer be obliged to spade her gardens herself; the men in the visiting families would take care of that.

It would soon be time to think of gardens, too; for every day the sun was shining longer, and already robins and bluebirds had been seen on the farm. The air was still cold and snow might fall at any time, but Aunt Penny was studying her seed catalogs and garden books though she kept telling herself she would have to cut down drastically on the planting. Lucy and Peter wouldn't be able to do half the things that must be done, and it wouldn't be right to ask Linda to stay through the summer.

Aunt Penny could walk about the house now, and she insisted on helping with the lighter tasks. She was peeling apples one afternoon when Linda came in from the mail box. Looking up from her work, she asked the question she had asked many times, "Any letters for me, Linda?"

Always the answer had been the same, "No letters, Aunt Penny, but I'm sure there will be soon."

"Well, it seems strange I don't hear from the letter I sent to that broadcasting studio. Are you sure it was mailed? In all the excitement over the freshet it might have been forgotten. I know I finished it but I can't tell what I did with it."

"Lucy says she took it out to the mail box and dropped it in a day or two later."

"Then I'm sure she did. Perhaps that violinist isn't Donald's wife, but I've hoped and prayed she might be, Linda."

"And you must keep on praying that this will all come out right. We mustn't forget that mails are slow now. Are we going to have apple dumplings, or apple shortcake, or just plain apple sauce for supper?"

"Peter said apple dumplings. How he does love them."

"So do we all, Aunt Penny. I guess I'd better be making them, for the children will soon be home and they'll be hungry."

Putting on a pretty blue-flowered apron, Linda went into the pantry and began measuring the ingredients for the dumplings.

Aunt Penny walked slowly into the living room. Then a notion suddenly took her to look at her collection of minerals; and taking a key from a basket on the table, she unlocked the door of the room in which they were kept and stepped inside. How wonderful the minerals had seemed to her, and they were wonderful. She believed even now if she had time she could write about them in such a way as to make others see their value and awaken an interest in the places from which they had come. She and Henry had had such delightful experiences. Suddenly she shivered—the room was cold. Yes, the minerals were cold too. Never again would she allow any hobby to fill so much of her life that people would be shut out of it. Hastily closing the door, she walked slowly into the hall. Had a car stopped in the lane? Yes, a glance from the window showed her that it was a taxi and two people were getting out—two young people.

"Donald and his wife!" she exclaimed. "Oh, they have come home. Thank God, my prayer has been answered."

A moment later the door opened and two young voices were saying, "Mother!" It was the dearest greeting she had ever received.

Linda heard the voices and realized what had happened, but she didn't go to the living room from which the voices came presently.

Aunt Penny would want to be alone with Donald and his wife for a little while. Then, too, there was work for her in the kitchen and pantry. The number of dumplings must be increased and other items added to the menu. But it was hard to keep her mind on food when such a wonderful surprise had come to Aunt Penny. Oh, she was so happy for her—for them all. Now, how much did this visit mean? If Don and his wife had come to stay, she would be going home to her beloved family soon and the work she was to do until Bob returned. Oh, would she have time to read Bob's letter again right now—even though she had read it three times on the way back from the mail box? It wouldn't take long. Out from the pocket of Linda's apron came a thin envelope.

But Linda was not to read the letter just then, for Donald Barnes suddenly appeared and he was closely followed by a radiant-faced girl who must be Frances. Aunt Penny, her eyes shining with happiness, brought up the rear.

"Linda Sherman, why didn't I know you were here?" Donald demanded. "Been hiding in the pantry eating bread and jam like we did once? Let's see your face!"

Back into the pocket of the blue-flowered apron went Bob's letter.

(To be concluded)

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 17, at two o'clock.

Lavern C. Bassett,
President,
Courtland V. Davis,
Recording Secretary.

Hymn books are almost unobtainable in Denmark, the paper originally allocated for that purpose being needed to make cigarets.

—United Presbyterian.

Editorials

(Continued from page 166)

keepers. This is a real problem; like the wise farmer who plows under green cover crops instead of depending upon mineral fertilizer, the Church must use spiritual means of enriching minds and hearts of its constituency. We must urge the passion for souls that are lost.

Rev. Earl Cruzan of Boulder, Colo., expressed the feeling that too much of the contact value of field work lay in that of friendship. This has a great value, but the interest must be deeper and founded upon conviction of the truth of Christian experience and life. There is danger that while we may be interested in sending the gospel to others, like the early Jerusalem Church we may show a lack of promoting the gospel at home. We need more pastors, but what do we offer young men looking toward the ministry more than opportunity for a Christian service? Ministerial support must be enhanced.

We are all called—like those of the first Christian Church—wherever we are, to begin there reaching out "through Judea, Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth," to witness day by day in thought, speech, and deed.

This entire program was compelling, inspiring, and challenging. We are thankful for our folks who have spent years in the service in China, proud of those who have served in Jamaica, and hopeful for the future in the hands of such young men as are beginning a fruitful ministry.

FRIDAY

Encouraging Reports

Among encouragements reported to Conference that of the Committee on Ministerial Retirement by Mr. L. Harrison North was very heartening. We were pleased to learn that our beloved and appreciated retired ministers and widows of retired ministers had recently received a modest increase in monthly payments—about 16 2/3 per cent above that received since a heavy "cut" was made in 1938. Seventeen people have been receiving payment from the funds available.

We quote from the report: "If gross monthly payments are continued for the coming year at above rate there will be needed \$4,815.00, a little more than \$200.00 greater

than the expected income. The Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society also has a small fund used for the same purpose." Receipts total \$7,086.84, while expenditures including balance as of May 31, 1944, of \$2,633.88 equal the receipts.

"The general basis for determining benefits under the retirement plan at seventy is to allot \$1.00 per month for each year of active service as a Seventh Day Baptist pastor—up to a maximum of \$40.00 per month. . . . At present the funds are being administered with a cut of 12 1/2 per cent in the amounts allotted because the income is not sufficient to pay in full.

"You will note that the pastors and churches paid into the income fund \$776.88 last year and that an equal amount was paid into the endowment fund for ministerial retirement. Pastors participating paid in 2 per cent of their salaries and the churches 4 per cent of the pastor's salary." This is significant. If the practice continues and more churches and pastors participate a fund eventually will be enough to give aged ministers a more nearly adequate support.

Necrology

The Obituary Committee reported through its chairman—Rev. Walter L. Greene—losses to the denomination of one minister, one deaconess, and seven deacons: Rev. John Temple Babcock of Hope, Idaho; Deaconess Myrta E. Greene, Berlin, N. Y.; Deacons T. Stuart Smith, Verona, N. Y.; James A. Saunders and John H. Austin, Westerly, R. I.; Robert G. Jones, Marlboro, N. J.; Horace R. Loofboro and Charles Allen Davis of Milton, Wis. The obituaries of all these people have appeared in the Sabbath Recorder. Prayer in memory of these departed servants of the Lord was offered by Dr. Greene, the congregation standing reverently with bowed heads.

Activities of the Women's Society

The Women's Society of the General Conference was assigned the hours from 8:00 to 9:30 p.m. on Thursday and from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. on Friday.

On Thursday night Rev. L. O. Greene made a few introductory remarks after which the film, "The Power of God," was shown on the screen as the program for the evening. This film pictured the way the power of God is often felt in times of crises in life—such crises

as may come to any one—and doubtless helped those present to a larger faith in God's willingness to help when his power is sought.

On Friday the program was directed by Mrs. James L. Skaggs, president of the board of directors. A devotional service was conducted by Mrs. L. O. Greene who expressed her indebtedness to those who made it possible for her to attend the Northeastern Ashram; she said that the thoughts she was about to present were largely gleaned from what she had heard there. Her theme was "How Can We Know the Way?"

The work of the board was presented in an interesting manner by the corresponding secretary, Miss Lotta M. Bond. She said its work was carried on by such committees as Ways and Means, Peace Committee, Committee to Stimulate the Spiritual Life of Men and Women in Service, Christian Culture Committee, etc. The work of Rev. L. O. Greene was particularly mentioned.

This report was followed by a stirring address by Mr. Greene on "A Larger Evangelism for Seventh Day Baptists." Once we were more active in evangelism than now. More leaders are needed for which we should pray; fields are calling which we should enter. Is the church failing in the very purpose for which it was created? Christianity must be revitalized in both pulpit and pew. We should have one thousand workers, each to win one soul to Christ in 1944. Christ and the Church demand our first and greatest loyalty.—A.B.V.H.

The morning session closed with a stirring message by Rev. Loyal F. Hurley of Riverside, Calif., who spoke on the theme "You All," the words being often found in Paul's letter to the Philippians—a letter of love and appreciation.

"You all" includes all of us who should remember that in spite of differences we are one in Christ, bound together with the unbroken bands of Christ's love. In passing harsh judgment on another — on Japanese or Germans—we are not passing judgment on them but on Christ, the judgment that *he* cannot transform, "you all." "Only one band holds," he assured us, "the love of Christ."

Tract Board Program

The corresponding secretary of the American Sabbath Tract Society, Rev. Herbert C. Van Horn, presided over the opening part of the board's program on Friday afternoon.

After the opening hymn, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," Rev. Judson Harvey Stafford led in short devotions. He used as his text Romans 4: 4, 5 and commented that "the great human tendency is to do good and in so doing recommend themselves to God." He urged us all to stop trying (to be good) and start trusting. He continued that God's way is to give life eternal to those who believe on him, and said, "Look up into the face of him who spread his hands out on Calvary and died for you. . . . Trust wholly, completely, and unreservedly in the Christ. . . . Good works should come as a result of our love for God and for his sending Jesus Christ to save us from our sins."

Highlights of the work of the Tract Board were then presented by Mr. Van Horn. In concluding his annual report he earnestly stressed, "Such times demand deepened convictions and increased loyalty to Christ and truth. They demand every encouragement individuals and churches can give. They demand increased alertness and interest of boards organized to promote the coming of the kingdom of God."

"The Tract Board, in special manner, has a responsibility and opportunity: the responsibility of encouraging our people to hold fast to bedrock principles and to reach out; the opportunity of world doors flung wide open, with men from Macedonia crying out, 'Come over and help us.' We have those interested in the Sabbath in every state and nearly every country. Through our men and women in the service the Sabbath truth should be infiltrating practically every land and many islands of the sea. Our influence through testimony, tracts, Recorder, and correspondence is being extended world-wide. The hour strikes! We must be on the move! . . .

"Rich reward comes to those who do the impossible! Let us remember that where there is no vision, the people perish. Too long we have kept our eyes on ourselves. Let us look up to God and our Christ—who bid us to be of courage and go forward; they promise to be with us always."

Dr. Lavern C. Bassett, president of the board, remarked to the audience after having been presented by Mr. Van Horn, "We of the board know only too well the fervor and strength of his life that he has put into his work." In concluding his address he asked, "Are we going to be ready to do our part

to help those millions of men who have done their part to meet this new life? . . . We as a Christian Church have got to get ready for the new order. . . . We need new tracts and new methods to bring people to the feet of Jesus and to the family altar. . . . Tracts are in more need today than ever before. . . . Your board is trying to fulfill its mission; we feel there is a place to fill in this new order."

The problems of our publications and the publishing house were discussed by the manager, L. Harrison North. He told us that while hundreds of publications have been forced to close, ours has not only held its own but has forged ahead. He reminded us that Mr. Van Horn has been editor of the Sabbath Recorder since 1931. In speaking of the problems caused by world conditions he told us that the number one critical restriction is paper; and that is really serious. We must expect our tracts, Recorder, and other publications to be of much lighter paper in the near future. Mr. North concluded, "We believe that the publishing house is in the best position it has ever been to co-operate with the Tract Society in the distribution of the printed page. We pledge our support."

Courtland V. Davis represented the distribution committee and among other things stressed the importance of the Tract of the Month Club. He has found from personal experience that the giving of tracts opens up many new situations. He told of a woman who, on seeing him hand a tract to another person working at the same place, said, "I know you are a spiritual man—won't you pray for my son?" A challenge was presented to the Conference when he asked, "What would happen if six thousand would join the Tract of the Month Club and give at least one tract each month to someone who knows how to get in touch with us after reading the tract?"

During the discussion period several questions were asked of Mr. Davis. One was, "Do we have to give the tract out if we disagree with what it says?" Mr. Davis answered, "No, send it back, and we will send you another one." Chaplain Maltby asked if giving out just one tract a month doesn't seem rather meager. He said many people are anxious to read tracts and that it's not nearly as hard to hand out tracts if you pave the way by a few. Mr. Davis replied that it is

not the purpose of the club to stop with just one tract; it offers an opportunity for every Seventh Day Baptist to get started along that line.

The assistant treasurer of the board, Mrs. Ethel Stillman, was presented and discussed with us the "Romance of Finance." She said that it is our job to see that through our work and gifts our loved ones may return, the day of Christ's peace advanced, and we shall have a real day of hope. It is only as we make these possible that we will be bringing real romance into finance. She reminded us that the amount received from the Denominational Budget is not enough to carry on the program of the Tract Society. The work has to be supplemented by income from endowment and special gifts.

Mr. Van Horn told us of the many doors opened wider today for Seventh Day Baptists than ever before; many calls are coming to the office for evangelists and leaders. "I think it is time to shove our thoughts into action and do something for Almighty God. . . . Go out and put into action our ways and means. . . . Let's quit being shoved around by our thoughts and do something about this great need in the world today which we are being asked to help meet."

"The Wayside Cross" was then rendered by the male quartet consisting of Lt. Ford Lewis, Rex Zwiebel, Kenneth Van Horn, and Sgt. Gerald Bond.

"Sabbath Observance and Promotion, a Church Responsibility," was the theme used by Rev. Erlo E. Sutton in the main address of the afternoon. He began with "The Sabbath being what it is, one of the greatest responsibilities of Seventh Day Baptists is its promotion." After speaking about the importance of Sabbath publications, he continued, "We need first of all to promote the Sabbath within ourselves—first of all have a Sabbath conscience."

He stressed the importance of showing its value by our own observance of the sacred day. The Sabbath is the one great thing that makes us different from other Christian people. He continued that we need to study the Sabbath for ourselves and know why we keep it and to be able to give without a moment's hesitation the reasons for keeping it.

Why shouldn't the Sabbath be advertised by those who know it is sacred time? It has the best authority in all the world—the Bible.

We must always remember to stress salvation through Jesus Christ; if a man is not interested in Christ he will not be interested in the Sabbath. He concluded that one of the best ways we can promote the Sabbath is to be a peculiar (Christ-like) people—zealous in good works.—J.B.D.

THE SABBATH

The coming of the Sabbath is looked upon as the "high day" of Conference. Then come in the many from not too far away churches to swell the attendance to auditorium seating capacity.

Sabbath evening was ushered in by the afternoon carillon program by Dr. Wingate. The grand old Belgian bells dedicated to the memory of the late President Boothe C. and Estelle Hoffman Davis rang out over the peaceful valley as the sun was sinking in the west toward the rim of the Allegheny hills. A little later the vesper service again led the way into the service.

Rev. Orville Babcock conducted devotions, and a sermon was preached by Victor W. Skaggs of New Market, N. J. The message centered on the suffering of war-stricken lands and emphasized the needs and practical ways in which the Christian Church can meet them. No notes were taken on this or other Sabbath matters; so only a general report is given. It is the hope that sermons and addresses will in time appear in the Sabbath Recorder.

The evening meeting closed with a "Conference" conducted by Rev. Verney A. Wilson of Nortonville, Kan. In twenty minutes many had borne brief heartfelt testimonies; practically every one in the house stood as expressing his faith and desire to testify for Christ as Saviour.

The morning worship in the hands of Pastor Everett T. Harris was dignified and warm, leading into the sense of God's presence. The sermon was preached by Chaplain Hurley S. Warren; the message was strongly presented on Christ's words, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you." Seldom have we heard Mr. Warren speak so strongly and convincingly or with such assurance as he did in delivering this message of encouragement. We are sorry he could not have been in the Alfred Conference of which he would have been president—had it been held last year. After the afternoon session he and

Chaplain Maltby answered many questions asked by interested people.

Promoting Financial Program

There is no need of apology for a program on the Sabbath for promoting the raising of funds for kingdom of God tasks. Offerings and tithes are as much a part of worship as litany, invocation, or prayer. Under the leadership of Professor D. Nelson Inglis, secretary of the Committee on Promotion of Denominational Finance, an interesting program was presented. Rev. John F. Randolph, pastor-elect of the Ritchie Church, Berea, W. Va., read with introductory comment many passages under the heading of "Thus saith the Scriptures."

It would hardly be a Seventh Day Baptist Conference without some gospel songs sung by a men's chorus. On this Sabbath afternoon a chorus of forty or more men sang three selections under the trained leadership of Dean A. E. Whitford of Alfred; it was edifying music.

"Viewpoints of the Committee" were read by Rev. Carroll L. Hill, president of Milton College. Members whose views were well expressed were Robert L. Greene, chairman of the committee; D. Nelson Inglis; William D. Burdick; Leland W. Hulett; and Dr. George Crosley. These addresses will be given place in the Recorder and are worthy of serious consideration.

Professor Inglis summed up the year's work showing the encouragements and the opposites. It is truly encouraging that the receipts of the Denominational Budget this year so nearly equal the askings. Increased giving increases interest. Increased giving results from information of needs—specific needs. But, the committee has wondered if its work is essential. Its members have felt concern over the lack of co-operation on the part of so many pastors and other church officers.

It is the feeling of many of us that the committee's work is essential and has been gratifyingly fruitful and should have full support and hearty co-operation of churches, pastors, and people. Among good suggestions in the addresses are providing a reserve fund to be drawn upon in "lean" years, the matter of legacies in favor of denominational work, suggestions from the Conference floor of more graphic presentation by the committees of the needs, underwriting quotas or ex-

pectations by the churches, and setting definite goals and placing them challengingly high. Great interest was evinced in the work of the committee; delegates should go home and begin promotion of the church support before their interest cools off. We believe thoroughly the statement made by the leader: "Giving generously expands character."

Young People at Conference

We missed the bright faces and laughter of the children and younger folk at Conference. And we know they lost something. The older young people were there and operated in many activities—in extra meetings, meals, etc. They were represented in various ways throughout the days.

The climax of their work came Sabbath night in a program conducted by Rev. Charles Bond, chairman of the Committee on Young People of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education. The program was lively and of deep interest to all. It will be more fully reported with the other young people's activities by Miss Jeanett Dickinson in the Young People's Department of the Sabbath Recorder.

SUNDAY AT CONFERENCE

The Community church which worships in the Seventh Day Baptist church at Alfred worshiped with us on Sunday morning and listened to a short sermon by Rev. Carroll L. Hill, president of Milton (Wis.) College. We regret that we have no report on this sermon, but the reporter had important Conference matters to attend to at that hour which kept him away.

The Day's Business

Many business matters of necessity must remain to engage attention on the closing day of Conference. Pastor James L. Skaggs of Salem, W. Va., paved the way this morning with a helpful devotional period. He stressed the thought of preparing ourselves in vital ways to meet life's emergencies and to meet the demands upon the church. We need to heed the Master's admonition to "Tarry till." We need periods of prayer till the Spirit of God comes into the heart. He quoted words of Isaiah in the closing words of chapter forty about "they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength;" and words of the Psalmist, "I waited patiently for the Lord . . . and he heard my cry."

Business then was taken up, and the Committee on Petitions reported recommending that the request to hold the 1945 Conference at Milton, Wis., be granted. This recommendation was adopted, as was one to receive the Seventh Day Baptist church of Christchurch, New Zealand, into our General Conference. The rest of the recommendations of the committee, after some discussion, were adopted as follows:

To the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference:

Your Committee on Petitions would submit the following report. We recommend:

1. That the request of the Christchurch Seventh Day Baptist Church for the recognition of Edward Barrar as a Seventh Day Baptist minister be granted.

2. That the request of the First Genesee Church that Charles H. Bond be recognized as a Seventh Day Baptist minister be granted.

3. That the request of the Friendship Church for the recognition of Alton L. Wheeler as a Seventh Day Baptist minister be granted.

4. That the request of the Plainfield Church for the recognition of Judson Harvey Stafford as a Seventh Day Baptist minister be granted.

5. That the request of the Seventh Day Baptist Church at Riverside, Calif., for the recognition of Madeline S. Robinson as a Seventh Day Baptist minister be granted.

6. That the request of the church at Jackson Center for the recognition of David S. Clarke as a Seventh Day Baptist minister be granted.

7. That the request of the Old Stone Fort Church for the recognition of Oliver Lewis as a Seventh Day Baptist minister be deferred.

Later a motion to recognize Marian Hargis as an accredited minister, an accreditation deferred at the Battle Creek Conference in 1940, was adopted.

The following report was adopted:

The Committee to Consider the Report of the Board of Directors of the Women's Society of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference recommends to the General Conference the adoption of the report and commends the Board of Directors for the splendid work done.

This committee is encouraged by the work of Rev. Leslie O. Greene, promoter of evangelism, and urges the work to be continued and expanded; and we commend the board for the suggested plan of a Helpers Fund.

This committee would commend the Board of Directors of the Women's Society in urging the various women's societies and the churches of our denomination to give whole-hearted support to the work of the Women's Society.

Other Reports

The report of the Committee on Consideration of the Report of the Board of Christian Education was adopted as follows:

After study of the report of the Board of Christian Education the committee recommends its approval by the General Conference. The committee suggests that a statement be added to the report to the effect that the pre-Conference Camp was not held. This should appear as a note appended to the first paragraph on page four.

In reply to the request for advice regarding an appeal for funds for the School of Theology, the committee recommends that in accord with the policy of unification, the Board of Christian Education should make the appeal for funds for the School of Theology to the churches through church clerks, pastors, women's societies, and young people's groups.

Being conscious of the tremendous strain of war conditions, we commend the denominational colleges for the way in which they have carried on.

We suggest that the board and the colleges collaborate for the purpose of making use of their men and facilities for Christian education of laymen.

We commend the board for its action in securing the services of an executive secretary in the person of Rev. Harley Sutton.

Since the report of the New York State Council of Churches referred to this committee concerns only those churches in New York State, we recommend that said report be referred by the corresponding secretary of the General Conference to the officials, moderators, or clerks of the associations with churches in New York State.

Resolution by the Committee on Courtesies

In view of exigencies of war conditions the sessions have all been well attended, inspiring, and uplifting due in no small measure to the service rendered by those entrusted with the several tasks of organization and administration of the functions contributing to that end, the General Conference therefore tenders heartfelt thanks and congratulations to all who have contributed to that end; and especially as follows:

To the president of Conference who has presented a well organized and effective program and has presided with all due dignity, with impartiality, and with graciousness of manner throughout; to the director of music who has kept that feature of our sessions on a lofty, spiritual plane at all times and who has likewise presented inspiring carillon recitals.

Local committees, university officials, and others were mentioned with appreciation. This report was heartedly voted upon by delegates standing.

The committees to consider the annual reports of the Missionary and Tract Societies reported with favorable comment and some helpful suggestions upon these reports and their work was approved by the Conference. These reports will appear in the forthcoming year book which will be out by midfall, we hope.

The Committee on Reference and Council returned the Commission's report with its recommendations with some changes, and the

report was adopted with changes, as suggested. The report of the Commission appears elsewhere in this issue of the Recorder.

Last Session

Following the evening vespers, a service of reception of the Christchurch of New Zealand (represented by Corresponding Secretary Herbert C. Van Horn) and ministers—Rev. Edward Barrar of New Zealand, represented by Mr. Van Horn; Rev. Marian Hargis, represented by Miss Alma Bond; Rev. Madeline S. Robinson, by Rev. Loyal F. Hurley; Rev. David S. Clarke; Rev. Charles Bond; Rev. Judson Harvey Stafford; and Rev. Alton L. Wheeler—was conducted by President Rogers.

As these people took their places upon the platform, Mr. Rogers called all ministers present to stand in the aisle—thirty-seven present or represented thus stood while prayer was offered, the right hand of fellowship extended, and verses of the hymn, God of the Prophets, were sung. The second and third stanzas read:

Anoint them prophets! Make their ears attend
To thy divinest speech; their hearts awake
To human need; their lips make eloquent
To assure the right and every evil break.

Anoint them priests! Strong intercessors they
For pardon, and for charity and peace!
Ah, if with them the world might pass, astray,
Into the dear Christ's life of sacrifice.

Dr. J. Nelson Norwood in his inimitable and forthright manner delivered the closing address. His subject as he announced it was "No—Yes." Listing many of the important things of Conference such as reports, sermons, addresses, plans, stirring messages, and challenges he declared that they were not—important as they are—the most important things.

Nor was the fact that we are on holy ground the most important, though in his spirit he recalled those stalwart men of the faith who had walked here and had made Alfred what it is. And those personages were worthies of the finest type: Kenyon and Allen and Main; Larkin and Maxson, Lewis and Titsworth, Williams, Tomlinson, Irish, Hull, and Wardner; Davis and Lester Randolph; and many more, with their noble wives—all of sacred memory. A great experience, just to live over in the memory of them.

But is that the most important thing of this Conference? Or the fellowship we have had here together? No! The most important thing is we have found God here. What we need most—what this country and other countries need most—is God. "I have felt him here."

The most striking thing to Dr. Norwood, as said in this Conference, was "God sent Jesus as a photograph of himself that we might know God better." "It has been six days of spiritual communion with God," the speaker felt. He then quoted a verse each of two hymns:

"O thou, who dost not slumber,
Whose light grows never pale,
Teach us aright to number
Our years before they fail;
On us thy goodness rest,
And let thy spirit brighten
The hearts thyself hast blest."

"Grant us thy peace, Lord, on our homeward way.
With thee began with thee shall close the day.
Guard thou our lips from sin, the heart from shame,
That in this house have called upon thy name."

"Yes! It has been a good Conference."

The benediction was pronounced, and the One Hundred Thirty-first Session of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference was adjourned.

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 17, at two-thirty o'clock.

Lavern C. Bassett,
President,
Courtland V. Davis,
Recording Secretary.

"Many Christians are saying: 'We want the church of India to be one—we have inherited from Great Britain and America such a rich variety of order and of worship which we do not want to lose, but we would like our church to be a united church including all that has a real meaning to Indians.'"

—Rt. Rev. Geoffrey Cranswick.

Christian Education

Rev. Harley Sutton, Alfred Station, N. Y.

Sponsored by the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education

A HISTORICAL STATEMENT

By Dean Alfred E. Whitford

(Given at General Conference August 23, 1944, at Alfred, N. Y., during the Board of Christian Education hour.)

This occasion marks a climax in the denominational plans and program for religious education. Previous to 1940 the promotion of educational training in the denomination was in the hands of three boards, or societies—each specializing in a separate phase of the total program, but each often overlapping the efforts of the other two. Now, by a consolidation, the denominational program is carried on by one organization, the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education, which was incorporated under the laws of the State of New York on June 12, 1940, and was the merger of three organizations—the Seventh Day Baptist Education Society, the Sabbath School Board, and the Young People's Board. And, to cap the climax, this service tonight is an official recognition of the fact that our educational program is headed and led by a man who is giving his full time to this important work. He is the executive secretary of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education.

But let us go back historically and see what has led up to this united effort and plan.

The Seventh Day Baptist Education Society was incorporated in 1856. Its purpose was comprehensively stated in Article two of its constitution: "The object of this society shall be the promotion of education in such a manner as shall tend to the ultimate founding and full endowment of a denominational college and theological seminary; likewise the support of all institutions under the control of the denomination, the founding of new institutions, and the advancement of the interests of education generally in the denomination." As a matter of history, the society has been concerned almost exclusively with higher education, the fostering and support of our denominational colleges, and especially the maintenance and financial sponsoring of our School of Theology where our young men can secure their preparation

for the ministry under denominational auspices. This society has through the years accumulated endowment funds, the larger portion of which has provided income for the School of Theology.

The Sabbath School Board has had a long and fruitful existence. It was formed as a standing committee of the General Conference in 1872. Very definitely its work was the organization of Sabbath schools in the churches, the promotion of improved methods of teaching through institutes and conferences, and the publication of lesson helps and periodicals to advance the general purpose of Bible study. Much valuable work was done in all these lines by many volunteer workers, but no one was employed to give his full time to church school promotion until 1905. At that time the board was located in New York City. The members of the board had the courage and the faith to try the adventure of employing a full-time representative. Walter L. Greene was called to this work and served the denomination as field representative of the board for seven years, the first two years as a full-time worker and then five years more, giving at least half of his time to this important job.

During this period the board members, feeling the importance and permanence of this type of work among our churches, took steps to give the board legal status. This was accomplished in 1908 and the Sabbath School Board of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference was incorporated under the laws of the State of New York.

The location of the Sabbath School Board was moved in 1912 from New York City to Milton, Wis., where was formed a board with an entirely new personnel, officers and board members. This new board in due time by experience gained a vision of the possibilities and an understanding of the problems in promoting Sabbath school work among the churches. For a number of years its work was carried on by correspondence and by volunteer workers, but in 1919 Edward M. Holston was called to serve jointly the Sabbath School Board and the Young People's Board as a full-time field representative. This

he did effectively for five years. Some of his time was taken up in the preparation of lesson helps, particularly a series of graded lessons.

Two years after Mr. Holston resigned, Erlo E. Sutton was chosen by the Board in 1926 to be its director of religious education. He gave of his entire time to this work. He carried on a program similar to that of his predecessor and was equally effective. In his capacity as director of religious education he not only traveled extensively in the denomination but he became the editor of the *Helping Hand*, and a member of the Lesson Committee of the International Council of Religious Education. Mr. Sutton continued in this important work for fourteen years until the disbanding of the Sabbath School Board and its merger into the board under whose auspices this program is given. However, in the last three years of his service, he gave a minor fraction of his time to the pastorate of the Denver Seventh Day Baptist Church. It is interesting to note that the Milton group composed the board and faithfully promoted its interests for twenty-eight years, from 1912 to 1940.

The Young People's Board was formed first as a permanent committee by the General Conference in 1889. Its organization and its efforts through the years paralleled closely the beginning and the remarkable growth of the Christian Endeavor movement in Protestant churches of America. Young people's societies in which the young people themselves took initiative and responsibility in their weekly meetings for worship, prayer, and testimony, and in carrying on a program of activities (all under the leadership of the pastor) were fostered. Clearly the last fifty-five years have demonstrated that young people have a definite place in the life of our churches. However, until the time that young people in a parish reach the age of full adulthood, a carefully planned program for them of religious education is highly desirable. Bible study in Sabbath school classes is fundamental. That is what may be called impression. But an organized program for expression is equally important and should be provided. This is where Christian Endeavor societies and other forms of young people's organizations come in. Sabbath schools furnish the lecture part of religious education, while young people's activities provide the

laboratory part of such a course. Both phases are essential to a complete and successful church program. Hence the necessity of continuing in full force the activities of the Young People's Board.

A history of the plans and achievements of the Young People's Board through the years should make very interesting reading. It cannot be given here. Nearly all of its promotional work was done by volunteers in spare time. I should like to call attention to the fact that in the last quarter century the activities of the Young People's Board were aggressively carried on by Battle Creek young people for sixteen years. They gave much time to board work. During this period, Marjorie Burdick became the president-secretary, and served the board as a full-time denominational worker in promoting young people's activities. She served four years from 1930 to 1934. In 1934 the board was moved to Alfred, where the Alfred group carried on its work until the merger in 1940.

About eight years ago, both the Sabbath School Board and the Young People's Board proposed the plan of combining these two boards with the Seventh Day Baptist Education Society, and of having one denominational body whose function it was to carry on a total program of religious education. This plan was proposed to the General Conference, which appointed a special committee to make a study of the proposition. This committee in its report in 1937 favored the plan because it would result in a more comprehensive program, and in more efficient use of funds. Furthermore, (and may I quote here from the report):

In the opinion of the committee there is a more important reason for consolidation than finance or efficiency. Evangelism in its wider aspects includes all forms of religious education. There is a need for Christ-centered religion and education which extends from cradle to the grave in a unified program. The present boards, especially the Sabbath School and the Young People's, are serving the educational needs of all our young people until they have passed the college age, and the committee feels also that a new Education Board on a parity with the Tract and Missionary Boards could better serve the needs of our denomination. It should be understood that the organization and functions of the new board would require a new comprehension of our religious needs and an entirely new plan for our religious education.

At the General Conference in 1937 a larger committee, which by the way included

most of the members of the first committee, was appointed to study more intensively the details of the proposed merger. This resulted, as has been indicated, in the incorporation of the present denominational body—the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education—in 1940.

In taking up this most important and challenging task the new board, most of them unfamiliar with the details of the work, approached their job earnestly and carefully. There was no money for promotional work or for salaries, except that provided by the General Conference in the budget. The incorporators realized keenly the need of experienced and expert leadership in the board, and so made provision in the by-laws for an executive secretary—a person who is to give his full time to the task of heading up this important program.

At the outset the board formed three main committees—a committee on church schools, carrying on the program of the Sabbath School Board; a committee on young people's work, continuing the activities of the Young People's Board; and a committee on higher education, a field peculiar to the old Education Society. This last committee has responsibility for the promotion of special training for young men preparing for the ministry and especially for our own School of Theology. The activities of these three committees during these four years have been limited to correspondence and to the employment of special workers for limited periods of time. But the entire board has kept constantly in mind the need of an executive secretary on full time and his employment as soon as the funds provided by the denomination showed promise that the venture would be a permanent one and he could plan his work on a long-time basis. That time seemed to come last fall.

The rest of the story you know. Rev. Harley Sutton was the unanimous choice of the board, and he was called to undertake this most important work. He began his labors on June 1. In the opinion of the writer, no phase of our denominational program is more important than its educational phase. No other board is more vital to the life of the churches than is the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education. Every church should have a well organized religious training program. No such work is ever

done so well that it cannot be done better and more effectively. There is constant need of a careful re-study of methods and results to see if all is being accomplished that is possible. There is need of encouraging young people to prepare themselves by higher education to become useful Christian leaders in their home communities. There is great need of finding young men who will enter the gospel ministry. All of this, and more too, your Board of Christian Education is organized to promote. It greatly desires to serve the churches by providing a unifying and stimulating program. We invite your full co-operation in this endeavor.

CHARGE TO SECRETARY HARLEY SUTTON

By Rev. Everett T. Harris

(Given during the installation service at Conference)

In the Apostle Paul's description of the Christian's armor, there is no provision for the protection of his back. It has been pointed out that this is because the Christian leader is always pushing forward and he is protected from the rear by his brethren and followers. But anyone can see the results if ever he should turn his back to the enemy to flee.

So my first charge to you, Secretary Sutton, is that you must always be a "pusher," always forging ahead in the struggle against evil.

You are a leader of leaders and a pioneer in a new work for our denomination. In a very real sense no one has traveled this particular way before. Like Abraham of old you must go out in faith believing: believing in God, believing in your fellow workers, believing in the future of this work.

And if you accept this charge to be a "pusher," the drive and urge must come for the most part from within yourself.

I know of no other profession than this one of Christian service in which you and I are engaged in which there is so much freedom to choose our hours, to set our own pace, perhaps to choose to procrastinate and putter around doing unimportant things, keeping busy but not really accomplishing anything for the kingdom of Christ. And we may also choose to burn the midnight oil of consecrated study and prayer, to drive ourselves unceasingly, to discipline ourselves with

an inner discipline. This is the way our Master lived and this is the way in all humility, I charge you to live. Keep studying, thinking, praying, and growing in spirit, disciplining yourself by the Spirit of Christ within you.

Again, I charge you to give yourself wholeheartedly to this work as worthy of your best powers and talents. There is no higher calling than to be a coworker with Christ, to be yoked with him in the great redemptive work of our heavenly Father—the building of the kingdom of Christ in the hearts of boys and girls, young people and adults. So burn your bridges behind you and make no mental reservations as you “launch out into the deep” with Christ. We who are leaders of the church, whether pastors or denominational leaders, must retain no lingering notion that perhaps we could have done better by ourselves as school teachers or lawyers or in a big salaried job in a defense plant. If we do not see this work as a calling of God demanding the best we have and are, if we do not go “all out” in our consecration, if we are retaining a lingering notion that our present work is just a stepping stone to something we suppose to be higher, then we probably will fail in our calling and we will deserve to fail. Without divine impulsion we or others had best not begin on a calling that is bound to contain heartaches, criticism, hard work, and small pay—at least small in the realm of finance. But in this calling there are rich rewards, wonderful rewards of fellowship with Christ and of peace with God that passeth understanding. These things the world can not offer and neither can it take them away.

So I charge you, be not in a hurry to succeed from the world's point of view. Count not the measure of your success by the number of people that slap you on the back. You will know the measure of your success as you stand in the secret place before God. And when you have his approval nothing else really matters.

A charge would not be complete without Paul's words to Timothy, preach and teach the Word of God, “For the word of God is quick and powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit . . . and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

As one who will have much to do with the hearts of men you will need an instrument that can reach their hearts.

But the Word is not magic; it must be quick with life. You must live that Word that men may understand it. A large group of the people you meet will never read further than “the gospel according to you.”

And preach Christ central in the Word. He is the key to the understanding of all the Bible. He is the one who will give power and urgency to your message. E. Stanley Jones tells of his attempt to preach equally all the heroes of the Bible along with Jesus the Son of God. He found himself defending this one's actions and that one's words—always on the defense. Then he took a tip from Paul and decided to preach Christ, the power and wisdom of God, Christ primary and all other things secondary. He tells that at once he moved from the defensive to the offensive. Now sinful men were on the defensive and Christ was changing their hearts and lives. Thus I charge you, preach Christ the center and heart of the Word of God.

And finally, Paul charged Timothy, “The servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledgment of the truth.”

We of the board, and I believe I speak for the denomination as well, feel that you qualify in these things and that you can carry out these instructions that Paul challenged Timothy to perform. But they are worthy of your thought and determination to carry out, “gentle, unto all men, apt to teach, patient, in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves.” There can be no mistaking the tenor and spirit that runs through these instructions.

And the end and goal is “God may peradventure give repentance unto the acknowledgment of the truth.”

This is the goal and aim of our board—“the acknowledgment of the truth.” I charge you give yourself wholeheartedly to the accomplishment of this goal. And may God give us grace and strength to stand behind you loyally and to uphold your hands as you lead the way.

The Sabbath Recorder

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No. 12

FREEDOM

By Mrs. W. C. Miller

Oh, I shall go a gypsying
And climb the highest hill
And feel the wind upon my face
And hear bird voices trill.

Oh, I shall go a gypsying
And stand on mountains high
And watch the ocean's rolling waves
That seem to touch the sky.

Yes, I shall go a gypsying
And watch the sun's last ray,
And wait to see the stars come out
To light the milky way.

Yes, I shall go a gypsying
And weave on life's great loom,
But when I stop I really find
I still am in my room.

Oh, I shall go a gypsying
For God will set me free,
And I shall roam in glory
Through all eternity.

Battle Creek, Mich.

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