

# The Sabbath Recorder

Vol. 138

PLAINFIELD, N. J., JANUARY 1, 1945

No. 1



## A CHALLENGE TO YOUNG AND OLD FOR 1945

And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature,  
and in favour with God and man. Luke 2: 52.

(Attention children—This week both the front and back covers are especially for you. Inside are two special new year stories written for your enjoyment.)

# The Sabbath Recorder

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## Editorials

### WELCOME A NEW YEAR

Here is a fresh new page in the book of 1945; the book of 1944 is closed. It is with a sigh of regret that we have the last leaf turned over as we recall the mistakes and regret the failures. While we breathe a prayer for forgiveness for the sins of omission and commission, we must not be discouraged. Rather, let us be encouraged by the thought of the new page and the words, "Do better, now, my child."

It should have done us good as we have reviewed the days of the year. If successes have been made and certain goals achieved, there is reason for thankfulness. If failures and frustrations, an earnest retrospection should reveal the cause; and an effort should be made to avoid the pitfalls. Of one who was increasingly successful, it was said that he never made the same mistake twice.

With three hundred sixty-five bright pages before each one of us, we should be warned by the past and look hopefully to the future that our writing may be acceptable to God, for his Son's sake. It is suggested, as we close out the old year and begin the new, that we give ourselves a good, thorough spiritual overhauling; that we carefully check over our thoughts and practices; and that we be ready by prayer to press on in the battle against sin for the salvation of souls as yet unborn in the kingdom of God—souls for which Christ died.

As we take account of the world on its toboggan slide into the depths of sin—for America, it may be said, is plunging headlong toward moral doom—we must see that a

great spiritual upheaval is needed. A spiritual awakening! If anyone is inclined to think this is an unnecessary pessimistic view, let him read again the headlines and front-page news of any of the great daily papers.

A great Chicago paper says that one marriage in every three goes to pieces on the shoals of divorce.

In a district where liquor selling is barred, four star football players were suspended for the rest of a school year from athletics because they went on a big drunk, and three others of their group quit school.

In one modern church a dance was held unsupervised by police. So many fixtures in the parish house were smashed, and there was so much hoodlumism that the pastor protested in public print the tendency of unrestricted youth to become rowdies (Protestant Voice).

A chaplain has written that the liquor habit is being fastened on literally thousands of boys from Christian homes. Barrels of beer are being shipped in space needed for arms and equipment with allotments to every soldier, beer which some will neither drink nor sell. Any fellow who will not drink his allotment or accept it is called a "heel." Whisky is given our airmen before they go on an assignment and when they come back. These things are well known and acquiesced. We understand one fine and otherwise acceptable man was refused a chaplaincy because he declared himself unreservedly in favor of absolute abstinence from liquor. As a thoughtful correspondent writes, "truly this is a narcotic tyrant's war."

High school mothers of early teen-age girls are conferring with authorities about daughters enmeshed in the most serious type of delinquency.

But we desist from picturing these things. We are on the toboggan slide. A spiritual awakening is needed. America, awake! Church, awake! Fathers and mothers, wake up!

But there is hope. Let us pray that the year before us shall be a "special, red-letter" year of far-reaching, soul-saving revival in the nation, community, church, home, and in our own experiences. Have we lost the fervor of our Christian experience; if so, let us pray, "Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy loving kindness; according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. . . . Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. . . . Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee." Shall we not examine ourselves whether we be in the faith as Paul admonishes: "Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?"

Thus seriously let us enter—in Christ's name and in his spirit—into the New Year and write in the pages of the new book.

### IT IS TO THINK

Above the editor's desk is a tinted picture of the beautiful Jefferson Memorial; it is one of the recent outstanding buildings erected in Washington. It stands on a waterside in the midst of the showy flowering cherry trees.

It seems to suggest our New Year's message this year. Thomas Jefferson was the third president of the United States but best known as the framer of our unparalleled Declaration of Independence. He was a member of the Second Continental Congress when this document was created. The formal declaration, essentially as submitted, was adopted July 4, 1776. On a recent visit in Washington I saw the original copy was again on display in the Library of Congress.

The declaration holds "these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among

these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." It does not seem out of place at this, the beginning of a new year, to call these things to mind.

We are by the Creator "endowed" of certain rights that should not be infringed. We have always accepted this more or less as a matter of course. But have we always appreciated what is implied and involved? As endowed by the Creator we are responsible to him and owe him our allegiance. Such allegiance demands obedience to his laws, revealed and natural; obedience to the commandments; harmony with Christ and his interpretation of the laws of God, with his love and the high purpose of life as illustrated by his example and teaching.

Christ left a code that men were to accept as his followers and by which they were to live. We have said his teaching was not practical; that you can't love your hating neighbor, that you can't afford to go a "second mile" or endure the "turning of the other cheek." He said that they that take the sword shall perish by the sword, but we have held that the enemy will perish if our sword is big enough.

We have spiritualized things hard to believe, or rationalized the teachings of Jesus till they are little if any better than the philosophy of the heathen and godless nations. I know the arguments that have been accepted which justify war—and know what I would have to do in case loved ones were attacked—but one cannot escape the conviction that these reasons are not the fundamental reasons undergirding our conflict. While we are in a desperate, unholy situation out of which we are compelled to fight our way, we need to be brought face to face with truth, and resolve to seek the guidance of God and be controlled by the leading of the Holy Spirit.

With our God-given endowments there are others who also have unalienable rights among which are numbered "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

Are we responsible, or are we not? Let us face some of these things resolutely and resolve that for this year of 1945, under God, we shall seek earnestly for the realization of that peace and good will expressed in our recent Christmas carols and wishes to prevail in all the earth, among all nations, races, and peoples.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

That the fears of yesterday are no more is indicated by the fact that the nation's most prized documents, the Constitution of the United States, the Declaration of Independence, the Gutenberg Bible, a copy of Magna Charta, and Lincoln's Gettysburg Address and his Second Inaugural were returned to the Library of Congress last week. With them arrived a sufficient number of prized rare books, irreplaceable state papers, and private letters of the great to fill twenty-six freight cars. For two and one half years these treasures have been hidden.

Gradually the world is becoming safe for occupancy by free peoples. They are venturing to bring the sacred documents of their dearly bought liberties above ground here in Washington. It is estimated that each Sunday 30,000 visitors saunter over Capitol Hill. On October 1, throngs again visited the Library of Congress to look upon certain fading signatures on documents turned yellow by the years.—Selected.

Some of the problems of returning service men have been dramatized for phonographic recording and are being released to pastors of the Congregational Christian Churches of America by a special commission of the denomination appointed to aid in serving demobilized soldiers and sailors. These twelve-inch, double-face disks dramatize such situations as these: an interview between a returned soldier and a minister-psychologist; story of a girl who married a badly wounded soldier; situation of an eighteen-year-old boy who returns in a year with the experiences of a man of twenty-five. It is reported that thousands of pastors, even chaplains, are studying how to be of service to the men as they return and try to adjust changed minds and bodies to the society they left.

### CONFERENCE PRESIDENT'S NEW YEAR MESSAGE

#### First Things First

For business institutions this is inventory time of year. Would it not be well for churches to take inventory too? How many members have we gained? Why did that one leave us? Why did we fail to persuade that other one to join us? What were the methods which brought success?

Shall we not as individuals, laymen if you please, take stock too of our accomplishments? What have we gained? How many have we brought to Christ and into the church this year? What are we going to do next year to win more souls?

Now let us look at these letters too. A review of the messages to you and requests of you these past months reveals they are not what or all we intended when we started. Have those suggestions inspired you to do more aggressive work? Does every family now have the Recorder? Have you churches put out those large signs telling where Seventh Day Baptists worship and bidding welcome to the passer-by? Have some of you "lone Sabbath keepers" established Bible schools in your homes? Has every laymen set aside time early each day for Bible study? If these things have been done, I am pleased. I feel sure Bible study and prayer, especially systematic Bible study and prayer is the cure for many of the ills of the Seventh Day Baptist denomination.

I had intended asking the organization of personal worker classes looking to definite work at the beginning of the year. Some of you have had such classes, and we are grateful. Let those now go to work practicing what they have learned in class.

Then, too, there was the prayer meeting, meetings for men and women separately, meetings aside from the regular weekly prayer meeting of the church. I am pleased to learn that the regular meeting has been resumed by some who have neglected it for a time. Riverside men we know received a great blessing last year from a men's meeting each Sunday night. Some times three men, some times twenty, but always a spiritual uplift. The effect of those meetings was felt in the regular weekly prayer meeting as well as in every department of the church.

What of this new year, the calendar year, which is before us? What will we do during the remaining months of the Conference year? Have we "hired" a pastor just to preach to us once a week? Do we crave entertainment so much that we will go to church only if the pastor is there to "soothe" us with pleasant words? Did we accept the free gift of salvation just to wrap it about ourselves and never ask anyone to join in our pleasure and happiness?

Possibly I am proposing too many business similes; but why not every church go into business? We have "the best proposition" ever offered to the world. Every layman should be a willing "salesman," going out regularly looking for some neighbor or friend asking them to accept. If we laymen find some job too much for us, and we cannot "close the deal," it is time to call in the "sales manager," the pastor. We can at least ask more to come to the church and sit under his instruction when he is home. When we have done all we can in our own neighborhood, let's take over the home church and send the pastor to some new field to build up a new church or at least help some pastorless church. We are much in need of new members in all our churches and new churches in all the states, and we laymen should do more about it.

Not everybody, even in the home town, knows that Seventh Day Baptists exist nor yet where they may be found. A few weeks ago people from a few miles out came to Riverside on Sabbath morning looking for the Seventh Day Baptist Church. They asked many who could not tell them where to find us. They finally thought of the Chamber of Commerce and through them found the way to the church. Everybody does not know of Seventh Day Baptists, say nothing of where they may be found. Let us make it easy for people to find us and

then ask them to join us. Let us try really to do something to produce growth and advancement among our churches.

In conversations on the trains it is common to find people who never heard of Sabbath keepers. When Sabbath keepers are known they are not Seventh Day Baptists. I have learned, when trying to identify myself, first to claim to be a Baptist. When that has registered I can explain being a Seventh Day Baptist and so not be confused with other Sabbath keepers. Usually the next question is how do you differ from other Baptists, and when you say you believe in keeping all the commandments it is a new thought to them that they have been breaking the fourth commandment.

Let us reach out and not only make ourselves better known to more people in more places, but make more people acquainted with our Saviour, and get them to accept him as their Saviour too, and teach them to keep all the commandments in love for him.

P. B. Hurley,

Conference President.

"Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

## 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. Sullman, Westerly, R. I.

### UNIVERSAL WEEK OF PRAYER FOR THE CHURCHES

As already stated in the Sabbath Recorder, the week of January 7-14 is chosen as the Week Of Prayer for the Churches, and copies of the booklet giving suggestions and helps have already been sent to all the churches. This week is to be observed over the world, and the themes suggested and subjects for prayer for the Protestant churches in America are as follows:

Sunday, January 7, "Thy Kingdom Come," Matthew 19: 6-33, Luke 11: 1-3.

Subjects for prayer: for the vision of the kingdom of God on earth, for the Church, for

chaplains; for men and women in military service; for courage to work with God for his kingdom; for the kingdom of God within ourselves.

Monday, January 8, "As the Publican Prayed," Matthew 5: 1-20, Luke 18: 9-14.

Subjects for prayer: for the humility of the publican, for a realization of "The Presence," for power to transmit "The Presence," for missionaries, for a clearer understanding of God's will in a warring world, for grace to bear our crosses.

Tuesday, January 9, "Forgive Us Our Debts as We also Have Forgiven Our Debtors," Luke 23: 36-44, Acts 6: 8-15, and 7: 1-60.

Subjects for prayer: for the spirit of forgiveness, for wisdom to balance love and justice in this

warring world, for the Church where it is persecuted, for our nation in its leadership of the postwar world, for the United Nations in the exercise of their moral responsibility, for the leading of God's Spirit.

Wednesday, January 10, "Pray for Our Enemies," Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 13.

Subjects for prayer: for the love of Christ to possess our hearts, for inward spiritual power to win others to righteousness, for our enemies, for the hungry, for the homeless, for the lonely everywhere, for the brotherhood of men, for the salvation of men at home and abroad.

Thursday, January 11, "Pray In Secret," Matthew 4: 1-11, and 6: 1-18.

Subjects for prayer: for the forgiveness of personal sins, naming them; for our homes and the absent members; for the building up of faith in ourselves and in the Church; for preachers, chaplains, and other leaders in the Church; for Church school teachers, public school teachers, and other leaders of youth; for unfailing knowledge of him whom we have believed.

Friday, January 12, "Pray In His Name," John 14, Romans 8.

Subjects for prayer: for the remembrance of Jesus Christ, for grace always to pray in his name, for rededication to the tasks of peace in the postwar world, for homes bereaved by war, for men facing the dangers of battle, for a deep experience of communion with Christ at the Lord's Table.

Sabbath, January 13, "Pray Unitedly In Church," Matthew 18: 1-20, Ephesians 4: 1-16, Hebrews 10: 19-25.

Subjects for prayer: for the faith upon which Christ has built his Church, for our local church, for our denomination, for the Universal Church of Christ, for the Church where it suffers persecution, for the ministry of the Church to the postwar world.

Between fifty and sixty million Christians in the United States and the churches to which they belong are now facing a new year with unusual opportunities and problems. All need divine help, and the promise of Christ is "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." Matthew 7: 7.

W. L. B.

### A GOOD GUIDE

A devout layman, in relating how he decided any course of action under consideration, said he asked himself two questions. First he asked whether he would be honoring

God by following the course contemplated. Then he asked himself if it would be obedient to the Father. Having settled these two questions in the affirmative, there was no doubt in his mind what he should do, and he went forward confident and rejoicing.

People are often in doubt about taking up a certain course of action, and these two questions are helpful. But there is another thing that sometimes enters in, and that is, "open and closed doors." If one finds the way closed, he may conclude that the Master does not require him to take that road.

The rule of this layman is in accordance with the Lord's Prayer. It begins, "Hallowed be thy name." This is a declaration that God should be honored and his name held holy everywhere. "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done" is a declaration that God should be obeyed. All who would have divine guidance can find it in answering these two questions conscientiously.

It is well that we apply this rule when we consider missions. Do we honor God in mission work? Are we obedient to him when we let the cause of missions languish? The Word answers these questions. "Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase." "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

W. L. B.

### SUGGESTIONS

All right-minded people and boards welcome suggestions if they come in a courteous way and do not bear the marks of having been prompted by selfish motives. Many times suggestions are made by those who are more or less ignorant regarding the subject under consideration, but it is desirable to have the opinions of many, and sometimes helpful suggestions are made.

A wise man will hesitate to advise about things concerning which he is not well informed. Neither will he be offended if his advice is not followed.

Denominational boards receive many suggestions, and some are presented as cure-alls. It is with a board as with the individual, namely, if it followed all the things suggested and recommended it would change its policies many times a year and not much work would be accomplished.

### IMPRESSIONS OF THE FEDERAL COUNCIL BIENNIAL MEETING

By Rev. Albert N. Rogers

A positive and evangelistic faith was manifested at the biennial meeting of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America held in Pittsburgh, November 28, 29, and 30. It was a faith that showed itself in the midst of total war and vast population shifts not only overseas but to the extent of twenty million civilians who have moved in the United States since 1940. It was a faith that found expression twice in the hymn, "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" and again in the reaffirmation of a phrase from the preamble of the council's constitution claiming "Jesus Christ as their divine Lord and Saviour."

Reports were thrilling in their account of work being done in the name of Christ in offices and churches, near factories, and on battlefields. A local church or an individual Christian can feel the power of God realistically as he participates in this united ministry of creation, redemption, and reconciliation. At the sore spots of our national life there has been healing, and where policies have been formed the influence of the churches has been felt because they spoke together. Men and women have found the saving power of Jesus Christ for their personal lives.

The problems of our churches were frankly faced: reaching the unreached and vitalizing the estimated 50 per cent of church members only Christian in name, ministering to the armed services personnel now and when they are demobilized, undergirding the peace, combatting the racial hatred found in sections of our country, meeting the organized pressure of the Roman Catholic hierarchy, stabilizing marriage and the home, and keeping in touch with Christians in other nations. Failure in some areas was acknowledged before God, and the best minds that could be brought to bear on these issues discussed plans for meeting them.

On the advice of members of the Council's Commission on a Just and Durable Peace it was voted to approve the Dumbarton Oaks proposals for international collaboration. Doubts were expressed as to details of the plan, but it was agreed that the basic principles are in accord with those of the

All may be assured that the boards solicit suggestions regarding the work in hand provided they bear the mark of not being prompted by self-interest. But it should be remembered that there are very few things which have not been tried, that it takes neither knowledge nor experience to suggest something different, that a constant change of plans leads to confusion, and that working in unity is essential.

W. L. B.

### "WE ARE RICH"

By E. H. Hamilton

The average peasant in North China lives in a mud-walled, thatch-roofed house, with dirt floor. He is so poor that a tiny dish of meat would be considered a feast. And yet in spite of their poverty, we hold "every member canvasses" in North Kiangsu, and ask each Christian individually to make his pledge for Christ and his Church; for we know, unless one is a giving Christian, he is not a living Christian.

One day I went to a rude little home, where a deacon and his wife are tenant farmers on two acres of land. Mr. Tsao said without hesitation that he would again give \$2.50 to the Lord that year. The next day when I was in that village, someone said to me, "Shepherd, Mrs. Tsao has not yet made her subscription." And Mrs. Tsao spoke up, "Last year I gave \$2.20; this year I want to increase to \$2.30." "But," I said, "Mr. Tsao has already said \$2.50." "Oh," she replied, "that is his subscription. He gives his, and I give mine." (Sort of a Woman's Auxiliary complex even in China!) Later on, when Dr. Grier and I visited their poor little hut, they reached for a crude, tiny bench, as the husband said apologetically, "You have to excuse us. We don't have anything; we are poor." A twinkle came into the face of Mrs. Tsao as she said, "Oh, no, we are not poor; we are rich: we have Christ!"—Christian World Facts.

### SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

FOR JANUARY 13, 1945

Jesus Begins His Ministry

Scripture—Matthew 3 and 4

Memory Selection—Matthew 4: 10

"He is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living."

Christian Church. A resolution opposing the establishment of permanent diplomatic relations between the United States and the Vatican was unanimously adopted, and a statement from the Council's executive committee urging the Congress to postpone action on peacetime conscription until after the war was carried with but two dissenting voices. It was voted to receive into the council the Russian Orthodox Church in America. Provisions were made in the budget for the next biennium for a Washington office for the council. These appeared to

this reporter to be some of the most important actions.

The new officers of the Federal Council, President Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam and Vice-President Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, were installed in a moving service in Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. Surely "there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are diversities of ministrations, and the same Lord. And there are diversities of workings, but the same God, who worketh all things in all."

Alfred Station, N. Y.

Mrs. Olroy W. Davis, Salem, W. Va.

## Woman's Work

### WORSHIP PROGRAM

By Mrs. Eldred Batson

#### What of the New Year?

"To do my best from dawn of day till night,  
To keep my heart fit for his holy sight,  
To sense the need of those about me,  
To feel a duty—not just to see!  
To know that a just God reigns above,  
And fill my soul with his great love.  
This is my responsibility.

Yes, much lies ahead of us in the new year opening before us—just what, 'tis best we do not know; but, if we follow the lines in the stanza above, we will be ready to meet what comes—we can face life squarely and with heads held high.

Hymn: "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah."

Scripture reading: Psalm 23 (in concert).

With God as our guide—  
In his love to abide—  
With our hearts full of praise  
While songs of cheer we raise—  
With his hand holding ours  
Through the long, trying hours;  
Prayer without ceasing,  
Work ever increasing,  
Our firm hold ne'er releasing,  
What of the new year?  
Results without measure,  
Happiness and pleasure,  
God's work carried forward—  
Yes, these, our reward!

Prayer: O God, thou who art ever near us ready to help if we but put trust in thee, give us strength to meet those things which lie before us; help us to strive always to know thy will for us and to put our hands

in thine and say, "Not my will, but thine be done." Amen.

Hymn: "Where He Leads Me, I Will Follow."

### FROM THE BOARD

The Christian Culture Committee urges attention:

Both Church of the Air periods  
Columbia Broadcasting System  
10:00 - 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 - 1:30 p.m., EWT  
Sunday, January 7, 1945  
from Toronto, Canada

On that Sunday the fifty-first annual meeting of the Foreign Missions Conference of North America will be in session at Toronto.

10:00 - 10:30 a.m., EWT

Mrs. Leslie E. Swain will speak. She is president of the Northern Baptist Convention, long active in the work of the Foreign Missions Conference and of the International Missionary Council. She will be attending the fifty-first annual meeting of F.M.C. at Toronto.

1:00 - 1:30 p.m., EWT

A new type of Church of the Air program. An experiment being worked out by CBS and FMC with the co-operation of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

The program was planned by Everett C. Parker, Director of Radio of the Congregational and Christian churches. Script professionally written. Short dramatizations by professional radio actors illustrating the brief radio presentations of overseas missionary

work to be made on this Church of the Air program.

Moderator of the program: Emery Ross, executive secretary of the Foreign Missions Conference.

Suggestions for helpful action:

1. Publicize widely through church press, ministers, women missionary officers.

2. Ask ministers, missionary leaders, and others who hear the F.M.C. Church of the Air program to write their boards or F.M.C. if they would like to have the complete script in mimeographed or printed form at 25 cents a copy (six for \$1.00) for use in a "broadcast" program in the church, Bible school, missionary society, public school, clubs, or elsewhere.

Don't miss this Church of the Air program on the first Sunday in January.

Mrs. Roswell P. Seager,  
Chairman.

North Loup, Neb.

Our women have been wanting some information about the board. How many members are there? and what are their first names? How many are engaged in some work other than homemaking? In fact, we could use a brief account of each member. I find the personal touch is so vital in this work. Perhaps the information might be of sufficient interest to all women so it could be published in the "Recorder."

Yesterday, we had our all-day meeting at the church of our new society called "Ladies Missionary Circle." Over twenty-five persons were present. Twelve ladies quilted, and that was all the quilt would accommodate.

Our society here is much interested in the "Helpers' Fund" and has sent \$6.00 this month. We have pledged \$25.00 for next year to be paid quarterly. More may be sent later.

We co-operated with the Methodist ladies in observing "World Community Day." A panel discussion was presented. The key-worker pro tem is Mrs. Rollo Babcock; she is working hard to fill Mrs. Hemphill's place while she is away. So far we have no new subscriptions for the Recorder, though we will yet work for new ones. We plan to use the mission books in one way or another. Mrs. Eldred Batson's Worship Program in the November 27 Recorder was used and

much appreciated. The history of our former societies is being prepared and will reach Mrs. Joseph Vincent shortly. At our meeting December 21, we plan to have a Christmas program. We are having a bake sale soon to raise money for the work.

Some of our ladies have engaged in sewing for the Red Cross. Many are co-operating in the daily Bible reading sponsored by the American Bible Society, Oh, yes, we sent 330 pounds of clothing to the UNRRA.

This will give you some idea how we are trying to reach the "goals."

"M. E."

Carraway, Fla.

Dec. 10.—The First Seventh Day Baptist Church of God of Putnam County held its regular business meeting today in the new church building at Carraway. We feel very keenly that a man is needed as pastor on this field, one who may be looked up to as the visible head of the local church.

After considering means available to help support a pastor, it was voted to get some more work done on our church building, such as putting in the window and door frames and finishing the first coat of paint. Then we will wait until we can get a man on the field to go ahead with the dedication of the building. However, there is a wood stove in the church, so we have it heated and are holding regular services there each Sabbath afternoon, besides some special services, as on Thanksgiving Day.

Iowa

"We are so thankful we are not forgotten and all over this old world there are folks, and folks who are interested in Welton. We want you to pray for us here, please, that we may do all and everything for the upbuilding of his cause." On the field already working with these people are Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Burns who write from that field, "We pray for guidance and wisdom, courage and patience, love and tenderness, as we go on with this endeavor in the Master's name."

Palatka, Fla.

In Palatka there is a young girl about twelve years old whom we call Ruby. As soon as she had found Christ, like Andrew of old, Ruby wanted her friends to know him, too. One day last winter, Miss Elizabeth Randolph took Evangelist Greene to call on

this girl in her home. He recognized her as one of the children who came to the services in the home the year previous. Much of her first training had been in the children's meetings held by Miss Randolph. Ruby was making plans for a meeting that evening and invited them to come, but it was impossible to go at that time. Ruby makes a practice of talking to her playmates outside the schoolroom about becoming Christians and then inviting them to the prayer meetings in her home one night a week.

On the occasions when the neighbor children gather, Ruby leads a very fervent prayer meeting in which several participate. Then follows Bible study, and this young evangelist, in a very intelligent way, helps many of her own age to clear up their problems about religion and the Bible. As always in the South, singing gospel hymns is an important part of the service.

Who can estimate the possibilities of this young girl in the southland dedicated to her Master's service? Would that every child who is a Christian, wherever he lives, would recognize his responsibility as an apostle, "one sent" by Jesus to tell the good news.

"G. G."

Promoter of Evangelism Greene is again on the road. He will be in Iowa until time for the meeting of the Commission soon after Christmas. Meanwhile Mrs. Greene is visiting a son near Nashville, Tenn.

### THREADS OF GOLD

By Pearle Halladay

Like a golden thread running through a lovely piece of tapestry, so the precious promises of God run through his blessed Word to us.

There are not many lines in the promise given us in Genesis 8: 22, but the depth and completeness of it makes one truly humble when we take it as meant not for the world but for individuals. "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." What a wonderful promise.

When days are hard and nothing seems secure, how good to read this promise over again. When our supply of needed things is low, it assures us of a seedtime and a

harvest. But let us ever remember our Master said that we must not "live by bread alone." Truly we need spiritual blessings, and we must learn to recognize them. We must remember that spiritual blessings must have a seedtime before there can be a harvest.

The greatest blessing given us is love. Not just God's great love to us and the love of relatives and friends for us, but the spirit of love in our own hearts going out to others is truly a spiritual blessing given to us—given us to use. Lovingly we must live out God's kindness; lovingly tell others of his great and redeeming love as we have opportunity.

That is a seedtime, and when in after years we know of a life rich and full of kindness and courage, even though that harvest belongs to God—we share in it. Sometimes there are cold winds in our lives; sometimes the heat of temptation and trial so great we can hardly endure, but this promise assures of the necessary help of seasonable circumstances: "in summer and winter." We also have the promise of time for work and rest in the words, "the day and the night." And this promise does not expire like a check stamped "void" after a certain date, but it is for as "long as the earth remaineth."

God's promises to us; how precious they are. In times of needed strength and courage let us claim these promises and seek from him the guidance and understanding we need. God never breaks a promise.

What is my need today, Master?  
Thou knowest well.  
Into my heart, O Jesus,  
There come and dwell.  
I from myself set free  
If thou abide in me.

Stevens Point, Wis.

### MY NEW YEAR WISH

May you have:

Enough happiness to keep you sweet;  
Enough trials to keep you strong;  
Enough sorrow to keep you human;  
Enough hope to make your heart sing;  
Enough of labor to keep you from rust;  
Enough leisure to make you broad;  
Enough religion to make you value the best;  
Enough of the love of Christ in your soul to make you glad to serve.

—From Church Bulletin.

"The law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good."

## Christian Education

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

Sponsored by the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education

### NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS FOR SABBATH SCHOOLS

1. Resolved: That the objectives of our school be—

- Development of a personal relationship with God.
- Development of an understanding and appreciation of loyalty to Christ and his cause.
- The development of Christlike character.
- The building of a Christian community.
- Participation in the life and work of the church.
- Development of a Christian interpretation of life and of the universe.
- Development of a knowledge, understanding, and love of the Bible.

2. Resolved: That the Sabbath school realize that it is the church as a school, and that every phase of its program is essentially the program of the church.

3. Resolved: That the experience of the pupil constitutes the central element in the curriculum, and the proper organization is that which facilitates the most wholesome development in the pupil's experience.

4. Resolved: That the school help its teachers to realize that they are not to transmit a religion, but to guide pupils into the experience of full commitment of self to Christ and the creation of a Christian world.

5. Resolved: That a constructive plan be followed which will provide opportunity for the enlistment and thorough training of teachers and leaders.

6. Resolved: That regular meetings be held for teachers and workers, and that time be given at each meeting for study of new and helpful materials.

7. Resolved: That definite projects of service be followed by every class so that every member of the school has many opportunities to express in deeds of service the lessons learned.

8. Resolved: That the emphasis on evangelism made through the nation-wide "Mis-

sion to Teachers," be built into the practical program of the entire school so that the ingathering will be the most effective, thus resulting in large numbers of decisions for Christ.

### HONOR ROLL OF "FIRST CERTIFICATE OF PROGRESS"

A number of months ago the pastors of our churches received a letter urging them to enlist members in a plan suggested in the leaflet, "A Guide," for earning the "First Certificate of Progress." The following people have enrolled in this plan: Mrs. George Whitford, Adams Center; Mrs. Bertha Willard and Albert N. Rogers, Alfred Station; Mr. Curtis Groves, Mrs. Pauline Mittong, Rev. and Mrs. David Clarke, and Ilou and Joy Miars, Jackson Center; Mr. and Mrs. Orville B. Bond, Miss Lotta Bond, and Miss Xenia Lee Randolph, Lost Creek; Miss Lucy Whitford, Plainfield.

Please—send me your name if you are working on the outline of this plan as explained in the leaflet, "A Guide," and see your pastor, or write to me if you do not know about the idea and do not have a copy of the leaflet mentioned.

The following have received the First Certificate of Progress: Mrs. Harriet Van Horn and Mrs. Lynn Langworthy of Alfred; Mrs. Nettie Brague and Mrs. Madge Sutton of Alfred Station. Will others who have already received this first Certificate please send me their names.

Let me repeat what has already been published, that the first certificates earned this year will be awarded at the General Conference next August, and it is hoped that a large number of laymen will work on the project. Names will be added to the honor roll as they come to me.

### FIELD TRIP TO NORTH JERSEY AND NEW ENGLAND

Pastor Victor Skaggs had plans all made for the meeting held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Harris of Dunellen, Friday night, November 17. A message on

the work of the board and Sabbath school plans was presented and a flannel graph story was used at the close. Mrs. Earle Randolph is the Sabbath school superintendent. A call was made at her home Sunday, November 19, at which time more detailed plans for the school were discussed. Mrs. Nellie Dunn teaches the beginners; Mrs. Lawrence Harris, the primary class; Pastor Skaggs, the young people; Miss Ethel Rogers, the women; and Cornelius Ryno, the men.

It was my privilege to worship with the Plainfield people Sabbath morning and bring the message. At an afternoon meeting the message which I give at informal meetings was given, and there was very interesting discussion of important matters. Mrs. H. C. Van Horn who is the superintendent was ill; and the assistant, Mr. Langworthy, conducted the meeting. Miss Lucy Whitford teaches the primary children; Mrs. Jeanett D. Nida, the juniors; Mrs. Anna North, the intermediates; Miss Ruth Hunting, the young people; and members of the adult classes take turns teaching.

A meeting of the Waterford folks was held at the parsonage Monday night, November 20. Mr. Morton Swinney who is superintendent was unable to attend, and Pastor Loofboro was in charge. All those present took part in the very interesting discussion of Christian education. Mrs. Mary Brooks is the children's teacher; Miss Ruth Swinney, the intermediates; and Mr. Charles Gardner and Mrs. Loofboro, the adults. There are children from homes in the community which are not Seventh Day Baptist who attend the Sabbath school.

There were two meetings at Rockville on the nights of November 21 and 23. Pastor Trevah Sutton was in charge. Miss Elva Woodmansee who is superintendent took a leading part in the discussion and kept a record of many suggestions for practical plans for improvement of the Sabbath school program.

Alice Woodmansee and Shirley Palmer teach the children; Mrs. Mary Sutton, the juniors; Mrs. Anne Kenyon, the intermediate girls; Pastor Sutton, the intermediate boys; Alva Crandall, the men; and Mrs. Lyra Irish, the women.

My visit at Westerly was for the prayer meeting hour Friday, November 24. Pastor Harold Crandall conducted the worship serv-

ice. After the meeting there was discussion with the superintendent and teachers of a very practical nature.

Mr. John Gavitt is the superintendent. Mrs. Howard E. Kuehn has just started as superintendent of the primary department. Mrs. Kenneth Smith has the nursery class; Mrs. Wilna Wilson is one of the teachers; Pastor Crandall has the junior high class; Dr. Edwin Whitford, the men; and Miss Estelle Stillman, the women.

Sabbath morning I spoke at the church service at Ashaway. During the Sabbath school hour I visited the classes. In every class for children there is a flannel board, and the teachers are making good use of them.

A very interesting meeting of all interested in the Sabbath school was held the night after the Sabbath. At the end of this meeting Pastor Coon arranged for a meeting of all church members who would be interested in taking a study class. This will help to make practical the suggestions made at the meeting.

Sabbath afternoon was spent at the Second Hopkinton Church where I preached the sermon, visited the Sabbath school classes, and talked of board and Sabbath school work after the Sabbath school hour. Mr. Lewis Randolph is the superintendent. Mrs. Donna James has the children; Mary Sutton, the juniors; Pastor Sutton, the young people; and Walter Kenyon, the adults.

Visits were made at the homes of Mrs. James and Mr. Lewis Randolph for discussion of detailed plans.

Much could be said about the fine spirit of hospitality found in homes and in fellowship with these good people in north New Jersey and New England. There were the turkey dinners at Pastor Sutton's home Thanksgiving Day, and Pastor Harold Crandall's home Sunday, and those regular Seventh Day Baptist Sabbath day dinners at Mr. Harry North's home and at the home of Pastor Ralph Coon. Then meals equally well enjoyed at the homes of Pastor Victor Skaggs, Dr. W. L. Burdick, and L. Ray Polan. It was a trip worth a lot to me in getting acquainted with Seventh Day Baptist ministers and laymen. May God bless us every one as we find our place in his work and under his spirit do the very best that we can.

## Children's Page

Mrs. Walter L. Greeno, Andover, N. Y.

### FRED'S NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

Fred Prentice was a jolly, good natured boy who lived in a large, thriving town in the middle west. The day our story begins was his twelfth birthday, but he was so large and well developed that he was often taken for a much older boy, and his chosen playmates were apt to be lads of fourteen and older. He was an apt student, and most of his classmates were several years older than he.

Fred had one serious fault; he was often late for school although his mother always saw that he started for school early enough to reach there on time every single morning. Many a time he played by the wayside until the last bell had rung. Not only was he often tardy, but as he was a born leader his example caused other boys to be late, too.

He was such a likeable boy and such a good student that his teacher, Miss Allen, was very fond of him, but she was much troubled because he was so often late for school and because of the bad example he was giving to his chosen cronies. She decided to do something about it.

It was the first day of school after the holiday vacation, and Fred and three of his playmates had slipped into their seats at least ten minutes late causing a delay in the school's daily schedule. Miss Allen had delayed her morning talk until all her pupils were in their seats and at attention; then she began in her sweet, pleasant way:

"Girls and boys, this is the first school day of the new year. I wonder how many of you have started out with good resolutions which you mean to keep to the best of your ability. One good resolution which I hope you will all make and try earnestly to keep all through the year is that you will get to school every morning exactly on time. Just think, what if each of you lost ten or fifteen minutes a day all the rest of your lives; beginning in school and on through your mature lives. I love to see children and older people have happy times but not to the detriment of important duties for themselves and for those led astray by their influence and example. This year I am going to give a prize and it's going to be for

attendance. Of course you all know what that means; well, the boy or girl who comes to school on time most often and is absent the least, at the end of the last day will receive the prize!"

The boys and girls looked at one another, some sober and some smiling, and all through the day's lessons they kept thinking over what their beloved teacher had said to them and to wonder who would get the prize. Fred thought to himself, "Here it is my birthday, and I was tardy again. Mother wouldn't like that any more than teacher does. I wonder if Miss Allen meant me when she spoke of people being bad examples to others. I'm going to try to be at school every day and on time. Wouldn't Dad and Mother be proud and happy if I should win that prize?"

Fred stuck to his resolution, and day after day came to school on time, and of course his cronies came with him, and for a long time no one was either absent or tardy. But as time went by, one by one the boys and girls missed a day here and there, and sometimes a pupil was tardy until only Fred and his best friend, Andy Johnson, had neither been absent nor tardy. As the end of the school year drew near everyone began to wonder if teacher would have to give two prizes, one to Fred and one to Andy.

The last morning came and nearly all the children were playing outside the school building at least fifteen minutes before the bell rang. When at last it began to ring everyone hurried toward the building. Suddenly a noise was heard in the street and looking that way the children saw two large boys pushing against an old man and his cart, upsetting his cart and knocking him down while his apples were spilled all over the street. "Someone ought to help that poor old man. Those boys ought to be ashamed of themselves," thought Andy. "But he lives way out in the country. If I help him I'll miss getting the prize," and he hurried into the school building.

Fred only hesitated a minute; then he hurried to the poor old man, drove the cowardly boys away, helped him pick up his apples, and then saw him safely home. He

lost the prize, but how proud his teacher and his parents were of him.

"I think it is fine to make new year's resolutions, even if I didn't win the prize," said Fred. "I'm going to make more of them next time, and keep them. That's the way good Christians like Mother and Dad and Miss Allen always do. I'm going to try hard to be that kind of a Christian."

### A HAPPY NEW YEAR

By Alice Annette Larkin

Jimmy chuckled to himself as he stood on the back porch and watched Betty Jean through the kitchen window. Betty Jean was stirring something in a little green bowl, and her back was turned to the window, so she didn't see him. Jimmy chuckled because he was thinking of the plan he had promised to help her carry out.

Betty Jean had thought of the plan while they were eating the delicious chicken dinner Mother had prepared. It had been a very quiet day in the big old house. No one had come in, and the telephone wire was down, so no one could call. Jimmy and Betty Jean had wanted very much to do something special this first day of the new year, but what was there to do? Bad roads and no extra gas for driving had kept Uncle Dan and Aunt Ruth from coming.

Suddenly the plan had popped right into Betty Jean's mind—why not invite a few friends for supper? Maybe other girls and boys here in Spring Valley had been wanting to do something special and couldn't. There was plenty of ice cream in the freezer, and Jimmy could put on his boots and go find some guests. She couldn't go with him because the ground was covered with snow, and there was a big hole in one of her rubbers.

"Please, may we do it, Mother?" asked Betty Jean. "I'll help with everything."

Mother looked across the table at Father and then at the chicken remaining on the big platter. Yes, there was enough for supper, so she said, "I think it will be all right, Betty Jean, only Jimmy mustn't invite more than four. While he's out looking for guests, you can put the frosting on the cake I made this morning."

Betty Jean thanked Mother for letting her carry out her plan; then she and Jimmy talked about the boys and girls who were

to be invited. It was hard to know just which ones to choose, but there was a new family in the little bungalow some distance back from the Spring Valley road. They finally decided that Jimmy should go there first. Sometimes it was very lonesome in a new place. Two hours later Jimmy started for the bungalow.

Someone had made a crooked little path to the back door, and Jimmy heard several voices as he stepped up on the porch. And suddenly he began to wish that he hadn't come. He didn't know these people, and what would they think of him? Maybe they didn't want any invitations to supper. Maybe they weren't lonesome at all; but now he was here, he supposed he would have to knock. The knock was answered by a boy about Jimmy's size, and back of him Jimmy could see other children gathered around a big carton into which they were putting books and toys and clothes.

Jimmy delivered his invitation, and the boy told him the box was going to a little southern mission school. Soon everyone was talking as if they weren't strangers at all. Jimmy learned that the family had come north because Mrs. Carlson had been ill and must have a complete change. The children were Kenneth, Nancy, Edith, and Roland, the baby.

"Father's staying in the south," Nancy explained, "and we're sending the box to help in his work in the little brown church. We're going back as soon as Mother is better. We wanted to share our Christmas gifts with the boys and girls who have so little to make them happy and comfortable. We're sorry we can't fill the box clear to the top. Kenneth says he's going to put in all of his things, but he needs something himself."

"Say, maybe Betty Jean and I can help," said Jimmy. "You all come to supper, and we'll see." If they all came, there would be more than four guests, but there was no need of Jimmy's worrying about that, for Mrs. Carlson and the baby couldn't go out. It was easy for Jimmy to see with what joy his invitation was accepted by the others, for they had been very lonely in the new home.

"I'll stop for you in just a little while," Jimmy told them when the time came for him to go in search of one more guest.

He had decided to invite Leon Soyles who lived in the next house. Leon had no brothers or sisters, but he did have more Christmas gifts than any other boy Jimmy knew. Still Leon was always wanting more. He accepted Jimmy's invitation, for he, too, was lonely. He couldn't seem to make friends with other children the way Jimmy did. Jimmy told him about the Carlsons and the big carton they couldn't fill with gifts. Leon really seemed interested, though he only said, "Huh!"

So Betty Jean's plan was carried out. When the happy guests had departed and she and Jimmy were talking about the gifts they were going to send to the boys and girls down south, she exclaimed, "O Jimmy, hasn't it been a perfectly splendid New Year's Day!"

"I'll say it has, Betty Jean," answered Jimmy, "and maybe that big brown box has helped make it a happy day. Why, even Leon is going to put some of his gifts in it."

"And Jimmy, think of the lovely new friends we've found. If we follow Nancy's recipe for a happy year, this brand new year will surely be a happy one. She found the poem in a little story:

A task that we must do each day,  
Someone to help along the way;  
A flower to give, a book to share;  
Sunshine to scatter here and there;  
A friendly smile, a bit of song,  
A kindly thought to pass along;  
A little prayer that God will bless,  
Oh, these will bring us happiness.

Ashaway, R. I.

### PRESSING ON

By Allen Bond

"Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3: 13, 14.

First of all, let us note who is in this race. Since it is "in Christ Jesus" it applies only to those who have already accepted the finished work of Christ on Calvary, where their sin substitute was made. If you want to run in this race, the requirement is that

you, too, put your faith, your entire hope for eternity, upon the saving power of Christ. Then, having been born again and numbered among the children of God, you are eligible to run this race of life in anticipation of a prize or reward other than salvation.

Now as to the rules for running a winning race. First of all, "I count not myself to have apprehended." You can never climb if you are satisfied with your present accomplishments. You must see that there is higher ground to gain. The trouble in our churches today is that there are too many self-satisfied Christians. They are satisfied with their past, and simply rest. But Amos 6: 1 says, "Woe to them that are at ease in Zion." Someone has well said that the greatest cause for alarm today is the lack of alarm. It makes me think of a chorus I have heard. "I'm satisfied! O, yes, I'm satisfied! I am satisfied with Jesus." But the question comes to me, as I think of Calvary, "Is my Saviour satisfied with me?"

Our second training rule is that we shall have singleness of purpose. We must forget all else that would diminish our efforts. If a man goes out hunting and suddenly sees two rabbits sitting a few feet apart and then discovers that he has but one shot left, it will do no good to shoot between the rabbits. He must make up his mind which one he wants, and then point his gun directly at that one. And James says that "A double minded man is unstable in all his ways." We must direct our energies with a singleness of purpose if we wish to avoid leading a "merry-go-round" life. We can't hold hands with the world and have Christ holding our hand at the same time. There is too big a space between Christ and the way of the world. "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve."

Repentance is our third rule. This does not mean a lost sinner's repentance, but the repentance by which a Christian turns from the beggarly elements of the world to walk in complete consecration to Christ. This rule is double acting. We not only turn from, but we turn to. And when we put the emphasis on the turning to Christ, it does not seem like such a sacrifice to turn from the world. We sing a chorus, "Turn your eyes upon Jesus. Look full in his wonderful face. And the things of earth



will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace." Last of all, we must be active in all this and "press toward the mark." Battle equipment does no good unless we use it against the enemy. Ours should be an all out or total war against the powers of darkness.

## Our Pulpit

### GOALS FOR THE NEW YEAR

By C. Harmon Dickinson

(Pastor of the De Ruyter Seventh Day Baptist Church.)

Nearly all ancient and modern nations as well as religions have attached special significance to the new year. The beginning of the Roman year, March 1, was celebrated by the feast of Ancylia with processions, feasting, and rejoicing. It is customary for the Hindu to offer special sacrifices to the god of wisdom at the beginning of the new year. The Jewish New Year was a holy festival—a holy convocation to the Lord. "And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, . . . In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, an holy convocation." Leviticus 23: 23, 24. The Christian way of celebrating New Year's Day makes it a time of joy and religious service.

It is coincidental, yet significant that we celebrate the birth of Christ at this time of the year. The departing of the Christmas season always leaves us with a renewed appreciation of what the coming of the Christ child means for us individually and for the world at large. What better stimulus could we have to begin the new year with a fresh sense of humility and consecration? Christmas coming at the end of the year symbolizes that the old is passing and a new era is being introduced. Certainly Christ's advent was the fulfillment of Messianic echoes through the centuries of the one who came to "save his people from their sins."

For most of us, Christmas was indeed a mountain-top experience. Many would like

We should determine to fight to the finish with terms of unconditional surrender and no separate peace or compromise. Don't just stand "marking time," but press into this spiritual conflict which demands real men and promises heavenly rewards.

Salem, W. Va.

to remain on the mountaintop and not descend into the valley of everyday realities. Peter, James, and John had a similar experience on the mount of transfiguration. Peter approached Jesus and said, "Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias." Mark 9: 5. Jesus knew better. It was better for them to go down into the valley where the sick and the blind were in need of healing. Would we stay on the mountaintop of this Christmas experience, or would we descend into the valley of the new year and share with others the many blessings which we have just received?

Before going to the valley, let us consider some of the goals which we wish to accomplish during the new year. Many have gone through the usual routine of making resolutions for the coming year. These resolutions are more than promises to ourselves or to God. Every thoughtful resolution becomes a goal which we are endeavoring to realize.

#### 1945, A Year of Greater Blessing for Our Lord

The first New Year's goal of every Christian is to make 1945 a year of greater blessing for our Lord and the Christ whom we serve. In Joshua's last address to the children of Israel he said, "Choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24: 15. Most of us have made a decision to serve the Lord, but in many cases this decision holds a secondary place. The life

has not been surrendered to his call. There is little longing to love the Lord our God "with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." Matthew 22: 37.

We can accomplish this goal by being more devoted to the cause of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We must realize that the business of Christ is greater than that of a king. Yet so many take their obligations to him too lightly. Why is this? Could it be because he means so little to them? Being a Christian is serious business, and it demands all the loyalty within us. Those who have received his wonderful gift of salvation must be just as loyal to the Christian army as they would be to the army of the United States of America. A young man who enters the armed services of his country takes an oath of allegiance and must stick to it. But how lightly so many have taken their agreement to renounce sin when they accepted Christ as their Saviour and were baptized and joined his Church.

Another way of accomplishing this goal is by being more willing to make sacrifices for the cause of Christ. "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross, and follow me." Matthew 16: 24. The Christian life is not an easy life. Persecution has always been common for Christian people. Sacrifices will naturally form a part of the cross which the Christian is to bear. God has so richly blessed our nation, even to the point where Christians in this country have few hardships as compared to the sacrifices which Christians in many wartorn countries are called upon to bear. Even in such countries too many Christians have been too unwilling to shoulder the Cross, else more influence might have been exerted to prevent plunging the world into war. Christians during this year will be called upon to make more sacrifices for their Christ. If such sacrifices mean that a man will suffer as a Christian, "let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf." 1 Peter 4: 16.

Christians are talking about the new era after the war, yet in many respects we see fewer Christian principles displayed in the governments of the commonly called Christian nations than were evidenced in former years. It was the desire of Paul that he might experience the sufferings of Christ.

Is the time coming when Christians will be called upon to show their colors that they might know "the fellowship of his sufferings"? The war is demanding sacrifices of us all; we bear them willingly. The more we are willing to sacrifice for the good of the nation, the sooner victory will be attained. Likewise, the sacrifices we make for our Lord during the year will add to his blessing and also to the blessing of the Church. **A Year of Greater Blessing for Others**

Why not be more helpful to others during the year? For a growing number of people in America and throughout the world the good news would be the greatest blessing they could receive. What a blessing the world would receive if Seventh Day Baptists make this year the greatest year of evangelism in their history? Countless numbers would be blessed as well as ourselves.

For the Christian, first things must come first. Evangelism is a first thing. Jesus began his ministry with the words, "Repent ye, and believe the gospel." The story of salvation is sure to bring joy to the ones who hear and receive it. The coming year will be great if we tell that story.

A progressive church will keep busy winning souls. It is easy to lose ourselves in secondary matters, and forget the greatest work of the church. "He that winneth souls is wise." Proverbs 11: 30.

Our responsibility does not stop with the unsaved. We must also bring blessing to those among us who are weak. Those who are weak in the faith need instruction; the indifferent need our prayers; the wise and the strong often lack humility; the tired and the sorrowful need the words of our Lord, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11: 28. It is our privilege to bring blessing to men everywhere, both physically and spiritually.

#### A Year of Greater Blessing for Ourselves

"For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified." 1 Corinthians 2: 2. Our joy will be greater by knowing him better. The joy we have from knowing him multiplies as we comprehend the price which he paid for us by his death on the Cross.

Under our first goal we said that we should make the year of greater blessing to our Lord. This will be accomplished by serving him more devoutly. However, the result here is more than one way. By our loyalty to God we not only increase the blessing which he receives, but in turn the blessing reverts to the joy of others and finally to the lasting joy which we receive ourselves. The coming year will increase in value to us as we commune with God in the secret chamber of prayer, as we study his Word or worship with his people, and finally as we serve him by our living and personal testimony.

This year can be a great year for Christian people. God can make it history for each one of us. Surrender your all to him; be ready at all times to bring the message of hope to those who need it; and strive to be more perfect even as our Lord was perfect.

De Ruyter, N. Y.

DENOMINATIONAL BUDGET

Statement of Treasurer, November 30, 1944

Receipts		Total for
	November	5 months
Adams Center		\$ 81.00
Albion		31.40
Alfred, First	139.79	695.38
Alfred, Second		76.21
Andover	5.00	5.00
Associations and groups		579.20
Battle Creek	82.00	606.00
Berlin	52.25	52.25
Boulder		92.83
Brookfield, First	26.25	103.50
Brookfield, Second	14.25	102.05
Chicago	18.00	98.00
Daytona Beach	10.00	57.00
Denver	14.50	79.50
De Ruyter	105.10	183.60
Des Moines		4.73
Dinuba		35.10
Edinburg	8.00	37.15
Farina	15.00	75.00
Fouke		98.31
Friendship		18.00
Gentry		38.90
Hopkinton, First	66.50	211.89
Hopkinton, Second	1.00	13.00
Independence	12.00	50.00
Individuals	4.00	87.77
Little Genesee	49.23	187.48
Little Prairie	15.00	15.00
Los Angeles		25.00
Lost Creek		151.62
Marlboro	55.00	288.00
Middle Island	3.75	38.84
Milton	156.07	985.88
Milton Junction	64.36	331.03
New Auburn	129.10	139.10

New York	230.96	230.96
North Loup		112.40
Nortonville	10.00	44.00
Pawcatuck		1,014.66
Piscataway		60.50
Plainfield		539.15
Richburg	27.50	27.50
Riverside	70.00	316.65
Roanoke		6.00
Rockville	9.08	39.94
Salem	19.00	211.00
Salemville		35.45
Shanghai	4.00	22.00
Shiloh	100.00	466.00
Verona		201.10
Waterford	10.00	66.00
White Cloud	9.16	62.14

Disbursements	Budget	Specials
Missionary Society	\$ 435.05	\$175.18
Tract Society	145.31	5.00
Board of Christian Education	234.85	1.00
Women's Society	7.92	106.00
Historical Society	19.80	
Ministerial Retirement	108.79	70.93
S. D. B. Building	49.39	
General Conference	98.89	1.00
Overseas Relief		12.00
China Relief		25.00
Christian Refugees		15.00

	Now and Then	1944	1943
Budget receipts for Nov.	\$1,124.74	\$2,066.94	
Special receipts for Nov.	411.11	701.53	
Total receipts for Nov.	1,535.85	2,768.47	
Budget receipts for 5 mos.	7,611.62	7,522.93	
Special receipts for 5 mos.	1,518.55	2,186.64	
Total receipts for 5 mos.	9,130.17	9,709.57	

L. M. Van Horn.  
Milton, Wis.

NEWS OF INTEREST

In summarizing major trends and problems confronting the national church body during the next few years, Dr. Cavert, executive secretary of the Federal Council at the Pittsburgh biennial meeting, stressed the advantages of co-operative action among Christian bodies in their relations with the government in their wartime ministry in working toward a better world order, and in other areas of Christian service. It is a time, he declared, when "all who are heirs of the Reformation should magnify their common Protestant heritage."

Dr. Cavert urged upon the churches their immediate responsibilities in ministering to returning service men and women. Problems of world order and race relations also were among the problems cited in the "trends."

H. C. V. H.

A marine in the South Pacific wrote this word to a buddy of former days in Tennessee: "My earnest hope and prayer is that my church will be prepared to receive me and all others facing similar uncertainties; to have a working place for me; and to extend the patient reformation I must undergo. War changes the individual, no matter how strong! It is impossible for me, thus far, to fight without feeling hate. I know the insidiousness of it, but it is there and returns, may God forgive me. It does not hurt much to see a dead Jap or to kill one, yet when a dead Marine is borne past me it tears my heart. The two extremes, one good, the other bad. Does that suggest a possible task for our church? . . . Is my church preparing its people for the example we must set before the world as millions of people are liberated and look to us for guidance? Humanity cries, not alone for religious guidance, but for guidance in government, living conditions, economics, and industry."

The Council of Bishops of the Methodist Church and the denomination's Board of Missions have recommended to Methodist churches "the study, support, and improvement of the Dumbarton Oaks proposals." This means that the organization of the "Crusade for a New World Order," headed by Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam of New York, and extending into each of Methodism's 42,000 local churches, embracing 7,500,000 members, will be called upon to study the findings of Dumbarton Oaks and develop a public sentiment in favor of its main proposals for world organization leading to a lasting peace.—W. W. Reid.

BAMBOO MOODS

By Mary Ross Davis

A silken swish in the moonlit wind,  
A rustle as of dainty dresses  
Passing through the summer night,  
Or whispered sound of falling tresses.

They sweep and sway on their supple stems,  
Rooted in earth with a strength more firm  
Than the giant cryptomeria boasts,  
Whose boughs may break at a typhoon's turn.

Though beaten bitterly and tossed,  
They bend and bow to the moan of rain;  
They fear not the sweep of the oncoming storm,  
For they know their power to rise again.

Cool and lush in the morning dawn,  
They wave their plumes 'gainst opal skies;

And they fan the earth with a tender breeze  
That last night's tears completely dries.

The bamboo is a species of grass, tall enough for great prehistoric animals to wander among unseen. This grass still covers the hillsides in much of China. Each year it is kept thinned out, sold, and used for a hundred and one purposes besides the proverbial fishing rods. Men walk among bamboos as in a forest of tall stems. The foliage is far above the tops.

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

- I will start anew this morning with a higher fairer creed;
- I will cease to stand complaining of my ruthless neighbor's greed;
- I will cease to sit repining while my duty's call is clear,
- I will waste no moments whining, and my heart shall know no fear.
- I will look sometimes about me for the things that merit praise;
- I will search for hidden beauties that elude the grumbler's gaze;
- I will try to find contentment in the paths that I must tread;
- I will cease to have resentment when another moves ahead.
- I will not be swayed by envy when my rival's strength is shown;
- I will not deny his merit, but I'll try to prove my own;
- I will try to see the beauty spread before me, rain or shine;
- I will cease to preach your duty and be more concerned with mine.

—From Church Bulletin.

Obituary

**Kellogg.**—Pvt. Harold G. Kellogg, son of Frank R. and Mertie Randolph Kellogg was born in Dunellen, N. J., January 28, 1921, and was killed in action in France, November 11, 1944.

Pvt. Kellogg joined the Piscataway Seventh Day Baptist Church in 1933. He was active there in the music of the church. In 1942 he married Miss Mary Jean Rutherford of Dunellen, and united his membership with hers in the First Presbyterian Church of Dunellen. He was the father of a seven-week-old daughter, Karen Jean Kellogg, whom he had never seen.

He is survived by his widow and daughter; his parents; three brothers, Clarence, Charles, and Robert; and two sisters, Mrs. Earle Styres and Mrs. Eleanor Sandell.

Memorial services for the family were held at the home of his parents, November 29, 1944, conducted by his pastor, Rev. Clarence E. Getz, assisted by Rev. Victor W. Skaggs. V. W. S.

# For The Children

Dear boys and girls:

Did you ever stop to think how much happier you will be during 1945 if you always hold tightly to Jesus' hand and keep looking up to him? Yes, a lot happier as you go about your play at home, at school, and elsewhere. And a lot happier as you go about those everyday tasks—both "great big" and small ones.

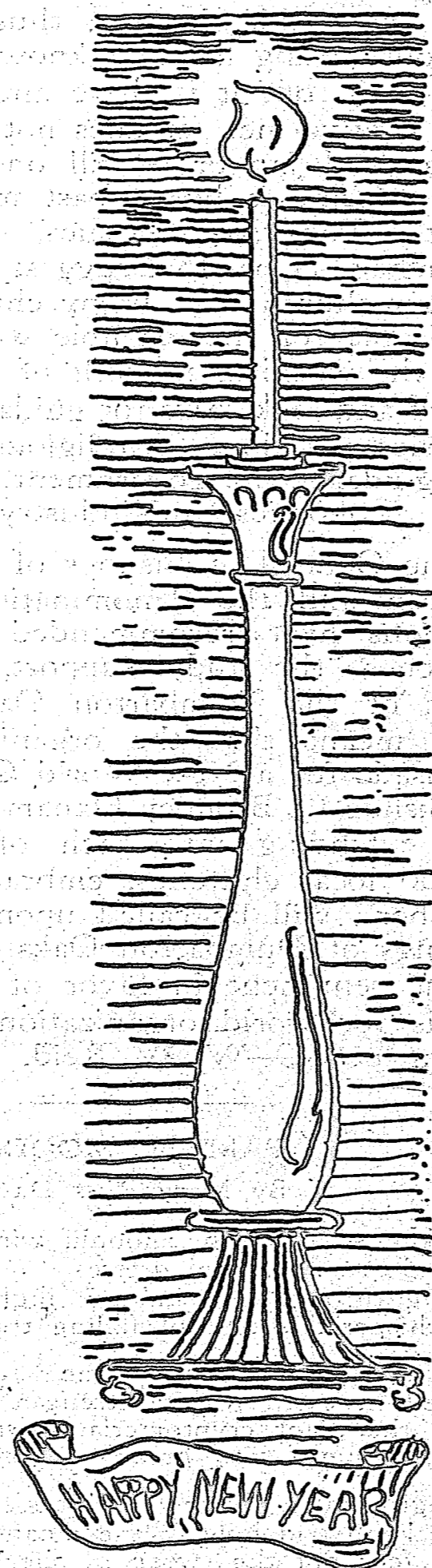
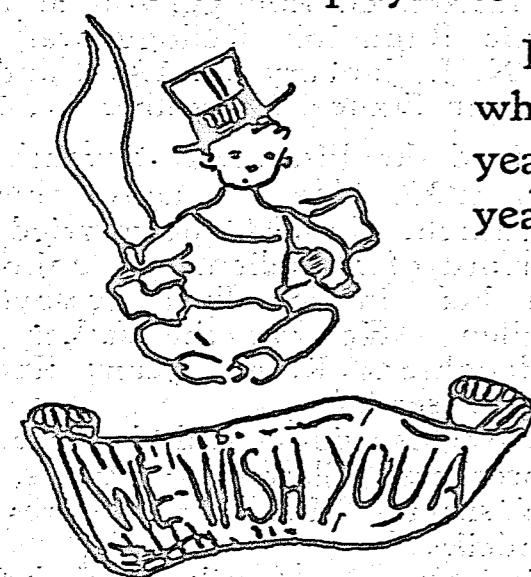
"But," you say, "Jesus is too busy helping big people to think about me. He doesn't have time to listen to my little prayers when I need his help."

Oh, but he does. Suppose you take your Bible and find what Jesus said to those "big people" who thought he should not help little children. Find Mark 10; then read carefully verses 12 to 16.

Jesus does love all little children, and he wants to help you all the time. He wants to know that you want him to help you. It makes him very happy to hear you say, "Thank you, Jesus," when you see something very pretty or something makes you happy—such as a lovely sunset, a pretty flower, something nice to eat or to wear, a chance to help someone else, or a chance to tell a playmate about Jesus.

Let's take Jesus with us everywhere we go during this new year, and it will be the happiest year ever!

A friend.



# The Sabbath Recorder

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No. 2

The bars of life at which we fret,  
That seem to prison and control,  
Are but the doors of daring, set  
Ajar before the soul.  
Say not, "Too poor," but freely give;  
Sigh not, "Too weak," but boldly try:  
You never can begin to live  
Until you dare to die.

—Henry van Dyke.

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