



Seeds of Conflict?

Retiring Director General Herbert H. Lehman (picture to left) of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration says that failure to furnish food for the world's hungry millions might lead to international disaster.

Speaking hopefully, however, before an UNRRA council session, he pointed out that it has been demonstrated by "history's greatest mission of mercy" that men and women of many nations can work together in harmony for the common good of mankind.

"Sacrifices will need to be made in some of the countries if the problem is to be solved," he asserted, "but . . . failure to provide for many millions must inevitably lead to widespread political instability and can well sow the seeds of further armed conflict."

The Hungry Must Be Fed

MY PLEDGE

"In response to the President's request to help prevent starvation overseas, I voluntarily pledge to conserve food and to buy less, bake less, waste less bread, cake, wheat products.

"I will conscientiously attempt to conserve during the next six months, or while the emergency exists, about a quarter of the wheat products our household is accustomed to use."

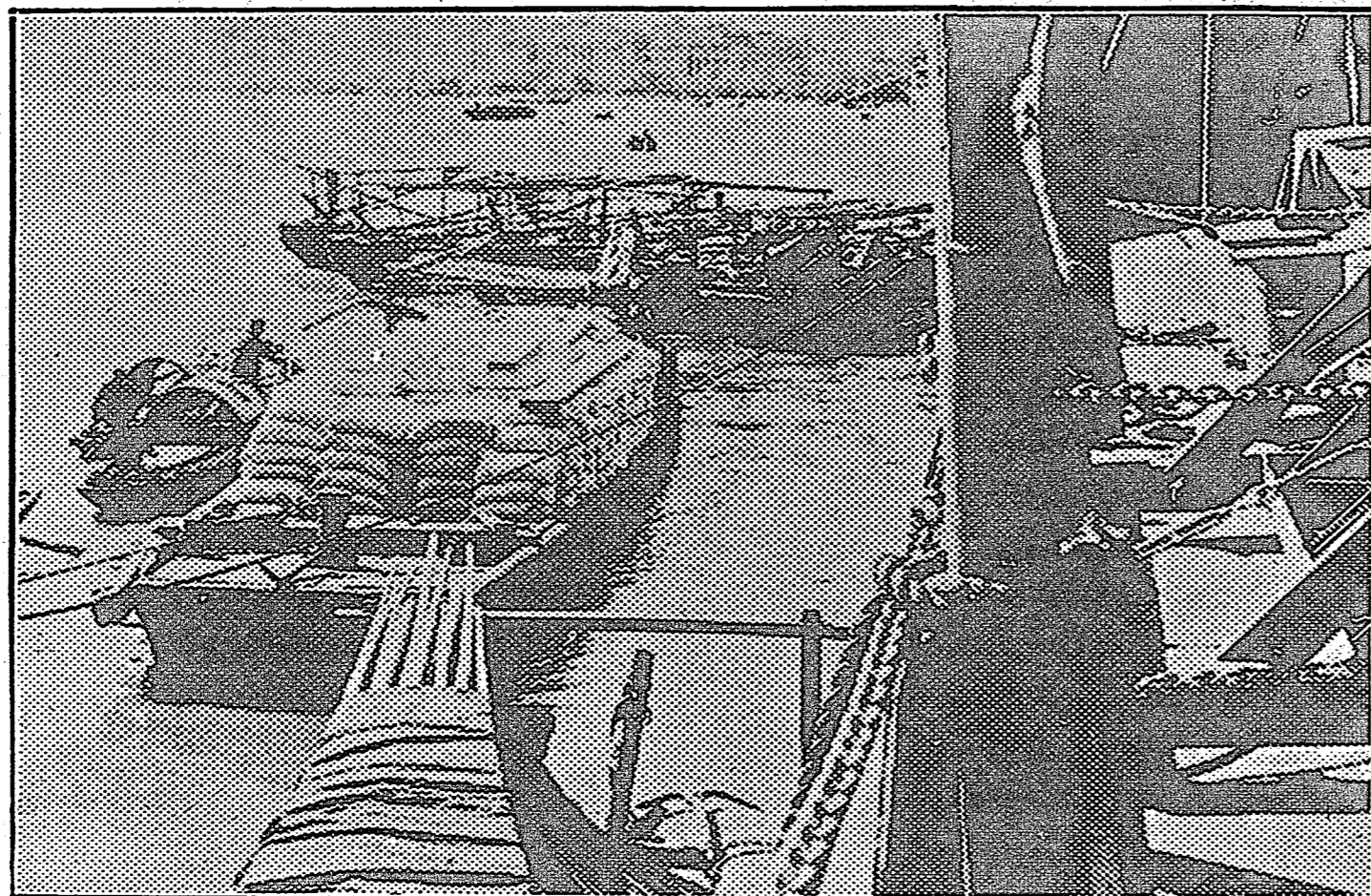
Food Conservation Pays Off

Relief flour arrives in Shanghai. Moored off Shanghai's famous Bund, the S.S. Marine Star unloads its cargo into lighters for transfer to shore.

"For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat."
(Matthew 25: 35.)

* * *

Ship material aid to the following United Church Service Centers: New Windsor, Md., and Modesto, Calif.



The Sabbath Recorder

The Church

IN the House of Life, I saw an Altar, with candles aglow and a Cross thereon.

And as I bowed in reverence and closed my eyes, I beheld the Living Church.

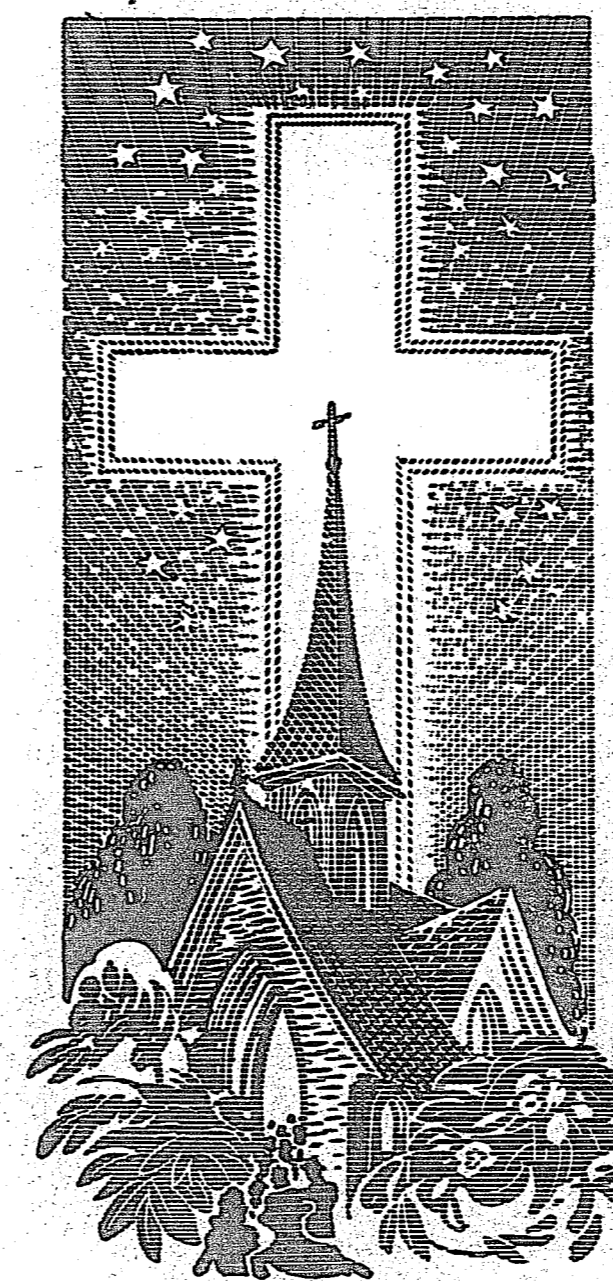
The walls were not of brick and stone, but of dedicated wills held together with the mortar of mutual dependence and common commitment to the Best yet revealed.

The windows were not of stained glass, but of multi-colored dreams, hopes and aspirations, through which there came the vision of Infinite Beauty that shone with the broken brilliance of a thousand suns.

The towering pillars and the vaulted arches were not of stone and steel, but of far-reaching arms lifted in prayers innumerable and intermingling.

The long aisles were not carpeted, with velvet runners, but with temptations trampled under foot and good resolutions kept.

(Continued on back cover)



The Sabbath Recorder

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

Entered as second-class matter at Plainfield, N. J.

ESTABLISHED IN 1844

Editorials

OUT OF THE WOODS

What a glorious work of nature a forest is! From a distance, the hillside or valley that is thickly grown to trees looks carpeted in lush, soft green. At closer range, individual trees assume their identity as sort of poles holding up a canopy of interlocking boughs. The sight is awe-inspiring; the human mind can hardly comprehend the magnitude of what to God is simple handiwork.

Life, as we view it objectively, takes on somewhat the same aspect. Mass movements of society are almost frightening in their magnitude; the mere individual facing major problems is prone to shrug his shoulders, saying: "What's the use! What can I do." He forgets, however, that as the forest is made up of a group of single trees, so society is composed of a number of individual people.

The modern day world tends to increase the perplexities of man. As horizons fall back to embrace more and more of the world, the individual man feels less and less able to cope with the situation in its greatness. A comforting thought is that to God the world—with its forests, and people with their problems—is all a part of his handiwork.

The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. Psalm 24: 1.

Instead of being content to trust implicitly in God's wisdom, the individual is apt to give way to the present day pressures to strive for that which is tremendous in worldly proportions.

Humanity's aims are for big things—big money, big position, big power. Like the forest, these things are impressive from a distance; but when you get into the midst of them, they are overpowering. They keep life shaded from the sunshine of God's love. The little plants with colorfully pleasing blooms and sweetly scented fragrance will not grow and bloom at the foot of great trees; the grass dies out from the lack of life-giving sunshine. Neither will the little but essential and satisfying daily graces develop in the shadow of the accumulation of the world's greatness. Prayer, Bible study, quiet meditation, family love, and laughter are crowded out. The peace of the Eternal is gone.

Let us not get lost in the forest of bigness.

Better is little with the fear of the Lord, than great treasure and trouble therewith. Proverbs 15: 16.

Of course, it is easy to cite Biblical quotations, homely proverbs, well-known poetical and literary quotation. They could give a complete set of rules for living, but to put those rules into practical operation in daily victorious life is the real problem. Or is it?

We have in the Christ of Calvary, and the Resurrection, an ever-present companion and helper. To follow him in simple, soul-satisfying living is easy. Jesus gives the formula in his own words:

If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? — Matthew 16: 24-26.

GUEST EDITORIAL

THE LETTER OF THE LAW

By Leo L. Wright

We who keep the SABBATH are often referred to as folks who are governed by "the very letter of the law." This carries the inference that we, the Seventh Day Baptists, cling to the "law" and are constrained by the "law," rather than by the love of Christ.

The fact is, we cling to the Cross and are constrained by the love of Christ to keep the SABBATH day holy, just as we are constrained by the love of Christ to refrain from taking the name of the Lord in vain.

We are not constrained by the "law" nor by the love of Christ to keep a man-made day holy, and there is no Biblical authority to support Sunday observance.

Jesus said, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." Matthew 22: 37. **THUS SAITH THE LORD.**

To love the Lord as commanded by Jesus most certainly calls for proper observance of the SABBATH, the holy day set apart at creation, the holy day observed by Jesus and his disciples, the holy day observed by the Children of Israel, the holy day that was founded years and years prior to the establishment of the Hebrew nation, the holy day on which our Lord was resurrected. "In the end of the sabbath (sundown), as it began to dawn (approach) toward the first day of the week." Matthew 28: 1.

The early Christian Church observed the SABBATH and abandoned it gradually through their own weakness and loss of spirituality. Pagan influence and a desire upon the part of the early Christian Church to set themselves apart from the Jews resulted in the establishment of the pagan Sun-day. Sylvester, Bishop of Rome, officially established the title "The Lord's Day."

To restore the abandoned SABBATH is not a return to the "law," but rather is a return to Jesus and a return to spirituality. It constitutes respect for God's will and is a symbol of his creative power and of his abiding presence.

We either do or do not love the Lord with all our heart and soul and mind. Can

we so love the Lord and yet disregard the SABBATH and accept a man-made substitute day in its stead?

"He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him." John 14: 21.

Thus, in keeping the SABBATH day holy, we are not being governed by "the very letter of the law," but rather we are keeping our faith in Jesus and we are abiding in his love. Our spiritual life is deepened by such worship—worship in spirit and in truth. Sunday observance cannot be so qualified.

We accept the SABBATH as "made for man," rather than the pagan Sun-day as "made by man." We use the SABBATH as a day in which to meditate on God, on his greatness and power, on his love, his will, and our corresponding duty.

Surely, in God's own time, all devout and sincere Christians will come to a realization of God's holy day with its spiritual blessings and will bury their prejudices and join hands in the movement to restore the abandoned SABBATH to all churches of all denominations, who strive to advance Christianity and promote spirituality.

New Augusta, Ind.

PIN POINT EDITORIALS

All Christian worship is a witness of the resurrection of him who liveth for ever and ever. Because he lives, "now abideth faith, hope, charity." —Lyman Abbott.

* * *
O risen Christ! O Easter flower!
How dear thy grace has grown!
From east to west, with loving power,
Make all the world thine own.
—Phillips Brooks.

* * *
Be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.
—John 16: 33.

* * *
"The spirit of the Lord is upon us because he anointed us to preach good tidings to the poor; he hath sent us to proclaim release to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."
* * *

God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. — Galatians 6: 14.

° The truths of the Master Jesus are eternal.

Going to Church Brings Blessings

— CASTOFF SHOES INSPIRE INTERESTING COMPARISONS

By Charles E. Packard

Assistant Professor of Biology
Alfred University, Alfred, N. Y.

HOW MANY TIMES have you heard someone say, "Oh, it's nothing; just an old pair of shoes." Worn out? Maybe, but they have had a life of constant and useful giving. Part of their work has been to take me to church. How often they have crossed a threshold to worship I couldn't say. It has been a fairly large number of occasions. And every time they have done so, I believe I have been the better for it. Do you know, whenever I look at my discarded shoes I'm very thankful for the privilege I've had of going in them to divine service? How many things there are about them that remind me of churchly affairs!

They have an outside sole that comes in contact with the earth. But they have an inner sole also. I, too, have a soul. Sometimes it becomes stained and discolored with the worries and hurts of contacts with people. But I can go to church and deep within myself feel those petty sins being swept away. My soul is nourished by the music, the prayers, the spoken words offered in a holy place. I worship God and my soul grows in stature.

Then I have found that those shoes were built to last. So was the Church of God, the Church Triumphant, the Church of a Loving Father and Brother, your church and my church, the world's church, the Church Universal. Love will last. God is love. The truths of the Master Jesus are eternal, enduring. They will outlive me and mine. They will persist forever. In a dedicated building I gain some realization of the deepest things



of the spirit. My soul "longeth after God" and finds him—in a church.

The constant wear and tear of sticks and stones, and hard, rough pavements, gets a pair of shoes down at the heel. Often have I been discouraged, beaten by the stresses and strains of living, then have found comfort and upbuilding in the Presence of One Holy and Magnificent, as I took part in a church service. I shall not forget precious moments when God was near in one particular beautiful edifice with a lovely cross gleaming in the soft, dim light of its chancel.

Over and over again ties have been made on that old pair of shoes to keep them fit and ready for use. I would not give up for anything the ties I've formed in church with its people. There I have made covenant with others and with God for good citizenship, rugged moral character, high purpose. My helpmeet and I have pledged ourselves as followers of Jesus to nurture our children as best we can in ways that are honest, truthful, and upright. From such a fount of God's great benefits many, many blessings have been richly poured. The least I can do in partial return is to come back to it repeatedly with my small gifts of love and service.

So, it's merely an old pair of shoes. The church, too, is old. But its teaching is new, and its record of a work well done is as vigorous and vital as the record of life itself. I look with not a little surprise and wonder at my very worn castoffs, and am glad. They teach me a fine lesson. How happy I am that I enjoy the rights of a free Christian today. I can go to church, and do so gladly, in quiet certainty that I shall be unmolested, prepared to find and worship a Presence higher than I, the Spirit breathing through the forms and rituals — God.

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." Psalm 122: 1.

GUIDANCE

Certain Basic Principles Explained in Second Article of Series

By Rev. Loyal F. Hurley

SUCCESS in finding God's will regarding our lives depends on meeting the demands of certain basic principles. It seems safe to state a general law of guidance thus: **DUTIES NEVER CONFLICT!** O yes, they often seem to. And we may not be able to distinguish between two apparently conflicting duties. Our inability may nearly drive us frantic as we struggle with the problem of decision. But remember, "when my spirit was overwhelmed within me, thou knewest my path." Psalm 142: 3. So we must trust God to make the decision for us. He will handle any apparent conflict.

Then there are certain personal principles about guidance, at least three.

1. We are not conscious of guidance till we settle our sin question. Since my conversion I can see that God had his hands on my life for months before I yielded to him, but I didn't know it until I was born again. If you want to be certain that God is leading you, be sure there is no sin unconfessed and unforgiven by the Lord. Then you can know.

2. Faith is necessary to certainty in guidance. So many folks trust God implicitly to direct and engineer the vast universe of stars and galaxies, but doubt his power to guide a little human life aright. Silly! Of course he can! But we must seek his guidance with faith. "But if any of you lacketh wisdom, let him ask of God, who giveth to all liberally and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing doubting: for he that doubteth is like the surge of the sea driven by the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord." James 1: 5-7. Believe that God will guide you.

3. Committal of life is necessary. You must surrender your will to the will of God. "If any man willeth to do his will, he shall know." John 7: 17. Take your hands off.

Let God decide. And when he has decided, be ready to thank him for a decision either way. For his way is best whether it appears so to you at the moment or not. Later you will know that his will was infinitely wise. When you say "Thy will be done," do not mean Thy will be borne, or endured, or suffered. Mean "Thy will be done." After Jesus had prayed that prayer he was ready to enter into God's will for him. When the traitor appeared, our Lord immediately cried out to the disciples, "Rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that doth betray me." In Matthew 26: 42-46 you will find the whole story to which we refer. May it lead you truly to pray, "Thy will be done."

(To be continued)

FIRST THINGS FIRST

More Spiritual Radios

Our pastor remarked one Sabbath that only a few years ago we would have called him crazy if he had told us that even in the church the air was full of music, stories, dramas, lectures, etc. Today we know it is true, and it is possible with a good radio to sc tune it that almost any time of day we may take from the air whatever kind of program we choose.



P. B. Hurley

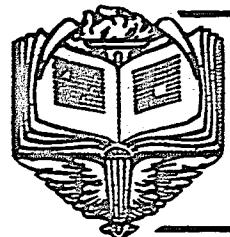
This pastor insisted that the air is now and always has been just as much or more filled with the Spirit; and it is available to any of us anywhere, any time, if and when we are in tune with God's will. He suggested the best way to attain that "in tune" condition is right living with Bible study, prayer, and meditation.

Bible study, he said, must consist of more than occasionally reading a verse or even the weekly study of the Sabbath school lesson. He recommended the American Bible Society schedule of Bible reading with additional time sufficient for learning many Psalms, promises, commands, and intreaties. If we have those memorized, there will be a ready reply for any thrust from the enemy, any place, any time. Then, too, we will be ready to give real comfort to the sorrowing, and we can repeat at once the passages desirable to help the seeker find Jesus. We

of the laity are so much in need of this we have been too content to let the pastor do all the leading and have thereby missed so many of the real pleasures of Christian living.

It is too late for me to do much memorizing, but from the little taste I have experienced, my recommendation is that all young people enrich their lives in this way.

P. B. Hurley,
Conference President.



STUDY to show thysself approved UNTO GOD

CHRIST'S RESURRECTION FORETOLD BY HIMSELF

By Rev. Harold E. Snide

(Second in a series of Easter Bible Studies)

He who in the presence of death comforted a sorrowing disciple with the tremendous assertion "I am the resurrection, and the life" (John 11: 25), early* in his ministry shocked his hearers by declaring "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. But he spake of the temple of his body." John 2: 19, 21.



Harold E. Snide

At the close of the discourse in which Jesus described himself as the Good Shepherd, he declared: "I lay down my life, that I might take it again. . . . I have power to take it again." John 10: 17, 18.

Without attempting to quote all the passages where Jesus predicted his resurrection, let us note that after Peter's emphatic confession of faith at Caesarea Philippi, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God, . . . From that time forth began Jesus to show unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day." Matthew 16: 16, 21; Mark 8: 31; Luke 9: 22.

The expression "from that time forth" does not reveal how frequently Jesus spoke

of these things, but seems to imply a rather steady program of instruction. One such occasion was "while they abode in Galilee." "Jesus said unto them, The Son of man shall be betrayed into the hands of men: and they shall kill him, and the third day he shall be raised again." Matthew 17: 22, 23; Mark 9: 30, 31.

On the way to Jerusalem this was repeated: "Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be betrayed unto the chief priests and unto the scribes, and they shall condemn him to death, and shall deliver him to the Gentiles to mock, and to scourge, and to crucify him: and the third day he shall rise again." Matthew 20: 18, 19; Mark 10: 33, 34; Luke 18: 31-33.

It is passing strange that the enemies of Jesus remembered these predictions and took precautions to prevent a faked resurrection, but the disciples seem to have forgotten these words of hope. Matthew 27: 62-64.

"The Son of David bowed to die,
For man's transgression stricken;
The Father's arm of power was nigh,
The Son of God to quicken.
Praise Him that He died for men:
Praise Him that He rose again."
Anstice—"Victor Funeris."

Takoma Park, Md.

* If we assume that the cleansing of the temple recorded by John is not the same as that mentioned in the Synoptics; if, on the other hand, there was but one cleansing, then this declaration was late in the ministry of Jesus.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON FOR APRIL 20, 1946

Two Friends Talk with Jesus
Basic Scripture—Luke 24: 13-35
Memory Selection—Luke 24: 1-9

OLD-TIMER S E Z . . .



"I've always wisht I could point my finger at some feller and say I was the sole and only cause of his bein' saved. I reckon, though, I got to be content with just bein' a small contributin' cause of folks bein' saved. These spektakular savin's ain't part of my job. I just got to plug along—Lord help me to keep on pluggin'."

Woman's Work

Frances Davis, Salem, W. Va.

PROTESTANT LEADERS SERIOUSLY ATTEMPT TO FIND CHRIST-LIKE SOLUTIONS FOR PRESENT DAY PROBLEMS

By Rev. L. O. Greene

A meeting composed of five hundred delegates from twenty-five different Protestant denominations, was held in Columbus, Ohio, March 5-7. It was called to consider some very important questions in regard to post-war problems. Definitely the purpose of the meeting was to work out, in the spirit of faith and love, guided by the divine wisdom of God, a five-point program in the areas of evangelism, world order, community tensions, foreign relief, and returning service personnel. To see how these gigantic tasks were faced and with what seriousness and wisdom an attempt was made to bring about solutions was inspiring indeed.

It was a great privilege to sit with and to listen to the great leaders of Protestantism who through past years have had great visions in kingdom building; they faced with undaunted courage the task of bringing all men under the power of the only means of saving grace which is found in our common Lord. It was heartening to find such a fine spirit of unanimity among men of so many faiths; they had come together willing to cast aside all differences which might separate that they might be of one mind in building a program of the Church for this day. The important work resting on the Church cannot be delegated to any other organization, either political or social, but must be met by the religious denominations represented; the Church must realize the hour has struck for immediate action.

The program of the Church must be revised in this critical time to include a greater individual discipline and community cooperation, if a sick work is to be reawakened to its moral and spiritual responsibility, no matter what the cost to any group included may be.

The Church, in harmony with the teachings of Jesus, must recognize that a much higher ethical value is to be found in a co-operative rather than in a competitive method of business, which must be practiced

THE BETTER PART

By Florence Jansson

Her days are filled with many simple chores.
Small tasks that merge, unnoticed, in the sum
Of all it takes to build a home indoors
And shield her family when night is come.
The world will never glorify her name
Nor even note her day is very full.
No accolade will grant her sudden fame
For homely tasks so humble and so dull.
And yet her busy mother hands have wrought
With gentle kindness and with loving care.
A greatness she has never dreamed nor sought,
A truer greatness than the vain would dare.
Her hands are willing servants of her heart;
Her tool is love; hers is the better part.

—Mother's Home Life.

in order to bring about economic justice and brotherhood, the undergirding principle of a highly desirable Christian world order. If the Church is to help men and women of other lands to regain faith and courage in the power and love of God, it becomes a sacred obligation to co-operate with the government and all other agencies in saving food, and clothing, and building material, and to share these with the multitudes who are less favored.

The Church must recognize that all men are equal regardless of color or creed and that to fulfill to the highest degree her responsibility of brotherhood we must work together to give all an equal chance to do their best without being encumbered by restrictions of education or religious privileges. It was a unanimous feeling that the Church must have a special concern for the whole needs of the returned servicemen; that it could do nothing less than give assistance in every possible way to help in their employment, housing, and educational problems, and to alter any program which might be needed to enable them to find welcome and a real place for service by active participation in their chosen group.

For me it was a happy privilege to sense the spirit and enthusiasm of the planning section on evangelism as they declared with such

certainty that this is the primary task of the Church and that we must all unite in a resolve to win our nation to Christ—so that we can better assume the new leadership thrust upon us by the late war. If the pronouncements made under these different sections are any indication of what we may expect of the churches of America, we may look ahead with hope to some real strides during the next few years.

SENSIBLE DIRECTIONS

For Congregational Singing

By John Wesley

These practical "Directions for Singing" appeared first in the preface to Wesley's Sacred Melody, 1761. The first two rules applied especially to the early Methodists who liked to import strange melodies into their worship services and also to embellish the authorized tunes. These sensible directions can be understood by congregations. Why not mimeograph them attractively and paste them on the flyleaf of your congregation's hymnals?

1. Learn these tunes before you learn any others; afterwards learn as many as you please.

2. Sing them exactly as they are printed here, without altering or mending them at all, and if you have learned to sing them otherwise, unlearn it as soon as you can.

3. Sing all. See that you join with the congregation as frequently as you can. Let not a slight degree of weakness or weariness hinder you. If it is a cross to you, take it up, and you will find it a blessing.

4. Sing lustily, and with a good courage. Beware of singing as if you are half-dead or half-asleep; but lift up your voice with strength. Be no more afraid of your voice now, nor more ashamed of its being heard, than when you sing the songs of Satan.

5. Sing modestly. Do not bawl, so as to be heard above or distinct from the rest of the congregation—that you may not destroy the harmony—but strive to unite your voices together so as to make one clear melodious sound.

6. Sing in time. Whatever time is sung be sure to keep with it. Do not run before nor stay behind it; but attend close to the leading voices, and move therewith as exactly as you can; and take care not to sing too slow. This drawing way naturally

steals on all who are lazy; and it is high time to drive it out from among us, and sing all our tunes just as quick as we did at first.

7. Above all, sing spiritually. Have an eye to God in every word you sing. Aim at pleasing him more than yourself, or any other creature. In order to do this, attend strictly to the sense of what you sing, and see that your heart is not carried away with the sound, but offered to God continually; so shall your singing be such as the Lord will approve of here, and reward you when he cometh in the clouds of heaven.

—Processional.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Retirement

Dear Sir:

Do you want to vote whether the Conference should say how long a man should preach or work for the Lord? I will vote "no." When we enter work for God, it is for life, and no one has a right to say when that work shall end.

Our churches are independent. If they don't want an old man or woman, that is for them to decide. You will have to send better young men than I have yet heard if they are to beat the old servants of the Lord—and that is not saying the young men are not good.

A church that cannot stand an old preacher needs a revival. I knew a church that hired a young man just beginning his ministry, and they kept him as long as he lived. When he got too old for all the work, they hired an assistant.

May God help us to have charity for others' faults.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Nettie Hibbard.

Walworth, Wis.

"If you cannot cross the ocean
And the heathen lands explore,
You can find the heathen nearer,
You can help them at your door."

"Let none hear you idly saying,
'There is nothing I can do,'
While the souls of men are dying,
And the Master calls for you."

Missions

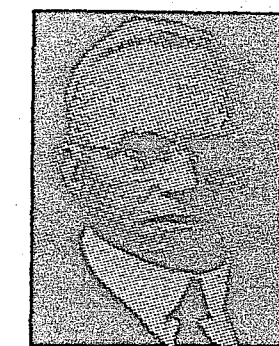
Rev. William L. Burdick, D.D., Ashaway, R. I.

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.

STUDYING MISSIONARY PROBLEMS

- Understanding of Facts
- Knowledge of Administration
- Concerted Action

One of the great needs in the field of missions is a wider knowledge of the facts and a better understanding of the problems.



W. L. Burdick

Long ago it was said that facts are the fuel which kindle the fires of missions. No statement could be truer. If the facts regarding the world's needs, what missions have done, what they will do, and their place in settling national and international problems were known, multitudes of Christian people would be greatly aroused and very enthusiastic over missions. The bringing of this knowledge to the people is one of the tasks of the Church.

Not only should the facts regarding missions be known, but missionary administration must be studied in the light of the history of the Church, the present trends of society, and national aspirations and international problems. All who would promote missions should be interested in missionary administration, but mission boards and missionaries simply must give this subject the most thorough study.

Professor Kenneth S. Latourette, head of the missions department, Yale University, wrote some time past, "Every board, for example, must find means of educating not only its supporting constituency but its own members and missionaries. And last, we must take care lest, having had the importance of such studies brought to our attention and agreeing to it, we should do nothing whatever about it. If there is not to be a criminal waste of life and treasure, with blunders which may injure whole tribes and nations, we must in the next few years give much more effort to the careful examination of the conditions and problems which confront us."

W. L. B.

ALL MANKIND IS AWARE THAT GREAT EVENTS ARE HAPPENING

Such Times Are Potentially Creative
in Individual Lives

Another resource of the Christian faith is in the providence of God. There are times in human affairs when God seems to move in an especial way to bring great issues to light. We are living in a "grand and awful time," when even the casually-minded is aware that great events are happening. Men have been stirred to the depths. Such times are potentially creative in the life of individuals and of mankind. It has been said that God is carrying on a serious conversation with his people through the events of our time. Nothing could be more tragic than that we would come out of this crisis without being profoundly changed. Our security has been undermined; our easy confidence in progress through science and technology no longer offers rest for the soul. We now know there is no easy redemption of human society or of the human soul. Our human resources are no longer able to cope with our condition. The stark realities of man's sinfulness have been exposed in all their hideous and terrifying nature. We are understanding afresh what Calvary means—the place where the evil passions of men put to death the Son of God.

Even those who thought that religion was progressively being absorbed into social welfare and international brotherhood are sensing afresh the relevancy and profundity of the Christian revelation. We humbly confess that these times are providential, though we do not blame God for our condition. Through the eyes of faith we sense that God is at work not to destroy us, but in judgment to arouse us to inquire about our salvation. God is still the God of love, and his judgment upon us is a manifestation of his mercy which would not let us go on in our blindness and indifference to his eternal purpose for us.

This doctrine has been rudely attacked in recent days because of the atomic bomb and

its threat to human existence on this planet. We were taught to believe in the goodness of God which continually surrounded us with a faithful environment regardless of the perversion of that steadfast order by human sinfulness. During the war, we believed that God had set bounds to evil, and that the wrath of men would praise him. The atomic bomb, however, confronts us with the possibility of man destroying or liquidating the order and forms of creation, man himself included.

Afraid of Freedom

People are afraid of their freedom, and the products of their scientific inventions. Many sensitive spirits feel that this insecurity into which we have been thrust makes it impossible to believe in the providence of God, and that there is nothing left but the counsel of despair resulting in a life of stoicism, or a life that centers itself in the transcendent world.

We believe that the transcendent element in the Christian faith needs to be recovered. Modern man needs to be confronted with the transitoriness of life on this earth. The Christian faith is rooted in eternity; it offers man eternal life, but not a Utopia on earth. In a real sense, the atomic bomb has turned our eyes upward to the true source, succor, and hope of our lives.

Providence of God

We wish also to say that the providence of God is not made untenable through the possibility of man's termination of his life here on earth. The ultimate purpose of God cannot be thwarted, even though man takes his own life individually or collectively. God cannot be surprised by what man does. Our faith in the forgiveness of sins and in the resurrection of the dead at God's hands gives us the assurance that whatever happens, God will not only be vindicated in his justice, power, and love, but that for believers this temporal life will be swallowed up of eternity and taken up into a new existence which will be the fulfillment and consummation of what through grace was begun here on earth. We cannot hope to describe what the future will be like, but we are assured that it will be God's and be shared by those "who are called according to his purpose."

—Commission on Evangelism,
Federal Council.

REV. V. W. SKAGGS TO BECOME CORRESPONDING SECRETARY OF TRACT SOCIETY

At its regular March meeting the Board of Directors of the American Sabbath Tract Society extended a unanimous call to Rev. Victor W. Skaggs to become corresponding secretary of the society beginning September 1, 1946.

Mr. Skaggs has been pastor of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Piscataway at New Market, N. J., coming to that position on January 15, 1943, just before his graduation



Victor W. Skaggs

from theological seminary. During the past several months he has also served the Plainfield Seventh Day Baptist Church of Christ in the absence of Chaplain Hurley S. Warren.

In 1944 the Piscataway Church voted that their pastor be called for ordination to the gospel ministry, and ordination services were held October 21 of that year. Rev. James L. Skaggs, father of the candidate, preached the ordination sermon.

The incoming secretary did work for his A.B. degree at Salem College, W. Va., and took his ministerial training at the Alfred School of Theology, Alfred, N. Y.

Mr. Skaggs has resigned his pastoral responsibilities in New Market to take effect August 31, at which time his headquarters

(Continued on page 281)

Christian Education

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

Sponsored by the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education

"CHILDREN WE TEACH" TOPIC FOR LITTLE GENESEE CLASS

At the second session of the class at Little Genesee, N. Y., studying "The Children We Teach," there were twenty present. Such questions as how to explain God to the small child, what kind of family devotions to have, and other practical problems have been discussed very frankly by these parents and teachers. The next session will be spent in considering family planning for use of money, use of leisure time, how to get along with each other, and other matters which should be considered by the family as the members meet around the fireside, the dining room table, or out on the picnic ground.



Harley Sutton

At the first session of classes at Alfred Station, N. Y., Miss Edith Weaver, guidance instructor of the Alfred Almond Central School, presented the problems of dealing with the adolescent child. She explained the physical development of this period and the care which parents should use in handling children during this period of growth and change. In my class on "Education in the Alcohol Problem," the group will find out what is being done in Colorado where there is a very active state temperance organization, and in Kentucky where effective work is being done. From the study of effective community plans for control of the traffic in alcoholic beverages, the class will arrive at some valuable conclusions.

ALFRED CHURCH HOST TO ALLEGANY COUNTY RALLY

The Alfred Church was host to a rally of Allegany County young people on Sunday, March 17. There were 153 delegates from various denominations and churches.

Young people from the Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church were in charge of the opening worship service. Miss Maxine Henry, Miss Janice Colgrove, and Paul Binder took part.

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Church Has Greatest Obligation in History

By Kathleen Clement

(A high school senior of the North Loup Church. This talk was given C. E. Sabbath, February 2, 1946.)

As young people of today we have a tremendous responsibility ahead of us in promoting the teaching of Jesus Christ in our church and community. Good leadership in any community, on any subject, demands the attention of every individual. Each person must have a strong character and a standing interest in his duty. As Christians it is our duty to lead the people in our community, especially young folks, to Christ. This job is not for the weaklings who say, "Well, it is being done fairly well by someone else." We need the combined efforts of everyone, of every Christian youth, to accomplish our aim.

The Church has the greatest opportunity and obligation in all its history. It has the obligation to reach those people who have never committed themselves to Christ. It has the obligation to teach the children, youth, and adults the meaning of the Christian way. It has the obligation to relieve the suffering of the world. It has the obligation to go into all the world and preach the gospel to all people.

Whether or not the Church will meet its obligations depends to a large extent upon whether or not we as young people are faithful in our support, whether we are regular in

Pastor Albert Rogers conducted a discussion group, "Why Different Denominations." I conducted the group which discussed "What Is Christian?" There were twenty-six young people in this group discussing such questions as deciding what is Christian, how to follow the Bible, can we expect to receive all we ask for in prayer, etc.

worship, loyal to the total program, and give our time and talents to maintain a vision of a program that extends throughout the world.

A year ago we were at war and were constantly reminded of our definite and practical obligations. We were indebted to our country; youth responded to the demand heroically. But now think about our obligation to our Christian faith. We are indebted to our Christian faith to an even greater extent than we are to our country.

I'm sure with the combined efforts of everyone we will meet our challenge sufficiently and with courage.

NEW ZEALAND MISSION WELL ATTENDED; BUILDING FUND NICELY STARTED

Auckland

We hear from Pastor Johnson that the mission being conducted there is being well attended.

Children's Page

Mizpah S. Greene, Andover, N. Y.

OUR LETTER EXCHANGE

Dear Mrs. Greene and the Children:

I have been reading your column all these past months since I wrote last, but many things crowded in and filled up the time I would have liked to take to write to you. I found I was getting discouraged about some things I didn't like. But I never knew God to fail in times like that. If I prayed to him and told him what troubled me, soon he would send some happy answer.

I would now like to tell what the answer was that cheered me this time, and if it is too complicated to print in your column, you can at least read it yourself, Mrs. Greene, and pass it around as the early Christians did with the letters of the Apostle Paul.

One thing I didn't like was a new liquor store, opened where I have to see it when I go to drop letters in the mail box or to buy food. There were already two places selling liquor close by, less than a block away, and I had seen a near neighbor, mother of a baby, made unconscious by what she drank when invited out to Sunday dinner.

All this time there has been a very sweet, kind woman, head cashier in the grocery store close by these three liquor stores. Sev-

They plan to continue with it for a while yet. They ask for your continued prayers for this effort.

Christchurch

We were very pleased to have two sisters from Nelson to visit us during the holiday period; their pleasant fellowship was enjoyed by all present. The Christmas services were well attended.

The first £100 for the building fund has been received by the treasurer, and we are now working for the second £100. Your editor spent a pleasant two weeks at Arthur's Pass over the Christmas period.

—The Gospel Messenger.

If you are interested in writing to those who are giving this good publicity of the New Zealand work, write to the editor, Rev. R. H. F. Barrar, Seventh Day Baptist Church, Worcester and Manchester Streets, Christchurch, New Zealand.

Prayers from Seventh Day Baptists in this country will give courage and faith to those of like faith in New Zealand. H. S.

eral days lately she was missing. One day she was back at her cash register, and I welcomed her. When I asked about her health and told her I had missed her, she said:

"I am working only three days a week this week, and I am going to quit this business, because this store is going to sell liquors. You see those empty shelves over there. That is where they are going to stack it, and we women have to handle it. What is the difference between that and a barroom? I am never going to sell what will make people drunk."

Her firm words cheered me, while I was saddened to think that the only grocery store I knew that didn't sell liquor was going to begin to sell it.

In a few days, when I had to have some bread, I went back there quite heavyhearted, not expecting to see the dear cashier any more; but there she was. As I took my bread and went around by her to pay, I wondered if she had "given in" to the liquor. I said, "I didn't expect to find you here."

She answered with a radiant face, "What do you think has happened? The manager sent the liquor all back and refused to sell

it; so I am going to keep my job. See those shelves? They are filled with other things."

I walked home with lighter heart than for many weeks, in knowing the victory that dear woman had won. When she was absent from her work, the young clerks passed back and forth a lot of silly talk and did not half attend to business. If she had not come back because liquor was sold, that store would not have been a nice store any more.

I think a good conscience makes good business, don't you? And I thank God for that cashier's good conscience at a time when the need is so great for temperate influence. It is wonderful how near God is to help when we try to make our neighborhood a better place in which to live.

I hope to write again soon.

Daytona Beach, Fla. Mrs. S. S. Powell.

Dear Mrs. Greene:

Spring is here, and Daddy found some daffodils in bloom in the yard. It is nice to see the flowers coming out again, and I am glad it is spring. Did you have a lot of snow where you live this winter?

I had two little puppies given to me, so I gave one to my cousin. My puppy likes to play. Sometimes he jumps up on people and scratches, but he doesn't mean to hurt anyone; he is only playing.

One day I went walking over to Aunt Bernice's, and I saw an owl in a tree.

I am taking piano lessons now. I like to play, and so far I like to practice. Mother says she hopes I won't get tired of practicing as she wants me to play in Junior C. E. some day.

It will soon be my birthday, April 20, and I will be seven years old.

I saw your son, Doctor Greene, out to church this morning. This has been a beautiful Sabbath day. I will be looking for my answer in the Sabbath Recorder.

Your little friend,

Julia Ann Rainear.

R. D. 3, Bridgeton, N. J.

Awake, thou wintry earth—
Fling off thy sadness!
Fair vernal flowers, laugh forth
Your ancient gladness!
Christ is risen.
—Thomas Blackburn.

Dear Julia:

I was happy to receive your nice letter. Spring is in Andover, too, and it is quite warm this morning. The only flower plants I can see in my garden are the iris. I have a long row of it.



Mizpah Greene

As I started down town this morning I heard a buzzing sound among the trees in front of the church, and looking up I saw a large swarm of honey bees busily trying to get honey from the newly opened buds. I'm wondering where they have

come from as no one near us keeps bees. I hurried on, for some of them came down too close to me for my peace of mind.

I mustn't write any more this time, as I have already overrun my page. We, too, expect to see our son very soon. We are planning to drive to Bridgeton April 7.

Your Christian friend,
Mizpah S. Greene.

NEW CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

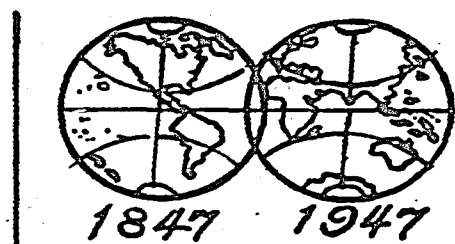
(Continued from page 278)

will be in the Seventh Day Baptist Building, Plainfield. In addition to his office duties, Mr. Skaggs expects to spend a good deal of time traveling throughout the country in active evangelism and Sabbath promotion work.

The new secretary will succeed Rev. H. C. Van Horn who has served in that position for sixteen years. It was with keen regret that the Tract Society accepted Mr. Van Horn's resignation, made necessary because of ill health. For most of the sixteen years, Mr. Van Horn has also been editor of the Sabbath Recorder.

It is interesting to note that both Mr. Van Horn and Mr. Skaggs were serving the New Market Church as pastor when elected to the secretaryship.

In anticipating his new assignment, Mr. Skaggs asks "for your friendship and your prayers in the interests of my new work for Christ."



THE SECOND
CENTURY
FUND

It is not the money I am anxious for; what I am anxious for is the interest that accumulates in this way to your divine credit.

—Philippians 4: 17 (Moffatt).

Church members, clerks, pastors, is your church organized for canvassing every member on the Second Century Fund? If not, consult the suggestive ideas presented by the Second Century Fund Committee (sent to pastors and clerks), add your own plans best suited to your situation, and prepare now for over-subscribing the fund!

The date will soon be announced for the Second Century Mission Sabbath, which will be the "kick-off" day for your local campaign of securing pledges.

Along with pledges of \$5, \$10, \$25, we feel sure that some are able to pledge and give far more over the 1946-1947 campaign period. We pray for true consecration to our Seventh Day Baptist mission task of this hour to the extent of many \$100, \$500 gifts, and some \$1,000 investments in the kingdom.

For any individual, God does not limit his kingdom demands to spare time and loose change. He gives the richest opportunities and rewards to sincere and thoughtful givers of life and fortune, who give according to the utmost of their ability.

Pastors and clerks, fifty-four membership lists have been sent in. These three have come in since March 11: Shiloh, Los Angeles, and Piscataway. Thank you all for sending such well-prepared lists. We await only a few more lists.

David S. Clarke, Secretary,
Second Century Fund Committee.

21 Greenman Ave.,
Westerly, R. I.

Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me. — Psalm 139.

THUMBNAIL SKETCHES

About Seventh Day Baptists and Their Activities

With over two hundred religious denominations in the United States, it is no wonder that each generation needs to be told "who is who" among denominations. Many are inquiring about Seventh Day Baptists; for those of that group who happen to read the Sabbath Recorder, we will print each week in this column a few facts about Seventh Day Baptists.

BELIEFS Concerning the Sacraments

A sacrament has been defined as "an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace." What is presented in a sacrament has been derived, not from man, but from God. But its value depends upon the attitude in mind and heart of the recipient. We are saved by grace through faith. Ephesians 2: 8. Ordinances are aids and reminders.

Baptism is the initial overt act of the Christian in personal consecration of the life to God, and is a witness to others of that dedication. Baptism signifies our union with Christ, and attests our status as children of God.

The Lord's Supper offers the opportunity for Christians to partake of the emblems of the body of Jesus, which symbolizes the continued spiritual fellowship with God which he seeks. Partaking of the bread and wine shows forth the Lord's death and renews and strengthens that constant experience of divine fellowship which is the privilege of the Christian.

For further information about Seventh Day Baptists, write American Sabbath Tract Society, 510 Watchung Ave., Plainfield, N. J.

Marriages

Margan - Getchell. — John B. Margan, Norwich, Conn., and Alice May Getchell, Waterford, Conn., were united in marriage at the Seventh Day Baptist Church, Waterford, Conn., October 8, 1945, Rev. E. F. Loofboro, officiating.

Obituary

Burdick. — Edgar Eugene, son of Wells N. and Mary Grow Burdick, was born March 16, 1873, at Tideoute, Pa., and died March 12, 1946, at his home in Bottineau, N. D.

His early years were spent at Alfred Station, N. Y., after which the family lived near Flandreau, S. D., and Milton, Wis. As a young man he was

baptized and joined the Pleasant Grove Seventh Day Baptist Church, later transferring his membership to the Church at Milton Junction, Wis.

He was married to Miss Flossie W. Severance of Milton about 1900 and to them were born three daughters: Mrs. Leila Chaney, Miss Florence Burdick, and Mrs. Marie Vanderberg, all of whom survive him.

Funeral services were conducted from the Baptist Church of Bottineau on Friday, March 15, by Rev. Orville W. Babcock. Burial was in the Bottineau Cemetery. C. W. B.

Blair. — Elsie Davis, daughter of Martin and Phedora Davis, was born near Salem, W. Va., November 10, 1874, and died February 5, 1946.

With the exception of a few years at Alfred, N. Y., her life was spent in Salem and vicinity. She was a loyal member of the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church. She attended Salem College and was a graduate from a school of nursing.

Mrs. Blair is survived by two brothers, Edward and Guy, and by one sister, Mrs. Lee Davis.

A private funeral service, at the home of her brother Edward, was conducted by Pastor James L. Skaggs. Interment was made in the church cemetery. J. L. S.

Clark. — Fenton Randolph, son of Jesse and Charlotte Randolph Clark, was born at Greenbriar, Doddridge County, W. Va., January 12, 1855, and died at Salem, W. Va., February 5, 1946.

He was married to Miss Iva McClain, May 6, 1886. Mrs. Davis died June 10, 1910. He was married on July 10, 1918, to Miss Iona Riddle. He was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church, always interested and regular in attendance at worship until hindered by age and illness. Besides his wife, he is survived by a daughter of his first marriage, Mrs. Scott Davis, and by a daughter of his second marriage, Miss Eva Mae Clark.

Funeral services, conducted by Pastor James L. Skaggs, were held at the Salem church and the body was laid to rest in the Greenbriar Cemetery. J. L. S.

Clark. — Phineas Randolph, son of Jesse and Charlotte Randolph Clark, was born at Greenbriar, Doddridge County, W. Va., February 19, 1865, and died at Salem, W. Va., March 16, 1946.

He was married September 10, 1891, to Miss Mary Maxson. Mr. Clark was a member of the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church. He continued church attendance as long as health permitted. For several years he has been confined to his home.

Besides his wife, he is survived by one son, Royce, and by one daughter, Mrs. Cora Barnes.

The funeral service, conducted by Pastor James L. Skaggs, was held at the Salem church. The body was laid to rest in the Greenbriar Cemetery. J. L. S.

Coon. — Nettie Irene, daughter of Mitchell and Sylvia Roat Sanders, was born February 20,

1870, near New Auburn, Minn., and died March 19, 1946, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Glyde Tuttle in Beloit, Wis.

At the age of three she was adopted by Andrew and Martha Gardener Hall. She was married August 29, 1889, to Durwood E. Coon, who died October 29, 1942. She was baptized at the age of twenty-one and joined the Seventh Day Baptist Church of New Auburn, Minn., later transferring membership to the Church of New Auburn, Wis., where they moved in 1909. They moved in 1920 to Milton, Wis., which was her home until late in 1945. She was a member of the W.C.T.U. of Milton Junction.

Close survivors are three daughters, Mrs. Henry Babcock, Mrs. Beryl Whitford, and Mrs. Glyde Tuttle; and a brother Otto.

Funeral services were held in the Phelps Funeral Home in Milton with Rev. W. D. Burdick and Rev. Orville Babcock officiating, and in the Seventh Day Baptist church in New Auburn, Wis., with Rev. Neal D. Mills and Rev. C. B. Loofbourrow officiating. Interment was in the New Auburn Rural Cemetery. N. D. M.

Davis. — Emma Burcham Jennings, was born in Grayson County, Va., November 11, 1873, and died at Salem, W. Va., February 10, 1946.

She was married to Chesley G. Davis June 18, 1929. Mr. and Mrs. Davis spent their married years together on a farm near Salem. She was a loyal member of the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church.

She is survived by Mr. Davis; the following children by a previous marriage: Mrs. Blanche Stewart, Oris Jennings, Carl Jennings, and Guy Jennings; and by a brother and sister, Houston Burcham and Mrs. Sena Busick.

The funeral service was conducted by Pastor James L. Skaggs and the body was laid to rest in the church cemetery. J. L. S.

The Sabbath Recorder

Established in 1844

L. H. NORTH, Manager of the Publishing House

K. DUANE HURLEY, Editor

Jeanett D. Nida, Assistant to the Editor

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

William L. Burdick, D.D.

Harley Sutton

Mizpah S. Greene

Frances Davis

All communications, whether on business or for publication, should be addressed to the Sabbath Recorder, Plainfield, N. J.

Terms of Subscription
Per Year.....\$2.50 Six Months.....\$1.25
Postage to Canada and foreign countries 50 cents per year additional.

Subscriptions will be discontinued at date of expiration when so requested.

All subscriptions will be discontinued one year after date to which payment is made unless expressly renewed.

The Sabbath Recorder does not necessarily endorse signed articles. For information about Seventh Day Baptist polity and beliefs write the American Sabbath Tract Society, 510 Watchung Ave., Plainfield, New Jersey.

THE CHURCH

(Continued from front cover)

The doors were never shut. They were wide open with welcome to all humanity: saints and sinners, rich and poor, black, brown, yellow, and white—whomsoever.

The altar was not carved wood, but of penitent hearts, ashamed of their sins, made strong with the sense of forgiveness.

The pulpit was not a dais for the declaration of dogma, but a place of light and fire whence came forth flashes of truth and the impact of power.

The Holy Book was not a single volume held aloft on a lectern, but all life studied unashamedly, tested daringly, experienced deeply, comforted tenderly, challenged constantly.

The music was not compounded of organ and voices, but of consecrated leadership and well-developed diversities all harmonized into the matchless melody of creative co-operation.

And the warmth of the Living Church, wherein all glowed with radiant vitality, came not from furnace and fuel, but from obedience to Him who saith: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, soul, mind, and strength; and thy neighbor as thyself."—Henry Hitt Crane, in *Christian Advocate*.

I WILL TODAY

I will keep my lips sweet with words of kindness, my heart pure with noble ideals, my hands clean with honorable deeds; I will keep my body sacred and my soul free; I will strive to be rich in love, strong in gentleness, untiring in patience, abundant in hope; I will serve God by helping some of his children; I will try always to be better than my word and more liberal than my promise; every day I will make the most of myself and the best of myself and so be ready for the opportunities which God daily sends to those who are ready for them. I will — today. —Selected.

HAPPINESS

Jesus calls us to life on its highest level in the Beatitudes where each "blessed" may also be translated "happy."

The Beatitudes teach us that happiness cannot be found in our circumstances unless it comes from within.

It is the inner life that is the home of happiness where abide humility, sorrow for sin, meekness, a desire for righteousness, peace, and courage to face persecution.

The quest for eternal life brings happiness, but the quest for happiness does not insure eternal life. That explains why there are so many disappointed people in the world and why this has been called "the age of great sadness." Multitudes of persons seek happiness in ways that never can reach the goal.

The entrance to the realm of happiness is by a "narrow gate" where Jesus still stands to meet us with the old, familiar challenge, "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand." —War Cry.

The Sabbath Recorder

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died, my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride. Forbid

it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood. See, from His head, His hands, His feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down! Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown? Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.—Isaac Watts. In the cross of Christ I glory, tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'ertake me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy, never shall the cross forsake me; Lo! it glows with peace and joy. When the sun of bliss is beaming light and love upon my way, from the cross the radiance streaming adds new luster to the day. Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, by the cross are sanctified; peace is there that knows no measure, joys that thro' all time abide. — John Bowring. I take, O Cross, thy shadow for my abiding place; I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of His face; content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss, my sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross. — Elizabeth C. Clephane.