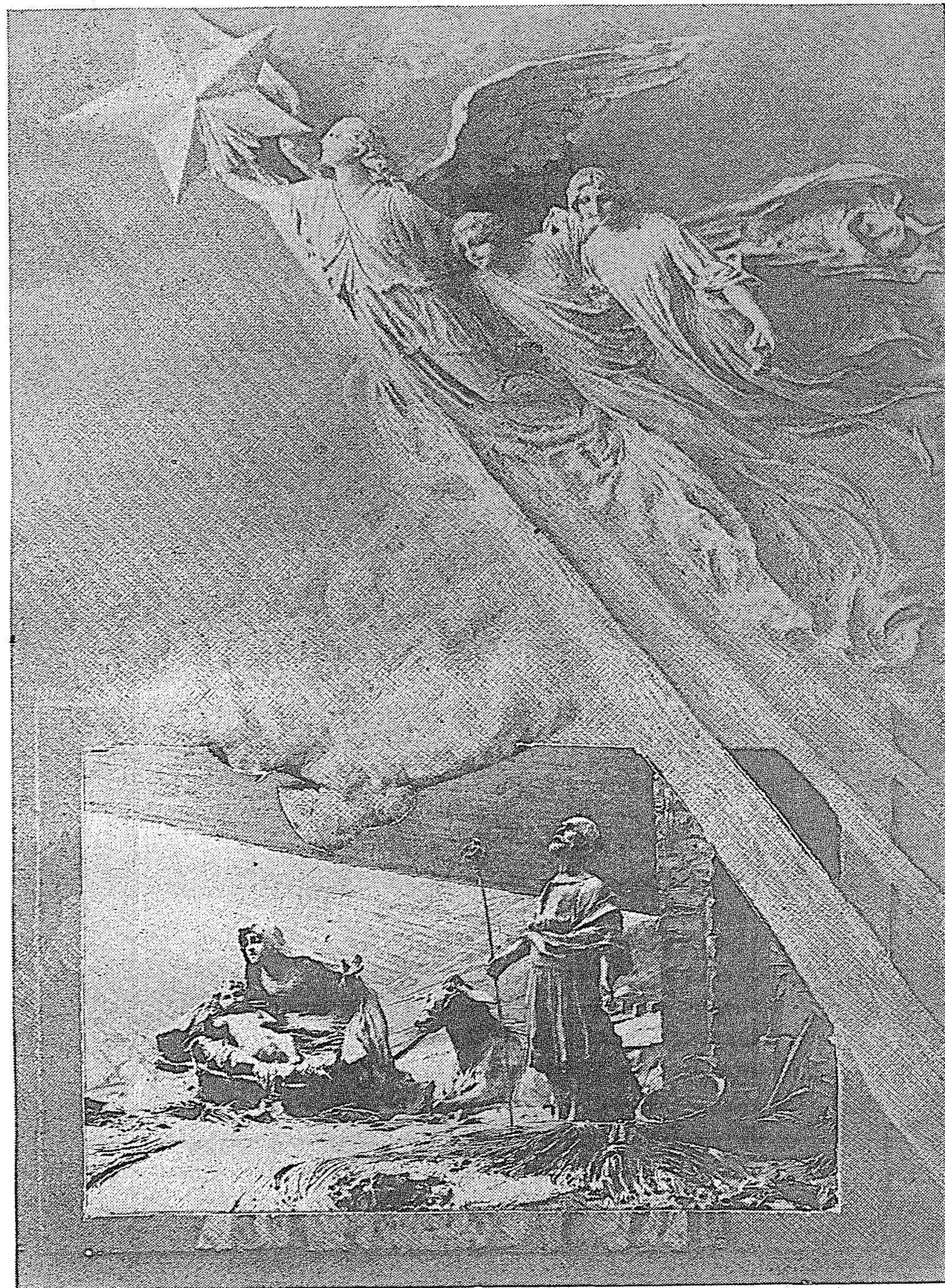


The Sabbath Recorder

The New Year

I am the New Year, and I come to you pure and unstained,
Fresh from the hand of God.
Each day, a precious pearl to you is given
That you must string upon the silver thread of Life.
Once strung can never be unthreaded but stays
An undying record of your faith and skill.
Each golden, minute link you then must weld into the chain of
hours
That is no stronger than its weakest link.
Into your hands is given all the wealth and power
To make your life just what you will.
I give to you, free and unstinted, twelve glorious months
Of soothing rain and sunshine golden;
The days for work and rest, the nights for peaceful slumber.
All that I have I give with love unspoken.
All that I ask—you keep the faith unbroken!

—J. D. Templeton, in *Quotable Poems*,
compiled by Clark-Gillespie.



—Religious News Service Photo.

The Nativity

D. Mastroianni's Wax Sculpture of the Birth
of the Saviour in Bethlehem.

The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

A Magazine for Christian Enlightenment and Inspiration

HURLEY S. WARREN, D.D., Editor

L. H. NORTH, Manager of the Publishing House

Contributing Editors

WILLIAM L. BURDICK, D.D., Missions
(MRS.) FRANCES DAVIS, Woman's Work
(MRS.) HETTIE W. SKAGGS, Acting
HARLEY SUTTON, Christian Education
(MRS.) MIZPAH S. GREENE, Children's Page

Our Policy

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

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International Essay Contest for Youth

To promote "ideas of world citizenship and Christian responsibility for world order," an International Essay Contest for Youth is being sponsored by the Youth Department of the World Council of Churches and the World Alliance for International Friendship through the Churches. Winners of the contest, to be announced at Christmas, 1948, will receive the Zelah Van Loan World Friendship Awards.

The essay contest is open to all Christian youth throughout the world, it was announced by Mr. William Keys of the World Council and Dr. A. William Loos of the World Alliance. Junior entries in the contest—aged 13 to 17—will be asked to write a short essay on "What does the Bible say about World Friendship?" The topic for senior entries—aged 17 to 21—will be "As a young Christian what concrete action should you take for world peace today?"

The first award for seniors will be 1,000 Swiss francs (approximately \$250) to be used for travel. In the senior group there will be thirteen other awards and fifty medals distributed by the Zelah Van Loan Friendship Fund. In the junior section, sixteen awards and fifty medals will be given out.

Final judgments will be made by an International Body of Judges meeting in Geneva, Switzerland.

American young people wishing to participate in the contest should send their entries to Rev. William Keys, Secretary for Youth Work, World Council of Churches, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, New York, no later than May 1, 1948. — Release, American Committee for the World Council of Churches (Youth Department).

(Editor's Note: Any Seventh Day Baptist young person who is interested in entering this "International Essay Contest for Youth" will please write to: Editor, The Sabbath Recorder, 510 Watchung Ave., Plainfield, N. J., for detailed information.)

COMMISSION WILL MEET

The Commission of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference will assemble for its mid-year meeting Monday, December 29, 1947, at 11 a.m., in the Seventh Day Baptist Building, Plainfield, N. J., God willing.

Let us pray for a renewed consecration to Christ and His Sabbath as these our representatives face squarely Seventh Day Baptist situations in their relation to the kingdom of God.

EDITORIALS

Doorways of the Spirit

There are doors large and small, heavy and light, public and private, wide and narrow. There are doors that forbid and doors that encourage entrance.

In some communities in our land doors of homes are never locked. Of course, such a practice depends upon community conditions and behavior.

Doors Speak

Though silent, they speak. They speak volumes, the impressions of which are not seen in print. These impressions are sensed by those who pass through the doors.

Some doors speak the welcome of hand and heart and head. Other doors are mute—ashamed of the attitudes of the ones who open and close them.

Doors portray character. That is, when the owners or users determine the designs. At least they take on certain characteristics that tend to identify them by their users. The size of the door is often determined by the stature of the folks using it.

There are photographers who make a hobby of taking pictures of doorways. To such close observers, doors truly speak an eloquent, though silent, language.

Doorways to Life

A door is a passage, an opening, an entrance. The portals through which we pass from day to day, and year to year, will mean spiritual life or spiritual death to us. As the year's end draws on apace, let us consider whether or not we have been entering doorways to life. It is not expected that many who read these lines will have been passing through doorways to death, but some of us

may need to consider whether or not all doorways of thought and speech and action that we have entered during 1947 have led to life. Certainly no greater resolve could engage us completely throughout 1948 than that of frequenting doorways opening to life.

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14: 6.

And, again, He said, "I am the door of the sheep. . . . I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture." John 10: 7, 9.

Doorways to Character

Doorways of Life are Doorways to Character. There is good character and there is bad character. But bad character means eventual spiritual death, while good character means eventual spiritual life. We are dying when we are bad. And, contrariwise, we are living when we are good. If we would enter into life wholly, we must leave off badness and put on goodness. All of which is much easier written than practiced. However, we receive tremendous encouragement from the New Testament writer, James, who admonishes: "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you." James 4: 7, 8.

Character unfoldment and development are delicate matters. All too often we want to justify ourselves by asking, "Who is my neighbor?" Love toward God and love toward our fellow men are inseparable if we would truly live.

Doorways of Life open to Doorways of Character. And Doorways of Character open to Doorways of Opportunity.

Doorways to Opportunity

Someone has said in an encouraging vocational vein, "Be ready for an opportunity when it comes. If you are prepared, the very birds of the air will let the people know." Of course, there are outstanding exceptions. Nevertheless, if one is not prepared, folks will soon find it out.

Vocational opportunities afford spiritual opportunities. If we are alert at our livelihood tasks, many an opportunity to witness for Christ and His Sabbath will present itself. As we glance back over the past year's efforts, let us take stock of our opportunity status. Wherein we have been negligent, we pause with shame, seeking God's forgiveness. Wherein we have been diligent, we rejoice, thanking God that He has used us to His glory.

Doorways to Sacrifice

Doorways of Life, of Character, of Opportunity—these are doorways which open the way to the supreme test of Christian devotion, that of sacrifice. Many people enter the ways of Life, develop Character, accept Opportunity, but hesitate as they stand at the threshold of Sacrifice. And, yet, they realize that if they would go all the way, they must take upon themselves certain sacrifices.

The average young person cannot get a college education without making definite sacrifices. Few homes can be happy without individual sacrifice by the members of that home for the good of the group. Nations of the earth will never know peace until they pass through the doorways of true sacrifice.

Although Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane that the cup of Crucifixion might be removed from Him, yet when the Father revealed His will to Him, Jesus did not falter.

These doorways — of Life, Character, Opportunity, and Sacrifice — are opening before us as 1948 dawns. May we enter them with the assurance that He that sent His Son into the world is with us, too. "The Father hath not left (us) alone." John 8: 29.

THE "MORAL SERVANT OF THE WORLD"

That Japan can atone for her "terrible mistake" only by becoming the "moral servant of the world" was the opinion of Y. Herman Sacon of Union Theological Seminary, Japan, in a letter just received in New York City by Church World Service, interdenominational relief and reconstruction agency of the Protestant Churches of America.

Professor Sacon and his father have taught over a continuous span of thirty-six years at the Nippon Union Seminary, and before the establishment of that union training school, at Aoyama Gakuin Seminary. His letter was to acknowledge the receipt of two theological libraries of American books published during the past decade, plus several Greek, Hebrew, and Aramaic Lexicons, for use in the school.

Professor Sacon reported that of the total of 109 students attending the Union Seminary to prepare for the ministry, thirteen were women. Night classes are also held, in which out of an enrollment of forty, twelve are women.

Describing the hardships under which these trainees for the Christian ministry pursue their studies, Professor Sacon said: "In spite of the hardships that press our lives, the students are eager in their study to become Christian ministers with the firm conviction that only Christ could make this nation over into a moral servant to the world from what she was. Lately Mr. Katayama, a Christian lawyer, was appointed by the first Congress as the premier. We have for the first time in the history of Japan a Christian premier. I think it is providential."

—Church World Service.

SWEATERS FOR THE ILL-CLAD

There are ten million displaced persons on one side or the other of the border between India and Pakistan. Great masses of these are in hastily-constructed refugee camps, and cold, hunger, wounds from the rioting and disease are causing dire suffering among them. As winter approaches, Church World Service has appealed to the United Council of Church Women for immediate gifts of warm sweaters for the ill-clad in these and other lands. — The Church Woman, December.

Ye Cannot Serve Two Masters

By Albyn Mackintosh

Many people have asked me why I am opposed to military conscription. There are many reasons which are published and available to those who are interested in giving the problem more than a passing thought, but I desire briefly to set forth a Biblical reason.

In Matthew 5 Jesus said, "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: but I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment."

Jesus goes directly to the root of the problem involved in keeping the commandment, "Thou shalt not kill." Anger is like a fire. It can be smothered easily only at the first spark; afterwards it is too late. Anger leads to evil words, evil words to evil deeds, evil deeds to blows, blows to murder.

Yes, anger leads to evil words, and Jesus follows through in analyzing the root of trouble in the human family. "Swear not at all . . . let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay . . ." He who swears to the truth is afraid, and he who swears to the false is a traitor. For us to call on God to witness in our worldly ways infers that we are afraid and thus we speak the truth through dread of penalty. The man who demands a contract in his dealings with another is usually the man who is afraid that he, himself, cannot keep his word unless under penalty and fear. He who speaks the truth through the natural desire of his own soul needs no oath.

Then Jesus strikes deeper at the trouble in humanity. "Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth; but I say unto you, That ye resist not evil; but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also."

There are three answers which men can make to violence—revenge, flight, or turn the other cheek.

If I take revenge into my hands, I limit God and set aside His word, "Avenge not

yourselves. . . . Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord." The barbarous principle of retaliation, the old frontier rule of every man being a law unto himself, the rule of striking back can give a bestial relief to him who is first struck, but instead of lessening evil it multiplies it. To answer blow for blow is to lower oneself to the level of the other.

Flight is no better than revenge. If I run away from trouble when I am brought face to face with it, do I suppose for one minute that God has lost track of me? Will I run like Jonah from the position that God has permitted me to get into? He who flees, invites pursuit; he builds up his enemy's courage. So in flight also, we see that evil begets evil.

In spite of the apparent absurdity, the seeming unrealistic position of "turning the other cheek" is the only way to break the chain of wrong doing. Every man has an obscure respect for moral courage in others. Quietness when it is not stupidity, gentleness when it is not cowardice, astounds mortal man. Try it!

To turn the other cheek demands a mastery of the baser instincts of our being. Jesus never said that we could take the old "man" into heaven. He said, "Ye must be born again." He never said that it would be easy to follow Him, but He did say, "Fear not them which kill the body." Jesus said, "If thy right hand offend thee, cut it off and cast it from thee." We quickly go to the operating table when the physical body suffers, but when the spiritual body suffers we are not willing to sacrifice even a finger. Yes, we cling to the old "man" as long as we can even though it keeps us from being used by God. The instinct of self-preservation is the strongest of all those which dominate us, yet Jesus says, "Whosoever shall save his life shall lose it; but whosoever will lose his life for my sake the same shall save it."

Some say that if we refuse to fight and use the dastardly weapons of destruction, we shall be destroyed or enslaved. Christ refused to use them. Was Christ defeated at the cross? God's blessing was on that cross method and He turned seeming defeat into glorious gain.

God has created a world of moral law which is binding even on Himself. 2 Timothy 2: 13, "If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself." God cannot lie; He cannot act contrary to His nature. He cannot save a man from punishment who ignores or violates this moral law. Though God wills peace, yet when our civilization has broken all laws of the universe and transgressed the principles of a civilized society, the fact that we are in trouble does not indicate that God wants us there. It demonstrates the truth of the eternal law that whatsoever man soweth that shall he also reap. Shall I then fight back when I am being punished? Shall I run and hide, knowing full well that I am guilty and need punishment? Do I submit my soul and body to the will of others and then ask God to use me in His way? "Ye cannot serve two masters."

Paul says, "Walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil." Ephesians 5: 15, 16.

Jesus Christ said (Matthew 18: 7), "Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh!"

Turn now to secular history and see how Christendom has compromised its way. We all know how Sunday came into being as a political compromise between pagans and Christians. Do we also know that followers of Christ refused to take part in war until the same kind of political compromise took place?

We find that in the first one hundred fifty years after Christ, the soldier's life was held to be in such obvious conflict with that of the Christian that Christians did not enter the army. During the next one hundred fifty years the Christians began compromising with the world. Tertullian and Origen, while admitting that their brethren were serving the army, still laid down in emphatic terms the incompatibility of war and military service with Christianity. When Constantine became emperor and Christianity was officially recognized, the leaders of the Church modified their opinion. Augustine goes far enough to satisfy most war lords by admonishing soldiers, "Be, even while warring, a peacemaker," and put his approval upon wars waged "by the command of God." By

A. D. 801 ecclesiastical and civil legislation provided that it was sinful for Christian priests, but lawful for Christian laymen, to slay their fellow Christians.

Let us train our minds and bodies to serve God more effectually. We should not enter a training program which has destruction for its purpose. Some of us blame the government for making us do as we do; some blame parents; some even blame God. If we believe in Jesus Christ and claim to be one of His followers, it is time we started to live the life He taught, striving to keep all ten of His commandments which are summed up in the love which includes enemies as well as friends.

"Let brotherly love continue. . . . Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; . . . let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have; for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

4376 York Boulevard,
Los Angeles 41, Calif.

CHRISTMAS HEART SONG

By David L. Beebe
Gentry, Ark.

I.

O God, our Faith, our Hope through all the ages,
Hear now our prayer upon this Christmas eve,
For we have seen the star seen by the sages
And bring our hearts before Thy feet to leave.

Chorus:

By faith we live; in faith we have our being;
In Christmas love our petty troubles cease:
In brotherhood our hearts once more are seeing,
Proclaim in joy the Christ, the Prince of Peace.

II.

Then join our hearts in one great bond, one spirit;
The Christmas spirit fills our souls tonight.
Oh, raise our song! Let all the people hear it,
And lift their hearts from darkness into light.

(To be sung to the tune of "Londonderry Air.")

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving,
and into his courts with praise: be thankful
unto him, and bless his name.

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting;
and his truth endureth to all generations. — Psalm 100: 4, 5.

WHAT THINK YE?

By Rev. E. Adelbert Witter
Adams Center, N. Y.

In these transition days, from war and suffering to reconstruction in peace and harmonious fellowship among the nations, there is frequent and widespread discussion of certain prophetic statements that evidently relate to this period of the world's history. There is a growing interest in these things, manifesting itself in all countries and among all classes of people, the wise and the less informed; all seem to be hungering for a more perfect knowledge of God's purposes in creation and in His plans for the redemption of all who have gone away from God in disobedience and are lost in sin and unrighteousness.

I see in this unusual anxiety about these things a sure basis from which springs an increasing interest and activity in an evangelism that quickens the life pulse of the Church. This leads to new strivings for an ingathering of the sheep of God into the folds of the Church of Christ—those who have wandered away on the mountains, wild and bare, far from the Shepherd's care, where in the cold and chill of sin's blasts, they have failed to hear the sweet, soft voice of the Shepherd as He calls.

Should not one and all of us realize that in this awakening interest in evangelism, God is calling to the Christian world to awake and arise from their sleep of indifference, put on the whole armor of God, and fight the good fight of faith in Jesus Christ? Do we want a living, continuing, and growing evangelism in our Churches and in the community about us? There is no better way to get it than to prayerfully listen to the voice of Him who said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God." And again I say unto you, "That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven." Is there a more beautiful, soul-charming picture to hold before the young and growing child that will keep his interest in the really noble and worth-while things of life as the child mind is getting settled upon some of the basic things upon which that life should be built? With these basic principles settled

in the mind of the child, many battles will have been saved with temptation to untruth, deceit, profanity, and many other things that would mar the life of the child that Jesus invites to come to Him, and whose angel always beholds the face of God in heaven.

When the child realizes that the loving Jesus sees and knows when he is doing or wanting to do wrong, he is steadied and helped to victory.

Here is a beautiful story suited to what is in mind. A little orphan girl was sent from New York City to Minneapolis, Minn. She was sent alone, with her name and destination printed on a card fastened with a string about her neck. She was put into the charge of a conductor on a train to Chicago. In Chicago the conductor put her in the hands of a conductor on a train to her destination. She had been of interest to all train people all the way, and the conductor placed her in the hands of a loving aunt at the end of the journey. Isn't that a thrilling story?

Mothers—you who have little children with their tender arms about your neck, as you listen to their cooing or are thrilled by their shouts of joyous songs or laughter, are you realizing the importance of your wonderful mission? A bundle of innocence, a throbbing soul, has been trusted to your care to train and direct for a life of usefulness. You are the watchful conductor on the first five years, or more, of that life's perilous journey. In your part of that journey lie many of the possibilities for weal or woe for that life. Sacred and immeasurable are your responsibilities. Shirk not from the task. As you love that child and the child loves you more than anything else he knows, lend yourself, with no reserve, to the counsel and lead of Jesus, the world's light.

Take that child by the hand and stroll along the Christ-illumed path of life. Hesitate not in thy journey, for He has said, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." With such a leading you may know the world will not be lacking the spirit of evangelism, or the Church be without the young and hopeful.

Preparing Workers

There is great need of efficient Christian workers. Mission fields are languishing on account of a lack of them and Churches are suffering for the same reason. Having recognized this fact, Churches, mission boards, and denominations must never forget that preparation is necessary for workers in Christ's kingdom. The rising generation should hold this fact in mind also.

Preparation has always been necessary. Christ took the apostles and trained them. Paul's schooling was only a part of his training. It was some years after his conversion before he entered fully upon his public ministry. These years were spent preparing for his work through meditation, study, and prayer. Timothy was trained in his home, and forty years of exile completed the schooling of Moses for his work. To special tasks God always calls those who in some way have been trained in body, mind, and spirit, though often they have not known what was taking place. The Father's methods are many.

From these facts three conclusions naturally stand out:

1. Churches, mission boards, and all Church boards should constantly seek workers for Christ's kingdom. Churches should endeavor to put all members to work, and in addition to this they should strive to lead out special workers. God often uses Churches and individuals in making His call known to those whom He is calling to special work.

2. Those called to special service for Christ must remember that special preparation under the providences of God is required. This training may come from the schools, or from the struggles and experiences of the Christian life, or from both; but it should come in some way and must include a first-hand knowledge of the Bible, familiarity with the polity of the New Testament Church, ability to meet and understand men, and above all a changed heart which gives those called a passion to help men.

Sometimes young men preparing for the ministry and mission work are in too much of a hurry to be in the work, and because of this impatience they are not prepared as they might have been. Furthermore, it

sometimes happens that when they have entered upon the duties of the ministry, they selfishly crave to do things for which they are not prepared. It is not a favorable sign for one to want to rush into the work, and it is a less favorable symptom when men in the ministry covet places of prominence. These things show that they do not grasp the tremendous responsibility resting upon those whom God has called. If they did realize the greatness of the tasks, they would fear and tremble. Our fathers used to advise those who were impatient to be in the work and those who coveted places for which they were not yet fitted, "Tarry at Jericho until your beards be grown." 2 Samuel 10: 5.

3. Still another thing to be noted is that God calls His workers to the ministry, and unless He summons one to the work, no amount of preparation will make one a success. The Father calls every follower of His to some work in His kingdom and everyone should train body, mind, and spirit and be ready to do for the Master whatever comes to hand. But for the minister and missionary there is a special call, one which cannot be ignored with impunity.

After all is said and done, whether a candidate for the high calling is prepared or not, depends more on himself than all others. No disciple of Christ should demand or expect to be fed with a silver spoon. He should seize every opportunity for preparation; but if opportunities do not appear, he should make them and use them.

The kingdom of Christ needs workers of many kinds, but especially ministers and missionaries. "Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest." The fullest preparation possible should be made and all consecrated to the accomplishment of the task assigned. The duties of the ministry are not to be grasped, but to be undertaken with fear and humility. If God calls, one must obey; if God does not call, it is useless to undertake the work. All should look for the leadings of the Spirit.

W. L. B.

OUR PRIMARY TASK

Evangelism is the primary task of the Church and of the individual Christian. It is integral to the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ through which God revealed His will to reconcile men to Himself and to one another. God has spoken His decisive word; He has wrought out salvation for men and nations through Christ. Men must repent and believe the gospel if they are to have new life from God. They must be born again if they are to enter the Kingdom of God and have eternal life.

All Christian endeavor issues from the power of His Holy Spirit working effectively in the lives of those who put their trust in God through Jesus Christ. Unless the hearts and minds and wills of men are converted to Christ, their labors for a better world of human relations will be in vain. Nothing less than a profound penitence for our sins and a fresh and transforming experience of the saviourhood and lordship of Jesus Christ can save us from disaster and create within us a sense of mission and destiny in this critical hour. — Furnished by the Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council.

CHURCH NEWS

SALEM, W. VA. — News has just been received in the Recorder office that the pastorate of the Salem Church has been accepted by Rev. Loyal F. Hurley. He and Mrs. Hurley are leaving Walworth, Wis., December 29, where they have resided more recently while serving the Chicago Church and field.

Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Hurley wish to express their thanks and sincerest appreciation for the many Christmas cards and greetings that have come to them. They regret that the task of moving at this time prevents them from sending their usual Christmas greetings to many friends.

Jesus' attitude toward the Sabbath brought Him into repeated conflict with the Jews of His time. But the question at issue was never the sanctity of the seventh day, but always in the manner in which it should be kept.

—Ahva J. C. Bond.

SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS IN BUFFALO

Will there be a new Seventh Day Baptist Church in Buffalo, N. Y.?

At the meeting of board representatives with the Conference president December 14, it was my pleasure to report on a recent visit to Buffalo, where I attended a meeting with Seventh Day Baptists at which ten were present. This meeting was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bottoms. Charles is the son of Rev. Emmett H. Bottoms. Besides the Bottoms family there were Mr. and Mrs. Lester Reynolds of the Little Genesee Church and Mr. Larry Camenga of the Brookfield Church. Word came from a number of others who could not attend but who are interested in the starting of a fellowship similar to the one in Rochester, N. Y.

There are families in the Buffalo area who have not yet been contacted. Rev. Charles Bond and Rev. Ralph Coon will be visiting these people, and it is hoped that this will soon be an active group, and of course there is the possibility of a new Church.

H. S.

NEW YORK CITY

It is an interesting experience for me to visit New York City. On Sabbath day, December 13, I had the new and delightful experience of worshiping with the New York City Church. Several could not attend because of sickness, but there was an interested group present. Rev. Mr. Stella, who is the supply pastor, taught the Sabbath school lesson after Dr. Prentice had conducted the worship service. It was my privilege to give the sermon of the morning.

Five of us had dinner together in a near-by restaurant, which was an interesting place, as it had been at one time a stable and the large rough beams still showed. This seemed an appropriate setting for the Christmas season. There was fine fellowship around the table. This, I understand, is the custom for all those who can remain after Church to have the noon meal together.

Yes—the New York Church is a very much alive Church. Those who are carrying the load of the work there are very zealous for the cause and will carry on, I know.

H. S.

WORLD WIDE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

I was present on December 16 at the meeting of the North American Committee of the World Council of Christian Education held in New York City.

There were representatives of Korea, Brazil, Canada, and members of the Foreign Missions Conference of the United States present.

Problems of unifying this work around the world were discussed and it was truly impressive to feel the intense spirit of evangelism expressed in the discussion and to know that, representing Seventh Day Baptists, I could express our willingness to cooperate in any way to "Go ye into all the world."
H. S.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL SERVICE

In Allegany County, N. Y., the County Bible School Association represents Churches of many denominations at work co-operatively to promote better Church schools.

At its annual convention held at Scio, October 26, 1947, Rev. Everett T. Harris conducted the opening worship service, with a meditation fitted for workers in the Church school. Dr. and Mrs. Ben R. Crandall most vividly brought reports of the Des Moines Church School Convention. Rev. A. N. Rogers was in charge as president of the association, and was re-elected for the coming year. Rev. Charles Bond was busy taking minutes as the recording secretary, and he was re-elected. Mrs. Madge Sutton sent her report as chairman of Vacation Church School work, and a number of us were there as laymen to participate in the convention.

As far as we know, Dr. Ben and Mrs. Crandall were the only delegates at the Des Moines convention from this county. Mrs. Crandall in her report reminded the group that the county was honored by the award of the \$1,000 scholarship received by Don Sanford of Little Genesee, in the 1947 National Youth Week contest.

That person who is most faithful to his own Church, his own convictions, makes the best worker in a world Church. This is demonstrated by the place of leadership held by Seventh Day Baptists in interdenominational work.
H. S.

WESTERLY MEETING

It made a deep impression on me when Mr. Karl Stillman, Conference president, at the meeting of board representatives held December 14, showed on a large map of the United States the places where we have Churches, small groups, and fellowships. It was good to get the national picture as part of the world picture. It shows the job before us, to see how many of the small groups may become Churches and Sabbath schools. We need prayer for guidance of the Holy Spirit so that, like the Apostle Paul, we may hear the call from the places where God would lead us to do special work.
H. S.

FOR THE SABBATH SCHOOL TEACHER

Selected by Mrs. A. T. Bottoms
Princeton, Ala.

"We cannot teach what we do not know.
We cannot lead where we will not go."

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, handling aright the word of truth."

"We are not teaching lessons. We are teaching children. Lessons are merely one of the tools at our disposal."

"Lord, who am I to teach the way
To little children, day by day,
So prone myself to go astray?"

"I teach them knowledge, but I know
How faint they flicker and how low
The candles of my knowledge glow.

"I teach them love for all mankind
And all God's creatures, but I find
My love comes lagging far behind.

"Lord, if their guide I still must be,
Oh, let the little children see
The teacher leaning hard on Thee."

"I read
In a Book
That a man called
Christ
Went about doing good.

"It is very disconcerting
To me
That I am so easily
Satisfied
With just
Going about."

MISSION STUDY (1947-1948) WORLD EVANGELISM

Theme for Adults and Young People — World Evangelism.

Theme for younger grades — The Bible Goes Round the World.

"Evangelism cannot really be an emphasis for one month or one year. It is the Church's whole task; it is the presentation of the Good News so that something will happen; it is the inescapable responsibility of every Christian to tell others of his faith in every way he can."

This all-embracing, vital expression of evangelism was found in "That All May Know"—"a study course compiled by youth leaders for seniors and young people, which interprets the meaning of evangelism for individual Christians and its place in the program of a Church youth group." To both older and younger adults will be revealed, in this book, undreamed of possibilities of contacts, helpful suggestions, and true stories, even though everyone would not desire to follow the class study method as suggested. Through this small book will be found many rewarding truths, concisely expressed, such as "We are not so much called to undertake new enterprises as to get hold of the old ones as though we mean what we have been saying. There are new things to be done, of course. . . . But the 'new things' most needed are a new urgency and a new consecration to further the Church's mission to bring men to the knowledge of God, without whom they cannot know themselves or live with one another."

Everyone knows there is a wealth of absorbing, inspiring, and helpful material on this subject—World Evangelism—in books, religious magazines, and publications. From the many splendid books presented by the Missionary Education Movement only a very few are here suggested, each having been written from a slightly different standpoint, but if these few are read it is quite safe to predict that one will emerge with a fuller realization of the immediate need of a "Christ-spirit" throughout the world and of one's own responsibility of helping—through word and deed—to bring about this spirit.

In addition to "That All May Know"—"New World Ahead," by David D. Baker, is suggested. "It is illustrated with many striking photographs. . . . Hope that mankind will have a better world is revealed in

stories of what Christians can achieve whenever and wherever they live and share their faith."

"Committed Unto Us," by Willis Lamott, gives examples of the constructive work of consecrated Christian laymen and leaders. It gives also something of the history of missionary movements, together with present needs and approach. In Dr. Lamott's words, "Although it has been said that modern man is obsolete, it has not yet been proved that Christian man is obsolete. In this fact lies hope."

"In the final analysis, the responsibility rests irrevocably upon the individual adult Christian to make Christ known by life and word, in and through the fellowship of the Church."

In the suggested source material children have not been forgotten. A set of eight pictures of children at "Worship Around the World" is very appealing. These show the character of the country type of worship and costumes of the children. Appropriate worship service is included.

Another attractive series is booklets of colored pictures showing home and family life, work and play in different countries. Children in America thus get better acquainted with children of other lands and look upon them as their friends and comrades.

Always alluring to a child is the outline picture to color and cut out. These may be procured about children in China, Japan, and some other countries.

All suggested reading on this year's Mission Topic of World Evangelism, will be of value if and when the individual conceives a new or renewed interpretation of the presentation of the "Good News" and his responsibility to the task.

"The miraculous working of the love of Christ in a relatively small but increasing company of human beings confirms our conviction that there is a way to a better world. . . . We have responsibility for a share in the coming of the kingdom."

Bessie T. Hubbard.

Plainfield, N. J.

Worship Program

By Alberta D. Batson

Prayer for the New Year:

"O God, give us serenity to accept what cannot be changed; courage to change what can be changed; and the wisdom to know one from the other." — Reinhold Niebuhr.

Hymn: I Would Be True.

"Eternal Spirit, amid the tumult of our days may we keep within our souls a holy place where Thou canst dwell, Thy great and wondrous power strengthening us; and a quiet place where Thou canst speak, Thy strong and certain voice directing us. Now and again may we withdraw from all the feverish struggle and loud anger of the world, and silently commune with Thee, the Unchanging God who comes to visit and refresh us. May our spirits, being made alive by Thee, live in Thee and, being loved by Thee, love Thee in return: Then as we go among men to face our daily tasks again, may we still possess Thine inner peace so real and all-pervading that nothing, neither life nor death, can ever lead us from Thee, O strong and mighty One, O holy, silent God. Amen." — G. A. Cleveland Shrigley.

O Master Mariner, as we attempt
To chart the Future's unknown seas,
Lay Thou upon our hearts a clearer vision,
Steadfast purpose, and a will to dare
Where others have not ventured.

As we plan, we would anticipate the needs
That must arise, and through awareness

Of the present task, make preparation
For the storm of changing fortune.

In the coming days, in sunshine
And in leisure hours, when a straight way
Seems smooth and certain, give again

A driving urge that will call forth

Our highest powers. May we be buoyant

When we slacken sail. Help us to keep our log
With understanding, to make soundings true.

After good adventure, bring us safe to port.
We trust Thy power and purpose, Lord.

—Dorothy Ann Gardyne.

Hymn: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah.
Scripture reading: Psalm 67.

Prayer: O Lord, our Lord, how excellent
is Thy name in all the earth. We would
extol Thee; we would magnify Thy holy
name. Grant us wisdom as we approach the
new year, that we may see more clearly the
way Thou hast for us to go—that we may
better comprehend Thy great plan for us
and be better fitted to do Thy will in all
things. We ask it in Thy dear name and
for our sakes. Amen.

MISSION STUDY BOOKS

Any of the books listed below may be
ordered from

The Recorder Press,
The American Sabbath Tract Society,
510 Watchung Avenue,
Plainfield, New Jersey.

Committed Unto Us, by Willis

Lamott. Paper\$1.00

A Guide for Leaders (for book above)

prepared by Margaret B. Cobb35

New World Ahead, by David D.

Baker. Paper75

Program Suggestions (for book above)

by Oliver de W. Cummings35

That All May Know, prepared by sev-

eral youth leaders. Paper40

For Children

Children at Worship Around

the World 1.00

8 Pictures—World Children

Series, different countries, each50

Paper Dolls to color and cut

out — China15

B. T. H.

"A STILL LARGER SHARE"

"Quite apart from Christian humanitar-
ian motives in sheer self-interest and even
in self-defense, the United States must as-
sume a still larger share in supplying food
and clothing for the destitute populations of
Europe, to prevent mass starvation and the
global danger of epidemic disease," says
Director Robbins W. Barstow, of Church
World Service, recently returned from a
study of conditions in Europe. "The United
States must also take adequate measures to
restore production and trade and prevent
economic chaos. Provision must be made
for the uprooted millions, the displaced per-
sons, the bombed-out city dwellers. Reset-
tlement of displaced persons in other coun-
tries, including America, should be made
possible. And for the larger numbers who
must remain in desolated lands, homes and
occupational opportunities must be made
available. — W. W. Reid.

CHURCH NEWS

Note: We cannot publish "Church News"
until it is received at the Sabbath Recorder
office. So, Church correspondents, will you
please send along some news while it is
fresh? Many thanks!

LUNCHEON FELLOWSHIP ENJOYED BY TRACT BOARD

The Stillman home at 426 West Seventh
Street, Plainfield, N. J., was the scene of a
delightful get-together at noon, Sunday, No-
vember 9, 1947. Mrs. William M. Stillman
and Mrs. Frank J. Hubbard opened their
pleasant home for a luncheon of the Tract
Board members and their wives and husbands.
This long-to-be-remembered occasion per-
suades us that as Christian groups engaged
in the Lord's work, fellowship around the
luncheon table abounds in benefits and bless-
ings. Although some committee meetings
of the board were scheduled for one o'clock,
full advantage was taken of this gracious
opportunity.

Large Board Meeting

Needless to say, the luncheon gathering
was reflected in the attendance at the bi-
monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees
of the American Sabbath Tract Society that
afternoon.

Those present were: Franklin A. Lang-
worthy, Hurley S. Warren, Lester G. Os-
born, Frederik J. Bakker, Mrs. Frank E. Lo-
baugh, Mrs. William M. Stillman, Lavern C.
Bassett, Herbert C. Van Horn, Mrs. Herbert
C. Van Horn, Frank R. Kellogg, Luther S.
Davis, Charles F. Harris, Miss Lucy Whit-
ford, Bert B. Sheppard, Lloyd D. Seager,
Mrs. Maxwell A. Tift, E. Wendell Stephan,
Rex Burdick, and Business Manager L. Har-
rison North.

Visitors: Mrs. E. Wendell Stephan, Mrs.
Luther S. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Cook,
Mrs. Lloyd D. Seager, Mrs. Lester G. Osborn,
Mrs. Charles F. Harris, Mrs. Bert B. Shep-
pard, Mrs. Lavern C. Bassett, Mr. Oris
Stutler, Mrs. L. Harrison North, and Mrs.
William J. Ayars.

The board meeting was opened with
prayer by the editor of the Sabbath Re-
corder and the session was closed with
prayer by Luther S. Davis.

Franklin A. Langworthy presided at the
meeting and Frederik J. Bakker recorded the
minutes of the meeting.

President Langworthy remarked concern-
ing the fine hospitality and luncheon, and at
the close of the meeting the board members
from South Jersey and Philadelphia extended
a rising vote of appreciation.

Corresponding Secretary's Report

The report of Rev. Victor W. Skaggs re-
vealed that during the two months travel
and field work were necessarily restricted by
lack of funds in the board treasury. How-
ever, he had met with the Philadelphia Fel-
lowship, attended the meeting of the secre-
taries and representatives of the denomina-
tional boards and agencies which was called
by President Karl G. Stillman of General
Conference, and the organization of the First
Seventh Day Baptist Church of Indianapolis,
Ind.

Pursuant to the action of the board at its
September meeting, the secretary secured an
office assistant for the revision of his files,
reporting that such files are in order. By
correspondence the secretary continues with
real encouragement to answer those who in-
quire about our faith.

Further, the secretary prepared and mailed
over 500 copies of the first edition of "The
Loadstone," a mimeographed paper for lone
Sabbathkeepers.

He also continued his preparation for
teaching in the School of Theology at Al-
fred, N. Y., in February and March, 1948.

Upon recommendation of Secretary Skaggs,
it was voted:

1. That we approve the general co-
ordinated denominational program, with the
provision that the procedure in the forma-
tion of a new Church be made flexible ac-
cording to the circumstances in each case,
and commend the president of Conference
for his leadership thus far.

2. That we approve the additional meet-
ings of the president of Conference and
board secretaries that have been planned,
and authorize the corresponding secretary
to attend these at board expense.

The Indianapolis Campaign

Rev. Lester G. Osborn spoke briefly, yet
enthusiastically, of the Indianapolis Evan-
gelistic Campaign, October 17 - November 1,
and the organization of the First Seventh
Day Baptist Church of Indianapolis on No-
vember 1. He mentioned the consecrated
work of Mr. and Mrs. Leland E. Davis in
making over 1,000 personal calls. Also, the
untiring efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Leo L.
Wright, Mr. Wright being the "Business
Manager and Advertising Man" of the cam-
paign.

Report of Treasurer

According to Mrs. Maxwell A. Tift, treasurer of the American Sabbath Tract Society, during the quarter, July-September, receipts from certain items in the General Fund were as follows, from:

Denominational Budget	\$1,415.41
Invested Funds	1,559.92
The Sabbath Recorder	843.55
The Helping Hand	432.99
General printing and distribution of literature	194.24

The treasurer further reported cash paid out from the General Fund for the following purposes during the quarter ending September 30, 1947:

Expense of the Sabbath Recorder	\$3,168.92
General printing and distribution of literature	181.00
Corresponding secretary—salary and expenses	706.18
Treasurer's expense	124.00
Account investments: fee of special agent	90.00

Mrs. Tift presented a letter of appreciation from Rev. James McGeachy, pastor of the "Mill Yard" Seventh Day Baptist Church, London, Eng., and editor of "The Sabbath Observer," for the board's partial support of the cost of publishing the paper mentioned.

Other Items

Charles F. Harris, reporting as chairman of the Committee on Distribution of Literature, recommended publishing 2,000 copies of the "Handbook of Information Concerning Seventh Day Baptists," at an approximate cost of \$400. The recommendation was adopted.

L. Harrison North, manager of the publishing house, called the attention of the board to the fact that competition in the printing field is growing keener and that cash discounts have been lowered.

Among the visitors introduced by President Langworthy, Mr. Oris Stutler of the Salem, W. Va., Church and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Cook of the Marlboro, N. J., Church spoke briefly.

MY PRAYER

By Mrs. Almina Butler
Woodville, Ala.

Grant me, kind Father, this my earnest hope,
That when my race of this short life is run,
My backward look shall see no thought of shame,
No kindly deed or word that's left undone.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

A column wherein the readers may freely express their opinions, as long as they do not deal in personalities or mere controversy.

COMMUNISM AND CHRISTIANITY

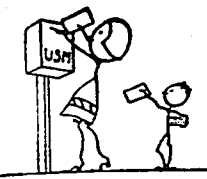
By H. N. Wheeler

2121 Virginia Ave., N.W., Washington, D. C.

Communism is the most dangerous element in our country today, not from the economic or social and political standpoint, but because it leaves out God. All real communists are atheists who make the state supreme and regard the individual of no importance only as he gives allegiance to the state. Many people give some consideration to the communist idea, with the false notion that it helps the down-and-out, unfortunate person. Nothing is more false. It destroys him body and soul. The only hope of the unfortunate, the same as the well-to-do, is God and His Son Jesus Christ. Christ helped the helpless and He helps them today. The individual soul is of supreme importance to Him.

It is amazing that today in the United States, according to Dr. Walter A. Maier of "The Lutheran Hour," one person in every 1,700 is a communist, while in Russia ruled by communist dictators, only one person in 2,200 is a communist.

In our country some ministers have been led astray by this false doctrine, believing it to be some sort of Utopia. Is it not enough to know that in Russia many thousands of clerics, both Catholic and Protestant, have been killed, and millions of ordinary citizens have been, and still are, thrown into concentration camps, and killed by execution or by slow starvation and overwork. If we are to avoid the impending fate of all Europe and Asia, too, we must slay this hideous demon of blackest hell before it is too late. Make no mistake about it; this terrible thing is a real menace to our country. Congress has made a fine start in exposing the Hollywood communists. There is no middle ground; we are either for Christ and our democracy or we are for the devil and communism, the most heinous vehicle in which Satan rides today. Nazism and facism are not far different, and Hitler and Mussolini tried to put them over to prevent the spread of communism. England permitted Germany to rearm, presuming it would prevent the spread of communism. Germany and Italy left out God, making the state supreme. We



OUR CHILDREN'S LETTER EXCHANGE

Address: Mizpah S. Greene
Andover, N. Y.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

May Christmas bring you every joy, and the coming year be bright with happiness.

From Rosemary Johnson
to Mrs. Greene.

The season's greetings with hopes for a most enjoyable Christmas.

With love from Dorothy Johnson.
Auckland, New Zealand.

Dear Dorothy and Rosemary:

Thank you both with all my heart for the attractive Christmas cards with their cheery message. I'm sorry I cannot decorate the Children's Page with them. I wish for you and yours that the blessed promise of Christmas may light your way to enduring happiness in the new year.

Yours in Christian love,
Mizpah S. Greene.

Dear Mrs. Greene:

I will be glad when the Christmas vacation is here. We are having a school operetta and a Church operetta. I take the part of Jack in the Church operetta, and in the school operetta I am a page.

We got a Christmas tree and the little kids helped decorate it. We got new Christmas lights this year.

Your friend,

North Loup, Neb. Theron Barber.

Dear Mrs. Greene:

How are you? I have not written for a long time. At school the grades are going together to have a Christmas operetta. I am a candy stick; there are five others that are candy sticks, too. The candy sticks have a tap dance.

There is a Santa Claus, merry Christmas, white Christmas, Christmas trees, brownies,

now know the world disaster that resulted, and the end is not yet. The United States is now trying, by use of money and good will, to save the world including our own country from the spread of this terrible conflagration. It can be done only with the help of God. Science and money, and even education, without God and His Son Jesus Christ will not save our country nor us individually.

snowflakes, Jack Frost, and toy soldiers. Mr. Richard Babcock is our music teacher.

It has snowed a lot and I have played in it a lot.

Love,

Your friend,
Carley Barber.

North Loup, Neb.

Dear Theron and Carley:

I am writing to you together that I may have room to write about the real meaning of Christmas, for in the joy and merriment of the Christmas season, with its Christmas trees, bountiful dinners, giving of gifts, and Christmas celebrations, it might be easy to forget why Christmas has come to us to stay.

A little girl once told me that "Christmas means love, love for all the world," and I would add, "Christ's love and sacrifice for all the world." And we must never forget amid our Christmas celebrating that it is, first of all, a time to honor our Lord and Saviour, Jesus, friend of all from the least to the greatest.

In expressing the true meaning of Christmas and why we should celebrate it, I give to you four verses from the Bible which I memorized as a child:

"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

"And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

"And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

I hope all Recorder boys and girls will memorize these verses if they have not already done so. Also, as we exchange Christmas gifts let us think of the gifts the Wise Men brought to Jesus in that long ago time, which explains our annual exchange of gifts at Christmas time.

And now I will close, wishing to you and yours a very merry Christmas time filled with Christmas love and sharing, and may the new year bring to you and all my Recorder children the true happiness which comes from above.

Yours in Christian love,
Mizpah S. Greene.

CHURCH NEWS

GENTRY, ARK. — The third week in November the Gentry Church and parsonage were hosts to the first of several projected "Retreats," where the pastors of our different associations may meet together for study and consultation. Assistant Missionary Secretary Clarke led the retreat. Other ministers in attendance were Pastor Verney A. Wilson of Nortonville, Kan., Pastor Orville W. Babcock of Milton Junction, Wis., and Pastor C. A. Beebe of the entertaining Church. Mrs. Verney A. Wilson accompanied her husband to Gentry, but did not attend most of the meetings. David L. Beebe, son of the pastor, "sat in" at the night sessions, as he has the ministry in view. The day sessions were held in the Church building, but since we do not have electricity in the Church, the night sessions, after the evening meal at the parsonage, were held in an upper room there.

On Sabbath, November 22, Secretary Clarke spoke on "Thy Kingdom Come—Now—Through Me." At noon we had a good time, with potluck dinner and fellowship at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Ricketts. Afterward Secretary Clarke showed colored slides of many of our Churches, pastors, and workers, also several views taken by Dr. Ben Crandall in Jamaica. These were accompanied by informative comments.

We are so glad that Secretary Clarke and the other ministers could be with us for a time. It is one event when a Seventh Day Baptist gets to Gentry, since we are rather remote and small. Secretary Clarke was here several days after the others left, visiting in the homes. He went on to Fouke in time to be there for their annual Thanksgiving dinner.

Recently we have lost some of our faithful members. Mrs. Lottie Knight has gone to Edelstein, Ill., to spend the winter with her daughter. Sharon and Larry Ricketts have gone with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Ricketts, Jr., to Modesto, Calif. We shall miss them all.

Last Sabbath Deacon Darwin Maxson celebrated his seventy-sixth birthday. His sister, Mrs. Dan Ricketts, and Mrs. Beebe had a birthday dinner for him at the parsonage. (Deacon Maxson is the father of Pastor Paul Maxson of Berlin, N. Y., and of Carl Maxson, a student in the School of Theology in Alfred.) — Correspondent.

DENOMINATIONAL BUDGET

Statement of Treasurer, November 30, 1947

Receipts		
	November	2 months
Alfred, First	\$ 171.65	\$ 171.65
Battle Creek	180.70	597.75
Boulder		78.28
Brookfield, First	14.00	14.00
Brookfield, Second	6.00	6.00
Chicago		96.40
Daytona Beach	15.25	28.50
Denver	39.47	74.55
De Ruyter		5.00
Dodge Center		26.00
Edinburg	3.25	6.00
Farina	26.00	41.00
Fouke	6.03	6.03
Gentry	11.16	11.16
Hammond	10.00	10.00
Hebron, First	12.22	12.22
Hebron Center	10.00	10.00
Hopkinton, Second		16.75
Independence	40.00	49.00
Individuals	8.06	8.06
Little Genesee	40.61	76.11
Little Prairie	15.00	15.00
Los Angeles	80.00	80.00
Marlboro	90.00	190.00
Middle Island		4.99
Milton	310.62	479.57
Milton Junction	78.38	160.15
North Loup		112.44
Nortonville		21.00
Pawcatuck		306.33
Piscataway	20.00	46.00
Plainfield	104.39	185.95
Richburg	28.00	28.00
Riverside	215.79	215.79
Rockville		4.09
Salem	84.74	84.74
Shiloh	222.00	222.00
Syracuse		12.00
Waterford	24.86	24.86
White Cloud	17.16	17.16

Disbursements

	Budget	Specials
Missionary Society	\$ 453.96	\$ 219.64
Tract Society	247.65	25.00
Board of Christian Education	247.65	
Women's Society	8.32	15.00
Historical Society	18.59	
Ministerial Retirement	140.92	133.94
S. D. B. Building	26.78	
General Conference	138.97	
World Fellowship and Service	17.16	
Committee on Relief Appeals		235.56
Bank of Milton, service charge	1.63	

Comparative Figures

	1947	1946
Receipts in November:		
Budget	\$1,256.20	\$2,307.71
Specials	629.14	1,321.34
Receipts in 2 months:		
Budget	2,624.67	3,517.57
Specials	929.86	2,698.25

L. M. Van Horn,
Treasurer.

Milton, Wis.

ATLA

No. 231

END

SABBATH RECORDER

v.140-143, 1946-47

NEW YORK

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