

The Sabbath Recorder



Design selected by Karl G. Stillman
President, Seventh Day Baptist General
Conference, Westerly, R. I.

President Stillman writes, "I would like to encourage all our Churches to reproduce this design on their Church bulletins from now until Conference, at least."

IMPORTANT DATES .

Western Association — at Nile, N. Y.,
June 19, 20.

Southwestern Association — with the Lit-
tle Prairie Church at Nady, Ark., Au-
gust 5-8.

Pre-Conference Retreat — near North
Loup, Neb., August 12-16.

General Conference — North Loup, Neb.,
August 17-22, 1948.

EASTERN ASSOCIATION

The Eastern Association will convene with the Marlboro Seventh Day Baptist Church, Marlboro, N. J., June 11-13, 1948. South Jersey is an especially delightful place at this season, so it is hoped many will plan to attend and learn more about "Christian Living — Every Day, in Every Way."

All persons planning to attend are re-
quested to forward their names to Mrs.
Edward Cook, 225 Fayette St., Bridgeton,
N. J., by June 5, 1948.

Mrs. David T. Sheppard,
Corresponding Secretary.

"FARM LIFE FOR CITY BOYS"

A group of businessmen in Chicago have purchased a tract of 60,000 square feet of city land in order to give some underprivileged lads from the tenements a chance to "learn the secret of growing things and the care of animals" which come to all country boys, and especially those who are members of the 4-H farm clubs. Most of the businessmen are themselves "products of the soil," and recognize the great disadvantages under which boys on the streets of Chicago and of other large cities live—and some of the reasons why they get into difficulties with the police. Says a leader of the movement: "We need camps and farms where large numbers of city youngsters will be welcomed and taught by competent instructors, and where they may experience the life which is their rightful heritage." The leaders hope this idea may spread to other cities; and that it may become a function of school authorities, park authorities, and police authorities to foster "farm life for city boys." — W. W. R.

WATERFORD, CONNECTICUT

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ship God. Overlooking Long Island Sound,
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Seventh Day Baptist Church, Ronald Har-
gis, pastor (beginning June 1). If you
are considering a change of residence for
your family or your business, may we
suggest Waterford? New business enter-
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locations. For information write Morton
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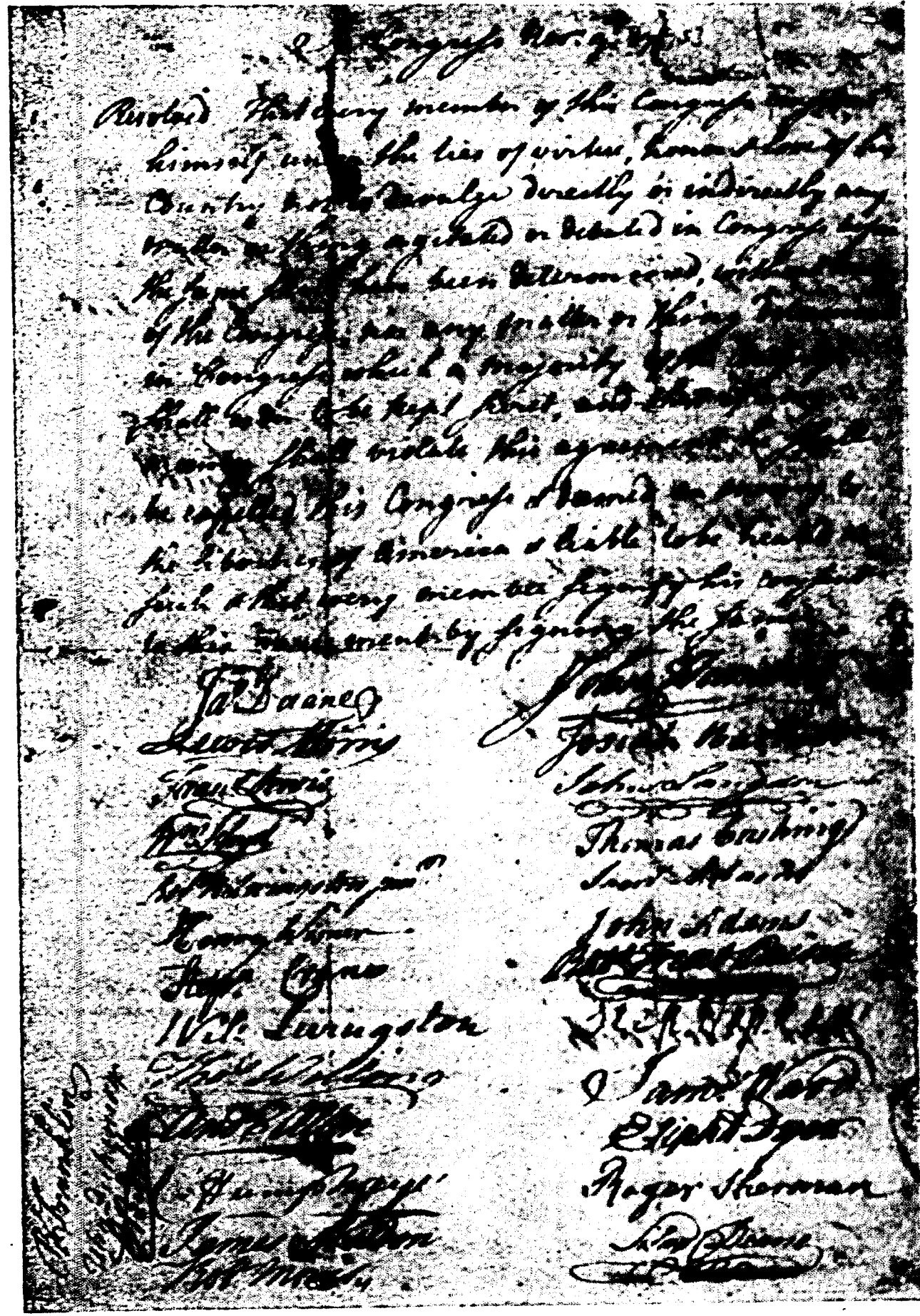
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the Publishing House. If inter-
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RESOLUTION OF SECRECY, see page 379.

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
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WILLIAM L. BURDICK, D.D., Emeritus
(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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IN THIS ISSUE

Editorially Speaking	378
Features:	
The Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society:	
The Resolution of Secrecy.—Lewis Memorial Tablet	379
Ephrata	380, 392
Endowment Fund	400
Programme of Historical Society:	
The President's Annual Address	381
The Historical Society from a Layman's Point of View	386
A Historical Society: Why?	390
Records and Work of Seventh Day Baptists	386
Milton Observes.—Caribbean High	392
More About Pacific Coast Association	393
Missions: Mission Sabbath School Reports 20% Increase	393
Prayer for the Christian Church	394
Woman's Work: From the Field.—Response to Patriotic Crusade	395
As We Help Meet Their Needs	396
Christian Education: Congratulations, Graduates.—It's Time for Vacation School.—Camps and Retreats	396
Children's Page: Our Letter Exchange	397
Church News	398

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING

Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society

In this issue the Sabbath Recorder is featuring the Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society whose library and offices are located on the third floor of the Seventh Day Baptist Building at 510 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, N. J. The Historical Society was incorporated in the State of New Jersey in 1916. Its one-third century of service since incorporation is indicative of its place in the Seventh Day Baptist organization and the limitless possibilities of its ministry in the future.

The Historical Society was offered space in this regular issue of the Sabbath Recorder on the same basis that Milton and Salem Colleges, the School of Theology, and Alfred University were offered space which basis was six pages including front and back pages. The printing expense of the eight additional pages of this issue is being met by a friend of the Historical Society.

We heartily commend this special historical material to the readers of the Sabbath Recorder.

Extra copies of this issue may be procured from the Sabbath Recorder, 510 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, N. J., at 10 cents per copy.

About the Sabbath Recorder

Several regular subscribers to the Sabbath Recorder are sending new subscriptions along with their own renewals. If fifty per cent of the regular subscribers would each send a new subscription along with their own renewals, the paid circulation of the Sabbath Recorder would reach more than 2,500 copies within a year's time. This would be a real accomplishment. It is possible! We can do it! Then, let us do it!

MEETING OF WESTERN ASSOCIATION

The Western Association will convene with the Friendship Seventh Day Baptist Church, Nile, N. Y., June 19 and 20, 1948.

Mrs. F. J. Pierce,
Corresponding Secretary.

Alfred Station, N. Y.,
May 31, 1948.

Featuring — The Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society

THE RESOLUTION OF SECRECY

By Corliss F. Randolph

The "Resolution of Secrecy" was adopted by the Continental Congress, November 9, 1775, and is only less important than the Declaration of Independence. This bears the signature of Samuel Ward, the Seventh Day Baptist delegate from Rhode Island. His signature is the fifth from the bottom of the right hand column of signatures.

The "Resolution of Secrecy" is very seldom mentioned in public print. Consequently it is but little known. My first knowledge of it came through Mrs. Maude Howe Elliott, a great-granddaughter of Samuel Ward, Seventh Day Baptist delegate from Rhode Island to the Continental Congress, and one time governor of Rhode Island.

Mrs. Elliott said that, on the occasion of a visit to the Congressional Library, in Washington, D. C., when shown the original copy of the Declaration of Independence, she remarked that, but for his death a few weeks previous to its signing, it would bear the signature of her great-grandfather, Samuel Ward. Whereupon her guide said that his name does appear on the only less important "Resolution of Secrecy," and proudly showed it to her.

Very soon after Mrs. Elliott told me of it, a photostatic copy was obtained for the museum of the Historical Society. The Resolution of Secrecy reads as follows:

In Congress Nov. 9th, 1775

Resolved That every member of this Congress considers himself under the ties of virtue, honor & love of his Country not to divulge directly or indirectly any matter or thing agitated or debated in Congress before the same shall have been determined, without leave of the Congress; nor any matter or thing determined in Congress which a majority of the Congress shall order to be kept secret, and that if any member shall violate this agreement he shall be expelled this Con-

LEWIS MEMORIAL TABLET

Quite recently, the Historical Society has received for safe keeping, the memorial tablet originally set up in the old Church at Berlin, Wis., by the children of Abram Herbert Lewis and his wife, Augusta Johnson Lewis, as a memorial to their father and mother, in their early Church home. This tablet is handsomely engrossed in Roman letters in colors of black, red, and blue on a solid block of California redwood, some five feet high, nearly two feet wide, and two and one half inches thick, with its face untinted but highly polished, altogether a splendid example of the work of a skillful artist.

More recently, the old Church was abandoned, the tablet was removed and finally sent to the Historical Society, accompanied by a letter from Rev. Elmo Fitz Randolph, in which was enclosed a copy of the programme of the dedication service when the tablet was originally set up in the Berlin Church, on October 11, 1936.

The officers of the Historical Society are highly appreciative of the trust thus imposed upon them by those responsible for sending the tablet to the society—a tablet commemorating both the man who, for a full half century, was the outstanding Seventh Day Baptist Apostle to carry the message of Sabbath Truth throughout the English-speaking world—both to him and to his loyal wife who, through all the long years of that never-ceasing and toilsome struggle to reach his coveted goal, never wavered in giving him the wifely comfort, sympathy, and cheer which upheld his hands and enabled him to carry on.

That the Historical Society will give this tablet the recognition which it so richly deserves, goes without saying.

C. F. R.

gress & deemed an enemy to the liberties of America & liable to be treated as such & that every member signify his consent to this agreement by signing the same.

EPHRATA

A recent letter from Mr. William Y. Zerfass, for many years a resident of Ephrata Cloister, but now of near-by Lincoln, says that Rev. W. K. Bechtel is the pastor of the "Cloister" Congregation of Seventh Day Baptists, and holds weekly services, both in his home and in the Cloister Saal.

Mr. Zerfass further states that the custom of "Infant Blessing," initiated at the Cloister some two hundred years ago by Rev. Peter Miller, then familiarly known there as "Brother Jaebez," a custom based on Mark 10: 13-16, has been revived, and encloses a copy of the form used by Rev. W. K. Bechtel in blessing the infant great-grandson of Mr. Zerfass, November 5, 1946, as follows:

Almighty God, our Father, Thou who hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth or ever Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God.

We come to Thee in this home to implore Thy richest blessings upon this child, DAVID LEE MECK, that his life may be protected from harm and the evil influences of this present world. Grant to richly bless this father and mother, grandfather and grandmother, and great-grandfather, that all together may be inspired by Thy Love and Mighty Power, to so teach and direct this little boy's life that he may grow into a useful and godly man in Thy service.

And may all in this presence, and all related, be consecrated anew to the work of Thy kingdom.

And to Thee, our God, belongeth praise and glory, dominion and power, world without end. Amen.

George Washington on Religious Liberty

Mr. Zerfass also sends two items concerning religious liberty as related to Seventh Day Baptists. The first, a copy of an appeal to the legislature of Pennsylvania, is as follows:

To the Honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly Met:

An extract of a German Pamphlet published at Ephrata, Pa.

On the 2nd of October, 1798, at New Mills, Burlington county, State of New Jersey, a Seventh Day Baptist being indicted before a Justice of the Peace for working on Sunday, and fined, he appealed; during the trial at Court an extract of a letter from Gen. Washington was produced by the Judge in his charge to the Jury, which was in answer to a Committee of a Baptist Society in Virginia, dated August 4, 1789, as follows:

"If I had the least idea of any difficulty resulting from the Constitution adopted by the Convention of which I had the honor to be President, when it was formed, so as to endanger the rights of any religious denomination, then I never should have attached my name to that instrument. If I had any idea that the General Government was so administered that the liberty of conscience was endangered, I pray you be assured that no man would be more willing than myself to revise and alter that part of it, so as to avoid all religious persecution. You can, without any doubt, remember that I have often expressed as my opinion, that every man who conducts himself as a good citizen is accountable alone to God for his religious Faith and should be *protected* in worshipping God according to the dictates of his conscience."

Signed,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

The result was, acquittal by the Jury.

I hereby certify that I saw the original English from which the above German Pamphlet was translated, at Ephrata, Pa., A. D. 1800.

ANDREW FAHNESTOCK,

Pastor of the Society at Snow Hill, Franklin Co., Pa.
Harrisburg, January 16, 1846.

(Note: See page 392 for Mr. Zerfass's second item.)

Programme of Historical Society

(The addresses by Dr. Corliss F. Randolph, Karl G. Stillman, and Courtland V. Davis were presented on the "Program of the Historical Society" at General Conference, Westerly, R. I., Tuesday afternoon, August 19, 1947.)

THE PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL ADDRESS

By Dr. Corliss F. Randolph
83 Jefferson Avenue, Maplewood, N. J.

The president's address naturally recites something of a résumé of the activities of the society for the year just closed, and of those expected for the coming year.

Since, for reasons beyond the control of the society, no report has been made for some years, this report will cover a rather wide period, and that in a somewhat informal and loosely organized manner.

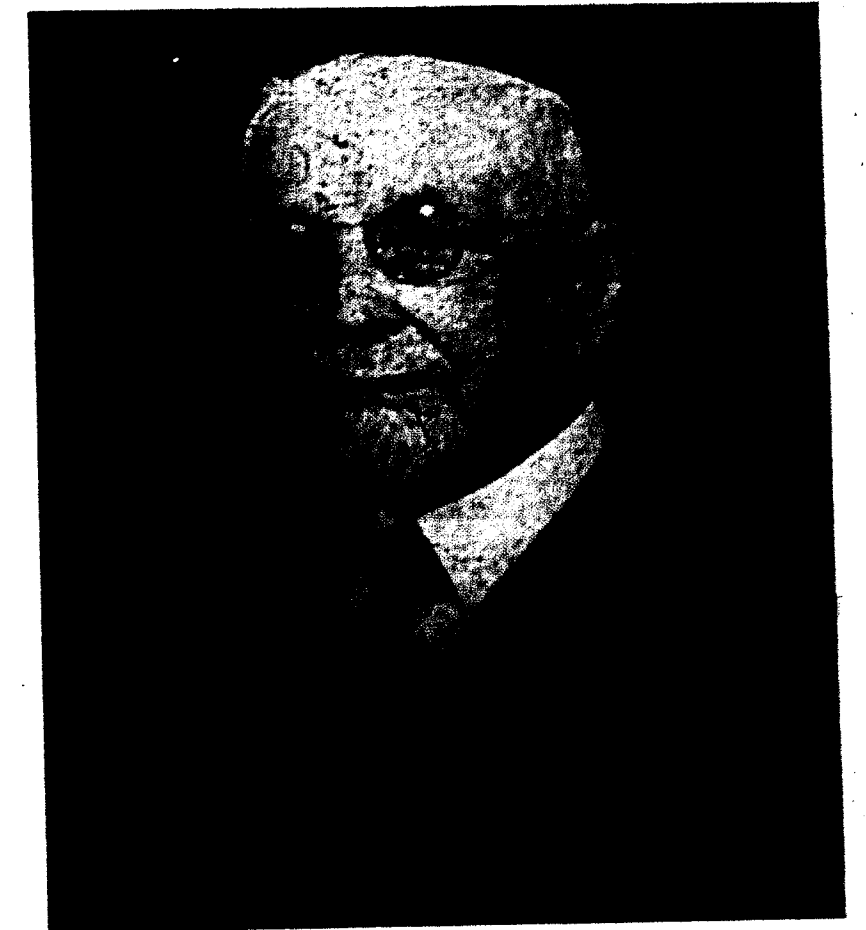
DENOMINATIONAL LITERATURE AT ALFRED UNIVERSITY TRANSFERRED TO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

One of the most noted events to be recorded here was the transfer from the library of Alfred University, on the order of President Norwood, of practically all the denominational literature in that library, to the library of the Historical Society. Besides other literature, embracing books, pamphlets, etc., were the files of all our publications accumulated there, including those of the "Missionary Magazine" (our earliest periodical publication in this country), the "Protestant Sentinel," the "Seventh Day Baptist Register," the Sabbath Recorder, the "Missionary Reporter," "The Outlook and Sabbath Quarterly," and our several Sabbath school papers, leaving at Alfred only a file of the Sabbath Recorder and a file of our Year Book. Possibly some more related material may yet be transferred to us on the same order. Here it may be noted that, just previous to his retirement, on the order of President Davis, approximately 1,000 titles were transferred to our library from Alfred.

THE ROGERS BIBLE

Again, by order of the General Conference, the Cranmer New Testament, popularly known as the "Rogers Bible" (believed to have been owned by John Rogers, the English martyr), presented

to the General Conference in 1866 by Miss Mary Saunders of Hopkinton, R. I., and deposited at Alfred University for safe-



Corliss F. Randolph
President and Librarian

keeping, has now been safely transferred to our library, and placed in our fireproof vault.

MILL YARD CHURCH RECORDS

It may be of interest to say here that the oldest known surviving records of our Mill Yard Church, in London, England, have been in our keeping for fifteen years. The earliest records of that Church are said to have been destroyed by fire.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Among other recent acquisitions may be noted the following:

From Library of Rev. S. S. Powell

1. From the library of Rev. Sylvester S. Powell, shortly before his death, files of periodicals, as follows:

a. "Papers for the People." Vols. 1-3 (Jan. 1914 - Oct. 1916), a quarterly magazine published, first at Grafton, W. Va., and later, at Hammond, La.

b. A "Quarterly Periodical" in the modern Greek language, published at Ponchatoula, La.

Some other material from his library has reached us since his death. Our library already had a file of "The Peculiar People," in the English language, and one of "Eduth l'Israel," wholly in Hebrew. The purpose of both was to Christianize the Jews, and both were edited—in part, at least—by Mr. Powell who, with a possible single exception, was doubtless the most accomplished Hebrew scholar we have produced. He was equally accomplished in Latin and Greek. On occasion, he is said to have addressed an audience in modern Greek.

Autobiography of Rev. E. A. Witter

2. A manuscript "Autobiography of Rev. E. Adelbert Witter." Besides a full account of his career as a minister, he gives an equally full and graphic description of his boyhood life, among semi-frontier conditions in southwestern New York and/or northwestern Pennsylvania.

Johnson's Dictionary, based on Bailey

3. A copy of the first edition of "Johnson's Dictionary of the English Language," founded on the dictionary of Nathanael Bailey, a Seventh Day Baptist educator, author, and classical scholar, in London, in the eighteenth century. Bailey's dictionary ran through twenty-four editions, and was the standard English dictionary until Johnson's appeared. Even today, Bailey is valuable for its definitions of archaic and semi-archaic words and expressions. Our library has several editions of Bailey, including the first edition which came from the library of Elder Henry Clarke, who was one of our leading pastors in the latter part of the eighteenth century and in the early part of the nineteenth. He was the author of our earliest denominational history, which was published in 1811.

Silk Banner from Shanghai

4. The large silk banner made by the women of our Church in Shanghai, China,

and presented to our Missionary Society more than sixty years ago. More recently, the Missionary Board forwarded it to our museum for safekeeping, with an appropriation for erecting a case suitable for its preservation and display. This case is in course of erection, but work on it is delayed for apparent want of suitable material for its completion.

EXPANSION

The constant growth of our library and museum has made necessary the extension of the main stairway of the building up to the very large and commodious attic, where temporary bookshelves have been erected by the librarian and assistant librarian, to accommodate some hundreds of bound books and many thousands of unbound books and pamphlets, for which we have no room otherwise.

Already a bookcase has been erected on the floor below our library, uniform in style and size with those on our main floor. This, too, is filled to capacity. Quite recently, borrowed bookshelves have been installed in our workroom for the accommodation of such pamphlets as are in frequent use. These pamphlets are kept in suitable filing cases.

Contracts for some necessary alteration of the attic floor, and for additional much needed equipment, are awaiting suitable materials and skilled labor for fulfillment.

DEVOTIONAL SERVICES

Plans are under way for placing a suitable pulpit at the rear of the middle room on the second floor of the building, adjoining the board room, for devotional services on occasion. It is hoped that an acceptable pulpit desk which has seen service in one of our abandoned Churches may be found to fill this need. For instrumental music, the old-time melodeon which was used by Jairus M. Stillman, a Seventh Day Baptist musician and music writer of the latter part of the nineteenth century and the early part of the twentieth, who served a term each as head of the music departments of Alfred University and of Milton College, respectively, is in course of reconditioning for that purpose. This is the gift of his grandniece, Miss Hazel Gamble, who is making a sub-



Miss Evalois St. John
Assistant Librarian

stantial contribution toward its rehabilitation. A suitable piano would make an appropriate addition to the equipment of this room, too. Possibly some generous friend will contribute one.

INDEXING MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Indexing the biographical material in the Sabbath Recorder — marriages and deaths, especially — goes steadily on. In this work, as in many former years, we continue to have the generous and gratuitous assistance of Miss Helen A. Titsworth, of the cataloguing department of the library of the University of Kansas. The assistant librarian, Miss Evalois St. John, gives much of her time to this work; and now we have an accumulation of some 42,000 index cards for which we have no cases. The cards are stored, temporarily, in discarded envelope boxes and other similar containers, placed about in the library wherever a convenient place may be found to put them. The proper care of these cards is an imperative need, and a special appropriation in the next Denominational Budget has been asked of the Commission for the purchase of suitable card cases.

NEEDED REPAIRS

Certain repairs are much needed. In some parts of each of our main floor

rooms, walls and ceilings are badly damaged by water leaking through the roof some years ago, and should have attention as to both plaster and paint. Such work, it appears to us, should be taken care of by the trustees of the building. The window curtains, hopelessly damaged through age, we are replacing by the purchase of suitable material, which is made into curtains by the capable fingers of Miss St. John, with some volunteer help.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

By way of library and museum service rendered, first of all we may remind you that they are open to the public, free of charge, at certain stated hours, five days in the week; and we have a number of visitors whose desires and needs receive every attention. Much service is rendered through correspondence, also.

FAMILY HISTORY

We have responded to numerous requests for assistance in the preparation of family history. Chief among these are two which involve nearly, if not quite, all Seventh Day Baptist families of New England, New York, or New Jersey ancestry. One of these is now in course of publication in serial form, to be followed by its appearance in book form. The other is ready for publication in either the one or the other form. These family histories give a strong light on the leaders of our denomination from its earliest beginnings in this country, and also illuminate their European background.

EDITOR OF SABBATH RECORDER

In response to requests from the editor of the Sabbath Recorder, certain biographical sketches have been prepared, together with a brief historical sketch of the latter part of the life of one of our Churches, now but recently extinct. Besides this work, we have been pleased to supply reference information to the editor as often as requested.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY OF GENERAL CONFERENCE

Occasionally the corresponding secretary of the General Conference has referred certain correspondence addressed to him,

to us for reply. For example, a more recent letter from the chaplain of a Church school of some note in a midwestern state, stated that he was expected to conduct a course on the history and faith of each of the different religious denominations in this country, and asked for informative material concerning Seventh Day Baptists. A similar request came from a Y.M.C.A. worker in the Far Northwest. Needless to say, both requests met with prompt replies. We'd be glad to have a number more such inquiries.

ENGLISH WRITERS OF SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST HISTORY

Correspondence has been begun with writers of history in Manchester and in Oxford, England, who are interested in certain phases of Seventh Day Baptist history in that country, thus opening the way for our own research in the notable libraries of both these cities, should suitable opportunity be offered to engage in it. Articles of this type have appeared in the magazine entitled, "Notes & Queries," and also in the "Literary Supplement of the London Times," both of London. One of these writers believes that Thomas Paine, the noted atheist, may have preached to our Mill Yard congregation, in London, before he became an atheist. This writer maintains that Paine had certainly preached elsewhere, and that beyond question, he was a teacher in the "great Academy," conducted at Mill Yard by its pastor, Rev. Daniel Noble. In this connection, it may be observed that the present pastor of the Mill Yard Church, in London, Rev. James McGeachy, has been doing Sabbath promotion work southeast of London, in the county of Kent, which has aroused at least some public interest. Some of his writing has recently appeared in the Sabbath Recorder. It may well be observed here that a Jewish paper, entitled, "Jerusalem, Organ of the Jewish Christian Community and the Jerusalem Fellowship," is published in London under the auspices of the pastor of the Mill Yard Church.

HISTORICAL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS AT EPHRATA

As a matter of record, it may be noted that the grounds and historical buildings of the Ephrata Community, at Ephrata, Pa., have passed into the hands of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, which, the public press announces, has made a generous appropriation to begin work of restoration. In the course of proceedings looking toward this change in ownership, the president of this society was summoned as a witness to testify as to certain Seventh Day Baptist procedure. On other occasions, he has served in a similar capacity, though not in court proceedings.

HISTORICAL WORK

For several years we have been serving, as best we can, by way of assisting the author of a history of Alfred University, now in course of preparation, in his work. Churches preparing for the celebration of given events—a centennial or other historic occasion, perhaps — not infrequently call on us for help. For example, in one instance we had to reconstruct, almost in its entirety, the earlier history of one of our Churches, whose records had been destroyed by a former pastor in his zeal to blot out the record of a one-time Church scandal. Fortunately, contemporaneous records in our possession enabled us to make a reconstruction quite accurate and fairly complete. This was accomplished only through several months of patient and painstaking research.

SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST BIOGRAPHIES

The major historical task before us, if, as we devoutly hope, it is to be carried to a successful issue, is the preparation of a series of biographies of leading Seventh Day Baptists in England and in this country, from the time of the organization of the Mill Yard Church, in London, in the early seventeenth century, down to the present generation — using no living subjects, of course. This work was undertaken several years ago by the Tract Board, on the recommendation of its Committee on Denominational Literature, in the confident belief that such a work, published in an attractive, richly illustrated book

form, giving successful careers of Seventh Day Baptists who have made marked success in various fields of professional, industrial, and business life—even great success in public life—through three long centuries, would be a source of inspiration to our oncoming generations who might otherwise be tempted to abandon the Sabbath in a hope of a more successful career.

OUR EARLY SABBATH HISTORY IN ENGLAND CHALLENGED

Much work has already been done in this field, but careful research remains to be done, both in this country and particularly in England. It is asserted by a Baptist Church historian of repute in England that our Mill Yard Church originally was not a Sabbathkeeping Church, as we have always believed. This claim most definitely we cannot concede, unless after a most searching examination of all available records in England, it is established beyond a peradventure of a doubt. It cannot be permitted to remain unchallenged, and its validity must be definitely established, or as definitely disproved.

UNEXPLORED ENGLISH HISTORY

Again, there are appearing clues to a rich field of Seventh Day Baptist history in England, a field to be explored yet. It had been hoped that research in this direction might be undertaken in connection with the proposed visit of the president of this society to England, Germany and Holland on behalf of the Missionary Society. But the Tract Society does not appear to be in a position now to co-operate in this undertaking. However, it is hoped that the way will yet open for its accomplishment.

ENDOWMENT AND OTHER FUNDS

This society has a very small beginning of an Endowment Fund, a fund which it is hoped will grow in a manner similar to those of our other denominational societies. It is expected that its needs will be clearly presented to our people in the near future. The salary of the assistant librarian is provided for by the generosity of a much interested friend. Otherwise, the society is naturally supposed to be de-

pendent on its allotted share of the Denominational Budget, an allotment far too small to meet current imperative needs; and other sources of income necessarily have to be sought. For some years an annual appeal has been made to a selected group of friends whose generous response has enabled us to carry on. Naturally, that course will have to be continued. It may be of interest to say here that such a plan is coming to be adopted by a growing number of libraries, especially the larger and better known ones. It appears to have been formulated and adopted, originally, by the library of Harvard University, which has profited greatly by it.

INTER-LIBRARY COURTESIES

We are gratified to report that leading libraries of the country, including the Congressional Library at Washington, D. C., are extending to our library the usual inter-library courtesies enjoyed among themselves. These courtesies, on occasion, relieve us of what otherwise would be serious handicaps. Here it may be remarked that, beyond any question, the Seventh Day Baptist Building in which we are situated (an excellent illustration of which we carry on our letterheads) gives us a dignity and standing with other libraries and in the eyes of the public generally, a dignity and standing which we certainly could not otherwise have.

OUR BEGINNINGS

The Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society began its career thirty-one years ago by the purchase of the very small, but most valuable collection of rare books relating to the German Seventh Day Baptists at Ephrata, Pa., a collection accumulated through many years of patient, laborious search in this country and in Europe, by the late Dr. Julius F. Sachse of Philadelphia, who sold it to us for the modest, very modest, price of \$1,000, a very small part of its commercial value, **on condition that it should always be kept intact.** The infant society borrowed the funds for the purchase.

At that time the society, of course, had no place to house these books, and they were taken care of privately pending the acquisition of suitable quarters for them.

It is believed to be the most complete, though probably not the largest, of all the collections of Ephrata literature.

OUR PRESENT STATUS

Since its beginning in this manner, the society has grown to its present proportions, and is situated in a dignified building of proportions and conditions adapted for the care of such a magnificent collection as it now possesses. In no insignificant sense it is an outstanding asset of the Seventh Day Baptist denomination, and it is constantly becoming larger and more valuable, as well as rendering a greater service, as the years pass. For all of this, we humbly thank our beneficent Heavenly Father, by whose blessings it has so prospered, and take courage anew for the future.

RECORDS AND WORK OF SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS

Rev. Victor W. Skaggs,
Corresponding Secretary,
American Sabbath Tract Society,
510 Watchung Ave.,
Plainfield, N. J.

Dear Mr. Skaggs:

This will acknowledge, with thanks, your letter of April 30, 1948, and the books and pamphlets sent under separate cover. I have placed a copy of each in our library and am distributing the remainder to the students.

I had the privilege, while assistant archivist of the Historical Records Survey, of suggesting to the New Jersey office of that organization that a special volume be devoted to the records and work of the Seventh Day Baptists. While editing that volume, I became quite well acquainted with the work of your organization. I am certain that some of our students will be quite interested, as I was then, in the history of the Sabbath.

Sincerely yours,
Donald A. Thompson,
Director of Graduate Studies,
Florida Southern College,
Lakeland, Fla.,
May 11, 1948.

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY FROM A LAYMAN'S POINT OF VIEW

By Karl G. Stillman
P. O. Drawer 515, Westerly, R. I.

It is with considerable misgiving that I speak on this Historical Society program this afternoon, for although I am interested in history and very much interested in Seventh Day Baptist history in particular, I am in no sense of the word a historian. Likewise, it would be preferable to appear at some other location, for how true is the Biblical quotation that "a prophet is not without honour save in his home country." However, history is not concerned with prophecies for the future, but the recording of noteworthy events in the past and present, which, perhaps, is an ameliorating condition, for certainly I do not profess to be a prophet either.

FUNCTIONS OF A HISTORICAL SOCIETY

It seems to me that a well-organized historical society has four important functions: to act as a permanent custodian of historical relics of value, preserving them carefully and displaying them attractively for interested persons; to maintain a library of genealogical and historical material available for public reference; to sponsor historical research work; and to publish pamphlets and books on subjects pertinent to the nature of the society itself.

FINE QUARTERS OF OUR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

We are proud of the fine quarters occupied by the Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society in our Denominational Building in Plainfield, N. J. There, on the top floor, are housed an invaluable collection of books, old communion silver, rare pictures, and all kinds of data on Seventh Day Baptists who have been outstanding in widely divergent fields of endeavor. In that place Dr. Corliss F. Randolph, president and librarian, and his assistant, Miss Evalois St. John, have worked tirelessly arranging and cataloguing the mass of material that has come into its possession in recent years. The true historian never accepts hearsay or unverified reports; and it is a real satisfaction to realize that Dr. Randolph and his assistants are scrupulously careful and accurate in all that they do.

GROWING RECOGNITION OF OUR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Likewise, we can be proud of the fact that our historical library is being recognized more and more by research historians as an excellent source of authentic genealogical and historical data. Hardly a month passes that some research is not made in this library, particularly concerning Seventh Day Baptist families which were identified importantly with the early colonial history of our country, making reference to the fine genealogies on file a "must," if complete and accurate data is to be compiled.

THE EPHRATA COLLECTION AND RESEARCH ABROAD

Our society engages in research work of its own, and from time to time not only compiles important data, but seeks out and, best of all, locates new exhibits and collections for an ever-expanding museum. One important acquisition is the so-called "Ephrata Collection," consisting of books by Dr. Julius Friedrich Sachse, an authority on the history of German Seventh Day Baptists of Pennsylvania, and also many books published in the early eighteenth century by the Germans themselves. This is not the largest collection of historical material about the Ephrata, Pa., German Seventh Day Baptist settlement, but it is considered to be the most complete. A special trip to England and Scotland was planned earlier this year for the purpose of doing research work concerning the early history of the Mill Yard, London, Church. Dr. Randolph was to do this work with the active co-operation of the American Sabbath Tract Society, but the plan was abandoned for the time being, because of food shortages and transportation and housing problems.

PUBLICATIONS IN PREPARATION

Several publications are in preparation, including biographies of prominent Seventh Day Baptist leaders and a history of Alfred University, the former being written by Dr. Randolph and the latter by Dr. J. Nelson Norwood, former president of Alfred. The society, together with its officers and employees, stands ready to advise with all our Churches and their members regarding the preparation of any



Karl G. Stillman

special historical data of particular interest to them. Historical sketches have been prepared for centennial celebrations of some Churches and for later special occasions celebrated by others.

VALUE OF OUR HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO US TODAY

All in all, our society is an outstanding organization, qualifying in every way for a high rating based on the requirements arbitrarily selected and already enumerated above; but what is its value to us today?

Of course, no one can coast along on the achievements of his or her ancestors. A great-grandfather who was an ingenious inventor, a leading citizen of his day, and a strong Seventh Day Baptist, does not pass along to his descendants his attributes of mind and character. Too often succeeding generations lose sight of true values which must be developed and maintained by each individual. The prosperity of ancestors induces superiority complexes, with resultant careless living and eventual decadence into mediocrity or even oblivion. The old saying of "shirtsleeves to shirtsleeves in three generations" becomes a truism.

OUR EARLY HISTORY TODAY'S INSPIRATION

However, accurate knowledge of the problems of early Seventh Day Baptists and of how they met them successfully can be and, generally speaking, is the very best source of inspiration to us today to fight on for a wider dissemination of our doctrinal beliefs, particularly as to the sanctity of the Sabbath, which can be none other than the seventh day of the week.

GROWTH FROM EARLY DAYS TO
PRESENT TIME

Latin is a dead language if we judge it by the extent of its present-day use in oral or written communications, yet, if one wishes to acquire a wide vocabulary and to gain the ability to express ideas fluently and clearly, no better course of action is indicated than to study this language industriously. The same is true of Seventh Day Baptist history as revealed to us in bounteous measure by the Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society. From it we can learn of our earliest days and peoples and be encouraged to greater achievements in our age, when results can be attained more rapidly and when individual capacities are greater because of the startling progress in communication, transportation, education, and science, not to mention the modern conveniences which provide more comfortable living conditions.

GOVERNOR SAMUEL WARD

It means much to me, as it should to all of us, that these sessions of our General Conference are being held in the Governor Samuel Ward High School, which was named for Samuel Ward, colonial governor of Rhode Island, an influential leader in discussions at Philadelphia regarding American independence, which culminated in the formulation of the Declaration of Independence, to which his signature was to have been affixed had not an untimely death intervened. I glory in his achievements, but more in the fact that he was a staunch Seventh Day Baptist and a member of the Newport and Westerly Churches.

JULIA WARD HOWE AND THE
NEWPORT CHURCH

It meant much to me to attend a service in the old Newport Church, a few years

ago, arranged by our Historical Society, at which Maude Howe Elliot, a great-granddaughter of Governor Ward, described a visit to the Newport Church which she made with her famous mother, Julia Ward Howe, the author of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic." Services had then been discontinued in Newport because of the wholesale exodus of its members to Westerly and elsewhere, but the Church was still in its original condition, and Mrs. Elliot's remarkable powers of description brought it vividly before our eyes. May I urge at this point that, as many as can, make the journey to Newport next Monday and gain the wonderful inspiration from attending a service there, during which the original Communion silver will be used. The Church has been maintained faithfully and perfectly by the Newport Historical Society, and the old Claggett clock still ticks away as it did in earlier times. It will be an unforgettable experience to those who have never been there, and will revive the spirits of those who have.

LT. COL. SAMUEL WARD, JR.

Governor Samuel Ward's son, Lt. Col. Samuel Ward, Jr., was born in the Howard Langworthy home, where many of you are staying. He was a gallant officer in the Revolutionary War and at one time an aide-de-camp to General Washington and active on his staff. A bronze tablet at the corner of the property commemorates his fame, and it is worthy of a moment's stop to read it as one passes Langworthy Corners on the road to Weekapaug. When this tablet was unveiled, Julia Ward Howe was present at the ceremony.

STREETS WITH SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST NAMES

As you go to and fro between your home and these meetings of Conference, you are quite likely to traverse streets and roads in this and nearby communities named after the early settlers, most of whom were Seventh Day Baptists. You may ride over Crandall Avenue, Babcock Road, Stanton Street, Ward Avenue, Stillman Avenue, Saunders Road, Clarke Street, Wells Street, and possibly you may see the end of Burdick Lane, although it is doubtful if you will actually ride on this little-used road. You may discover

Greenman Avenue, and if you go over to Mystic you will pass through Greenmanville. Perhaps you may find yourself in Stillmanville if you wander around in the north end of town, and if you venture farther afield you will strike Potter Hill in one direction and Burdickville in another. Other familiar names will greet you, too.

"SEVENTH DAY BRIDGE"

In the summer of 1936, the Seventh Day Baptist Churches of Hopkinton and Westerly erected a handsome granite monument at Meetinghouse Bridge, otherwise known as the "Seventh Day Bridge," to commemorate the many historical events that occurred at those four corners in early days. The plot where the memorial stands has been made into a miniature park by the Rhode Island State Highway Commission and is maintained very attractively. Plan to visit this spot, about three miles north of Westerly, on the road to Ashaway, and learn more about Seventh Day Baptist history. The legend on the stone is quite lengthy and comprehensive and its content and phraseology were checked for accuracy and reader interest by our Historical Society, a service frequently rendered by it.

SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST INDUSTRIES

Westerly has many prosperous industries, two of which are particularly interesting as they are operated by the third generation of Seventh Day Baptist founders. I refer to the Ashaway Line and Twine Company, manufacturers of fishing lines in particular, and other varieties of twine, and C. B. Cottrell and Sons Company, manufacturers of the large magazine rotary printing presses, such as are used to print such well-known publications as the "Ladies' Home Journal," "Saturday Evening Post," "Reader's Digest," "National Geographic Magazine," "Life," "McCalls," "Woman's Home Companion," and innumerable other periodicals where quality printing is required to be produced in multicolors. Calvert B. Cottrell, the founder of this big industry, was a man of an inventive turn of mind and possessed with superior mechanical skill. He invented a so-called perfecting press, the first such machine that could print on

both sides of calendered paper. Mr. Howard M. Barber, chief engineer of the company, a Seventh Day Baptist, and now a trustee of the Pawcatuck Church, invented many mechanical motions and printing press devices which are incorporated in the multicolor presses previously referred to. His genius has been recognized by the United States Patent Office when he received signal honors during the celebration of commemorating the one hundredth anniversary of the establishment of the United States patent system:

SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS AND
THE PRINTING PRESS INDUSTRY

It is noteworthy that Seventh Day Baptists have been, perhaps, the greatest single factor in the development of the printing press industry. The German Seventh Day Baptists in Ephrata, Pa., produced much fine printing according to standards of the day, and did so on crude, hand-operated, wooden machines as early as the eighteenth century. Cottrell and Babcock began business in 1855 here in Pawcatuck, and among their employees was Charles Potter, who was later to withdraw and establish the Potter Printing Press Company in Plainfield, N. J. This company later was one of three organizations which were merged into the Harris, Seybold, and Potter Company of today. Nathan Babcock withdrew from his partnership with Calvert B. Cottrell in 1880, and removed to New London, Conn., there establishing the Babcock Printing Press Company, known as the Babcock Corporation today. R. Hoe and Co., Inc., was and is the largest company not identified with the other Seventh Day Baptist groups, but even it employed one or more Seventh Day Baptists as designing engineers at different times.

THE "WESTERLY SUN"

Another interesting enterprise here in Westerly is the "Westerly Sun," published by the Utter Company and managed by grandsons and great-grandsons of its founder, Rev. George B. Utter and sons and grandsons of his successor, Hon. George H. Utter, former governor of Rhode Island and congressman from this state at the time of his death. The "Westerly Sun" suspends publication on

the Sabbath, and is said to be the only evening paper in the country published on Sunday. On many occasions in its history, news of world-wide importance has broken on a Sunday, giving this paper many scoops so ardently sought by all newspapers.

GREENMAN SHIPYARDS

A stroll along the banks of the Pawcatuck River, as it runs parallel with Margin Street, will reveal a granite marker recording the site of the old Greenman shipyards, later removed to Greenmanville in Mystic. The coming of steam-propelled ships gradually forced this Seventh Day Baptist industry out of business, as sailing ships for commercial use no longer could be operated economically in competition with steamships.

FIRST SETTLERS OF WESTERLY

Another marker on the right hand side of the Watch Hill Road, about three miles from town, commemorated the spot where John and Mary Babcock landed their canoe after an elopement from Newport, which made them the first settlers of Westerly.

HISTORY'S INSPIRATION AND CHALLENGE

These and numerous other historical events of direct interest to Seventh Day Baptists have occurred in this section of our country, and are both an inspiration and challenge to us who carry on today. May we all remember that history is being made every moment of the day and that we have a responsibility to emulate the worthy deeds of our ancestors, the records of which this society is preserving for us, and that first and foremost we must remember their witnessing for the Sabbath and follow their example, no matter how difficult or unpopular such a course of action may seem to be.

Unless a man is ready to work for the salvation of others, it may be questioned whether he himself is saved. He who wants only enough religion to save himself is not likely to have even that much.

—Henry Clay Trumbull.

The Sabbath Recorder in every home.

A HISTORICAL SOCIETY: WHY?

By Courtland V. Davis

184 N. Bridge St., Somerville, N. J.

JOSHUA AND THE HEAP OF STONES

A great heap of stones raised up for a witness of a memorable event or to preserve the remembrance of some matter of great importance is one of the most ancient devices used by man to retain, for the use of future generations, the experience gained by the generation that is passing. Joshua said, on one such occasion, "When your children shall ask their fathers in time to come, saying, 'What mean ye by these stones?' Then ye shall answer them, 'That the waters of Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord; and these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel: that ye might fear the Lord your God forever.'"

OUR DENOMINATIONAL BUILDING OUR HEAP OF STONES

Our own good Doctor Gardiner, in the days when he was devoting much of the product of his potent pen to the propaganda for our Denominational Building, often quoted these words of Joshua. In our day of multiplied and multitudinous memorabilia we yet have need of stopping a bit, now and then, to answer the questions of our children: "What mean ye by these stones?"

LOST: OUR TOUCH WITH THE SOURCE OF FAITH

Maybe it would be helpful if we asked the question ourselves. At least, we might be in better position to answer the questions of the children; perhaps, we might even gain for ourselves a revitalizing redefinition and redetermination of the faith that is in us. Both Christianity as it is commonly presented and practiced in our country and our social order (itself the outcome of an earlier florescence of Christianity) seem to have lost touch with the source of faith.

We are accustomed to driving about the country at will and at ease, for there are, at strategic locations, road signs, numerals that signify specific routes, arrows that point directions. Even on the familiar



Courtland V. Davis

side roads about home, without signs or signals we move at ease for we recognize the landmarks often seen before.

Have you ever tried to drive in a thick fog? Not only are you uncertain as to what other drivers who are attempting to pierce the gloom may be about, but there grows a feeling of uncertainty, a feeling not only of unsureness as to where you are, but likewise some question as to where you have just been or what you are just now headed for.

Our world of 1947 may be characterized in many ways, but none more surely than that it is in a fog. The familiar landmarks disappear or are disregarded. Danger is imminent. As a whole, we appear to be almost complacent about it. We shrug it off. What can we do about it? We cannot go back, to be sure, but we can use the heap of stones, the signpost, the experience of those who have gone this way before, if we will.

THEN AND NOW

No one illustration will suffice in point, of course, for each has its own small part of a whole that is more clearly understood with each added item, but may I quote just one—a simple one dealing with material things—a reference to the changes

brought about by the passing of half a century:

"Nothing shows better the great difference in the ways of doing things now and when this Church was young—as well as the greater means now available—than the record of running expenses of the Church then and now. It is not to be inferred that because less was given then, our fathers were less abundant in that grace which Paul urged upon the Corinthians. That would be far from the truth. It cannot be doubted that there were often cases in those days of sacrifice for the cause which should put to blush many of us who, while we may give more in dollars and cents, know less what it is to give that which we need for our own comfort. We are quite too apt to quote the Lord's approval of 'the widow's mite' as if it applied to the mighty little that we give out of our abundance. It must also be remembered that the expenses of the United States Government fifty years ago were less than one tenth of what they are at the present time."

We all realize the currency of that statement, yet that was written by George H. Babcock in 1888, fifty-nine years ago.

OUR HISTORICAL SOCIETY THE CUSTODIAN OF OUR "HEAPS OF STONES"

Is that a landmark, a guide in the fog? Not at all. It is but one of one heap of stones. Together they help to point the way. In this modern world where can we raise a heap of stones to preserve a remembrance of a matter of importance to us, that we and our children might revere the Lord our God forever? For our denomination we have a custodian of our "heaps of stones" in our Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society, our own organization, which not only carefully preserves our records and other memorabilia, but also catalogues and indexes them for greater usefulness, for more effective response when our children say, "What mean ye by these stones?"

OUR OPPORTUNITY

We have been proud of our heritage, proud of the spiritual life and work of our forebears, proud of our history as a denomination. The opportunity is ours! Now, let's use it.

MILTON OBSERVES "DR. GRACE CRANDALL DAY"

By Mrs. Elmo F. Randolph

Participating in a denomination-wide "Dr. Grace Crandall Day" observance, the Women's Circle of the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church entertained about ninety members and friends of the Church on the evening following the Sabbath, April 17. A program was planned by the executive committee and presented by Mrs. T. G. Lippincott, president of the circle, and included the showing of a fine collection of China pictures by Dr. and Mrs. G. E. Crosley. Miss Ada Crandall, a niece of Dr. Grace, gave an account of her life and work, including in it a description of her early and advanced schooling and medical work in America and in China. Mrs. Clarke Todd read from the Sabbath Recorder a description of the new Grace Hospital and its dedication, and Mrs. Eling Sung read material written by Dr. Rosa Palmborg, telling of the history of the hospital at Liuho from its beginning to its complete destruction during World War II.

Mrs. Sung's children, Rosaline and Rodney, both students in Milton College, provided special music; Rosaline was at the piano, accompanying Rodney's violin as they played Schubert's "Ave Maria."

Following the program, refreshments were served. Presiding at the tea table were Mrs. Sung and Rosaline Sung.

An offering of \$86 was received during the evening; later gifts raised the sum to \$96, and at the next regular business meeting of that organization the Women's Circle voted enough to make a total of \$150 to be sent for the benefit of Grace Hospital in Liuho, China.

Use it to restore and strengthen our own faith.

Use it to bring the small doings of the day into the perspective of God's own time and purpose.

Use it to guide Seventh Day Baptists through the fog of neglect, indifference, misunderstanding, and hopelessness of our day to a new and greater service.

CARIBBEAN HIGH SCHOOL

As the time approaches for the opening of the new Caribbean High School, 29 Charles St., Kingston, Jamaica, B. W. I., interest seems to be increasing. Mr. Lloyd Pierce of the Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church is crating the organ for shipment. The Ladies' Industrial Society of the same Church is contributing more sheets and linen for the dormitory. Mr. George Stillman of Alfred has given \$10 to aid the work. The Ladies' Aid of Nortonville, with the co-operation of the Missionary Societies of the Mid-Continent Association, have contributed two sewing machines. The "Loyal Workers" of the Rockville Seventh Day Baptist Church are providing pillow slips and other linen for the dormitory. Mr. and Mrs. Milford Crandall, Independence, N. Y., have given a scholarship in the name of their son, Philip.

The matter of transportation is very important and especially trying when it comes to export and materials, also expensive. The committee is collecting all freight at Alfred Station for shipment to the Standard Fruit and Steamship Co., for water transportation to Kingston. Water freight is charged by the cubic foot rather than by weight.

In behalf of the committee,
Ben R. Crandall,
Chairman.

NEW YORK STATE'S ANCIENT BLUE SUNDAY LAW NO LONGER ENFORCED

Mr. Zerfass's second item is in the form of a clipping from the "Lancaster New Era" of December 15, 1947, as follows:

SAYVILLE, L. I., Dec. 13 — New York State's old blue law restricting work on Sunday—a statute which dates from 1788—was placed on trial in Sayville Court yesterday and speedily convicted of having outlived its usefulness.

Only four minutes of deliberation were required by a jury of two men and four women to absolve Joseph Mihaly, fifty, of near-by Ronkonkoma, of a charge that he violated Section 2143 of the State penal law by devoting a recent Sunday to building himself a chicken coop in the back yard of his home.

The case provided Long Island with its first test case of the "blue law" since 1908 when a Brookhaven man was accused—and acquitted—of violating the statute by digging in his garden on a Sunday.

MORE ABOUT PACIFIC COAST ASSOCIATION

By Miss Alma E. Bond
Recording Secretary

The annual meeting of the Pacific Coast Association was held in Riverside, April 9-11, using as the theme, "Now Is the Accepted Time."

From the restful candlelight service on Sabbath eve to the challenges of the Sunday afternoon meeting, the emphasis was laid on the importance of living for God now. It is impossible to list the names of all who had a part in making the meetings successful, for many faithful workers behind the scenes did as much as those whose names appeared on the program.

As always, the music was an outstanding contribution to the worship and praise services. Rubenstein's "The Seraphic Song" was presented Sabbath morning by the combined choirs of the Los Angeles and Riverside Churches with Ben Herbert as guest organist, Lois Wells at the piano, Christine Watkins playing the violin obbligato, Joan Dalbey singing the contralto solo, and Maleta Curtis directing. The male chorus under the direction of Ray Rood presented several fine numbers, and there were other anthems, quartets, and various musical numbers. The night after the Sabbath we enjoyed hearing from the Riverside Sabbath school orchestra.

A few thoughts from the many fine messages: Surrender to God's will! Do you think you could possibly plan a happier life for yourself than God has planned for you? . . . Now is the time for salvation, for receiving it, and for sharing it. . . . Now is the time for worship and praise of the Saviour who gave Himself freely for us. . . . Now is the time to enter the open doors of service in tract distribution and personal witness and testimony. . . . Now is the time to grow in love and in the Christian graces that the world may see Jesus in us.

NORTHERN ASSOCIATION

The Northern Association (Michigan-Ohio-Indiana) will meet June 11-13, 1948, with the White Cloud, Mich., Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Margaret Mosher.

MISSION SABBATH SCHOOL REPORTS 20% INCREASE

Our missionary in Kingston, Jamaica, Rev. Wardner T. Fitz Randolph, shared with us the following report from the quarterly meeting of the Kingston Sabbath School and Church. Brother L. W. Holness reports, as acting superintendent, true Christian service activities along with growth in numbers:

Beloved Brethren, by the grace of God, our Heavenly Father, through His Son our Lord Jesus:

I have the honour, brethren, and I am indeed happy to present to you an encouraging report of the activities of the Kingston Seventh Day Baptist Sabbath School for the quarter ending March 27, 1948.

It is pleasing to say, on the one hand, by the grace of God guided by the Holy Spirit you elected me assistant superintendent of the Sabbath school. On the other hand, we regret very much the absence of our beloved superintendent, Brother Hunt, owing to severe illness. In the meantime, we are grateful to God for having spared his life and improved his health whereby he was able to be with us the last two Sabbaths of the quarter.

Nevertheless, being taught and guided by the Holy Spirit in wisdom and understanding, our school enjoys God's richest blessing, spiritually, numerically, and financially.

Spiritually, our studies were directed to "Belief and Faith in God," "Salvation and Eternal Life Through Our Lord Jesus Christ."

Numerically, twenty were added to the roll, making a total membership of 124 with an average attendante of sixty-eight. Our school begins at 9:30 a.m. sharp, and special efforts are being made by members to be on time. Teachers in the service of God are specially requested to be on time—this to be a fitting example to all pupils.

Financially, it is becoming evident that we are beginning to understand what our Lord meant when He said, "It is more

blessed to give than to receive." Therefore, in this direction let us all improve our faith in God to receive the greater blessing.

During the quarter the school was very much concerned with the request to help needy members financially. This gave the school the incentive that a fund for the purpose should be created and maintained to help poor and needy members.

On Sabbath, February 14, 1948, our school appointed a special meeting to determine ways and means to maintain a poor fund. Plans were then agreed upon, and with a voluntary subscription given by members present, the poor fund was started off with the amount of six shillings. The Sabbath school thirteenth Sabbath offering of 1-0-0 (one pound) and collections from envelopes and the offerings of the young people's thirteenth Sabbath afternoon program and a donation from the Jubilee Mutual Association of 1-0-0 with collections from the poor fund box brought the fund to 5-7-5½.

On the occasion of our thirteenth Sabbath afternoon program, prizes were awarded to three of the seven members who had successfully repeated the thirteen memory selections for the quarter. Several members were also given prizes for regular attendance and being on time.

Thus the activities for the quarter under review show that our efforts were crowned with success, in that "the Lord has done great things for us, whereof we are glad." Let us therefore, brethren, endeavor to be loyal to ourselves, loyal and true to Christ and the Church, and then ours shall be the greater blessing, both in this life and the life after.

Yours in Christ,

L. W. Holness,
Acting Superintendent.

27 Charles Street,
Kingston, Jamaica,
April 3, 1948.

Praise waiteth for thee, O God, in Sion: and unto thee shall the vow be performed. O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come. — Psalm 65: 1, 2.

PRAYER FOR THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN AREAS OF ACUTE TENSION

The following is one of the prayers suggested by the Foreign Missions Conference of North America for use during and before the first Assembly of the World Council of Churches. The suggested prayer for Palestine may take precedence over those for China, India and Pakistan, and Korea in many of our minds and hearts:

Our loving Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for the great traditions of our faith that have come to us from Palestine, the land of our Saviour. We pray especially today for our fellow Christians in that land of tension and strife. Grant them a sense of oneness with their fellow Christians everywhere. In this hour of strong appeal to the nationalistic spirit, may their first loyalty be to Christ and His Church. In the midst of bitterness and hatred, help them to minister to both Moslem and Jew in love and reconciliation. Grant them wisdom in the momentous decisions which they face, faith to carry on when their strength is ebbing, contagious love which triumphs over enmity, and a Christian witness in which all the household of faith can share. Grant, our Father, that those in the United Nations, upon whom rest momentous decisions affecting the peace of Palestine and the world, may be guided of Thee in paths of justice, wisdom, and good will. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

IMPORTANT DATES

Southwestern Association — with the Little Prairie Church at Nady, Ark., August 5-8.

Pre-Conference Retreat — near North Loup, Neb., August 12-16.

General Conference — North Loup, Neb., August 17-22, 1948.

SOUTHEASTERN ASSOCIATION

The Southeastern Association will meet with the Middle Island Seventh Day Baptist Church, July 2-4, 1948. Sessions will begin on Friday evening and close on Sunday.

All communications should be addressed to V. B. Lowther, clerk, New Milton, W. Va., or to Clarence Rogers, moderator, Salem, W. Va.

You are cordially invited to attend.
Clarence Rogers,
Moderator.

FROM THE FIELD

(Excerpts from a letter written May 25, by Rev. Elizabeth F. Randolph, General Delivery, Columbus, Miss.)

Our promoter of evangelism, Rev. Elizabeth F. Randolph, says, "There are four important phases of the work: personal visitation, work with children, public meetings, tract distribution, yes, and a fifth — correspondence.

"People of all ages, from little children to men and women of advanced years, are eager for loving attention. Doors are wide open. For this work one must be ready to unfold any and every portion of the Word of God in terms that will be understood by child or adult. Having won the other person's confidence, then we tell him of God's Holy Sabbath, and how Jesus said it was made for man—not man for the Sabbath."

Miss Randolph does not leave the children out of her work. For her regular schedule, now that the schools are closed, she says, "I will have all ages of children of the neighborhood for Bible study from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., letting the preschool children go home at 10 a.m. For this work with the children I use the flannelgraph pictures, and the beginners and primary cards published by Rev. Clifford Beebe. The children love to share their work with the adults in the evening.

"Just now Mr. Charles Nichols is working with me. He has a loud-speaker which broadcasts the message for a radius of one to two miles. People who are sitting on their porches at home enjoy these services and express their appreciation.

"Mr. Nichols is a preacher in the Church of Christ. He has a Church to which he goes every two or three weeks on Sunday. He recognizes the seventh day as the Hebrew Sabbath, but thinks Sunday is the Christian Sabbath. Mr. Nichols is a very good song leader and he gives a message each evening. We plan to divide the time—about twenty minutes for songs and prayers, twenty minutes for the children, twenty minutes each for the messages, and ten minutes for other purposes — announcements, collections, and the closing invitation.

"Mr. Nichols has made Bible study his hobby for several years. He is a laboring

man, but he has made it his practice to work out a complete sermon in outline every day. He rarely opens his Bible while preaching but is constantly quoting Scripture.

"At present, I am having the use of a tent which belongs to one of our boards, but it will be needed for the young people's camp in Arkansas in July. Mr. Nichols is helping to furnish benches. Now a large part of our audience sits outside of the tent while the fair weather continues.

"I will probably move into the country three miles south next week. After that, Mr. Nichols wants me to come back into this section, but in a little different location, for a longer campaign and children's Bible study.

"The primary aim in our personal work is to deepen the love of people for God and for their fellow men. Having established a point of contact and mutual acquaintance and understanding, we face the problem of special personal interest, try to meet the need and direct the seekers to the source of supply, whether physical or spiritual. In all of our efforts, we seek to develop in them a hunger and thirst for righteousness and try to lead them to an individual acceptance of Christ as a personal Saviour."

RESPONSE TO PATRIOTIC CRUSADE WITHOUT PRECEDENT IN PEACETIME

The American Heritage Foundation, sponsor of the Freedom Train and Rededication Week, is a group of citizens who got together early in 1947 to fight the rising tide of indifference and cynicism toward the privileges and responsibilities of American citizenship.

In line with its fundamental program of raising the level of citizenship, the foundation has published a 72-page booklet titled "Good Citizen." The booklet describes the "working tools" of good citizenship and tells how to use them.

It is the hope of the foundation that this handbook reach every man, woman, and child in the United States. Copies of "Good Citizen" are available at 25 cents

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES

To Allen Bond, who is being graduated from the School of Theology at Alfred, best wishes as he enters his work as a minister. To all who are being graduated from college, best wishes as you enter fields of employment or further studies. To all the high school graduates, congratulations upon this accomplishment in your educational program.

A special word is hereby given to those who receive magna cum laude or cum laude, and to the high school seniors who are valedictorians or salutatorians.

Very best wishes to all. H. S.

AS WE HELP MEET THEIR NEEDS

By Clara L. Beebe
Gentry, Ark.

We had an interesting experience of which you may like to hear. Some time ago we sent a big box of used clothing to the Irvington Church for German relief. In the package was a coat of Paul's, with an envelope bearing his name and address in a pocket. This coat was given by his grandmother to a young boy in the British Zone of Berlin. His father wrote us of their dire need and asked our help. Paul contributed the tithe from his earnings, and the Sabbath school gave the rest to send a CARE package to this needy family, which they have already received. Last week (in March) we collected clothing and shoes for them, which will be sent on very soon. I wish you could have read the letter which the father wrote, telling of their Christmas. He told how they "indeed had a small tree, but nothing to decorate it with, save a few candles the little daughter made from old candle wax molded with her hands." Of course most of the letters are in German, although the boy and girl do write some English learned in school. If only we could do more for the spiritually and physically needy people in the world.

a copy, 15 cents each for 10 copies or more. From: The American Heritage Foundation, 17 East 45th Street, New York 17, N. Y.

—Good Housekeeping Club Service,
June, 1948.

IT'S TIME FOR VACATION SCHOOL

Churches from coast to coast will be having Vacation School now or later in the summer. The whole family should be enrolled in the school. Daily devotions in the home should be based on material and experiences of the school. Older children can help mother in the home so that she can help at the school. Evening programs for the whole family are important parts of the Vacation School if properly correlated.

The boys and girls enrolled in Vacation School who have not been attending Sabbath school will need a lot of attention. Teachers of the Sabbath school whose classes they should attend, and the pastor should do all they possibly can to enroll these boys and girls in the Sabbath school.

After the Vacation School is over it would be a fine thing if the boys and girls who have been in the school could be brought together at least once a week for the rest of the vacation to have a story hour at the Church followed by recreation, or a picnic which will include the story hour and an outdoor worship service.

Please send used items about Vacation School for use in the Recorder. H. S.

CAMPS AND RETREATS**A Mountaintop Experience**

A Seventh Day Baptist youth camp doesn't need to be in the Rocky Mountains to be a mountaintop experience. My feet have been placed on higher spiritual ground by experiences in youth camps. Fellowship and fun in camp are placed on the mountaintop level. The same is true of work and worship. Some young people have gone back home from the camp experience consecrated to a higher level of service. One young person said at camp, "I know now what it really means to be a Seventh Day Baptist." Another college-age camper said, "I am going to let my friends know more about my beliefs as a Seventh Day Baptist." Some young folks have made decisions regarding lifework and some have accepted Christ as their Saviour and made their first public profession while in camp.

May God bless all you campers from coast to coast during your camps this year. By all means go to camp!

Pre-Conference Retreat

Plans for the 1948 session are well under way. You can tell by these plans that you will have a worth-while time. It is not necessary to say that you will have a good time. Just ask someone who has been to retreat about the good times he has had. By all means go to retreat!

I am going to miss being there very much. I will be thinking of you and hope that it will be the best retreat ever.

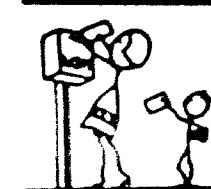
Young folks who are working and cannot attend might like to give financial help to younger folks who should attend. This will be a good investment.

Rev. Rex Zwiebel is your director this year and will welcome your registration and inquiries about retreat.

A Good Investment

Money spent by Churches to help pay the expenses of young folks to attend Pre-Conference Retreat and General Conference is a good investment. The good returns from such an investment may be seen in many ways. Some young people, as a result of these experiences, have committed themselves to full time Christian service. Others have returned to their local Church to do a much better job as a Church member. For some young people such an experience might be the deciding factor in the establishment of lasting convictions regarding the seventh day Sabbath truth. A vision of our denomination and its place in the Church of Christ always helps a person to do better work in the local Church. Young people get such a vision at General Conference.

A few Churches have included in their regular budget an amount of money to be used for young people in this way. It would be a fine thing if all of our Churches would do this. Again may I say, it is a good investment. Many people have said that the future of our Churches lies in our young people. Therefore, money invested in their spiritual welfare will help to build a stronger future for our denomination. H. S.

**OUR CHILDREN'S
LETTER EXCHANGE**

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

Dear Mrs. Greene:

We are a Sabbath school class of six girls. Our ages range from seven to eleven. Our teacher is Mrs. Wallace Greene.

We meet in our new Church basement and have a large bulletin board to put our pictures and charts on. The red stars on the charts are for being present and the gold stars for having our quarterlies filled in every week. We still need chairs and other things but we do enjoy our basement.

The boys' class in our Sabbath school study the same lesson as we do, and sometimes we divide the memory verse.

We had fun at a Valentine party in February; we played many games and had a nice lunch.

The two oldest girls in our class, Bonnie and Norma, plan to go to the Seventh Day Baptist camp near Milton this summer.

Pastor Cruzan and family are in Battle Creek this weekend and we miss them, but did enjoy the young people who came from the Milton Christian Endeavor and conducted our Church service. We all ate together in the basement and then had another service in the afternoon.

The two Bonser sisters in our class have a new baby brother.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Bonser, Barbara Daggett,
Vivian Bonser, Norma Clapper,
Shirley Stebbins, Barbara Cruzan.

Dodge Center, Minn.

Dear Sabbath School Girls
of Dodge Center:

Thank you so much for your nice letter. Wouldn't it be fine if all our Seventh Day Baptist Sabbath school classes would exchange experiences on our Recorder Children's Page?

I am glad two of you plan to go to the Seventh Day Baptist camp this summer and hope in time you may all be able to go, because there you are sure to have the best kind of fun and learn many valuable lessons in Christian living.

I am pleased to hear about the new baby brother. I do love babies, and Andover is full of them. These pleasant days, the streets are full of baby carriages.

Your Christian friend,
Mizpah S. Greene.

Dear Mrs. Greene:

We left on the boat train from Paris for the coast and seaport of Le Havre at 8 a.m. We finally arrived at 5 p.m., and boarded the boat just before it started. It was raining and we were very tired. We soon sank into our beds aboard the SS. Washington, headed for home.

Our stateroom held six persons, and since we were the first ones there, Aunt Dorothy and I got the two choice beds, the original ones that were there before the ship had been converted for carrying troops. My berth was above and I had to climb a little ladder to get into bed. The ship was larger than the Argentina and some of the rooms had even been converted back to their normal style. There were dining rooms, a library, a nursery, and a salon (they didn't sell liquor). But in spite of all this the atmosphere was not friendly and warm as it had been on the Argentina. I noticed this from the very first, but I somehow thought it would change.

After resting awhile we went up on deck to watch the casting off. Even though we had been on five boats and watched them bring in the hawsers and pull up the anchor, it was still fascinating. Looking back at Le Havre we could see the wreckage and debris caused by the bombing. In the harbor, the hulls of many sunken ships could be seen, marks of a recent terrible war. Our ship wove in and out among those weird looking hulks, and finally came to the broad expanse of the ocean facing the sunset, and we were off at last for home.

In the morning, I was surprised to awake and not hear the engines running. I hurried to dress and get out on deck, and found we were anchored at Southampton, taking on more passengers. I looked for familiar faces because many of my acquaintances of the Argentina had disembarked here, but I couldn't find a single one.

Sincerely,
Venita Vincent.

CHURCH NEWS

MARLBORO, N. J. — The congregation here is looking forward to having many sisters and brothers with us at the Eastern Association. We are praying for a spiritual feast.

Our pastor, Rex Burdick, was called again at the regular business meeting with an increase of salary. He and Mrs. Burdick, the former Betty Lippincott of Battle Creek, are rejoicing over the little son born to them May 27. He has been named Robert Douglas.

The parsonage has been improved by installing a new bathroom.

The Marlboro pastor and as many as can arrange to do so go to the meeting of the Philadelphia Fellowship on the first Sabbath in each month.

Mrs. Bertha Mills, who has been attending our Church for several years and has won a warm place in our hearts, was received into Church membership recently.

The dedication of seven babies—all born since January 1, 1947, was a lovely service and one, we trust, which will be held in future years. The pastor's sermon was based on Psalm 127: 1—"Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it." At the close of the message, the parents carrying their little ones came to the front for a brief service of dedication, and each little child was given a beautiful rosebud.

The little folks dedicated were as follows: Sharon—daughter of Jonathan B. and Lucy Rainear Davis; Joseph Davis—son of Francis and Marion Davis Campbell; Karen Irene—daughter of Thomas and Marion Allen Peterson; John—son of Arnold and Mildred Campbell Williams; Carol Lynne and Donna Kay—daughters of Everest and Edith Davis Branch; and Mary Margaret—daughter of David and Margaret Lawrence Sheppard.

Herbert and Howard Ayars, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Ayars, have recently joined the service. Herbert is at Fort Dix, N. J., and Howard is at Great Lakes, Ill. — Elizabeth F. Davis, Correspondent.

NORTH LOUP, NEB. — Rev. Sam Mitchell of the Methodist Church preached Sabbath day in the absence of Pastor

Ehret. Mr. Mitchell used as his theme, "Who Is Building This House?"

Plans are going forward for Children's Day which will be observed on Sabbath day, June 12, in place of the regular morning service. The committee in charge is Mrs. Harlan Brennick and Mrs. Menzo Fuller.

Members of the Dr. Grace Missionary Society held a bake sale Friday afternoon. The proceeds are to go toward the camp fund. The society has pledged \$15 for the fund.

Stella Williams will play the organ for fifteen minutes before the regular morning service each Sabbath during the month of June.

The boys put on a nice program at the Church social Sunday evening, Joe Babcock and Kenneth Clement being in charge. Others taking part were: Theron Barber, Russell Clement, Gary Cox, and Jim Ehret. The selections presented were musical, featuring the electric guitar of Joe Babcock. After the program, shower gifts from those present were presented to the honor guests, Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Williams of Ord, who were married recently, and to Merna Van Horn and Allen Babcock, whose wedding will take place the evening of June 1. The birthday table was appropriately decorated by Mrs. Geo. Maxson. Those having birthdays during May, as well as the honored couples, were seated there. Beautiful iris, the gift of Mrs. R. O. Babcock, decorated all the tables. Mr. and Mrs. Ellery King, with assistants, looked after the kitchen.—Myra T. Barber, Correspondent.

CROFOOT SISTERS ENGAGED

Mr. and Mrs. A. Burdet Crofoot of Alfred, N. Y., announced the engagements of their daughters, Patricia Anne and Constance Louise, Sunday evening, May 23, 1948.

Patricia is betrothed to Robert C. Turnbull, son of Charles Turnbull and the late Mrs. Turnbull of Canisteo, N. Y.

Constance is betrothed to John M. Quirk, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Quirk of Watkins Glen, N. Y.

A double wedding will take place in August. —Contributed.



Design selected by Karl G. Stillman
President, Seventh Day Baptist General
Conference, Westerly, R. I.

President Stillman writes, "I would like to encourage all our Churches to reproduce this design on their Church bulletins from now until Conference, at least."

RECORDER WANT ADVERTISEMENTS

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

FOR SALE—Grocery and meat market in southern Wisconsin. For information write C. M. Todd, Chairman, Vocational Committee, Milton, Wis. 3t

BOOKKEEPER

Permanent position for a good bookkeeper will soon be open at the Publishing House. If interested get in touch with us at once. Recorder Press, 510 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, N. J.

ANY BOOK REVIEWED OR advertised in this or other religious journals, or recommended by your local pastor for spiritual enrichment, can be secured quickly and conveniently from us. Large stock of up-to-the-minute religious books, centrally located. We pay postage on orders for \$1 or more when cash accompanies order.



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SOWER BOOKSTORE
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Gerald C. Bond, Proprietor

Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society

ENDOWMENT FUND

The Endowment Fund of the Historical Society is a very modest one, as yet, of less than \$2,000, including one legacy, and one gift of \$1,000.

The future welfare of this Society will depend in no small degree on its Endowment. Only a few days ago, a highly successful man remarked that it ought to have an Endowment Fund of \$100,000. The income from such a fund could be used to good advantage at the present time. It will certainly be needed in the not distant future. While he didn't say so, he's doubtless making a bequest to the Society in his will.

Have you made your will? Did you remember the Historical Society in it? If not, why not add a codicil and do so? If you haven't made your will, why not do so at once and remember the Historical Society in it? "Time is of the essence."

FORM OF A BEQUEST

I give, devise, and bequeath to the "Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society," a body corporate and politic under the General Law of the State of New Jersey, the sum of Dollars, to be appropriated and applied to the uses and purposes of said Society, and under its direction and control forever.

If the legacy is not money, but real estate, or some other form of property, insert a short description of the same.

Two things are especially important in making bequests: First, the exact corporate name of the Society intended to be benefited should be given; second, the property, if other than money, should be carefully described where the donor designs it.

The Sabbath

JUNE 21, 1948

Recorder

General Conference

North Loup, Neb.

August 17-22, 1948



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