

JANUARY 19, 1948

The Sabbath Recorder

Featuring - - -

SEVENTH DAY
BAPTIST
YEAR BOOK



1947



The Willow, the Tower, and the Sky

Tower of Administration Building, Salem College, Salem, W. Va.

The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

A Magazine for Christian Enlightenment and Inspiration

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Missions

Woman's Work

Christian Education

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

Editorials: The 1947 Year Book	39
Check Clears China	40
Features: Rev. Walter L. Greene Retires	40
Co-ordinating Committee Meets	41
"We May Need You in China"	45
Midyear Meeting of the Commission	38
Christian Education: Statements.—Christmas at Sabbath School	43
Missions: Welcome to Missionary Service.—Missions Department.—A Blind Boy	46
Grace Hospital Opens	47
Woman's Work: From the Southwestern Association	48
Are These Our Children?	49
Children's Page: Our Letter Exchange	50
Church News	42, 47, 48, 52
Annual Meeting - Historical Society	42
The Ephrata Cloisters	44
From the Records of Rev. Alva L. Davis	49
Denominational Budget.—Conference Committees	51

Midyear Meeting of the Commission

(Continued from last week)

By Rev. Alton L. Wheeler and
Mr. Courtland V. Davis

CHRISTIAN RURAL FELLOWSHIP MOVES TO BROOKFIELD, N. Y.

The secretary of the Commission presented a letter from Rev. Marion C. Van Horn, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Christian Rural Fellowship, which included the following paragraph:

"When it became certain that the chairman of the fellowship who is also editor of the Fellowship Bulletin was to move to Brookfield the members of the Advisory Council and the Executive Committee of the fellowship voted that a request be made to the Commission as follows: First, that the Commission approve the transfer of the central committee of the fellowship to the Central Association, and second, that interested personnel be recommended by the chairman for the approval of the Commission at its midyear meeting."

It was noted that the Conference at Westerly removed the Committee on Rural Fellowship from the Board of Christian Education and set it up as a separate committee directly responsible to Conference (1947 Year Book, page 41).

In view of the action of Conference and the recommendations of the chairman of the former Rural Fellowship Committee of the Board of Christian Education, it was voted that the following elections be made for the remainder of the year ending with the next session of Conference:

Christian Rural Fellowship, Executive Committee: Marion C. Van Horn, chairman; Clifton L. Curtis; Robert Langworthy. Advisory Council: Leslie Welch; Zack White; Wendell Burdick.

The chairman of the Executive Committee of the fellowship was authorized to appoint additional members of the Advisory Council.

THE 1947 YEAR BOOK

A letter was read from Mrs. Frank A. Langworthy, editor of the 1947 Year Book concerning some of the problems connected with her work and making suggestions to help speed the printing of the Year Book. Mrs. Langworthy also prepared an exhibit of materials submitted and prepared for printing.

(Continued on page 44)

EDITORIALS

THE 1947 YEAR BOOK

The Year Book is in your hands! It contains the minutes of the annual session of the General Conference held at Westerly, R. I., August 19-24, 1947. The annual reports of the Missionary, Tract, and Historical Societies, of the Board of Christian Education and the Women's Board, of the Board of Trustees of the Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund, and Denominational Statistics are included, also. The Year Book was published for the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference by the American Sabbath Tract Society, Plainfield, N. J.

The inside front cover announces that the General Conference was organized in 1801 and incorporated in 1927; that the next annual session is to be held at North Loup, Neb., August 17-22, 1948. On this page appear the names and addresses of the officers, of the members of the Commission, and of the trustees, of the General Conference. The frontispiece is a picture of Rev. Everett T. Harris, president of General Conference, 1946-1947.

In the main, the reports in the Year Book cover the Conference statistical year, July 1, 1946-June 30, 1947. They deserve careful reading and serious study. Recently an active member of one of the denominational boards, upon reading the report of that board in the Year Book, remarked, "Why, I never heard or saw this item!"

If this is the situation in regard to the work with which a board member is or should be most familiar, what is the situation concerning the work of boards with which he is less familiar? A serious study of the

Year Book summaries will do much to inform and inspire those who will take the trouble.

Many people have a part in producing the finished copy. We think of those who faithfully record proceedings, of those who keep the accounts, of those who burn the lights early and late that accurate returns may be rendered, of those who have made and are making our work for Christ effective through generous giving and sacrificial service.

When the copy for the Year Book reaches the hands of its editor, the actual assembling of the material has only well begun. There remain days and days of careful reading and verifying, hour after hour of typesetting, round upon round of proofreading, further checking and rechecking—and then, to the press for printing.

At the Westerly Conference last August Mrs. Frank A. Langworthy, Plainfield, N. J., was elected editor of the Year Book. Early in September she began the task. Supported by those whose part made possible the appearance of the finished product, Mrs. Langworthy successfully accomplished her task just before Christmas.

It is entirely fitting that the Commission of the General Conference at its midyear meeting expressed appreciation to Mrs. Langworthy for her commendable work as editor of the Year Book.

Let us make full use of the 1947 Year Book which the General Conference, in cooperation with the societies and agencies, has supplied to our Churches for distribution. It is a monumental work, worthy of careful reading and serious study.

CHECK CLEARS CHINA

Even the clearing of a check becomes noteworthy, especially since this particular check was sent to cover the cost of a bed in a mission hospital, and since that mission hospital is in China. No doubt the check will be framed eventually and placed with the items of interest in the historical room of the Church.

The check's round-trip to China started in this way. The juniors in the North Loup, Neb., Seventh Day Baptist Church last June sent a check to Dr. George Thorngate in Shanghai, China, the amount of which was given for the purchase of a bed in the Seventh Day Baptist Mission hospital. Some time ago the check was returned to the North Loup bank for payment, after being duly cleared. The news account which appeared in The Scotia Register, Scotia, Neb., indicates that the front and back of the check were nearly covered with the stamps of the different banks and financial institutions through which it had passed. Doubtless, those who attend General Conference next August may see this check.

Through the weeks and months and years ahead many patients will bless the mission and ministry of this check. And back of the check, which bears the marks of its mission and the proof of its ministry, are the plans and sacrifice of the North Loup juniors.

What the North Loup juniors are doing, juniors in other Churches are doing also for various objects and causes. It helps very much to let others know what you are doing. Why not share the good news with others through the Sabbath Recorder?

EDITORIAL COMMENT

It is the policy of the Sabbath Recorder to use the name or initials of contributing editors with articles that they prepare for publication. Quoted material and clipped items are given proper credit and are listed in, "In This Issue," section of the Sabbath Recorder, as space permits. Our aim is to place such material in the section of the paper devoted to that particular department. All material in the departments, namely: Missions, Woman's Work, Christian Education, and Children's Page, is the work of the respective editors. If in doubt, please consult the table of contents.

REV. WALTER L. GREENE RETIRES

Rev. Walter L. Greene has resigned as pastor of the Andover, N. Y., Seventh Day Baptist Church, his resignation becoming effective January 1, 1948. He has served this Church for twenty-seven years.

With Dr. Greene's resignation comes his retirement from the active ministry after a service of forty-three years.

Mr. Greene was graduated from Alfred Academy, Alfred, N. Y., in 1898, from Alfred University in 1902 with the A.B. degree, and from Alfred Theological Seminary (now School of Theology) in 1905 with the B.D. degree. In 1933 he received the D.D. degree, the year that Dr. Boothe C. Davis retired as president of Alfred University, and also the year that his son, Dr. E. Claire Greene, received his A.B. degree.

During his theological course, he taught physical training in college. He was a member of Alfred University's first football team. He was appointed physical instructor in the Andover and Whitesville, N. Y., High Schools in 1915. The next year he became physical training superintendent for six school districts.

After his marriage on August 21, 1904, to Miss Mizpah Sherburne of Chicago, Ill., Mr. Greene was appointed Field Secretary of the Sabbath School Board. In 1906 he was called to the Second Brookfield, N. Y., Church which he served as pastor until 1908. He then accepted a position in the Theological Seminary, Alfred, N. Y., where he taught Religious Education, Bible History, Greek, and Church History. He was engaged in this work 33 years: 1908-1911, and 1915-1945. He was Allegany County Bible School superintendent for about seven years. He took summer courses twice in Chicago University Divinity School. Rev. Mr. Greene became pastor of the Independence, N. Y., Seventh Day Baptist Church in 1914 and served in that capacity nearly thirty years.

Dr. and Mrs. Greene have not announced their future plans beyond continuing at the Andover parsonage until spring.

The Sabbath Recorder joins their many friends in wishing for them a blessed retirement experience.

(Editor's note: This brief article is based on a clipping from the Andover News, Andover, N. Y., which was sent by Rev. Albert N. Rogers, Alfred Station, N. Y.)

CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETS

The meeting of representatives of Seventh Day Baptist denominational agencies was held at the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church, Westerly, R. I., shortly after 2 p.m. Sunday December 14, 1947, with the Conference president, Karl G. Stillman, presiding. Rev. Harold Crandall opened the meeting with prayer.

Those present were: Karl G. Stillman, president; Mrs. Okey Davis, Women's Board; Frank Langworthy, Hurley S. Warren, Victor W. Skaggs, Tract Board; Harley H. Sutton, Board of Christian Education; Clark M. Todd, Vocational Committee; Harold R. Crandall, William L. Burdick, David S. Clarke, Missionary Board; and the following invited guests, C. Harmon Dickinson, Eli F. Loofboro, Paul S. Burdick.

The secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, September 17, 1947.

Reports by the board representatives showed favorable action had been taken by each board in furthering the co-operative work, and also showed that interest among our people is keen for co-ordinated work.

The Missionary Board reported on the new Church at Indianapolis (as did the Tract Society), on the first Evangelism Work Retreat which promised much good for future regional retreats, on the coming summary of 1947 surveys, and on the collection of advertising copy and addresses in city evangelism promotion.

The Tract Society reported enthusiastic interest at their home base for projects in outreach through the local Churches and board, and the formulation of plans for Sabbath emphasis forums on April 24, May 1, 8, and 15, 1948. They also reported lack of funds for tract and Recorder work.

The Board of Christian Education reported promotional packets on the goal of a 10 per cent increase in Sabbath school enrollment, suggesting this as a logical basis for the goal of a 5 per cent increase in membership this year. Secretary Sutton reported the first meeting of a group of Seventh Day Baptists with him in Buffalo on December 6 with ten present as a result of his cultivation.

The Women's Board reported highly successful seminars on evangelism with Salem students and youth conducted by their promoter of evangelism.

The Vocational Committee presented its program of promoting social, spiritual, and financial functions of the Church, pointing out that some aims of its program gear right into work of other boards and benefit by double promotion.

No representative was present to report for the Committee to Promote the Financial Program.

The Historical Society representative was unable to come, due to illness in the family, but the results of the society's work were shown in the graphs of denominational and Church membership based on their research. Mr. Stillman used these graphs to help illustrate "What Is Our Problem?"

Suggesting that the slogan, **Go Work Today**, has equal emphasis on each word, Mr. Stillman pointed out some problems and their solutions. He called for proselyting in the normal sense of the word, for co-operation and enthusiasm in a common program among our leaders and Churches, for larger service by local groups to resident and non-resident members alike, and for reversing the defeatist trend.

He showed a United States map, locating by different colored pins our Seventh Day Baptist Churches, and groups of ten or more Seventh Day Baptists, of five to ten Seventh Day Baptists, and of Seventh Day Baptists organized into fellowships. The logical conclusion drawn was, "Where strike next to organize a Sabbath school, fellowship, or Church?" and "How co-ordinate our field itinerary and program in actual contacts made by the board representatives?" A suggestion of boards co-operating in sending of field men together to particular points was discussed.

In presenting the graphs of Church membership progress, Mr. Stillman outlined the use of these in each Church. They will be suitable for framing and posting in a public place in the Church so that progress may be plotted year by year till 1972. Progress toward a doubled membership at that generation mark is plotted by a dotted red line.

Soliciting new ministerial recruits was discussed previous to "discussion of procedures to be followed," with the suggestion that present prospects make even more concrete the approach that "there's a future" in the ministry.

It was voted that the board secretaries decide by correspondence or meeting on points to be investigated where organization work might be pushed, working out a schedule to co-ordinate field program in the process. This is to be reported by the end of January.

It was voted to publish the following resolution along with a statement of the dire need for funds, these statements to appear in the Sabbath Recorder:

Whereas present receipts from the Denominational Budget are woefully inadequate to continue needed and waiting work in the boards' programs; and

Whereas the representatives of our denominational agencies meeting with the Conference president in a planning session for the year 1947-48 feel the necessity of urging immediate action to meet financial needs; be it

Resolved, That all Churches and pastors be immediately notified of the urgency of Denominational Budget work and be urged to co-operate to the fullest measure immediately.

It was voted to present the following resolution to the Commission and to publish it in the Sabbath Recorder:

In view of and in the interest of the expanding program of Seventh Day Baptists, we would respectfully urge the Commission of General Conference to give early consideration to ways and means of placing the Sabbath Recorder in every Seventh Day Baptist home.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Harley H. Sutton. (Next meeting in March at time to be announced.)

Respectfully submitted,
David Clarke, Secretary for the
Co-ordinating Committee.

ANNUAL MEETING OF HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Annual Corporate Meeting of the Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society will be held in the office of the corporation, rooms 316, 317, 318, Babcock Building, at 240 West Front St., Plainfield, N. J., on January 25, at eleven o'clock, a.m.

Asa F. Randolph,
Recording Secretary.
Corliss F. Randolph,
President.

CHURCH NEWS

BOULDER, COLO. — The regular quarterly meeting of the Denver and Boulder Churches was held November 15, 1947.

The morning service was in charge of Rev. Erlo E. Sutton of Boulder, who spoke in the absence of Rev. Francis D. Saunders, who was ill at the time. After a generous dinner prepared by the women of the Boulder Church, the afternoon service was held, in charge of the Denver young people. An inspirational junior choir under the direction of Lila Saunders sang several numbers interspersed with Scripture reading and prayer. Katherine Davis led the audience in a Bible quiz which made most everyone feel a need for more Bible study.

On December 23, the Church held its traditional Christmas program. "Holy Night," a series of Christmas songs and pantomimes which pictured the nativity scene, prepared by Rev. Trevah R. Sutton, was given. The committee planning the program was as follows: Willard Wells, chairman, Mrs. Erlo Sutton, and Bill Saunders. Decorations and stage settings were prepared by Mable, Manley, and Harold Wright. Roy Rogers furnished a beautiful Christmas tree. Roy Davis, Daryl White, Bill Saunders, and Willard Wells composed the male quartet furnishing the Christmas music. Other members of the cast were as follows: Raymond Frazer and Harold Wright, shepherds; Orville Rasmussen, Tom Bottoms, Manley Wright, wise men; Jane Bottoms, the angel; Mary Wells, Mary; Charles Brush, Joseph. Rev. Erlo E. Sutton was the narrator, Barbara White the pianist, and Tony Barr controlled the lighting.

After the program in the auditorium the children went downstairs for their program under the direction of Mrs. Erlo Sutton. Treats and gifts were passed out by Santa Claus, played by Kenneth Crosby. Mrs. Ethel Sutton was in charge of the treats for the children.

Our mixed quartet sang for a Church in Jamestown during Christmas week. W. W.

Coming down clearly, through all records, from the earliest to the latest Scripture, is the truth of the Sabbath, observed and clarified and given added impetus by Christ Himself. — Moses H. Van Horn.

YOUTH URGED TO KEEP CLOSE TO CHRIST

By Grace Noll Crowell
Poet

As we think of youth — youth rightly directed, its surging power, its undimmed vision, its untried strength—we invariably think of the future, for the future belongs to youth. They are our inheritors. God grant we may pass on that immeasurably important era, not too sullied by our mistakes and failures.

May we who serve this generation live our lives so unclouded by sin that youth following us may be able to see clearly the Christ ahead—straight and strong and compelling—and accept Him as their Saviour and their Guide.

O youth, keep close to that Central Figure, for only through Him—and through you—can this troubled world find peace and rest.

STRESS NEED OF FAITH

By Louis Bromfield
Novelist and Rural Life Specialist

In this distressed and perilous age nothing is of more importance than the emphasis for young people of the spiritual side of existence. It is the tendency of our times to place too much faith on the material side of life. The only source of strength, courage, and achievement is, in the end, faith in one's self, in the universe, and in God. The salvation of the world lies with the young people. This they cannot achieve without the foundation of morals, ethics, and faith.

(Note: The two preceding statements were written at the request of the International Council of Religious Education, which administers the United Christian Youth Movement, endorsing the continent-wide observance of Youth Week, January 25 - February 1, 1948, in the United States and Canada. Seventh Day Baptists and thirty-nine other Protestant denominations as well as 634 state, county, city, and provincial councils of Churches and religious education are co-operating in this observance. Seventh Day Baptist youth groups will doubtless observe Youth Week January 24-31, 1948.)

National greatness has no surer or better ally than a well-kept Sabbath. — Wardner C. Titsworth.

CHRISTMAS AT SABBATH SCHOOL

Out in Southern California the Riverside children didn't have snow but they did have a fine program at Sabbath school. There were songs by the primary department, solos by several different children, readings, a playlet by seven children, and "White Gifts" brought by classes and individuals.

Salemville, Pa., did have snow and they had a "White Gift" service Sabbath morning, December 20. The pastor had suggested a number of worthy causes to which the gifts might be sent. The Sabbath school program was given on Friday night, December 19.

A houseful of people from Church and community gathered at the Independence Church for songs, readings, the beautiful filmstrip, "While Shepherds Watched," and for the children aged one to ninety-one, the ever popular story on the filmstrip, "The Night Before Christmas." Pastor Ted Hibbard was in charge.

At Little Genesee, Gordon Sanford hitched up the tractor to a large wagon and took children and young people all over the community for carol singing. Afterward they stopped at the parsonage for refreshments.

Parents and children at Alfred Station enjoyed a party which began with a tureen supper. There was special music, group singing of carols, the filmstrip, "The Night Before Christmas," with recordings to accompany it. At another evening program the young people gave an adapted version of "Why the Chimes Rang," and at the close of the play people came to the front of the Church to bring gifts of money, which was divided between overseas relief and German Seventh Day Baptist relief.

Children of the Alfred Sabbath school presented a program consisting of the story of how the artist, Raphael, painted "The Madonna of the Chair," on a bell. Don Hargis was the reader and a number of children acted out the story. Miss Elsie Binns was in charge. There were "White Gifts" presented and a special treat for the children passed out.

In reverence and love, may all men hallow the Sabbath on the authority of Him who is Lord even of the Sabbath day. — Loyal F. Hurley.

MIDYEAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION

(Continued from page 38)

The Commission expressed its hearty appreciation of the work which Mrs. Langworthy had done on the Year Book.

Following a discussion at length it was agreed to suggest to the corresponding secretary of Conference the following changes in the Delegate Registration Blank:

1. Add to the instructions at the head of the blank the direction to print or type all names.
2. Omit the blank for the visitors.
3. Get blanks in the hands of each Church clerk by July 1 of each year.
4. Have blanks printed rather than mimeographed, if cost is reasonable.

It was voted that the Conference president employ a qualified stenographer to type Conference minutes and reports.

It was voted that the Commission:

1. Acknowledge the suggestions of Mrs. Frank A. Langworthy on ways of improving reports submitted for the Year Book.
2. Direct that the president of Conference be furnished with copies to submit the above suggestions to the various standing Conference committees.

COMMITTEE ON BUDGET PROMOTION COMMENDED

The plans and progress of the Committee on Budget Promotion were presented and discussed. It was voted that the Commission commend the committee for its interest and activity.

It was voted that the Commission recommend to Conference that financial appeals at Conference or during the sessions of Conference be limited to the Denominational Budget.

TYPEWRITER PURCHASED

A second-hand typewriter was purchased for the use of the treasurer of the Denominational Budget.

PRESIDENT STILLMAN'S PLAN FOR CO-ORDINATION

The Commission heartily endorsed the plan of the Conference president for pooling the denominational resources in field and developmental work as part of the Commission's program for a closer co-ordination of all our denominational agencies.

PASTORAL INTERNSHIP

It was agreed that plans for pastoral internship and similar methods of providing practical experience for theological students under guidance of mature pastors, as well as providing assistance in the work of local Churches, be referred to the Missionary Board for further study, and be made an item of the agenda of the pre-Conference meeting of the Commission.

SABBATH RECORDER MONTH

It was voted to express to the Tract Board the deep concern of the Commission for the wider circulation of the Sabbath Recorder and suggest to them that a date for Sabbath Recorder month be set at once and plans for a subscription drive be forwarded as rapidly as possible. It was suggested also that a scheme might be devised whereby a Church might insure a wider circulation of the Recorder among its members by pooling its subscriptions and using a reduced price to make possible subscriptions which could not otherwise be made.

MINISTERIAL RETIREMENT

It was voted that the Conference Committee on Ministerial Retirement be requested to write to our Churches and pastors urging them to contribute the percentages suggested in the Conference plan to the Ministerial Retirement Fund, suggesting to pastors who feel that they are unable to contribute the full percentage set up by Conference, that they make such contribution as may be possible.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY — SOCIAL FELLOWSHIP

The Commission was entertained by the Historical Society in its rooms following the adjournment of the Commission at 3:15 on Wednesday afternoon, December 31, 1947.

THE EPHRATA CLOISTERS

A picture of the Ephrata Cloisters, historic religious colony of the Seventh Day Baptists in Pennsylvania, appears on the new 1947-48 automobile inspection sticker issued by the Pennsylvania department of revenue.

Note: This clipping was received recently from Professor and Mrs. H. O. Burdick, Alfred, N. Y., who stated that Mr. George Ince, publicity director of Alfred University sent it to them.

"WE MAY NEED YOU IN CHINA"

By Miss Sarah Becker
Grace Hospital, Liuho, China

My forefathers were of Dutch and German ancestry and upon the invitation of Catherine the Great, came to Russia as farmers. I was born in Franztal, which was one of fifty-two villages formed by these Dutch-German colonists, and came to the United States with my parents when I was ten years old.

My father first learned about Sabbath observance through some Russian Sabbathkeepers in Berjansk, South Russia. After much Bible study and prayer for guidance, my parents felt convinced that they should observe the true Sabbath and we began our family worship alone. This happened while the Russian Revolution was in full swing and we were in the Crimea, on our way to America. Our journey was beset with many difficulties and we were delayed for many months in Yalta and Constantinople before obtaining our passports and entrance visas. We had lost much of our earthly goods during the revolution, so the financial means for passage was one more problem. Our Heavenly Father cared most wonderfully for all of our needs.

After coming to America we were lone Sabbathkeepers for about seven years because we found it impossible to accept the teachings of the Seventh Day Adventists and knew of no other Sabbathkeepers. One day we heard a neighbor read a letter from his son who was teaching near Milton, Wis. This letter told about Milton College and that the people were Sabbathkeeping Baptists. Our letter of inquiry was forwarded to the American Sabbath Tract Society and we learned a great deal about Seventh Day Baptists and the Sabbath through the many fine tracts that were sent to us. I shall never forget how thrilled we were when we saw the first Seventh Day Baptist, Rev. Ellis R. Lewis, then pastor at Gentry, Ark.

The following spring the family moved to southern Colorado and we continued as lone Sabbathkeepers. My next younger sister and I helped in the little community Church. At one of their evangelistic services I accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour and Guide.

About five years later our family moved to California, near Riverside, and I was bap-

tized by Rev. Loyal F. Hurley and united with the Church for Christian fellowship.

I felt an urgency to prepare for a worthwhile service to humanity and began my college work with the hope of teaching modern foreign languages. However, after my second year in college I felt that I should prepare for a definite Christian service and began to prepare for nursing. That same year while our China missionaries were on furlough Mrs. H. Eugene Davis said to me, "You go right ahead and study for nursing; some day we may need you in China." I



Miss Sarah Becker and Dr. Rosa W. Palmborg

never seemed to lose that little seed. Through the years, the more I thought and prayed for guidance, the stronger grew the desire that some day I might be able to go to China.

Before I finished my basic nursing in Los Angeles the war broke out, and as soon as I was graduated I was urged to prepare for teaching. Since there was a great shortage of instructors I agreed and took my studies and practice teaching in nursing at the University of California. Upon completion of my course I was offered a position in my home school. After a year of experience in the San Bernardino County Hospital School of Nursing, I accepted the position in my home school.

While in Los Angeles I learned to know Dr. Palmborg and her interests in our China mission. One evening in the early spring of 1946, I went to visit Dr. Palmborg and she agreed to give me some lessons in Chinese. When Conference time came around I went to Milton and discovered that the Missionary Society was looking for a nurse to send to China.

I felt greatly honored when, several months later, the Missionary Board asked me if I

would like to go to China for them. I did a good deal of praying for guidance and assurance before accepting the call. I am still very happy for this opportunity of going to China to witness for my Master.

I hope that as soon as possible we may train young people to help provide Christian nurses for our new hospital. I think that this would be an excellent opportunity to train our own Chinese young people to help the sick and needy of their own country in both the physical and spiritual aspects.

I have greatly appreciated the opportunity to attend Conference this year. It has given me much encouragement to learn to know so many Christian friends who are sincerely interested in our China work. May our interest ever deepen and our zeal increase in order that many may yet become followers of our Lord and Saviour.

(Editor's note: This article was prepared by Miss Becker at the urgent request of several Conference delegates.)

MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

As the main burden of contributions to the Missions Department of the Sabbath Recorder is transferred from broad and experienced shoulders to a less tried back, the work of inspiring and informing Recorder readers in missions enters a new stage. God grant that in some measure this writer may continue the high challenge and noble thoughts conveyed through the years by the retiring secretary of the Missionary Society, William L. Burdick. We shall hear occasionally from "W. L.," as he is affectionately known by so many, and shall continue to lean heavily on him for broad wisdom and counsel.

David S. Clarke,
Acting Secretary.

A BLIND BOY

(Taken from "The Gospel Messenger," published by our New Zealand Seventh Day Baptists.)

Among those at the mission station I have a blind boy who collects wood for me—how he finds it is a mystery—the poor little chap has no parents so I could not turn him away.

We have opened the school here and it is going along quite well.

R. H. F. Barrar.

WELCOME TO MISSIONARY SERVICE

By T. M. Chang

Principal of Seventh Day Baptist Mission Schools,
Shanghai, China

I am happy to be able to come and be present at this consecration service for Miss Sarah Becker, our new missionary worker to China. And on behalf of the Church, the hospital, the school, and all the people who are connected with our work in China—on behalf of them all, I wish to extend to Miss Becker our warm and hearty welcome. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Missionary Board and the Riverside Church for sending out one more missionary to China for the service of His kingdom and of humanity.

It was one hundred years ago that the Carpenters and the Wardners started on their first voyage to China. They were the pioneers of the first century of mission work on the China field. By their untiring labor and loving service, the first seed of the Bible Sabbath was planted on Chinese soil. And by the work of all the other missionaries, in later years, much has been accomplished in the first century. However, as we are beginning our second century, we feel that there is still much more to be done. And as Miss Becker is soon to leave for China in this year, the first year of our second century, I feel that in a way she is the Carpenter of the second century. Like the pioneers of the old days, I know she will find plenty of hard work on the field. But I want to assure her that her service will be greatly needed in the expanding work of the mission in all the years to come.

I do not know how the name Becker will eventually be translated into Chinese. There are different ways that the name may be translated. One way that I think of right now is to use the same character which was used for the name Burdick. Miss Susie Burdick in China was known as Ba Shien-san, or Ba Ah-na meaning Grandma Burdick, as she is still remembered by the children of all her pupils today. Ba Shien-san shall always be a sweet name in the memory of all her pupils and friends in China. I believe that Miss Becker will be another Ba Shien-san in China in the second century.

GRACE HOSPITAL OPENS

The Grace Hospital in Liuho, Ku, China, has been opened with Dr. Esther Pan, adopted daughter of Dr. Grace Crandall, and Miss Sarah Becker, of our Riverside Church, as chief staff members. The six-room first wing was completed and a formal opening conducted, the Chinese friends having raised



Mr. T. T. Wu

\$6,500 U.S. (inflation makes this only a rough estimate) under the enthusiastic leadership of Mr. T. T. Wu. Long before the hospital was opened Dr. Pan had operated a clinic in the chapel building and had so well established it with considerable UNRRA aid secured by Dr. Thorngate and Mr. Samuel Dzau that it was paying its running expenses before October 1. More details later.

D. S. C.

Protestant

A tabulation of religious preferences compiled by the United States Army during the war days shows that 59 per cent of all soldiers were Protestant. Thirty-three per cent listed their preference as Roman Catholic, 2 per cent as Jewish, and 8 per cent as having no preference.—Christian Education, Dec., 1947.

In the story of the Good Samaritan, Jesus commanded, "Go, and do thou likewise." I know Miss Becker will do likewise. I want to assure Miss Becker again: You are welcome.

CHURCH NEWS

NEW AUBURN, WIS. — The annual Church dinner and business meeting was held at the Ivar Pederson home, January 4, 1948. A bountiful dinner was served to a crowd of forty.

At one-thirty, the business meeting was called to order by the vice-president, Mrs. Arthur North. "What a Friend" was sung, and prayer offered by Mrs. Alton Churchward. The usual business was transacted with favorable reports from the pastor, clerk, treasurer, Ladies' Aid, Sabbath school, and C. E. societies.

Pastor Mills read his resignation which is to take place on or before the first of April.

The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Arthur North; vice-president, Alton Churchward; clerk, Mrs. Douglas North; trustee, Rodney North; organist, Mrs. Mills, for three months; chorister, Douglas North; ushers, Clayton Pederson and Warren North.

The Church is encouraged by the gaining of a few new members. December 27, Mrs. Norris North became a member by request and letter, and Mrs. Douglas North requested baptism and Church membership in the spring. Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Moore, daughter Elaine, and son Robert, from Harris, Minn., were granted Church membership on December 20.

We face the new year with our old problems, and a new problem of securing another pastor. Pastor and Mrs. Mills have truly served our Church and community in the deepest sense, and we will miss their earnest efforts and constant demonstration of Christian living.

Clara Loofboro,
Church Clerk.

Why Not?

"Why not give Christianity a trial? The question seems a hopeless one after two thousand years of resolute adherence to the old cry of, 'Not this Man, but Barabbas.' Yet it is beginning to look as if Barabbas was a failure, in spite of his strong right hand, his victories, his millions of money, and his moralities. This man, Christ, has not been a failure yet; for nobody has ever been sane enough to try His way." — Shaw, in preface to Androcles and the Lion, from Christian Education, Dec., 1947.

CHURCH NEWS

DODGE CENTER, MINN. — At the annual business meeting on January 4, 1948, following a chicken potpie dinner served under the direction of Mrs. Millicent Greene, Lorna Austin, Marguerite Clapper, and Mabel Cruzan, officers, committees, and auxiliaries gave reports which showed a growing interest and progress during the past year. Seven new members have been added to the Church and three names have been taken from the Church roll—two to join Churches of like faith in other places, and one to join a Church of different faith.

A successful Lord's Acre project substantially reduced the parsonage debt and the program will be continued during the coming year. Throughout the year the following auxiliaries have functioned: Junior C. E., Christian Endeavor, Young Adult Fellowship, Ladies' Aid, and Sabbath school.

The largest single project is not yet completed, but is nearly ready for use. On Labor Day, excavation was started on a basement under the Church. The project was nearly enough completed to enable us to entertain the North Central Association the last of October. A new furnace is being installed; then the floors can be finished. The shortage of cement prevented the finishing of the floors while the weather was suitable for such work. The basement has been made possible through an initial loan of \$2,500 from the Memorial Board, plus considerable donated labor and funds received largely through a group who have been going to Rochester to the Mayo Clinic once every three months to give blood for the blood bank there. This has netted over \$1,200 toward the basement, and if continued another year we should see it completed.

The following officers were elected for 1948: Moderator, Wallace Greene; clerk, Ardith Greene; treasurer, Arthur Payne; trustee for three years, Ormond Bond; trustee for one year, Roy Langworthy; treasurer of Building Fund, Marguerite Clapper; Recorder correspondent, Eva Payne; local correspondent, Mrs. Ethel Thorngate; chorister, Mrs. Ethel Thorngate, assistant, Mrs. Marguerite Clapper.

Rev. Earl Cruzan was given a unanimous call to remain as pastor for the ensuing year.

FROM THE SOUTHWESTERN ASSOCIATION

By Mrs. Clifford A. Beebe
Women's Board Correspondent

The Women's Benevolent Society of Edinburg, Tex., has eight members with Mrs. Elaine P. Boehler as president, and the key worker is Mrs. Angeline P. Allen, Box 516, Edinburg, Tex. This society has been studying Recorder articles and biographies of home missionaries. They raised for service projects \$22.69 and sent four packages for German Seventh Day Baptists, contributing some money for transportation. They sew for members when needed.

On Wednesday, October 29, the annual meeting of all the Women's Missionary Societies of Gentry was held at the Baptist Church. Each society or Church was represented by three members on the program. Features on the program were devotionals by Rev. Carl Nelson of the host Church and David L. Beebe of the Seventh Day Baptist Church, a playlet by the Baptist ladies, a reading, "Jesus Blessing the Children," by Mrs. Reola Eldridge of the Seventh Day Baptist Church, and a vocal solo by a Russian missionary from the Assembly of God, who accompanied herself on the piano-accordion. At noon all joined in a potluck dinner in the Baptist Church parlors, and an hour of getting acquainted before the afternoon session.

The Gentry Church has no women's organization, as such, since there are so few of us, but we work together nevertheless. The Sabbath school has sent gifts of good used clothing and of money to the Irvington Church, to be forwarded to Germany. At the prayer meetings, held at the home of Mrs. Lottie Knight, we are studying the Book of Hebrews.

We have learned through correspondence that several of our friends in Hammond and New Orleans suffered during the September hurricane. The ladies at Hammond did a great deal to help the association.

The Church voted to enroll in the Missionary Board Efficiency for Evangelism program and adopted certain goals for this purpose. They also voted to give one tenth of the funds raised for the Church budget toward the Denominational Budget.

—Correspondent.

The Fouke society has been reorganized and is meeting for work and study.

Enclosed is a copy of the "Church Voice," which my husband is printing for the Churches of Gentry in our fight against liquor in the forthcoming local option election, November 18. I have marked a meditation which I wrote, hoping that it might sometime be used on the Woman's Page in the Sabbath Recorder.

ARE THESE OUR CHILDREN?

A Meditation for Parents

"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do . . . all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success." Joshua 1: 8.

Church schools today are faced with an impossible task, to teach in one single hour a week all the truths of the Bible, which many homes and schools neglect for all the other eighty or so waking hours of our children. Even then many are not reached at all by religion.

A few years ago a boy of junior high school age came to our Vacation Bible School. He was not a dull boy, but he had never heard the name of God uttered, save as an oath. Soon after enrolling in the school he began to take an active interest in our worship services. Was his an isolated case, or are there others, who like him wonder if maybe "Jesus is one of the prophets"?

We talk of juvenile delinquency, of youth running wild. Is it not rather the homes, the schools, the Churches which have failed to teach the younger generation that the first pillar of wisdom is reverence for God, and the last, obedience to His law? We have told them so many things they must not do. Should we not rather show them the right way to do, and how to obey?

J. Edgar Hoover of the F.B.I. states that a contributing factor in juvenile crime is the neglect by parents to teach their children a proper respect for law, including and foremost the laws of God. He claims that many homes, and even Church schools, if they do mention the Bible, talk about it, instead of teaching what is in it. And we know that often public schools totally neglect the poetry and short stories of the Bible, such as Psalms, the Book of Ruth, the Parables of Jesus,

while stressing the writings of several authors (good in themselves, but not enough).

In Bible times, and even to the time of our own grandfathers, it was the duty and privilege of the father to lead in family worship, to act as minister for his own household. Now that duty has been passed on to the mother, already pressed by a multitude of other cares. And what if she neglect the precious privilege, vaguely hoping that, although she does not pray, the Church school will teach her child how? What of the parent who hopes that his children will learn, in one hour a week, that Christ is the center and focus of all real education, though his own life does not own Him?

"Are these our children" which stand before us with outstretched hands and-seeking minds, reaching for "something better" than the colored comic, the wild west radio play, to teach them how to live?

Let us not fail them. If we want a peaceful, law-abiding, God-fearing world of tomorrow, we need to mold it today. — Clara L. Beebe, in The Church Voice

FROM THE RECORDS OF REV. ALVA L. DAVIS

Sermons preached, 3,296, in 176 different pulpits, and in 23 different states.

Funerals conducted, 230.

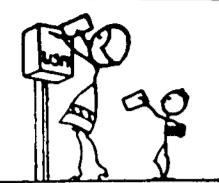
Marriages solemnized, 77.

Baptism of individuals, 228, the last being his granddaughter, Virginia Burdick.

Further his records reveal that he has spoken one or more times in Churches of practically all of the orthodox Churches except the Episcopal. He has been supply pastor for two Lutheran Churches, one Presbyterian, and one Baptist Church; has worked with the Salvation Army in two different cities; has spoken twice in a Mormon meeting house, and held discussions with their elders; and preached for a colored Baptist Church, whose pastor was often too ill to fill his pulpit.

(Editor's Note: It would be of interest to many Sabbath Recorder readers if other ministers among us would share information that their long-time records reveal.)

The Sabbath exists in the very heart and center of the Ten Commandments, and is meant to be a sign between God and His people forever. — William M. Stillman.



**OUR CHILDREN'S
LETTER EXCHANGE**

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

Dear Mrs. Greene:

I have been reading the Children's Page in the Sabbath Recorder for a long time, so I thought I would write a letter, too. I am nine and in the fourth grade.

I have a dog named Mike and a cat named Blackie, for pets.

We live on a small acreage. I have two sisters, Beverly and Katherine, and a brother, Gray. We go to the Denver Church, which has just recently started a Christian Endeavor and a youth choir. There are about twenty in our youth choir and in our Christian Endeavor. The youth choir went Christmas caroling to some of the members of the Church. We had a beautiful Christmas day, but no snow.

We are having our annual Church dinner on January 4.

We are planning on going to Conference again this year because it is so close. We went when it was in Milton.

Your friend,

Myrna Davis.

Wheat Ridge, Colo.

Dear Myrna:

I am very much pleased to gain a new Recorder girl, and my hope is that you will write often. You see, every few years some of my Recorder children begin to think they are growing too old to write for the Children's Page. Though I don't agree with them and wish they would not stop writing so soon, it is nice to have new correspondents.

I am glad you have such a nice group of young people and that you have organized both a Christian Endeavor and a youth choir. Some of the young people in Andover usually sing Christmas carols in front of every house where there is a Christmas candle in the window, but this year they didn't.

Yours in Christian love,

Mizpah S. Greene.

Dear Mrs. Greene:

My sister Virginia is writing to you, too. Did you have a merry Christmas? We did. Some of the things I got were slippers, apron, two bracelets, seven combs, hankies,

and many others. My birthday is December 26, so I get gifts two days straight.

The Sabbath school class I am in is called the J.O.Y. Class. We have secret pals and we give a Christmas present and a birthday present to the one we have. I was just twelve last week and so I am in the Intermediate Christian Endeavor now.

We are going to have evangelistic meetings in our Church beginning January 9, and lasting about a week and a half, and maybe more. Rev. Mr. Kimshel from Connecticut will preach. They are going to have all kinds of special music for the meetings.

Have you had much snow up there? It snowed quite hard here the day after Christmas and we played in it a lot. I guess my letter is getting pretty long, so I'll say good-by.

Sincerely,

Nathalie Davis.

R. 3, Bridgeton, N. J.

Dear Mrs. Greene:

My sisters, Nathalie and Christine, have written to you before, but this is my first letter for the Children's Page. I am eight and in the third grade at Stow Creek school.

I go to Church, Sabbath school, and Junior C. E. In junior we drew names and had a Christmas party. Our family had a pine tree this Christmas. We always have a star at the top of our Christmas tree. This year Christine made one.

Did you have many Christmas programs in Andover? We had a Sabbath school program and one at school. At school all the rooms helped to make a program. Our room gave a Norwegian play. I guess I'd better close now.

Sincerely yours,

Virginia R. Davis.

Dear Virginia and Nathalie:

I am writing to you jointly so that I would have plenty of room for all three Davis letters. Isn't it odd that all this week's letters should have a Davis signature?

I am so glad, Virginia, that like your sisters you have joined our Sabbath Recorder band of Children's Page writers.

Yes, Nathalie, I did have a very merry Christmas, which I spent with my daughter Eleanor and family in Wellsville. Dr. Greene and I went down there Christmas eve and

DENOMINATIONAL BUDGET
Statement of Treasurer, December 31, 1947

	Receipts	
	December	3 months
Albion	\$ 93.70	\$ 93.70
Alfred, First	173.05	344.70
Battle Creek	269.46	867.21
Berlin	65.56	65.56
Boulder		78.28
Brookfield, First		14.00
Brookfield, Second		6.00
Chicago	27.00	123.40
Daytona Beach	70.50	99.00
Denver	46.80	121.35
De Ruyter		5.00
Dodge Center	34.21	60.21
Edinburg	4.00	10.00
Farina	15.00	56.00
Fouke		6.03
Gentry		11.16
Hammond		10.00
Healdsburg-Ukiah	6.20	6.20
Hebron, First		12.22
Hebron Center		10.00
Hopkinton, First	64.25	64.25
Hopkinton, Second	8.05	24.80
Independence		49.00
Individuals	135.00	143.06
Little Genesee		76.11
Little Prairie		15.00
Los Angeles		80.00
Los Angeles, Christ's	10.00	10.00
Marlboro	76.00	266.00
Middle Island		4.99
Milton	670.63	1,150.20
Milton Junction	74.50	234.65
New Auburn	35.00	35.00
New York	53.64	53.64
North Loup	195.81	308.25
Nortonville	65.00	86.00
Pawcatuck	106.33	412.66
Piscataway		46.00
Plainfield		185.95
Richburg		28.00
Ritchie	25.00	25.00
Riverside		215.79
Rockville		4.09

did not return home until five o'clock Christmas day. We exchanged gifts under the Christmas tree. A very beautiful Christmas program was given at Andover Central School, which I enjoyed very much. It showed the birth of Christ, the appearance of the angels to the shepherds, the shepherds and wise men before the manger bed of the baby Jesus, as the high school chorus told the story in Christmas carols. We did not have much snow on Christmas, but plenty of it now.

Yours in Christian love,
Mizpah S. Greene.

Salem		84.74
Shiloh	291.50	513.50
Stone Fort	28.00	28.00
Syracuse		12.00
Waterford	11.62	36.48
White Cloud	22.10	39.26

Disbursements

	Budget	Specials
Missionary Society	\$ 558.72	\$ 647.90
Tract Society	304.80	7.00
Board of Christian Education	304.80	
Women's Society	10.24	25.20
Historical Society	22.83	
Ministerial Retirement	173.44	163.53
S. D. B. Building	32.96	
General Conference	171.04	
World Fellowship and Service	21.12	
Committee on Relief Appeals		183.36

Comparative Figures

	1947	1946
Receipts in December:		
Budget	\$1,650.92	\$1,485.41
Specials	1,026.99	1,875.64
Receipts in three months:		
Budget	4,275.59	5,002.98
Specials	1,956.85	4,573.89

L. M. Van Horn,

Treasurer.

Milton, Wis.

**NORTH LOUP CHURCH ANNOUNCES
CONFERENCE COMMITTEES**

At the regular quarterly business meeting of the North Loup Church, on December 28, 1947, the following Conference committees were appointed:

- Entertainment: Mrs. A. Clyde Ehret, chairman, Mary T. Davis, Gladys Christensen, Erlo Babcock, Cora Hemphill
- Transportation: Roy Cox, chairman
- Publicity: Myra Barber, Ethel Hamer
- Commissary: Leona Babcock, chairman, Merle Davis, James Johnson, Nina Johnson, Edgar Davis, Mary Davis
- Music: Dell Barber, chairman, Richard Babcock, Ava Johnson, George Clement, Louise Brennick
- Nursery: Dr. Grace Missionary Circle, with Lillian Barber, chairman
- Decorating: Fern Maxson, chairman
- Rest rooms: Sadie Cox, chairman
- Pre-Conference Retreat: Marcia Rood, chairman
- Ushers: Sheldon Van Horn, chairman, George Maxson, Jr., Erlo Cox
- General Committee: Pastor Ehret, chairman, and chairmen of all committees.

Myra T. Barber,
Correspondent.

The Sabbath Recorder

CHURCH NEWS

NORTH LOUP, NEB.—Christmas was ushered in this year on Sabbath morning when the choir of the Seventh Day Baptist Church presented the cantata, "The Child Jesus," under the direction of Dell Barber, choir leader, Mrs. W. G. Johnson at the piano, and Mrs. Harlan Brennick at the organ. The cantata consisted of choruses: solos by Richard Babcock, Claire Barber, George Clement, Gloria Babcock, Mrs. Menzo Fuller; a trio of ladies' voices, Miss Babcock, Mrs. Fuller, and Mrs. Russell Barber; and a men's chorus. Special numbers consisted of a solo sung by Richard Babcock and a men's quartet—Claire and Dell Barber, George Cox, and Richard Babcock. The voluntary and offertory were arrangements of Christmas carols. The Church had been beautifully decorated in evergreen, with silver cutouts of the shepherds and wise men, and the manger beneath a star. The decoration was the work of Mrs. George Maxson and Mrs. Roy Cox.

The December Church social was held Sunday evening, December 21, in the Church parlors. Merle Davis, assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Ned Larkin and Mrs. Myra T. Barber, was in charge of the kitchen. The tables were decorated with Christmas greens and red and white candles. The program was in charge of the Sabbath school, with Superintendent George Clement presiding. The children of the Church presented songs, exercises, and the Christmas story with the use of the flannel board. The white gifts were dedicated by a prayer by Pastor Ehret. The collection taken up for the Nebraska Children's Home amounted to over \$26. After the program a treat of candy, nuts, oranges, and popcorn balls was passed out by a tiny Santa with his helpers. The young folks who are home from school for vacation were welcome in the audience.

The Christmas collection which was sent to the Nebraska Children's Home is to be used to care for a two-year-old child who has been mistreated by her drunken father.

One hundred ten packages, weighing about 116 pounds, were shipped to St. Louis last week for Church World Service. The articles represented the "White Gifts" presented at the Sabbath school Christmas program. The clothing in the packages made up a greater share of the gifts, but four comforters made by the Women's Missionary

Circle were also sent. The packages will help care for needy in Europe.

Myra T. Barber,
Correspondent.

ASHAWAY, R. I. — On Tuesday evening, December 16, a very impressive dedication service was held for the new Wurlitzer Electric Organ purchased in August, with a large attendance.

A recital with varied selections was given by Ralph Harris, organist at the Grace Episcopal Church in Providence. Following the recital the dedication was made with the pastor, Rev. C. Harmon Dickinson, leading.

About twelve years ago the "Pastor's Class" (as it was known then), led by our former pastor, Rev. Everett T. Harris, started a fund for the purchase of a new organ. The fund has continued to grow through the years until the past year, when the full amount was realized.

In December, another addition was made to add to the beauty of our Church—a Schulmerich Music Tower System. Its ringing on Sabbath morning can be heard for a radius of about three miles to call the people to worship.

It proved a great addition to the Christmas season when carols were played nightly during the week of Christmas.

The annual meeting of the Church was held in the parish house, Sunday, January 4, with Merritt Kenyon, president, presiding. All officers for the coming year were re-elected as follows: President, R. Merritt Kenyon; vice-president, James G. Waite; clerk, Tacy C. Saretzki; treasurer, Clarence Crandall; auditor, Edmund Smith; director of junior choir, Florence Wells; correspondent to Recorder, Mrs. Raymond Kenyon.

The trustees elected were: Frank M. Hill, five years; Ira E. Murphy, four years; Albert Arnold, three years; Earl D. Burdick, two years; Harold L. Collings, Sr., one year.

Deaconesses: Mrs. Ethel C. Kenyon, Mrs. Elrene Burdick, and Mrs. Helen G. Waite.

Preceding the meeting, a baked ham dinner was served by the men of the Church, under the direction of Ira E. Murphy.

Mrs. Raymond Kenyon,
Correspondent.

The man who sticks to his own business is well employed. — Christian Education, Dec., 1947.

A Prayer for Christian Unity

O Master of the Galilean Way,
Forgive us for the vows we fail to keep:
Forgive us that we so neglect Thy sheep,
So idly waste this shining harvest day!
Forgive us for the stumblingblocks we lay
Along the paths by which men seek Thee!
Sweep
From our small minds the strife that holds Thee cheap!
Break Thou the bread of life with us, we pray!

What matter if we cannot understand
The mystery of Love that is Divine,
Nor pierce the veil! Dear Lord, our faith increase
To know that, since our hands may reach Thy hand,
Our lives are made all-powerful, through Thine,
To heal a wounded world and bring it peace!

—Molly Anderson Haley, in Quotable Poems,
compiled by Clark-Gillespie.