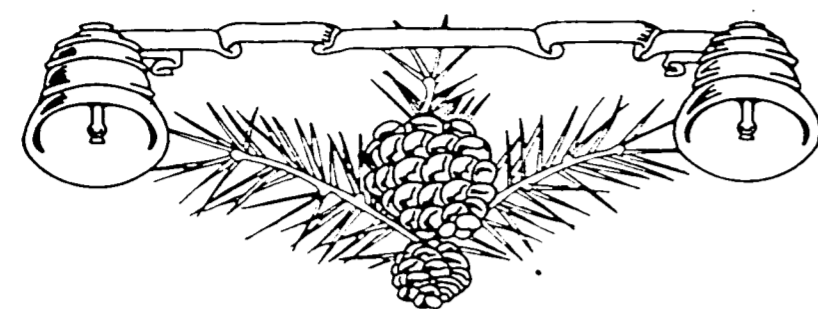


The Sabbath Recorder



Christmastide

By AHVA J. C. BOND

When Jesus came to Bethlehem,
A babe to Mary born,
The world in darkness did not know
That it was Christmas morn.

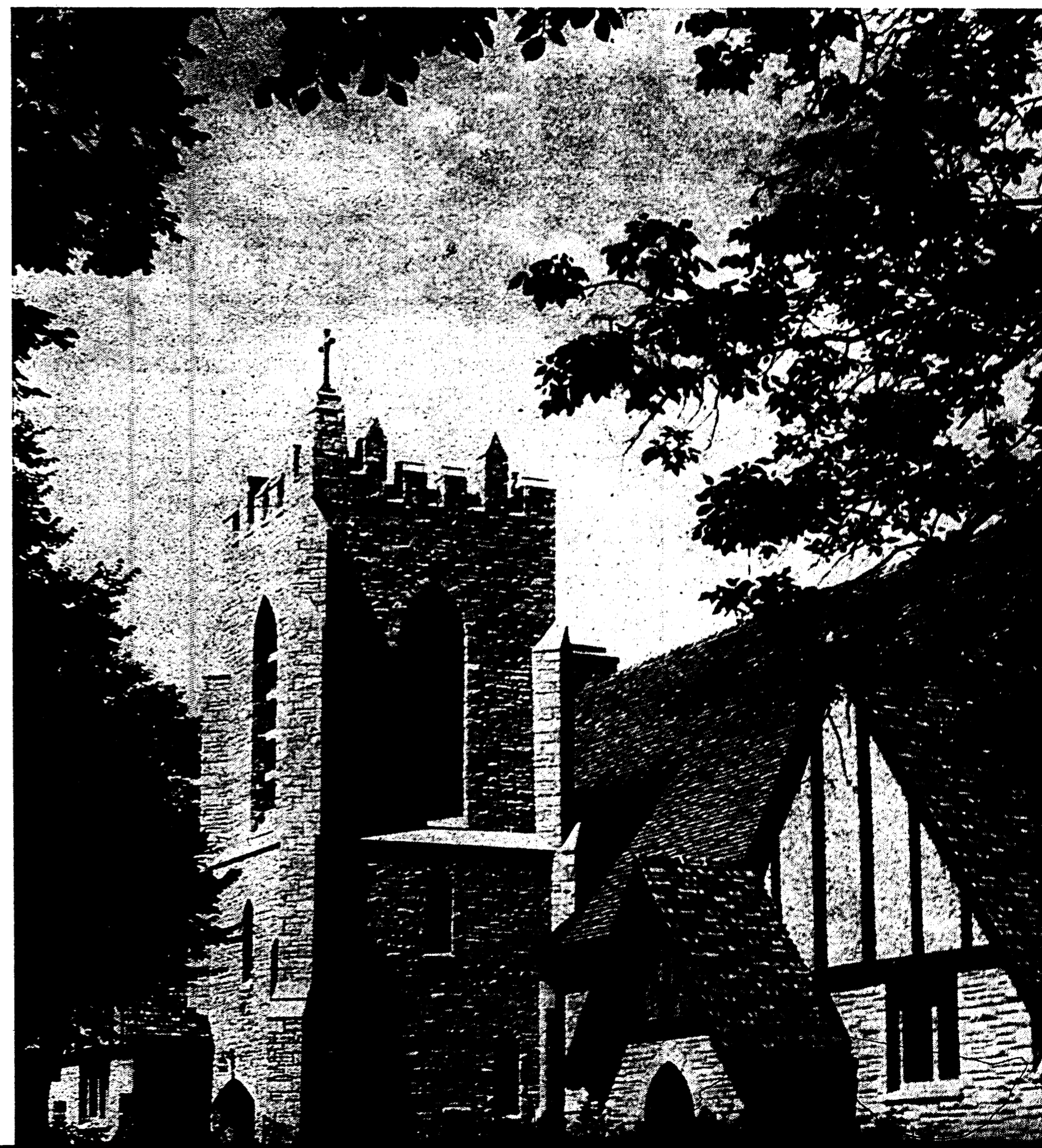
The heavens knew; the angels sang
Glad songs to shepherds mild;
The star that drew the wise men on
Led to the Holy Child.

Today the Christmas anthems ring
Throughout the whole wide earth,
And Christmas stars in all our homes
Proclaim the Saviour's birth.

Newborn within our hearts today,
O Christ, with us abide;
By Thy great love make all the year
A happy Christmastide.

Alfred, N. Y.

From "Poems."
Used by permission.



The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

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ALBERT N. ROGERS Christian Education

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Remember, December 31 is Budget Sabbath

Conference President's Corner

It is a pleasure to respond to our Conference president's request for a brief article for his page. As a member of the host Church, I want to urge you to attend Conference. Write Edwin Bond, Salem, W. Va., indicating the number and type of reservations you desire. We are anticipating the largest delegation ever to meet at Salem, in 1950.

Being on the staff of a Church related college, I want to stress the importance of these institutions to our denomination and to the world. They have a proud history of sacrifice and devotion; sacrifice on the part of many who visualized a service they might render, and a devotion to the cause of Christian education. But what of the future of these institutions?

There is a normal turnover in the personnel of an educational institution. Administrative and staff positions will be vacated by retirement, death, and other causes. Possibly all necessary places are filled at present, but what of the situation ten years, five years, or even one year hence? Are people being trained for these positions which will be made vacant? Whence come the replacements for such a turnover?

It is probably right that our denomination should have little control over the administration of our schools. But, if we are to continue as a denomination which encourages education among its laity as well as its clergy, it is high time that we began to consider the recruitment and training of replacement personnel and their recommendation to the institutions. Is it too late for us to have an appraisal of the situation? What strategic positions are likely to be made vacant within the next one, five, or ten years? What replacement material is at present available for immediate vacancies? What pros-

(Continued on page 404)

Front Cover Picture

View of Seventh Day Baptist Church, Milton, Wis. Photo by Clarida and through the courtesy of Rev. Elmo F. Randolph.

TO SERVE THE ONES WE LOVE

Prayer for Today

I only ask
Enough of strength
To serve the ones I love today,
So I can make
Them comfortable
And gently help them on their way.
I only ask that home shall be
A place wherein they love to rest,
Where peace belongs
And faith exists
Somehow because I did my best.
Tomorrow . . . it
May never come,
And consequently, this I pray
That I will find
Enough of strength
To serve the ones I love today.

--Hilda Butler Farr in War Cry.
From the Union Signal.

No nobler aspiration can prompt us to action in the human sphere than that of serving the ones we love today. By serving the ones we love today, we humbly point them to the One who took upon Himself the form of a servant; who girded Himself with a towel and washed His disciples' feet.

There are so many ways of serving the ones we love.

First of all, the wage earner of the family serves the ones he loves in providing for their needs by means of honest work. Food, nourishing food, is a prime essential. Some of us sometimes are led to wonder how we ever grew to physical maturity when we think of the lack of knowledge concerning foods in our childhood days as compared with the scientific formulas of the present. Our parents must have used good common sense. Nevertheless, while formerly many suffered from the ill effects of improper foods, more recently through God-given scientific research and experience many folks have been released from suffering and have found a renewed joy in service to God and fellow men.

When as wage earners we do our best within reason to provide wholesome food for those of our household, we need to re-

member the homeless "beggar boys" of the cities and the villages of India and the "austerity" of our brethren abroad.

Shelter and clothing are among the needs of the majority of the peoples of the earth. The Creator has so richly provided for these basic needs of His children. Of course the area of earth in which folks live will largely determine their needs in this respect. However, when one observes the glaring contrast between the shelter and clothing of the rich and that of the poor in the same area, he wonders what has taken hold of the minds and manners of men anyway.

When we think of the economic situation today we are reminded of Moses' exhortation to Israel as recorded in Deuteronomy 8: 6-18:

"Therefore thou shalt keep the commandments of the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, and to fear him. For the Lord thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills; a land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil olive, and honey; a land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any thing in it; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass. When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the Lord thy God for the good land which he hath given thee.

"Beware that thou forget not the Lord thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day: Lest when thou hast eaten and art full, and hast built goodly houses, and dwelt therein; and when thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied; then thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the Lord thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage; who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness, wherein were fiery serpents, and scorpions, and drought, where there was no water; who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint; who fed thee in the wilderness with manna, which thy fathers knew not, that he might humble thee, and that

he might prove thee, to do thee good at thy latter end; and thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth. But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day."

We recognize the place of food, shelter, and clothing in the scheme of human existence, yet these are certainly not the chief ends in life. Their presence and abundance, without constant and conscious reference to the Giver, do not make grateful children. Parents can bequeath to their sons and daughters the disposition of a grateful heart only as they consistently recognize and reverence God who endows them with the power to provide for the needs of their children.

Spiritual training is the greatest need of our time. If we provide the best within our power for our children and leave God out, we fail. If we would serve the ones we love, we must provide for their essential needs. Paul in writing to Timothy, declares: "If any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel." 1 Timothy 5: 8. However, if we would fully serve the ones we love, we cannot neglect the spiritual. For,

I only ask that home shall be
A place wherein they love to rest,
Where peace belongs
And faith exists
Somehow because I did my best.

A. J. C. B.

(Continued from page 402)

pective material is available which, if given proper training, would fit into these strategic positions?

My suggestion would be that we take stock. Lists of anticipated vacancies and of available personnel should be kept on file. Prospective administrative and staff personnel should be discovered and encouraged to take training suiting them to definite positions. (To me the training of laity for service in our colleges is quite comparable with that of training men to fill our pulpits.) And finally, our institu-

THE GOTHIC LIBRARY SERVICE

Dr. Wayne R. Rood, professor of Christian History and Theology in the Alfred School of Theology, together with the students, came to the dean's office recently with a proposition concerning the wider use of the Gothic Library. It is hoped this service will aid the students in the purchase of books, but there is another angle to it which looks toward a real service to alumni and friends.

At times in the past we have undertaken to loan books to our pastors and others, but the service has not been organized sufficiently to give maximum satisfaction. With our enlarged library facilities we hope to begin soon a helpful service in the loaning of books.

While this plan was in the process of formation the dean received a request which has served as a stimulus. One of our former students, now a successful pastor, writes as follows:

"I recall deriving a great deal of information on the development of music and hymns, and their use in the Church through the years, in a red or maroon covered book of about 300 pages. At that time it was on the reading shelves by your study. I would greatly appreciate your sending a book, or books, on hymnology at the earliest hour convenient."

A book was sent immediately, and we hope this pastor found it helpful.

We print this call here because it represents the type of service the School of Theology hopes to render increasingly through the Gothic Library Service.

tions need our wholehearted support, both moral and financial.

In conclusion, success in our whole denominational program rests with us. Let us support our president, our boards, our schools, and our whole financial program. Our financial goal is reasonable; our spiritual goals are attainable. "Fervent in Spirit," let us pool our talents and our resources that our denomination will ever move forward as an agent for His kingdom.

Harley D. Bond,
President, 1942.



Left to right: David Sung, Rev. Elmo F. Randolph, D. Nelson Inglis, Socrates Thompson.

Cut courtesy of the Milton-Milton Junction Courier

"MEN AND MISSIONS SABBATH"

A comprehensive view of a most vital subject was helpfully presented by Socrates Thompson of Jamaica, David Sung of China, and D. Nelson Inglis of the United States at the observance of "Men and Missions Sabbath" by the Milton, Wis., Seventh Day Baptist Church on November 12. Rev. Elmo Fitz Randolph, pastor of the Church, has written appreciatively of the service. He has forwarded the cut, used by the Milton-Milton Junction Courier with a news story of the occasion, through the courtesy of the Courier. The three addresses, or resumes thereof, follow.

"Let's Act Now for One World in Christ"

Two thousand years ago, a young man walked the face of this planet. That young man made a number of statements which seemed a bit ambiguous to the men of his day. That young man was Jesus Christ, and from the eighth verse of the first chapter of the Book of Acts we have one of these statements, which may be no less ambiguous to the men of our day than it was to those of the time in which Jesus spoke them.

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and

ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1: 8

These words were spoken to the Twelve Apostles before Jesus was taken up from them. It was the commission which Jesus gave for the carrying of the gospel throughout the world. The story has been told that when He entered the pearly gates the angels asked Him if the task were completed. He answered, "No," and in turn they asked Him what plans He had made to complete it. He replied, "I have commissioned twelve men to carry it on." They asked Him a final question: "Suppose they fail?" He said, "I have made no other arrangements."

It was this commission that produced the case to which we have just been listening from the eleventh chapter of Acts, when Peter started out on this mission. It was in reply to the commission that the apostles went out to the surrounding cities proclaiming the word of the Lord to none else but to the Jews, when finally the Lord made it plain that it was to be taken to the ends of the earth.

We are not in any of the three cities mentioned in the account I have just read,

but we are certainly in the uttermost part of the world.

The commission given to the apostles was not given to the professional men of the day. In fact we have no account that there was more than one professional man among the group, and even then he was a layman. This brings the challenge to the laymen of the Church. This makes each of us responsible for the carrying of the gospel from our Jerusalem (where we are), to the other cities mentioned (those next to us), and then to the rest of the earth.

This was what the apostles did. Why, we are told that after Paul was converted he traveled from Jerusalem to Judea, to Samaria, and even as far as France and the British Isles.

While we are not quite sure that he went that far, we know for sure that the gospel has been carried that far, and even farther, because we have it here today.

This is "Men and Missions Sabbath," and I wish you would look on the word "Men" in this case in the general sense (collectively). In this case, I want to bring the challenge to the young lives here this morning. Not that the older ones are excluded, but that the challenge I want to give is to you young people. You are witnesses unto the Lord in your Jerusalem, and to your Judea next to you, then farther on to your Samaria, then to the uttermost part of the earth. "If you cannot cross the ocean and the heathen lands explore, you can find the heathen nearer; you can help them at your door.

With your prayers and with your bounties you can do what heaven demands. You can be like faithful Aaron, holding up the prophet's hand."

The challenge is before us. The time is fleeting by. "LET'S ACT NOW."

Socrates Thompson.

Professor D. Nelson Inglis called attention to the fact that the theme of this morning is quite like to that of the "Laymen's Conference" held at Green Lake last month where some 200 laymen gathered to discuss how Christian groups may mass their efforts to spread the knowledge

of Christ and strengthen the interests of the "Kingdom of God" here upon earth.

He called attention to the messages of three outstanding men in different callings of life, but whose messages all had the same idea "A united effort to promote Christian ideals. Governor Luther Youngdahl was quoted as saying: "The Christian Church could have in this world anything that it set out to accomplish. There is sufficient strength of numbers to overrule any opposition. Christians have a common faith that should make for universal fellowship. The task is too great to permit the inefficiency and waste of division and competition with a tragically unorganized program." (Governor Youngdahl is a Lutheran.)

"I plead with you, the laymen," said the governor, "to come forward to assume a role of leadership in an effort to bring our Protestant denominations into a unified fellowship that will impress the world as an outstanding example of what can be achieved through the co-operation of those who believe fervently in the philosophy of Jesus Christ." (How many governors of our United States could come out on such a platform?)

Charles Clayton Morrison, retired editor of the Christian Century, spent most of his address pointing out the menaces that confront Protestantism. He mentioned three threats, viz., materialism, sectarianism, and Catholicism. But his main concern was with the menace of Catholicism which presents a united force against the scattered efforts of the other group. Professor Inglis, however, was more concerned over a fourth element which was not mentioned by Dr. Morrison. The Churches of our land today are threatened more severely by inside indifference or dry rot. Where the force is from without it can be more surely met.

The president of Carleton College of Minneapolis, Minn., Dr. Lawrence M. Gould, a scientist of note, had this to say on the influence of Education: "The enormous power that man now wields has solved no problem of his existence. He does not live more comfortably with himself or with his fellow beings because of it. Power has provided man with the potentials for an abundance of clothing

and food for everyone, yet millions are hungry. It has increased leisure for many, but better taste and better morals have not appeared because of it.

"Science has brought us great knowledge but it is a knowledge about power and things. It affords us no wisdom concerning justice and beauty and goodness. Science has no opinion about values. It tells us what is true or false but does not tell what is good or bad. Knowledge without some sense of values is not enough. An education that does not take into account moral and spiritual values is sadly lacking." (Resume of address.)

Coming back for another visit to this country after twenty-one years, I am amazed in noticing that you have made great strides in your material progress and improvement. The first thing that attracted my attention when approaching San Francisco was the Golden Gate Bridge, a masterpiece of iron and steel made by mankind, majestically spanning the bay. So grand and beautiful it looked in the twilight when we went under and later had the delight of motoring across it.

Then on to Los Angeles — the marvel of the super speedway caught my breath. That is really a wonderful combination of modern science and art. Watching multitudes of motor vehicles shuttling back and forth successively at top speed on the four-lane drives, over the land bridges, made me spellbound and I felt like Alice in Wonderland. Other novelties that I was interested in observing are these motels, drive-in restaurants, drive-in theaters, 1950 super streamlined cars, new laborsaving washing machines, television, super markets, and what not. I also came across so many air training schools all over the countryside, even one right near here at Janesville. This country is undoubtedly leading in the progress of aviation both militarily and commercially.

Topping everything else, worth special mentioning is the discovery of atomic energy, indeed the greatest contribution of modern science. Of its technical intrigue we laymen have little knowledge; its importance to industry and war is

beyond question. All this points to show that the men of science, engineers, and technicians, of course, with America leading, have succeeded in their inventions after inventions, discoveries after discoveries, to provide for the people of this country in particular and the rest of the world eventually, so much comfort, so much convenience, and so much enjoyment in life this day than ever before.

Believe it or not, these inventions and discoveries in science giving us all the goodness in life would also bring us problems as well as headaches. Often instead of getting enjoyment out of them, life itself might be endangered or even destroyed on their account; unless we, every one of us, all over the world are so educated ourselves morally and spiritually, and are equal to cope with the new situations being created by these scientific inventions and material progress. Such education is vital if we look for the world peace and good will of mankind.

Thanks to our scientists, engineers, and technicians for the discovery of this wonderful power, the atomic energy. But we will have plenty of worries and headaches because of it. If this energy is rightfully used, mankind will be ever so much benefited. On the other hand, if it goes to the wrong party, hell may turn loose on earth and that may be the end of this world. Nevertheless, science will go on inventing and discovering through its research in this line. There is no way nor any use to stop them. The only thing we can do and should do is to promote this education for training the mass of the people of the world to assume this sense of responsibility in utilizing what the inventions and discoveries have offered us only for the good of mankind.

The United Nations Organization at Lake Success is just the thing thought capable to educate the nations for peace and good will in their world relationship after the war. I dare not question their work being successful or not. But I strongly believe that there is another organization which serves even better that cause. That is the little, local Church in one's own town. We know the Church is as wide as the world and also as close

SECRETARY ADAMS VISITS MISSIONARY BARRAR

Rev. David S. Clarke,
403 Washington Trust Bldg.,
Westerly, R. I.

Dear Rev. Mr. Clarke:

Thanks for your letter received November 7 inquiring of my trip to East Africa, Nyasaland, and other sections of the continent. I am glad to report that I had a most profitable and enlightening trip, and the Lord was wonderful to me in using me for the encouragement and bringing to Christ almost 1,000 precious souls during my stay there.

Answering your inquiry about Mr. Ronald H. F. Barrar, I wish to say it was my privilege and pleasure to make inquiries in Blantyre from whence he had gone further into the interior. Word finally reached him of my inquiries and he went to great pains to look me up. We had the pleasure of spending more than a night and a day together. He is a very fine and conscientious young man and has started a new work in a place which needs it. He seems very happy with his work and the reception given him by the natives. His work is mostly one of a venture of faith, both his arriving in the country and maintenance since being there. In fact, he says he hardly had enough money to arrive and picked that up piecemeal. In that same manner he is carrying on his work by the help of the Lord, and the Lord is marvelously blessing his work. I am happy and consider myself blessed by having this personal experience with this young man.

With best regards and hoping things are going well with your work, I am

Yours truly,

C. C. Adams, Corresponding Secretary,
The Foreign Mission Board,
National Baptist Convention, Inc.

REPORT FROM BRITISH GUIANA

The following excerpt from the quarterly report of Rev. Benjamin O. Berry, Hadfield St., Wortmanville, Georgetown, is the first in a series of glimpses into our work there.

Since our taking up residence here, we have been keeping prayer meetings every

as life itself. It is an institution with a world-wide fellowship of men and women who honor one Lord, do one task, and have one interest. The local Church is the place where this education for responsibility to uphold international peace and good will should commence. Now, can the Church really undertake this task? Well, by recent statistics, we understand there are six hundred million Christians in the world, about a fourth of the earth's population. The Church is not only one organization. It's hundreds and thousands of these organizations made up by the world's six hundred million Christians who believe alike and behave alike. They have only one common faith, one common mind, and one common discipline of action among them. So when you want to campaign for any one good world-wide cause, start it there, right from your local Church organization. That is why Mr. Sam Morris also stressed here on this point when he referred to the liquor question. He pinned the hope on the local option with the local Church to back it up in order to be able to stop the flow of liquor.

You can now see the important role the local Church is playing today. Let's start in our Church this education for the promotion of world peace and good will among mankind so that we may fully enjoy ourselves all the comfort, all the conveniences, all the goodness in life these men of science, engineers, and technicians have contributed to us through their inventions and discoveries up to this day and will continue contributing.

David Sung.

WANTED \$5,000

as a special offering on the first Budget Sabbath, December 31, and 50 individuals, families, and groups to pledge at least one full day's support (\$102) of the Denominational Budget by December 31.

Wednesday night, Sabbath services, and November 6 we began keeping evangelistic meetings on Sunday nights. Our Sunday night meetings are made possible by our getting a little hall to rent in the same district where we are living. The landowner where I live is very sympathetic toward us and, seeing my intentions, has offered us a place where we may meet for services. She is asking a rental which we dare not tell the public. She says that she would not exact anything proper from us yet, but as our congregation grows, we must consider her kindness. We are giving her \$5 per month which amount is by no means in keeping with rental charges.

Since I have been in the city I have made sixty house to house calls, and have distributed over one hundred pieces of literature. I have preached ten sermons, committed two bodies to the earth, visited the charity homes in the city, distributing literature and a few shillings, as much as my means can afford. I have taken part in the service of the A. M. E. Zion Church by invitation of its minister. I was asked to be the president of the Wakenaam Association of Old Boys who live in Georgetown. I accepted this gesture, and will serve in this capacity as from January, 1950. I hope to use this appointment as a means of getting the young people interested in our work; already some of them are visiting our meetings on Sunday nights.

We have organized a group of Seventh Day Baptists in Georgetown whose membership now stands at sixteen adults and eighteen children; some of these do not require baptism because they are old Seventh Day Baptists, old Seventh Day Adventists, and others who have been baptized in other Churches. You will remember that in my last report I mentioned that those who were baptized already were received into our fellowship by testimony.

We gratefully acknowledge the receipt of a folding organ from the Shiloh Seventh Day Baptist Church for use in evangelistic work here. We are also receiving tracts from the publishing house at Plainfield, N. J.

Respectfully submitted,
Benjamin O. Berry.

WOMEN'S BOARD MEETING

The Board of Directors of the Women's Society of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference met in regular session at the home of Mrs. Ottis Swiger on November 13, 1949, with the following members present: Mrs. J. L. Skaggs, Mrs. A. G. T. Brissey, Mrs. G. H. Trainer, Mrs. Ottis Swiger, Mrs. Harold Stillman, Miss Alta Van Horn, and Miss Greta F. Randolph.

For the devotionals, Mrs. Brissey read Luke 10: 30-35. Mrs. Skaggs read a comment on this parable and Mrs. Swiger led in prayer.

Mrs. Swiger gave the report of the treasurer with the following balances: General Fund, \$329.87; Evangelistic Fund, \$586.92. This report was accepted and placed on file.

The board then divided into committees to plan for future work. After time for deliberation, the board reassembled for reports.

Voted, that this board contribute \$1 to the World Council of Churches as a Friendship member.

The report of the Christian Culture Committee was accepted item by item. These items will be found in the December newsletter.

Voted, that the Christian Culture Committee seek twelve people to provide Worship Programs for the next year.

The following report of the Committee on Peace and World Order was accepted:

The Committee on Peace and World Order would recommend:

1. Enclosing with each newsletter a copy of "A Guide to Legislative Action."
2. Suggesting that each society purchase a copy or several copies of "Directory of the 81st Congress" at 10 cents a copy.

3. Urging societies to sponsor the project of sending Swan soap wrappers to Church World Service, CARE Soap Campaign, Boston 3, Mass. The time limit has been extended to December 31, 1949.

Mrs. Harold Stillman,
Mrs. A. G. T. Brissey.

The Ways and Means Committee made the following recommendations:

1. That Rev. David S. Clarke represent this board at the Foreign Missions Conference at Buck Hill Falls, Pa., January 10-13, 1950. This board suggests payment of one half the expense of a delegate.

2. That Mrs. Okey W. Davis be asked to be the delegate to the Consultation Meeting of the Foreign Missions Conference in New York City, December 2, 1949, with Rev. David S. Clarke as alternate.

3. That Rev. David S. Clarke be contacted as to the possibility of planning an evangelistic mission in Woodville, Ala., during the Christmas vacation.

Mrs. Ottis Swiger,
Miss Greta F. Randolph.

Mrs. Skaggs read a letter from Mrs. Gerald D. Hargis who had attended the meeting of the National Board of the United Council of Church Women in California. Voted, that we send Mrs. Hargis \$5 for her expense.

Voted, to pay the bill of \$1.19 for stencil and paper for the November newsletter.

These minutes were read and approved.

Adjourned to meet on the second Sunday in January

Mrs. J. L. Skaggs,
President,
Greta F. Randolph,
Secretary.

WORSHIP PROGRAM FOR JANUARY

By Mary R. Davis
Andover, N. Y.

If a man would follow Me, he must humble himself and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. — Jesus Christ.

Denominationally, recent years have given us directives for thought and ministry centering about the ideas of "Work," "Unashamed Workmen," "Working While It Is Yet Today," "Working Together," etc.

When God speaks to us, giving us tasks to do, we seem quite ready to hear certain directive words like — Go — Work — Help — Share — even Pay perhaps — but three words He may have been saying which, though unadmittedly, we have not noted so carefully. They are:

1. **Pray** — To quote an idea expressed by Dr. Laubach, an apostle of prayer: are we, six thousand or so strong, a part of the trickle of prayer, or a part of a flood of prayer?

2. **Be an Example of Me** in daily life. Take My place. Represent Me. Think, speak, intonate, act as you have heard I would.

3. **Suffer.** Should we have set out so blithely on the year's undertaking if we knew it would be tough going? Not so many seem to be seeking tough jobs. Do we anticipate success? Have we clear light on bad spots to be corrected or improved? Have we not a right to expect close co-operation from like-minded Christians? What if experience records unreached goals, unchanged pitfalls, low percentage of co-operation in a small group even?

A great man once said, "I wish a moratorium could be declared on the Church for one year. Then we could stop preaching and teaching and go to practicing in daily life what we get told every week to do, but don't do it."

Expectation of defeat? Far from it. Instead, willingness to voluntarily undertake the difficulties that cross our wills, our wisdom, our judgments, our understandings, has been found by some to bring peace and power. The outcome of obedience? May it not safely be left to the Master Cross-bearer of all time and eternity?

Gratitude

By Clyde McGee

For sunlit hours and visions clear,
For all remembered faces dear,
For comrades of a single day,
Who sent us stronger on our way,
For friends who shared the year's long road,
And bore with us the common load,
For hours that levied heavy tolls,
But brought us nearer to our goals,
For insights won through toil and tears,
We thank the Keeper of our years.

—Quotable Poems, Clark-Gillespie.
Willett, Clark & Colby, Publishers.
Used by permission.

Remember, December 31 is Budget Sabbath.

HELPING HAND EDITOR ATTENDS PHILADELPHIA MEETING

The division of the International Council of Religious Education commonly known as the International Sunday School Lesson Committee is no doubt one of the most active of all sections of the council, as it is charged with the preparation of outlines for Bible study for all age groups in the Church including not only the Uniform Lessons but group graded lessons and society topics for the various age groups.

The general title covering all this work is International Sunday School Lessons; the International Bible Lessons for Christian Teaching. The writer is a member of the division known as the Committee on the Uniform Series. All material prepared for any of the departments must clear through the entire committee, the detail work being done by those especially interested in a given age group such as primary, intermediate, etc. The writer has always worked with the young people-adult group.

The Committee on the Uniform Series is usually divided into three divisions for work — children, intermediate, young people-adult. When the outlines for a given year are prepared, the work of all groups is brought together, arranged in order, typed, mimeographed, and brought back for a second revision during the five-day session of the committee. After the session closes the second revision is again mimeographed and mailed to the committee members for study at home and further revision at the session a year later. Thus the outlines are usually gone over four times before being released by the International Council. In order to have material ready on time for the use of the committee while in session, it is often necessary for secretaries, typists, and mimeograph operators to work all night.

For nearly two generations Seventh Day Baptists have been represented on the Lesson Committee which has now been in existence for more than three quarters of a century. They have tried to do their part both in their "home-work" and when the committee has been

in session. The present member had the honor this year of having thrust upon him the chairmanship of the committee in charge of the lessons for 1953, which makes him a member of the executive committee which formulates the policies and in general directs the work of the entire committee.

At the present time there are sixty-two men and women on the Lesson Committee, which met in Philadelphia, October 31 to November 4, 1949. Most of these were present. Some forty denominations are represented on the committee, the smaller ones having one member and the larger ones having more, according to membership. Only member denominations can use the outlines produced free of cost. Others, as well as commercial publishers of books or lesson helps, must pay a royalty.

We wish to thank the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education for making it possible for us to attend this meeting. It will be a great help and inspiration in writing the lesson material for the Helping Hand for our people, and it gave us the opportunity of meeting many old friends and making new ones.

Erlo E. Sutton.

(Editor's Note: We are very glad that Mr. Sutton could attend the Philadelphia meeting. His service in this interdenominational body has kept our people in touch with Christian thought for many years. — A. N. R.)

Committee on Statement of Belief

Rev. Loyal F. Hurley, president of General Conference for the year 1948-1949, announces the appointment of Rev. Erlo E. Sutton, chairman, Rev. Alton L. Wheeler, and Rev. Wayne R. Rood as the Committee on Statement of Belief which was authorized by General Conference at Riverside, Calif., last August.

This committee will "conduct a further survey and study concerning changes in articles VI and VII" of the Statement of Belief of Seventh Day Baptists, and will make a report "at the next annual session of the General Conference" at Salem, W. Va., August 22-27, 1950.

SABBATH SCHOOL IN A BIG, BIG CITY

The city is a mass of strangers, especially to a countryman or woman who feels a little lost. But no one is a stranger in the Sabbath school of the Seventh Day Baptist Church in New York City which has been presided over for many years by its superintendent, Dr. Harry W. Prentice.

Meeting before the hour of Sabbath morning worship in the old Judson Memorial Church on Washington Square, the adult class of this Sabbath school in the world's largest city makes everybody feel acquainted. For many years Dr. E. E. Whitford of Brookfield, N. Y., and Daytona Beach, Fla., taught this class, and in more recent years Esle F. Randolph was its teacher. The Helping Hand is always used.

Dr. Lloyd D. Seager, president of Conference, spoke of his joy in finding a copy of our own lesson quarterly open on a table in the home of a lone Sabbath-keeper he visited. There is plenty of talk about denominational names and places — Alfred, Plainfield, Salem, Adams Center, etc., in the New York Sabbath School. But there is also earnest Bible study and more than once inquiries have been answered in a way which led a new member into the Church.

The New York City Sabbath School has a children's class whenever there are children present. It helps children of the neighborhood through the work of the Judson Memorial with White Gifts at Christmas and a special Vacation Bible School offering before the school closes for the summer. There are birthday offerings and special music now and then planned by Dr. Prentice, who also brings from his garden choice dahlias to decorate the Church.

I visited the New York Church and its Sabbath school recently, and I thought of the many times someone goes to New York without taking the trouble to find our Church there. That probably happens in Chicago, Philadelphia, and Los Angeles, too. We have good Sabbath schools in these four large cities and in many other urban centers. The Sabbath Recorder publishes their addresses from time to time or you can find them in the Year Book.

A. N. R.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS NOTES

By Rev. Albert N. Rogers
President, Seventh Day Baptist
Board of Christian Education

◆ A new year, and a new work, 1950. Will it mean an increased enrollment in your Sabbath school with even more effective teaching than your teachers have up to now been giving? Will it mean new members for your youth group? Will it mean plans made early for your area and pre-Conference camping? Will it mean a widening Christian thought and a deepening Christian experience for every member of your Church family? These are questions we ask ourselves. Will you ask them of yourself, too?

◆ The Christmas issue of the Sabbath Visitor was enlarged from the usual size to make room for added pictures. We think it worthy of commendation both to the editorial board, Miss R. Marion Carpenter, Miss Miriam Shaw, and Miss Rubie Clarke, of Alfred, and to L. Harrison North and his helpers at the publishing house. And we have told them so.

◆ January 15-21 has been designated as Church and Economic Life Week. We might observe this week, as suggested by the Federal Council of Churches, in discussing Christian standards and motives in the choice of an occupation and in our present job. We might arrange a forum with speakers from agriculture, business, or labor groups in one of our adult classes. We should at least remember in prayer at home and in Church the multitude of skilled workmen whom the book of Joshua calls "hewers of wood and drawers of water." Upon them and upon the complex system we call our national economy rest not only our welfare but our opportunity to show mercy to the people of many other nations.

◆ A highlight of Christian education in 1950 will be the mid-century World Convention on Christian Education to be held in Toronto, Can., August 10-16. We are planning for a Seventh Day Baptist delegation even though the dates overlap our Pre-Conference Retreat.

CHURCH NEWS

BROOKFIELD, N. Y. — One of the highlights of our weekly worship service is the bulletin provided by our pastor for our use during the morning service. These bulletins are excellent material to send to friends and shut-ins as they carry the thought of the morning worship service as well as announcements of midweek activities.

The past two weeks our bulletin covers were furnished by the American Bible Society. On December 10 our Church observed Universal Bible Sabbath by the presentation of a special offering for the society.

The prayer meeting, held regularly on Friday evening, is currently making a chronological study of the life of Jesus.

The second meeting of the newly organized Young Adult Council of the Central Association met at Brookfield Sunday, November 20. George Davis, of the Verona Church, read a copy of the tentative constitution and by-laws, which was adopted by the group. A nominating committee was appointed to report at the next meeting in January.

The ministers of the town of Brookfield and vicinity have organized a ministers' council of which Rev. Marion C. Van Horn is chairman. One of the projects of this group is the taking of a religious census of the township. Another aim is to emphasize the use of Bible study in the home in family groups.

The Churches of our town jointly sponsor a boy scout troop and cub pack, of which our pastor is now cub master.

As a result of a joint meeting of the Churches, two displaced persons families have been invited to Brookfield.

On December 3 the election of officers for Sabbath school for the new year took place. Plans are now under way for a Christmas program to be held Sabbath morning, December 24.

The December meeting of the Woman's Missionary Aid Society was held at the home of Mrs. Alice Bacon. Mrs. Wilma Langworthy had charge of the program with Christmas as the theme. The business meeting was called to order by the chairman, Mrs. Frances Palmer. The

secret sisters were revealed in a gift exchange.

The last meeting of the Brookfield-Leonardsville Young Adult Fellowship was held December 8 at the parish house. Materials for use in family worship and family Christmas activity were on display. Games and refreshments were enjoyed by those present.

Mrs. Frances Palmer,
Correspondent.

MARLBORO, N. J. — The Ladies' Aid Society of the Marlboro Church have been doing their share in putting Marlboro on the map the past year, with Mrs. Bertha Mills as president, Mrs. Betty Burdick as vice-president, Mrs. Mabel Davis as secretary, and Mrs. Margaret Cobb as treasurer. Mrs. Lavina Ayars is the society's key-worker.

Our society is divided into three sections. About fifteen ladies are in each section. Mrs. Ruth Cruzan is head of the first section, Mrs. Nellie Bivins, head of the second section, and Mrs. Lucy R. Davis, head of the third section. The ladies have given \$75 to the Church budget, \$50 to the Denominational Budget, and \$72 has been sent to the Irvington Church for German Relief. Clothing has been gathered and sent, the society bearing the expense of shipping to Irvington. A helpers' fund which contains money given each week, is extra money for the Woman's Board.

A few dishes have been purchased for use in the Church basement.

The Ladies' Aid meet once a month and have an all-day meeting in the Church during the winter, at which time dinner is served. Sometimes the ladies quilt. This month three sunshine boxes were packed and sent to shut-ins. The boxes contained about sixteen articles and a beautiful potted plant. Christmas boxes are also sent to cheer the aged, sick, and shut-ins.

The Helping Hand Class and the Young People's Class have been working in various ways accomplishing results. A heater and bathroom have been installed in the parsonage with the help of the congregation.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph DuBois gave an electric stove for use in the parsonage.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lewis gave an electric stove to be used in the Church basement.

A new electric pump has been installed in the Church basement. A double sink was given by the Young People's Class. This class sponsored another successful fried oyster supper in the Church basement recently, clearing \$200.

The entire front entrance of the Church has been remodeled. Cement steps have been erected and the walk is near completion.

The Yearly Meeting held with the Marlboro Church October 14, 15 was well attended and very helpful. The theme was "Building with God — In the Home; In the Church; and In the Community." We were glad to have members of the Philadelphia Fellowship help with the worship as well as the Shiloh Young People's Orchestra under the direction of David Davis.

We meet with the Philadelphia Fellowship once every two months.

Our Christmas entertainment will be the evening of December 19, 1949.

Our Church met jointly with the Shiloh Church at the annual Communion service, Pastor C. Rex Burdick delivering the message from John 12: 32. His subject was, "Drawn to Christ."

The prayer meetings are being held in the homes during the winter months.

Mrs. Mame Fisher Gadd bequeathed \$500 to the Church.

Our annual Church business meeting and dinner will be held at the Church January 1, 1950, at which time officers will be elected for 1950.

Ella T. Dolbow,
Correspondent.

VERONA, N. Y. — At a recent Church meeting Alva Warner was elected superintendent of the Sabbath school; Allison Smith, assistant superintendent; Morris Warner, secretary; Miss Jean Stone, corresponding secretary; Kenneth Davis, treasurer; Granton Jewett, chorister; Janice Sholtz, assistant chorister; Mayola Warner, pianist; Mrs. Genevieve Stone, temperance superintendent; Mrs. Carrie Smith, home department superintendent.

The Booster Sabbath School Class was pleasantly entertained at the home of their

teacher, Mrs. John Williams. Officers were elected.

The Young People's Social Club met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Sholtz. After the election of officers, a literary and musical program was given.

Mrs. Claude Sholtz was hostess at the last meeting of the Ladies' Benevolent Society. Mrs. Zilla Vierow had charge of the worship program. After the business meeting the ladies were busy sewing.

The annual Church and society meetings were held at the Church Sunday, December 4. Craig Sholtz was moderator for the Church meeting and Mrs. George Davis, clerk. Reports were given by Pastor Herbert L. Polan, the ladies' society, the superintendent of the Sabbath school, the Young People's Social Club, the treasurer, the advisory board, and the finance, music, and ushers committees.

Officers elected for the ensuing year are moderator, Craig Sholtz; vice-moderator, La Vern Davis; clerk, Mrs. George Davis; treasurer, Allison Smith; chorister, Alva Warner; assistant chorister, Garth Warner; organist, Mrs. Stanley Warner. Several committees were appointed. Following the dinner the society meeting was held. Floyd Sholtz acted as moderator and Mrs. Stanley Warner as clerk.

Rev. Herbert L. Polan was extended a call for another year. Following reports from the committees, officers and committees were elected for another year.

Susie B. Stark,
Press Committee.

How about your Recorder subscription? How about giving a year of our own magazine to someone as a Christmas gift? — North Loup, Neb., Church Bulletin.

There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High.

God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early.

The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved: he uttered his voice, the earth melted.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. — Psalm 46: 4-7.

Our Children's Letter Exchange

Dear Mrs. Greene:

I had a birthday party November 13. We had fun. We had fun reading the Children's Page.

I am making an apron for my doll.

Your friend,

Milton, Wis.

Judy Van Horn.

Dear Judy:

Why, it has been just one month since your birthday part as this is December 13. I thought birthday parties were good fun when I was a little girl, and I still do. When I was six or seven years old, I noticed one day that all my little friends were whispering together. They always stopped when I came near. I felt quite left out and like crying. On my birthday night my mother sent me to the corner store for something, I don't remember what. When I came home the house was dark. When I came in, a roomful of children jumped up and shouted, "Happy Birthday!" I sat right down on the floor and cried, "Oh, that's what you whispered about!"

I hope you have the best of luck with the apron and that it just fits your doll.

Your Christian friend,

Mizpah S. Greene

Dear Mrs. Greene:

We enjoy reading the Children's Page very much.

Since September I have been taking music lessons from Mrs. Reva Bond. We have lots of fun learning new pieces.

We enjoy Sabbath school and junior Church. My Sabbath school teacher is Mrs. Janette Heinig.

We miss my dad when he is in Madison all week.

Sincerely, your friend,

David Van Horn.

Dear David:

I am glad you enjoy reading the Children's Page. I do, too, and the more often you write the more I enjoy it.

It is good that you are taking such an interest in your music. I'm sure the more you enjoy it, the more rapid will be your progress. Good music is a source of pleasure to all; yes, real fun, the best kind of fun.

How surprised I was this morning when I awoke to find that there wasn't a bit of snow in sight, not even on the hills. A heavy rain had melted it all away. The boys and girls who had planned on another day of fun coasting were disappointed. Do you enjoy coasting down hill? Have you had a chance this winter?

You surely must miss your dad during the week, but just think what a lot you can tell him when he gets home. Christmas is coming when you will probably have him home for a number of days.

Your sincere friend,

Mizpah S. Greene

Dear Mrs. Greene:

We like to read the Children's Page. I can read it to myself. I am in fifth grade. There are four children in our family. There are three boys. I am ten. David is eight, and Robert is two and one half. Judy is the only girl and she is just seven.

Every Friday afternoon I go to junior choir. Mr. Kenneth Babcock is our director. We have it from 4 to 4:30.

I go to junior Church every Sabbath morning in the middle of the Church service just as they sing a hymn. Mr. Kenneth Smith is our preacher. Rev. Elmo Randolph is our regular pastor.

I enjoy playing football and basketball

Sincerely,

Peter Julian Van Horn

Dear Peter:

I think you have a nice sized family, though probably Judy wishes there was another girl. I met a young woman the other day with two nice little girls. I admired them and she said, "Two girls? Why I have seven girls and no boys!" Rather too many girls, don't you think?

Both a junior Church and a junior choir are much to be desired in any Church. They are a wonderful training for the future choir and future Church. The larger Churches in Andover have both, but our Church hasn't enough children for either one.

Both Dr. Greene and our son liked to play basketball and football. I liked to watch the games. I know you must have fun playing these games.

Your true friend,

Mizpah S. Greene.

DENOMINATIONAL BUDGET
Statement of Treasurer, November 30, 1949

Receipts		
	November	2 months
Balance on hand Nov. 1 ..\$	29.47	
Albion		30.00
Alfred	201.49	201.49
Associations and groups		122.76
Battle Creek	156.07	298.97
Brookfield, First		15.00
Brookfield, Second		18.25
Chicago	30.00	60.00
Daytona Beach	18.50	38.00
Denver	30.73	50.28
De Ruyter		69.73
Dodge Center	55.82	55.82
Edinburg	7.73	15.60
Farina	25.00	40.00
Fouke	10.43	10.43
Friendship		10.00
Gentry	7.23	7.23
Hebron, First	13.83	21.60
Independence	22.00	49.00
Individuals	100.00	100.00
Little Genesee		72.25
Marlboro	72.00	72.00
Middle Island	5.56	16.99
Milton	334.75	618.26
Milton Junction	71.58	167.96
New York, First	79.51	79.51
Nortonville	22.25	32.25
Piscataway		23.50
Plainfield	88.85	287.50

Richburg	63.00	63.00
Rochester		15.00
Rockville		5.70
Salem		84.36
Salemville	31.72	36.72
Shiloh	147.00	571.47
Walworth		10.00
Waterford	14.11	42.76
White Cloud	19.51	53.46
Total receipts (incl. bal.)	\$1,658.14	\$3,466.85

Disbursements		
	Budget	Specials
Missionary Society	\$ 440.04	\$ 34.00
Tract Society	318.14	1.00
Board of		
Christian Education	243.80	20.00
Women's Society	8.16	10.00
Historical Society	37.86	
Ministerial Retirement	123.90	55.00
S. D. B. Building	44.79	
General Conference	187.01	
World Fellowship and Service	11.54	
Debt Repayment:		
Miss. Society	\$46.22	
Tract Society	54.02	
Board of		
Christian Ed.	14.37	
S. D. B. Bldg.	9.29	
	123.90	
	\$1,539.14	\$ 120.00
Overdraft	1.00	

Comparative Figures

			Budget	Receipts
			Should Have Been	
Total Budget, adopted by Conference	\$37,250.00			
Receipts in October	1,489.99	4%	3,104.16	8 1/3%
Receipts in November	1,508.67	4%	3,104.16	8 1/3%
	\$ 2,998.66	8%	\$6,208.32	16 2/3%

Milton, Wis.

D. N. Inglis,
Acting Treasurer.

CHURCH NEWS

ALBION, WIS. — Those who attended the North Central Association probably will remember the new electric organ which helped in the meetings. Thanks to the united efforts of Church members and of the community, the organ now is paid for, and within the ninety-day contract.

The organ committee, consisting of Mrs. Robert Gaines, Mrs. Raymond Saunders, Mrs. Charles Saunders, Mrs. Clarence Lawton, Lyle Green, and William Saunders, are to be congratulated. It has meant hard work at suppers, auctions, and what not. May the interest in our Church resulting from this project grow and grow.

The fellowship dinners held once a month, following the Church services,

were planned by our Sabbath school superintendent, Charles Williams. For the dinner, December 24, everyone is urged to bring a Christmas package, in white, that may be given to a worthy person by the sunshine committee, Mrs. Rose Reiersen. Many of these White Gifts probably will go to a needy family near Albion. A fire left this family, with nine children, almost destitute.

Also at this fellowship dinner there will be a service of recognition for the older members of the Church and Sabbath school.

Rev. Kenneth Van Horn is giving us helpful sermons, and his readiness to help in many ways is very much appreciated.

Pearl C. Sheldon, Correspondent.