

Did You Know That the Sabbath Is As Old As the Creation?

The Sabbath had its origin in a distinct creative act. Mark 2: 27. God made it at the time of the creation, using the seventh day as the material from which to build it. Because of His resting from the work of creation, God "blessed" and "sanctified" the seventh day. To sanctify is to set apart for a special purpose. It includes the idea of announcing or proclaiming. The same word is used of the cities of refuge and other things publicly proclaimed. Genesis 2: 2, 3, then, refers to a public announcement of the setting apart of the seventh day as the Sabbath, and amounts to the promulgation of a law for the Sabbath at that time.

God never did for any other day what He did for the seventh, and never undid it for the seventh. What God does is done for all time, and God does not change.

Nowhere else in the Bible is there any suggestion of a later sanctification, proclaiming, or announcing. Every later reference is always to this earlier (at creation) sanctification. The fourth commandment itself is in keeping with this thought in its wording.

The week is an arbitrary division of time. There is no heavenly body whose movements in relation to the earth are in cycles of seven days. The institution of the Sabbath is the background for this mode of reckoning time.

Since God instituted the Sabbath and gave the commandment, and since Christ Jesus obeyed the commandment and observed the seventh day, who, then, has any authority to change it?

No, the Sabbath is not a new thing, but one of the universal, imperishable moral principles which are as old as the creation.

To disregard the Sabbath is to disregard God. "Will a man disregard God? Yet we have disregarded Him," saith a present-day prophet.

Write to the American Sabbath Tract Society, 510 Watchung Avenue,
Plainfield, N. J., for further information.

JUNE 12, 1950

The Sabbath Recorder



Courier Camera.

Ministers' Conference Group at Indian Trails Camp near Milton, Wis.

May 15-18, 1950

(See next page for names.)

The Sabbath Recorder

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THOSE PRESENT

More than forty Seventh Day Baptist ministers and theological students, from 14 states, posed for the Courier Tuesday, May 16, on the second day of their four-day annual conference and retreat at the Indian Trails Camp near Milton, Wis.

Seated left to right: Loyal F. Hurley, Rex E. Zwiebel, Charles H. Bond, A. Clyde Ehret, Leslie O. Greene, Erlo E. Sutton, Claude L. Hill, Paul S. Burdick, John Fitz Randolph, Mrs. J. Dwight Clarke, of Milton, was caterer, Charles W. Thorngate, Hurley S. Warren, Kenneth A. Stickney, Ralph M. Soper.

In the second row: Robert P. Lippincott, Trevah R. Sutton, Albert N. Rogers, Francis D. Saunders, Everett T. Harris, A. Addison Appel, W. Allen Bond, Orville W. Babcock, James Mitchell, E. Wendell Stephan, C. Harmon Dickinson, Duane L. Davis, Lester G. Osborn, Kenneth E. Smith, Alton L. Wheeler, David J. Williams, Leland E. Davis, C. Rex Burdick.

Standing in the last row are: Walter D. Cockerill, Oscar Burdick, Leon R. Lawton, Kenneth B. Van Horn, Victor W. Skaggs, David S. Clarke, Wayne R. Rood, Earl Cruzan, Carl R. Maxson, Marion C. Van Horn, Don A. Sanford, Clifford A. Beebe. Edgar F. Wheeler arrived after the picture was taken.

Elmo Fitz Randolph, pastor of the host Church, was also taking a picture of the group when this Courier photo was taken by Bud Bowen, editor and publisher of the Milton and Milton Junction Courier, to whom we are indebted for the front cover photo and this information.

UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION

Is your information on denominational affairs up-to-date?

Yes?

Fine.

Then, why not tell a friend about the Sabbath Recorder?

ATTENTION, YOUNG PEOPLE!

If you plan to be at General Conference in Salem, W. Va., next August, and are interested in helping to serve the meals at the college cafeteria, be sure to contact Kenneth V. Hulin, Salem, W. Va., at your earliest convenience.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

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WOE UNTO US WHO ARE AT EASE!

Whether in Zion of old or any town or hamlet in the world today — woe!

Folks who talk about woe are considered very much out of place. Yet, who cares about being thought out of place when the lives of people are at stake. This is a life and death matter.

Some of us who have thought that we were alert and doing the Lord's work, are finding that we have been at ease. Woe unto us!

Evidences of Ease

An evidence that we have been at ease is revealed in the number of people who have turned to other denominations for a Church home, for an opportunity to do Christian work, or who have turned to no denomination at all. Woe unto us! We need only to glance at the Churches of which we are members. In some of them, if former Seventh Day Baptists were active in the Churches from which they have gone out, certain half-filled Churches would present a different picture. Of course, well-filled Churches is not the principal phase of the problem. It is one phase, however.

Someone will say, "We cannot hold everybody to his original faith."

Perhaps not. But this does not excuse us from trying.

Another evidence that we have been at ease is found in the success other Sabbathkeeping groups are having in certain communities in which we have or have had Churches, or in which there has been an opportunity to establish a Sabbath school and a Fellowship, and eventually a Church. Woe unto us! More power and God's blessing to those who have been more alert to the opportunities than we have been! We need only to canvass the communities in which our Churches are located to see that this is taking place.

Rays of Hope

All is not woe. There are rays of hope shining abroad throughout our land.

One ray of hope comes from the increasing interest in and expanded plans for the Student Evangelism program, for this summer. Rev. David S. Clarke, corresponding secretary of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society, who has been

charged with organizing the work, wrote clearly and comprehensively of the co-ordinated plans in the Sabbath Recorder for May 15, 1950. Let us turn again to his article, "Student Evangelism for Summer of 1950."

Above all, let us be in earnest and frequent prayer for the spiritual success of the co-ordinated summer's project in evangelism.

COMMENCEMENT — GRADUATION AND PROMOTION

All over our land at this season our boys and girls and our young people are being recognized for the progress they have made during the school year. There are several hundred Seventh Day Baptists among the tens of thousands being so recognized.

As we think of them we thank God and take courage.

We Thank God

We thank God that He has blessed us with these children and youth and has committed their training to our care. We thank God that He has guided us in the home instruction that we have tried to give. We have made mistakes. We ask His forgiveness and seek to do better in the days ahead. What a blessed privilege!

We thank God that He has led in the establishment of free schools in a free land. O God, grant us vision and wisdom that our schools and land may continue to be free.

We thank God for our colleges and universities which receive our high school and college graduates for further training and specialization. May we ever be mindful of the self-sacrificing service that many of these institutions are rendering in the name of Christian higher education.

We thank God for the teachers in our elementary, secondary, and advanced schools who are called of Him to their task. May we encourage and support them and may they be true to their sacred obligations.

We Take Courage

We take courage because we see our children and youth developing in mind and body and spirit. It may be with a tug at

the heartstrings and a tear in the eye, but we are made happy by their progress. Our Father, may they become more and more conscious of Thy presence as they continue to grow.

We take courage because these our own soon will be among the leaders in Church and community, in occupation and profession. We expect great things of them and we shall not be disappointed. God grant that they may seek to know Thy will for their lives as they go out to build a better world.

Congratulations to our children and youth, to parents, to teachers, and to school officials upon the achievements and progress of this Commencement season.

THIRD BUDGET SABBATH JUNE 24, 1950

Another budget Sabbath is almost here. With the passing of another quarter, the work of the denomination has moved forward.

In order that effective work can be maintained in the various areas of our denominational endeavor, the Denominational Budget will need to be raised in full. If not raised in full, the Seventh Day Baptist co-operative program will have to be curtailed accordingly.

Nevertheless, people throughout our Churches are accepting as a goal and a possibility a 100 per cent budget. One means toward its realization proposed by the Committee on Budget Promotion is the Budget Sabbath offering to be made on the last Sabbath of each quarter. Every Sabbath is Budget Sabbath among Seventh Day Baptists. In order to boost the budget and to make more certain that all phases of our great program will not suffer unduly, a special Budget Sabbath each quarter is being observed.

We need to remember that the offering on Sabbath day, June 24, will be the third in a series of four Budget Sabbath offerings. It will be the last special Budget Sabbath offering before General Conference meets at Salem, W. Va., August 22-27.

Churches, groups, and individuals have been making a generous response to the Budget Sabbath offering appeals. Let us make the June 24th offering the largest yet.

"Let each contribute what he has decided upon in his own mind, and not do it reluctantly or under compulsion. 'It is a cheerful giver that God loves' (Proverbs 22: 8; LXX.)" 2 Corinthians 9: 7 (Weymouth).

SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MINISTERS' CONFERENCE (Continued from May 29)

The Program Committee for the Ministers' Conference sought to carry out the suggestions of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education as presented by Dr. Wayne R. Rood who represented the board at the meetings of the committee.

Dr. Soper's Sermons and Addresses

Upon the recommendation of several persons who had heard Dr. David W. Soper, head of the Department of Religion at Beloit College, Beloit, Wis., the Board of Christian Education succeeded in securing him for addresses on the three evenings of the Ministers' Conference.

Dr. Soper's main subject was "World War in the Soul: A New Theology" under which he presented the following addresses: (1) The Christian View of Man; (2) The Christian View of Christ; (3) The Christian View of the Holy Spirit.

The Christian View of the Church was given in three sections in the form of sermons preceding the evening addresses.

Dr. Soper read the Scripture lesson from memory prior to the sermon each evening.

We were deeply impressed with Dr. David W. Soper's dynamic personality, his utter consecration to the truth as the Spirit of truth has revealed it to him, and his sincere presentation of the truth as revealing "the love above us, God; the love with us, Jesus Christ; and the love within us, the Holy Spirit." To realize that his outstanding, positive spiritual development has covered a little more than ten years, presumably, is amazing. This fact truly demonstrates the manner in which God will use a man when that man is fully surrendered to Him. An evidence that God grants strength and courage according to the need is shown in Dr. Soper's filling on an average of more than one speaking engagement a day during the pre-

Easter season, with some appointments at considerable distance from Beloit, besides meeting his classes regularly at Beloit College.

The Spirit of God is using mightily Dr. Soper's abilities. As Seventh Day Baptist ministers, present and future, we were greatly blessed in the privilege of having this dynamic speaker at our conference and of enjoying his fellowship. We hope and pray that if it be God's will, our association with Dr. Soper will commend more strongly to him the truth of the Sabbath. All praise to Him!

Through the courtesy of Dr. Soper and the promptness of Dr. Rood and his associates, those who attended the Ministers' Conference have already received mimeographed copies of Dr. Soper's sermons and addresses. Many of us are looking forward to the appearance of his new book which will include this material.

(To be continued)

REACTIONS ON THE MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

The Ministers' Conference this year seemed to fill a need that has long been felt, namely, some intensive thinking and preparation for the calling as ministers of the gospel. Such stimulation was provided in our sessions at Indian Trails Council Camp from the beginning of the day to the closing sessions at night.

It seemed to me also that the understanding fellowship was strengthened as we gathered to consider our central and basic points of faith, to hear them spoken of in a straightforward manner, and to discuss them sympathetically even where there might be differences of opinion.

The committee is to be commended for the fine job of planning the program and for the arrangements made locally for the stimulating surroundings of the out-of-doors. Certainly it was an experience which should help all who participated from "going stale" in their ministry.

Orville W. Babcock.

THIRD BUDGET SABBATH JUNE 24, 1950

FROM THE EDITOR'S MAILBOX

Dear Dr. Warren:

An article concerning a Federal court decision in a recent issue of the Recorder troubles me a bit. Let's keep the record straight. Seventh Day Baptist Churches are autonomous. They do not surrender that autonomy by co-operating with each other in the activities of the General Conference, the Missionary Society, or the Board of Christian Education. No more do those organizations give up their autonomy when they co-operate with others of similar purpose in interdenominational groups. Autonomy of voice and action is inherent in the very nature of every Seventh Day Baptist Church. Our people have problems enough in their co-operative endeavors. Let's keep our discussion pertinent.

Courtland V. Davis.

184 N. Bridge Street,
Somerville, N. J.

Dear Dr. Warren:

I have just had occasion to review several copies of your Sabbath Recorder and I am delighted with the way you co-operated in promoting the united relief appeal, "One Great Hour of Sharing." Taking your editorials and many news articles, and particularly the four-page feature spread in the February 20th issue, I think you have done one of the best jobs of all the religious journals. I want to take this opportunity to thank you for this excellent Christian service and to congratulate the Sabbath Recorder on its remarkable support of "One Great Hour of Sharing."

You will be interested to know that when all the funds are in, both for denominational relief work and that done through Church World Service, the total will be approximately \$5,000,000. Sad to say, only a relatively small part of this has come to CWS thus far, and the needs are still very great.

Thanks again for your help and the support of the Seventh Day Baptists.

Sincerely yours,
Stanley I. Stuber,
Director of Promotion.

June 2, 1950.

"GO FORWARD"

(Editor's Note: The two papers on the theme, "Go Forward," which follow this note, were presented during the Women's Hour of a recent yearly meeting in British Guiana.)

Brethren, I shall speak to you for a few minutes on these words, "Go Forward." I am sure we have all read Exodus, chapter 14, over and over; the lesson in that chapter tells us about the going out of the children of Israel from Egypt. The children of Israel were slaves of the Egyptians, but the time came for their deliverance from bondage.

Although Pharaoh had agreed that they might go sometime to worship their God, he feared they would not return to him. So when they were a great way from him in their exodus, he pursued them with chariots and horsemen, and overtook them. The children of Israel were sore afraid of the Egyptians; they blamed it all on Moses for having taken them away from the presence of Pharaoh. But Moses told them, "Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord."

God knew all that was passing between Moses and His people, so God told Moses to tell the people to "Go Forward."

Brethren, today God is telling us to go forward; we are to go straight, not to turn back. We are not to turn to the right or the left and say we are tired with persecutions. Oh no, we are to go forward in full assurance that our Deliverer, King Jesus, is leading us, and that Pharaoh, that evil influence, shall never defeat us.

Let us not allow any unsavory sayings to prevent our going forward, when we are sure of our innocency. "Blessed are ye when men shall persecute you and shall deride you for my sake." Let us go forward with clean hands, clean hearts, clean tongues, doing our Master's work. We can only do the Master's work by trust and determination in God. "The harvest field is large and fruits are white for harvest, but the labourers are few," so I am challenging you men and women to go forward.

I know that women can play a great part in the building of the Master's kingdom. Let us think for a while on Deborah, the prophetess, when she told Barak to

go forward against Sisera. He said that he would not go without Deborah, and she said, "Certainly, I will go with you." She went with Barak and they were successful in the battle; Sisera was slain by Jael, a woman, and his army was routed.

Now, our battle is not to kill men, but to teach them the way of eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Our Saviour has given us an example as to how we should live, and has asked us to pass it on to our fellow men who do not yet know this wonderful way of life. Many of them are still stumbling in the paths of darkness. There are many souls longing, waiting for a Moses to lead them out of Egypt's land; are we going to fail Jesus?

All of us cannot go out preaching — I am not ignorant of that fact — but this we can do. We can give of our money; we can speak a word of cheer to our neighbors, and so fulfill the design of God.

Seventh Day Baptist work is highly recognized by God and man; men and women have given their lives, their time, and money for this work. Our history tells us about the Stennetts, Peter Chamberlen, John Trask and his wife, Stephen Mumford, Alexander Campbell, Miss Susie Burdick and her parents, the Fitz Randolph family, Miss Miriam Shaw, and many more too numerous to mention. These people did, and are still doing great service for humanity.

What are we doing for others? Are we going to sit with folded hands? God forbid! We are to get up from our slumber and work a great work. Let us look upon our Church building and formulate plans to make it beautiful, even more than our homes. We are to go forward and tell the world about the Sabbath; we are to go forward to bring a righteous reign among men here on earth. This is the mission of Seventh Day Baptists; it is God's delight. To go forward with King Jesus to defeat the evil forces, first in our own lives and then in others, is my appeal to all of you.

Forward! be our watchword,
Steps and voices joined;
Seek the things before us,
Not a look behind.

Burns the fiery pillar
At our army's head;
Who shall dream of shrinking,
By our Captain led?

Forward through the desert,
Thro' the toil and fight!
Jordan flows before us;
Zion beams with light. Amen.

—Henry Alford.

Mrs. Hannah O. Berry.

To go forward means to pass on. This is a command given by God to mankind; God bids men to "Go Forward." We have for our example the children of Israel, when they had faced that crisis where these words were used. The children of Israel had almost lost faith and hope, but in that hour of trial they heard the voice of God saying, "Go Forward." They were saved because they obeyed.

Lot, when he was warned by God that he and his family should flee for their life, was told to go forward. We read that Lot and his children went forward, but his wife, who looked back, was transformed into a pillar of salt.

So, my brethren, there is much danger in looking back, halting, and disobeying the commands of God. The object of this command is to bring one to a safe destination. We are pilgrims, journeying to a certain place. Then, if we are to reach our destination, we have to keep our course, turning neither to the right nor left. We have to read of great men who achieved heights despite many failures. These men were successful because they were courageous and had set goals.

In this life, for one to be successful, he or she has to have goals. By going forward with determination and faith in God, success will be assured. Just so in our march for eternity, we have to press on. We are not left helpless to go forward; we have the Holy Scriptures to help us find our destination. The Scriptures warn us that we will meet many obstacles while on our journey, but if we heed that still small voice which bids us go forward, success will be ours.

Friends, there is much gain in going forward; we can only wear the Crown

when we carry the Cross. It is not God's desire that anyone be lost, so He gives us warnings. We are told of Sodom, Tyre, and many cities that were destroyed because they did not heed God's warnings through His messengers. The prophets, seers, and other leaders told the people of old about the wrath that was about to come upon the land. Those that heeded the warnings were saved, but the disobedient were consumed by the wrath of God.

Our Heavenly Father does not leave us in the way to struggle in the battle of life; His arms are not shortened that He cannot save people today as in days of old. God bids us to go forward; we need not question, but obey and follow Him in faith. We have a blessed assurance in John 14: 1-3 that Jesus has gone to prepare a place for us and will come again and receive us unto Himself.

So, brethren, with that hope, we have to count it a privilege to continue our march, even if our way be full of disappointments and pain. We of ourselves would not be able to resist the Devil, but with Jesus Christ at the head of our ship, we can go **onward, upward, forward.**

My admonition to you at this time is to pay attention to the theme of this season and act well your part so that not only you, but others will GO FORWARD with you.

Inez Stafford,

Parika Seventh Day Baptist Church.

WHY ARE WE AS SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS NOT GROWING?

Why are we as Seventh Day Baptist not growing? We look at some of our Sabbathkeeping brethren and see them rapidly spreading over the country, yet our neighbors have never heard of Seventh Day Baptists! What is wrong with us individually and as a whole? Are we satisfied to sit back and not endeavor to pass on our belief in the importance of keeping our Saviour's Sabbath? What would Christ do about it? One thing sure, He would do something! All in His home town would have heard of His teachings and had a chance to accept them. Of this I am certain!

ORDINATION SERVICE

An ordination service for Mrs. William Macorkel and Raymond Sholtz as deaconess and deacon of the Chicago Seventh Day Baptist Church was held on May 20, 2:30 p.m., in the Fine Arts Building, 410 S. Michigan, where the Church holds its services.

The first half of the service, in charge of Copastor Robert P. Lippincott, followed the usual procedure and included appropriate Scripture reading by Rev. Kenneth B. Van Horn and special music by Mr. and Mrs. David Williams.

Statements of religious experiences and beliefs were given by Mrs. Macorkel and Mr. Sholtz; sermon and consecrating prayer by Rev. Loyal F. Hurley; charge to the candidates; Copastor Leon R. Lawton; charge to the Church, Rev. W. Allen Bond; welcome to the diaconate, Deacon Mark Wiley.

Present on the platform for the "laying on of hands" during the ordination were Pastors Hurley, Bond, and Van Horn, and Deacon Wiley.

Those in attendance from the Churches of the quarterly meeting of southern Wisconsin were: Rev. Kenneth B. Van Horn, pastor of the Albion and Milton Junction Churches (also representing the quarterly meeting); Mr. and Mrs. Roger Dangerfield, and Miss Ethel Butterfield of the Walworth Church; and William Arthur from Milton.

Other out-of-town guests included: Pastor Edgar Wheeler, Hammond, La.; Mrs. Loyal F. Hurley and Mr. and Mrs. Oris O. Stutler, Salem, W. Va.; and Miss Ada Bond, Roanoke, W. Va. — Lilian C. Webster, Church Clerk.

Let others know who you are!



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I often wonder — is our trouble a lack of the Spirit-filled life? Have we actually come to Christ, ready to **do His will**, or are we eager to keep up with the Joneses — unwilling to give up the worldly things all around us? There are so many things to attract one away from the Church and Christ's work.

I have been warned against becoming a religious fanatic and I hope I never shall in the truest sense. But if following Christ and seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit is being a religious fanatic, I would like to see all Seventh Day Baptists become fanatics!

How many of us are more interested in the "soap opera" than in lending a helping hand to a neighbor? Do we even care that Mrs. Johnson in the poor part of town is bedridden and without religious instruction? Do we try in little ways to relieve her sufferings and cheer her days?

How many of us take our families to the picture show at a cost of \$1 or more, never giving a thought to the family of poor children across the tracks who are undernourished through no fault of their own?

Also I wonder — just how holy do we keep the Sabbath day? Do we, like some of our Sundaykeeping friends, make the Sabbath a gay holiday after Church is over? Here we have a serious problem to face. We surely need to seek heavenly guidance in the proper way of observing God's holy day. How many of us as parents have heard — "I wish I could go to the football game Friday night." "I wish I could play football, but the games and main practice come on the Sabbath!" "I can't join the Boy Scouts, they meet on the Sabbath, and the F.F.A. boys always sell their livestock on the Sabbath!" "The choral club is entering a county contest but I have to stay home because it is the Sabbath." We have to draw a line somewhere or our Sabbath will be like any other day. It behooves us to find a way to make the Sabbath **holy** and **precious** to our children, rather than a burden for them.

If our children consider the Sabbath a burden, depriving them of all they want most to do, we will lose them to the world and Sunday. If we do not honor God

(Continued on page 415)

THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

By Rev. Paul L. Maxson

Pastor, Seventh Day Baptist Church,
Berlin, N. Y.

Scripture Reading: Luke 24: 13-35.

Text: "And they told what things were done in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread." Luke 24: 35.

Not long ago I went to Stephentown to call on a young woman, probably about my age, who had lost her husband. She was taking her loss bravely. She was, and continues to be, a religious person. I thought it might be well this morning to preach a sermon of comfort. This young woman is not here, but I wish that she were for I am going to talk about the **presence of Christ**.

Let us go back a few years when Mrs. Maxson was ill. I well remember praying that the will of God might prevail as to whether she would live or die. I remember the answer that she would live, but that her recovery would take a long time. I thought that I would not mind a few weeks, but it ran into months. As I sat in the hospital waiting, day and night, I was aware of the nurses, doctors, and people coming to pray and to try to comfort me. My eyes often filled with tears to see and know that God's children still loved and trusted in Him. I feel that perhaps I felt much like the two disciples that were on their way to Emmaus. They were pretty low in spirit after the crucifixion of their Lord. Then Jesus came along and walked with them on the road. He talked with them and reassured them that He truly had risen and was present with them.

I believe that all of us in the time of trouble and discouragements really appreciate people coming to us and thus helping to reassure us of the presence of God. The young woman of whom I spoke said as I was leaving, "Mr. Maxson, you don't know how much you have helped me. I had never met you before, but my husband had told me so many things about you, that, had he lived, we were going to take time and come up to Berlin and see you and your family."

I had met her husband on a couple of occasions; once when he had brought a

radio to me to be repaired, and again after I had repaired it. We sat there each time for two or three hours and talked about religion and Christianity, along with many other things. I was glad that I could help this young woman to feel and know the presence of God, even in death itself. I feel that one of the greatest needs, if not the greatest in the world today, is a new assurance of the real presence of Christ Jesus.

First, let us discuss loneliness. At night when our children go to bed, their bedroom door is left open and the hall light on. That is just like grownups; they, too, are afraid of loneliness. They are afraid to be by themselves. They crave social contact and someone to talk to.

There was an old lady, a grand Christian woman in her nineties, who, after she had been desperately ill, kept calling to her daughter in the night and asking this question: "Are you there?"

The daughter's repeated reply to her mother's question was: "Yes, I'm here, Mother, I won't leave you."

"That's all right, my dear. I just wanted to be sure! I just wanted to be sure!"

Again, that is just like us. We want to be sure that Jesus is with us, whether we are young, middle-aged, elderly, weak or strong, happy or unhappy. We want to be quite sure that God's presence is real to us, that we can depend upon Him now.

I want to tell you that I believe with all my heart in the real presence of Jesus. The following may sound rather peculiar, but I enjoy making the trip to the top of the pasture for the cow in the early morning, because I feel so near to God. Up there in the pasture is a large rock I can stand on and look down upon the village when many are still asleep. Sometimes I slip off from the family and go up there for my morning meditation on the prayer rock.

I don't believe that a minister of the gospel, nor any other person can get along, in the true sense, regardless of his job, without a strong, solid belief in the presence of Christ Jesus.

Let us take another look at our Scripture story. This man Cleopas and his

companion had witnessed the shameful trial, the mocking and scourging, and the wicked nailing of Jesus to the Cross. For three years Jesus had been with them, leading, advising, guiding, and showing them that God was like a father who loved them. They had learned to depend on Him until this tragic week in Jerusalem. Now they thought He was dead. They wanted to get as far as possible from the city. They took the road to Emmaus where they knew a quiet inn. As they traveled, their minds went back over the events of the last few days; the supper, the garden, the howling mob, the false witnesses, and Judas of all people, one of His own men betraying Him in the garden with a kiss. There were other travelers on the road and one joined them and listened to their sad story.

Presently their companion commenced to take them back to what Jesus had said about His death, how He had unfolded to them the Master's thoughts concerning His work and sacrifice. They were held by the man's presence. He made a move as though he were going on farther. They constrained him to stop for the night. They went into the inn and soon were seated around a table. Then He began to break bread and to share it with them, and immediately they recognized Him, but He vanished out of their sight. Now they were sure that Jesus was alive. They went back and told the others of their experience of meeting and knowing Jesus, the risen Lord.

Christ gives us a signed guarantee of His personal presence in life. He said, "I will not leave you comfortless"; "Lo, I am with you alway"; "I go before you into Galilee," and when those rough and rugged fishermen returned to their fishing ground, they saw Him, through the early morning mist, standing on the shore, and they heard His cheering, encouraging voice coming across the water, "Let down your nets on the right side." When they landed the catch, He had lit the fire and was cooking the breakfast.

That is how we know Him in life. His presence is as real as it was then. Perhaps I should say that it can be. It can be, if we choose it to be. He comes to us in the

ordinary things of life. He asks for recognition.

Second, these men that were on their way to Emmaus thought that they were at the end of their rope, the end of even living, because Jesus had been crucified. They had come to a place where it would be easy to stop believing in anything or anybody. There were only three days between the blackout of the crucifixion and the light of Easter morning, the resurrection of the Son of God, Christ Jesus. For them it was a complete blackout. They were sure that they would never recover. If any man ever descended into the blackness of despair, certainly these men went to the very depths.

In everyday life, we see things go wrong. The womenfolk get tired in the kitchen; the men get irritable in their jobs; the shoe cobbler has put the billionth nail in the millionth heel of someone's shoe; the office worker has typed literally the "thousandth" letter; the farmer has put that young heifer in for the fortieth time in one morning, the hog gets out, or the sheep; the piece of machinery has broken the tenth time; the plumber has tightened the joint for at least the fifth time only to find there is a leak back in the elbow; and so on it goes.

You say, if only I could get out, get away, get a new job — but that would be the same in a few weeks. The surroundings won't change, but you will, if you will believe me that Jesus Christ is accustomed to standing by a carpenter's bench. Yes, if it's the Cross for you, He'll be right there beside you helping you.

The **third** and last point that I want to mention is that of **partnership with Christ**. By partnership with Christ, I mean that it is up to each individual whether or not to accept Him as a friend and as a partner here in this life. Christ will not force Himself upon us. He gives us the opportunity of making that choice of going along with Him in preparation for eternal life, or refusing and completely ignoring Him and trying to live our own life, thus missing the greatest blessings of life. Refusing Him is to refuse eternal life with Him, after life on earth is finished.

There was one thing which was certain about these two men meeting our Lord there on the road to Emmaus. They recognized Him when He was breaking bread with them in the inn. They went back to tell the others and to keep Him as their friend and partner all the rest of their lives.

My friends, if you do not know Him, **now** is the accepted time to come to Him. If you have known Him in the past, but have let the things of this world crowd Him out, as your Friend, as your Partner, you need to keep close to Him for you **need Him** in this life. Yes, He needs you, too. He will never leave you nor forsake you.

Here is a little story that might help us to remember that Christ will truly be our partner in life with us:

A happy Christian one day met an Irish peddler and exclaimed, "It's a grand thing to be saved!" "Eh?" said the peddler. "It is, but I know something better than that." "Better than being saved?" queried the other. "What can you possibly know better than that?" "The companionship of the Man who has saved me!" was the unexpected reply. — Believers Pathway.

Dean Bond Suffers Minor Accident

On the evening of his seventy-fifth birthday, May 23, Dean A. J. C. Bond of the Seventh Day Baptist School of Theology at Alfred, N. Y., fell from a porch step at his home and broke his right ankle. X rays shows that the break was a simple crack in one of the major bones of the ankle, and aside from the frustration resulting from his enforced convalescence, the dean is otherwise in splendid condition and there have been no further complications from the fall.

Dr. Bond was taken to the Bethesda Hospital in Hornell for several days until the swelling was reduced and a cast was applied, but was soon returned to his home in Alfred for the four to six weeks that will probably be required for the break to heal.

The dean's classes at the school have been assumed by other instructors during the remaining three weeks of the school year. — Contributed.

FOREIGN MISSIONS CONFERENCE

The Foreign Missions Conference voted to become a division of the proposed National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

"We wish we might in some manner share with you the warmth of Christian fellowship experienced in contacts with members of the Planning Committee (of the proposed National Council of Churches) and the earnest conviction we feel concerning the necessity of keeping the great imperative of foreign missions at the heart of any co-operative grouping of the Christian Churches of America." So wrote the chairman of the Foreign Missions Conference's Study Committee on relations with the new National Council.

Secretary Wynn Fairfield of the Foreign Missions Conference staff answered in part the question, "Why go to all this bother to get these organizations together?" by saying: "For the member boards of the FMC, participation in the National Council will mean that such a facing of the total task will always include as an integral part the responsibility of the North American Churches for the evangelization of the world and also the realization of the extent to which the imperfect Christianization of the United States and Canada handicaps the effective presentation of the gospel in other areas." Just one instance of how imperfect Christianity in American Church life itself saps foreign strength in missions shows his point: The type of segregation between negroes and whites in our Churches and separation of Northern and Southern denominations hinders more than anyone can measure the effectiveness of missions, in Africa especially.

Such is part of the spirit behind the action taken April 25 at Philadelphia, Pa., by a special meeting of the Foreign Missions Conference. Following a vote on becoming a division within the proposed National Council which turned 77 for and 7 against, Dr. Luther Gottwald offered a prayer for more oneness in devotion to "Jesus Christ as divine Lord and Saviour" making Ephesians 3: 14-21 the close of his prayer. That prayer was a mountaintop from which could be seen in faith the pos-

sibilities of more effective devotion to Christ's mission through, but not necessarily because of the proposed National Council; it spoke of a more united surrender of our talents to the Master's use; it echoed the prayer that American Protestantism might more fully and unitedly give itself to the realm of God and less to the realm of denominational prosperity. Dr. Gottwald seemed to voice the almost breathless yearning on the part of the assembled body for this move to become a steppingstone for many Christian mission bodies — and their denominations — into a more wholesome individual contribution to kingdom work everywhere. The Canadian boards will continue to co-operate through the Division of Foreign Missions of the National Council of Churches.

The Women's Society and the Missionary Society of our denomination both sent representatives who voted "yes," at this historic meeting in Philadelphia. We believe that Seventh Day Baptists have their best opportunity to contribute to evangelical service throughout the world in the proposed democratic, highly devoted, and well-conceived National Council. No other group of agencies has proved such democracy along with such effectiveness as has the Foreign Missions Conference, Department of Evangelism, and other departments of the Federal Council, International Council of Religious Education, etc. Will you pray with us that the new organization may overcome weaknesses, in recognition of which the merging agencies have dissolved themselves for the larger means of service?
D. S. C.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Committee on Scholarships and Fellowships of the Board of Trustees of the Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund again call the attention of all young men who require financial assistance in preparing for the ministry, that their application should be made to the Memorial Fund not later than July 1 of this year, at which time all allocations are made. Applications should be addressed to the office of the Treasurer, 510 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, N. J.

WOMEN'S BOARD MEETING

The Board of Directors of the Women's Society of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference met at the home of Mrs. G. H. Trainer, May 7, 1950, with the following members present: Mrs. J. L. Skaggs, Mrs. Ottis Swiger, Mrs. Okey Davis, Mrs. L. F. Hurley, Mrs. Harold Stillman, Mrs. Rex Zwiebel, Mrs. G. H. Trainer, Miss Lotta Bond, Miss Alta Van Horn, and Miss Greta F. Randolph. Mrs. Okey Davis led the devotionals using the meditation in the April "Church Woman."

Mrs. Swiger gave the report of the treasurer which showed the following balances: General Fund, \$320.73; Evangelistic Fund, \$976.93. The report was accepted and placed on file.

Mrs. Hurley gave a report as the representative to the meeting of the Commission and Co-ordinating Committee. See your News Letter for details.

Mrs. Stillman presented her resignation as a member of the board since she is leaving Salem the first of June. Her resignation was accepted with regret.

Mrs. Hurley reported for the Committee on Peace and World Order. The report was accepted as a report of progress.

Miss Van Horn presented the report of the Christian Culture Committee. The report was accepted as follows:

A letter was read from Rev. Clifford A. Beebe relative to tracts suitable for use in the South. He stated that such tracts should be Bible based, simple, and graphic. There is a special need for tracts meeting these requirements to be written on baptism, salvation by grace and its relation to law, and one dealing with holiness, true and false.

Tracts which have made great appeal in the South are: "An Appeal to Conscience," by Rev. T. J. Bottoms, and "Pro and Con," published by the American Sabbath Tract Society.

The sample tracts from the Family Altar League of America were examined. The feeling was that the Board of Christian Education and the Tract Society would probably have similar literature.

We would recommend that the subscription for the magazine, "Town and Country Church," be continued.

Alta Van Horn, Cor. Sec.

Miss Greta F. Randolph read the following report of the Ways and Means Committee. This report was accepted as a report of progress.

Mrs. William M. Stillman and Mrs. Frank J. Hubbard of Plainfield, N. J., have agreed to be our fraternal delegates to the meeting of the National Council of Women's Organizations of the Presbyterian Churches in Ocean Grove, N. J., June 13-19, 1950. We recommend that their expenses to this meeting be paid.

Mrs. Ahvagene Clarke attended the special meeting of the Foreign Missions Conference in Philadelphia as a representative of the Women's Board. She voted for the merger which carried 77 for and 7 against the organization becoming a division within the proposed National Council.

A letter containing a copy of a recent radio address was received from Mrs. C. C. Wharton.

Mrs. Ottis Swiger,
Mrs. J. L. Skaggs,
Mrs. Okey Davis,
Miss Greta F. Randolph.

Mrs. Skaggs presented for the Missionary Society the problem of the contributions of Seventh Day Baptists to the Protestant cause. Voted, that Mrs. Skaggs suggest to the Ministers' Conference that this problem be considered.

Voted, to pay \$10 toward gasoline and transportation expense for the president.

The Goals Committee was asked to have charge of the Fellowship Supper for Conference.

Mrs. Hurley was asked to have the Conference Tea on her lawn and to work with the local society as to details.

The Christian Culture Committee and Mrs. Okey Davis were asked to have charge of the display table for Conference.

Minutes were read and approved.

Adjourned to meet with Mrs. Skaggs the second Sunday in June at 11:00 a.m. for a covered dish dinner.

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

WHAT KIND OF BIBLE STORY BOOKS SHOULD CHILDREN HAVE?

(The first part of this article appeared in the Sabbath Recorder of May 29, 1950. Both parts are adapted by special permission from a copyrighted article in the International Journal of Religious Education by Rosemary K. Roorback. Reprints available from the International Council of Religious Education at 3 cents each or \$2.25 per 100. — A. N. R.)

"Kindergarten children may begin to cultivate an appreciation for the Bible as a book that has stories about Jesus." So writes Miss Rosemary K. Roorback, assistant editor of children's publications for the Methodist Church. Children of four and five may be introduced to a few lovely Bible verses as a foundation for later memorization. Only those stories of Jesus which show His helpfulness, His kindness, and His love for people should be told. Continuity is not important at this age.

The best books for kindergarten children are of the storybook type which have pictures on each page. The series entitled Bible Books for Small People, by Mary Entwistle and Muriel Chalmers, Thomas Nelson, 50 cents each, are of this type.

Primary children of six, seven, and eight years of age enjoy Old Testament stories which depict the life, customs, and worship of Bible people. They can now appreciate a connected story such as Joseph's experiences, and stories which give more detail about the life of Jesus. The Tell Me About God, Tell Me About Jesus, Tell Me About the Bible, and Tell Me About Prayer books by Mary Alice Jones, Rand McNally, \$2 each, are recommended for this age.

Junior boys and girls can usually read for themselves, often preferring this to being read to. "Juniors should refer to the Bible itself and have the story of Jesus as a whole as well as a record of His teachings," says Miss Roorback. A few desirable titles are: The Story of the Bible by Walter Russel Bowie, Abingdon-Cokesbury, \$2.50; The Story of the Bible People by Muriel Steibert Curtis, Macmillan, \$2.25; and Nathan, Boy of Capernaum by Amy Morris Lillie, Dutton, \$2.50.

(Continued on page 415)



OUR CHILDREN'S LETTER EXCHANGE

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

Dear Mrs. Greene:

My sister Roberta got an Underwood typewriter for a graduation present. She will be graduated from 8th grade in a few days. Her teacher is Mr. Ray Carlson. My teacher is Miss Nina Williams. Next year I will be in 4th grade and my sister will be in 9th grade. I am glad I did pass because I would like harder work. I play a drum in the school band. My band teacher is Mrs. Pritchett. I am in C band. My music teacher is Miss Hazel Olson.

Sunday, May 21, Daddy, Roberta, Grandpa, and Grandma Randolph, and I went to Mauston, Wis. Mauston is about 120 miles from Milton. We went to see Heidi, Jennifer, Johnny, Sue, and Irwin Randolph.

In Sabbath school we have an opening song, say Bible verses and sing more songs, have an offering, and go to the classrooms.

We have a new car. It is a Hudson. I have nothing to worry about.

Yours truly,
Lynn F. Randolph.

P. S. Grandpa and Grandma Sutton are here.

Peter Mouse

Once upon a time, there lived a mouse named Peter. He lived in a hole in a wall. One day a cat saw him. It sprang at him! Peter ran to his hole in the wall. The cat was coming so fast he couldn't stop. He was headed straight for the hole! The cat got his head stuck in the hole. He never tried to catch a mouse again.

Questions

Hello, Mr. Sun. Have you ever eaten a wiener with a bun?

Hello, Mrs. Moon. How do you know when it's night? when you show your yellow light?

Hello, Mr. Star. How bright you are.
Lynn F. Randolph.

Milton, Wis.

Dear Lynn:

I was happy to receive your letter, your cute story, and the questions, which I'll try to answer, as follows:

If Mr. Sun could answer one,
I'm very sure that he would say,
"I eat no wiener and no bun,
But if you put them in my way,
I'll make them hot as hot can be."
And Mrs. Moon who shines at night,
So that her light you plainly see,
Would say, "It's God who gives all light."
While Mr. Star who blinks and shines,
Would tell you he's a blessing true.
For his clear light so soft and fine
Is given by God in kindness, too.

Yours in Christian love,
Mizpah S. Greene.

Dear Mrs. Greene:

As other older people are contributing to your column, I am sending a poem written by a great-niece, Jeanette Adaline Hamele, of Portage, Wis., who is thirteen years of age, with the help of a great-aunt.

Maude Ethelyn Rose.
Milton Junction, Wis.

Dear Miss Rose:

Thank you for sending the lovely verses and please thank Jeanette, too, for me.

Sincerely,
Mizpah S. Greene.

Miss Springtime

Oh! Miss Springtime is rounding the corner;
I just knew she'd be here today,
With her arms full of fragrant flowers,
For it's the merry month of May.
I must fly down the lane to meet her,
As she comes with a step so light.
Sweetly the birds are singing
A welcome with all their might.

Singing with a voice of an angel,
Down from God's throne above,
Telling the world of His power
And the wonderful gift of His love.
The trees that stood dormant all winter
Are bursting with beautiful blooms,
And a nest in which eggs are hidden
From which little birdies will come.

Oh! Springtime, beautiful Springtime,
We all give you a welcome today,
And with love and joy and glory,
We crown you Queen of May.

CHURCH NEWS

CHICAGO, ILL. — Forty members and guests of the Chicago Church attended a farewell dinner at the Austin Y.M.C.A. for Pastor and Mrs. Leon R. Lawton on May 20, following the ordination service for deacons held that day.

Following the dinner, David Williams was in charge of the program which consisted of music by Mrs. Anne Post Bergh and Mr. and Mrs. David Williams, readings and poems appropriate to the occasion given by Kent Osborn, Mrs. David Williams, and Mrs. Sam Dominquez, the first two being written by Mrs. Williams.

Mrs. La Fern Dunstan, in whose home the Lawtons lived, read an original farewell poem to Mrs. Lawton, and Dr. A. L. Burdick, Church moderator, directed his message to Pastor Lawton, expressing regret at their leaving and wishing them success and happiness in their new pastorate, the Los Angeles Church.

Concrete evidence of the Church's appreciation of the Lawtons' service for two and a half years with the Chicago Church was presented by the treasurer, Raymond Sholtz. Others called upon for remarks by Mr. Williams were: Former Pastor and Mrs. Hurley, Salem, W. Va.; Rev. Allen Bond, Washington, D. C., a former member; and William Arthur, Milton, Wis.

Mr. and Mrs. David Williams who will help conduct evangelistic services at Battle Creek, Mich., and other places during the summer, plan to return to Chicago before the opening of next school year, Mrs. Williams to resume her teaching position in a Chicago suburb and Mr. Williams to serve the Chicago Church as student pastor.

Robert P. Lippincott, who has been acting as copastor with Leon R. Lawton the past year, will serve the Chicago Church as full-time pastor for the summer.

A comprehensive Bible study has been prepared by Mr. Lippincott and outlines of the study and Bible readings have been sent to members and others interested.

Meetings will be held each Wednesday night during the summer, alternately, one week on the South side and one week on the West side of the city or suburbs.

Kent Osborn of Shiloh, N. J., has been a welcome addition to the Chicago Church while taking specialized work in Chicago. — Lilian C. Webster, Correspondent.

When You Missed Prayer Meeting

When you missed prayer meeting, you missed an appointment with the Lord, who says, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

When you missed prayer meeting, you missed an opportunity of redeeming the time by prayer and worship which will never come again. Other meetings may come, but the past is gathered into an eternity which comes not again. — Canadian Free Methodist Herald, in the New Jersey Baptist Bulletin.

(Continued from page 408)

more in our Sabbathkeeping than our first day brothers and sisters do in their Sundaykeeping — what have we? Nothing! We can not buy and sell and do odd jobs around the home on the Sabbath and honor God's holy sanctified Sabbath day.

Again I say, "What is wrong with us as Seventh Day Baptists?" We have something worth fighting for, something worth giving to the world! There is work for each of us to do in a crusade to win souls to Christ and the Sabbath. Let us be busy handing out tracts, speaking to those we meet, lending a helping hand, cheering with a smile, and praying for guidance. Let us be about our Father's business!

Mary H. Boehler.

Edinburg, Tex.

(Continued from page 413)

Let us avoid books with unreal, preachy illustrations or the cheap appeal of the comic-type picture book. Let us choose books whose illustrations are accurate in background and simple in detail; whose format and attractive features include large, clear type, good paper, and durable binding. Then the Bible will become an interesting and living and thrilling book for boys and girls. If from the beginning we choose carefully and wisely, the Bible will always be the world's greatest literature to our children.

The Sabbath Recorder

SPECIAL NOTICE

At the session of General Conference in Riverside, Calif., last August, a committee was appointed to study the matter of some changes in Articles VI and VII of the Statement of Seventh Day Baptist Beliefs. The committee reported a slight change in Article VII in both title and wording, which is given in the Year Book for 1949. This was for study during the present Conference year, with possible action at the session in 1950.

Will those desiring other changes, please write the entire article in the exact form they would like to have it, and mail at once to Dr. Wayne R. Rood, Box 937, Alfred, N. Y., that the committee may have them for consideration in making their report at the coming session of Conference in Salem, W. Va. If you have suggestions concerning the rewording of Article VI, write it as you would like to have it.

For the Committee,
Erlo E. Sutton,
Chairman.

Note: Since Dr. Rood has been assigned to military duty as a chaplain for thirty days following June 25, he urges that these statements be in his hands by mid-June if possible, and by June 20 at the latest, so that he can prepare them for distribution before he leaves Alfred.

Conference Ensemble and Orchestra

The Music Committee for the General Conference to be held in Salem, W. Va., August 22-27, is anxious that all persons attending Conference who can play musical instruments bring their instruments with them in order that we may have ensemble and small orchestra participation in the Conference program. This request comes through Clarence Rogers, Salem, W. Va., chairman of the Conference Music Committee.

Alberta D. Batson,
Publicity Chairman.
1612 Lawrence Street,
Parkersburg, W. Va.

Western Association

The Western Association will convene with the Seventh Day Baptist Church at Independence, N. Y., June 17, 18, 1950.

Mrs. F. J. Pierce,
Corresponding Secretary.
Alfred Station, N. Y.

Southwestern Association

Gentry, Ark.
June 29 - July 2, 1950

CAMP MILES
On Irons Fork
in the Ouachita Mountains
near Mena, Ark.
June 21-27, 1950

CAMP JOY
at Camp Caesar, W. Va.
June 25 - July 2, 1950

Only those not yet freshmen in high school are eligible.

LEWIS CAMP
Ashaway, R. I.
July 18-27, 1950
Ages 12-18

CAMP HOLSTON
Battle Creek, Mich.
1950

Intermediates — July 23-30
Juniors — July 31 - August 2

PRE-CONFERENCE RETREAT
Camp Caesar, W. Va.
August 17-20, 1950

Seventh Day Baptist General Conference
SALEM, W. VA., AUGUST 22-27, 1950

Sanctuary



SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH
Milton, Wisconsin