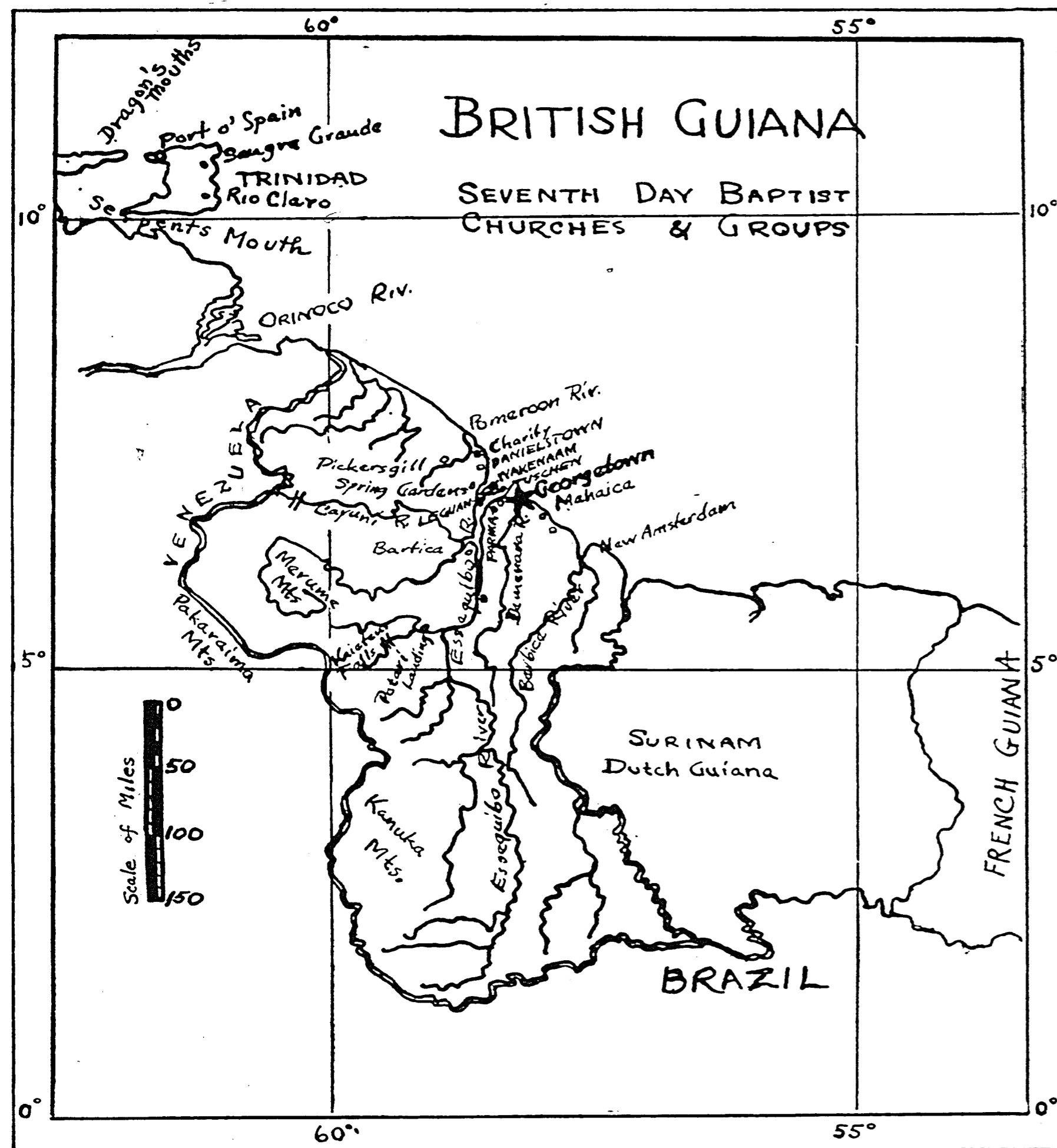


The Sabbath Recorder



There are six communities in British Guiana where Seventh Day Baptists are serving. Rev. Wardner T. Fitz Randolph, now in this country on furlough, is superintendent of the British Guiana Mission.

The six communities are as follows: Wakenaam, Pastor—Rev. A. B. Trotman; Uitvlugt (Eye-flukt), Pastor—Rev. A. B. Trotman; Parika, Pastor—Rev. Benjamin O. Berry; Workers—Deacon and Mrs. Joseph A. Tyrrell; Georgetown, Pastor—Rev. C. C. Belgrave; Tuschen, Pastor—Rev. Benjamin O. Berry; Bona Ventura (on Pomeroon River), Worker—Deacon Louis M. Garraway.

The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

A Magazine for Christian Enlightenment and Inspiration

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WILLIAM L. BURDICK, D.D., Emeritus
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RONALD I. HARGIS Christian Education
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Our Policy

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MIDYEAR COMMISSION MEETING AT MILTON, WIS.

The midyear meeting of the Commission of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference will be held, God willing, at Milton, Wis., beginning Tuesday evening, December 26, and continuing through Sunday, December 31, if necessary. Of course, the Commission will recess for the Sabbath.

The members of the Commission are: Elmo F. Randolph, chairman, Milton, Wis.; Alton L. Wheeler, president of General Conference, Battle Creek, Mich.; E. Keith Davis, Denver, Colo.; Lester G. Osborn, Shiloh, N. J.; K. Duane Hurley, El Monte, Calif.; and Alfred L. Davis, Rochester, N. Y. Courtland V. Davis, Plainfield, N. J., is secretary of the Commission.

When we pause to think that some of these men will have to leave home on Christmas Day or before in order to be on hand for the first meeting of the Commission, we recognize the extra service that they are rendering for Christ and the Sabbath.

Let us "pray without ceasing" for the spiritual success of the Midyear Commission Meeting.

UN "Meditation Room" Opened

Trygve Lie, Secretary-General of the United Nations, has arranged for a room for meditation and prayer at the Lake Success headquarters of the council. Opened on December 5, the room was set up at the suggestion of religious groups including the Quakers and the World Council of Churches.

Formerly a delegate's typing room, the meditation room is furnished as a non-denominational chapel with, according to the New York Times, "an altar-like arrangement of the sixty member nations' flags (which are arched before a hidden light and are set on a white linen cloth."

In questioning delegations about the possible use of the room before the final arrangements were made, World Council officials reported that one Moslem delegate had expressed particular interest. "I am already having quiet periods three times a day," he said, "in telephone booth No. 4." — Ecumenical Press Service.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

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TRAGIC TRUCE

CHRISTMAS EVERYWHERE*

Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight!
Christmas in lands of the fir-tree and pine,
Christmas in lands of the palm-tree and vine,
Christmas where snow peaks stand solemn and white,
Christmas where cornfields stand sunny and bright.
Christmas where children are hopeful and gay,
Christmas where old men are patient and gray,
Christmas where peace, like a dove in his flight,
Broods o'er brave men in the thick of the fight;
Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight!
For the Christ-child who comes is the Master of all;
No palace too great, no cottage too small.
Phillips Brooks.

Yes, "Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight!"

No foxhole too shallow, no trap too tight;
"Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight!"

Yet, within twenty-four hours the truce will be off and the war will go on.

Tragic truce!

Oh, that the sanctity of the season might last — forever!

* Quotable Poems by Clark-Gillespie, Willett, Clark, and Colby, publishers. Used by permission.

PEACE IS IMPERATIVE!

It is now or never! At least as far as some people now living are concerned.

At this "the season of dedication and hope," the opportunity for "peace on earth, good will toward men" is unprecedented.

For one reason, more people recognize the absolute necessity of peace and the extreme urgency for using every fair means of accomplishing it. Peace built on other than fair means is not peace and will not last.

For another reason, more means are available for settling world differences than at any other time in the world's history. Officials of the United States Government may have a foolproof pattern for peace but that pattern must be woven into the fabric of the United Nations pattern. The way ahead may seem dark but there is strong reason to believe that the

United Nations, under God, will yet be able to function effectively in guiding nations along the path of peace.

A third reason is, more people are becoming personally concerned about the peace of their own nations and that of the world. With some it may be hope against hope. Certainly a righteous God, a loving and forgiving and an empowering Heavenly Father, does not wish His children to be at enmity one toward another, to be in mortal conflict when He created all. This conviction and hope are the buttress of Christendom. Yet, there is stealthily creeping across the Christian landscape the sinister form of the assumption "that we are destined to live in an anarchic world, which sooner or later will move from political and economic to military war."

For Christians this cannot be! "All power . . ." said He. World peace is imperative!

The fourth reason that the opportunity for "peace on earth, good will toward men" is unprecedented is, more people are accepting the fact that all peoples of the earth are God's creation. If they will accept His way of life for them, as His children they will live together as brothers and friends in the world. People are precious in God's sight. A lasting peace will come only as nations build upon the dignity of personality and the conservation and use of man's powers.

We have about reached the breaking point. Let us put every effort into building for world peace. It is imperative.

(Note: The foregoing editorial was prompted in part by an editorial, "The Season of Dedication and Hope," which appears in the World Alliance News Letter for December, 1950. (Quoted material is from the editorial.)

THE 1950 YEAR BOOK

The monumental task of compiling, editing, and publishing the Seventh Day Baptist Year Book for 1950 has been completed.

Even before the General Conference met at Salem, W. Va., last August, the Year Book was in the process stage. In fact, before the adjournment of the River-

side Conference in August, 1949, the presently issued copy of the Year Book began.

This valuable and readily available record of Seventh Day Baptist progress, this account of our stewardship in terms of means, material, and man power, should prove to be a trusted source of information and of genuine inspiration. When viewed in its total form, Seventh Day Baptists, with God's help, are making an outstanding contribution to the cause of Christ and the Sabbath.

No pains have been spared to make the Year Book accurate and reliable; no labor has been stinted to make it readable and attractive. Credit for its appearance is due a host of folks, some of whom would be overlooked if an attempt were made to name them. Miss Hazel V. Gamble served as editor. The printing was done at the Seventh Day Baptist Publishing House, Plainfield, N. J.

The 1950 Year Book is in our hands, or within reach. Let us make good use of it.

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, guide, we beseech Thee, the nations of the world into the way of justice and truth and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness.

Note: The above prayer was sent by the Bishop of Chichester, chairman of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches, to the 160 member Churches of the council in 44 countries (including those under Soviet domination) to be used during the present crisis.

Based on a World Council of Churches Release.

THE AMERICAN WOOLEN COMPANY AND THE PASTOR OF YOUR CHURCH

(Guest Editorial)

The American Woolen Company is the world's largest producer of woolen cloth and worsted fabrics. Five times since June 1, 1950, this company has raised its prices. The latest increase was 45 cents a yard on cloth for men's suits and overcoats and 60 cents on fabrics used in women's wear. Other companies have similarly lifted the prices of other commodities, supplies, and goods used by man, woman, and child. Coffee, sugar, butter, milk, fruit, soap — all have climbed in price.

Perhaps you have heard the story of the man whose wife handed him \$10 and sent him on a grocery shopping errand. He left the car at home. Facetiously he explained, "I did not need the car. I carried the stuff home in my pockets!"

Some items are hard to obtain because of unpatriotic hoarding and the return of actual wartime scarcities. Inexorably the tide of inflation rises higher and the

value of the dollar drops lower. It costs a lot of money to pay for past wars, veterans' pensions and bonuses, and preparation for future wars. Depreciating the dollar via the inflation route is one method of extracting the cost from everybody. Only the wage earner in a well organized labor union has his interests looked after. By repeated wage increases he has been able in some measure to keep abreast of the rising cost of living.

To all of this you agree. But do you ever consider what this means for the minister whose salary has not been adjusted to this changing economic picture? Alone among the salaried class is the minister whose compensation has not risen proportionately with the inflationary trend. Yet his family needs milk, coffee, butter, sugar, as does your own. He needs books, gasoline, and a host of items not required by the average American family. And in order to retain the respect of his community a minister cannot be shabbily dressed. But the American Woolen Company's five increases in price compel him to say farewell to a new suit for many months to come.

(Continued on next page)

DR. GEORGE THORNGATE GOES TO SAIGON

French Indo-China will take on new meaning for Seventh Day Baptists with Dr. George Thorngate's going there.

Leaving La Guardia Airport aboard a TWA plane at 5:30 p.m., EST, Friday, December 8, 1950, he will arrive in Paris,



Dr. and Mrs. George Thorngate

France, at noon the next day, Sabbath. After three days' stopover in Paris, he will proceed by the French Airlines, arriving in Saigon, French Indo-China, on Friday, December 15, the Lord willing.

At the hospitable home of Mrs. William M. Stillman and Mrs. Frank J. Hubbard, Plainfield, N. J., on Thursday evening, December 7, a group of us had the privilege of catching some of the enthusiasm of Dr. and Mrs. George Thorngate for their new adventure. Although Mrs. Thorngate will not join the doctor in the Far East until later, it is their new adventure under God as good-will ambassadors

What can be done about it? The answer is easy. Christmas is just around the corner. The familiar adage about the laborer being worthy of his hire applies also to the ministry. Tell the chairman of your Church board of trustees that an increase in your pastor's salary is due, and that it would be an ideal Christmas gift. — Missions, December, 1950. Used by permission.

of the United States of America. It was their enthusiasm that we caught.

For the past several weeks, the Thorngates have been in Washington, D. C., preparing for their new assignment under ECA (Economic Cooperation Administration). The ECA, which has been extended to French Indo-China, has been in operation there since March of this year, working largely in the fields of malaria control and trachoma.

Dr. Thorngate's appointment is with the United States Health Service on a short-term mission basis. Although his mission will co-operate with the World Health Organization of the United Nations at all points possible, there is no direct connection between the two.

Dr. Thorngate's title is medical hospital administrator. His chief task will be to supervise the rehabilitation of over 30 hospitals throughout French Indo-China which suffered several years ago by Japanese occupation, and to give medical instruction. He has at his command the resources of ECA in the form of material and medicine.

Dr. Thorngate related that during orientation in Washington the other day, one appointee to the Far East inquired what kind of uniform they would wear. The government official replied: "You will wear no uniform. You will go as civilians and will be known by your good works."

The Thorngates were most happily impressed by the attitude of certain ECA representatives at Washington who believe that we shall yet be able to help win the peace by Christian, humanitarian, good-will means.

Medical Hospital Administrator Thorngate was informed that he would need to be ready to put on the gloves of a surgeon at one time and the gloves of a mechanic at another time. Shortly before leaving Washington, he was given full instructions on the assembly of Quonset huts. These huts will serve as hospital units for the time being, replacing crude and primitive facilities which have been in use since the destruction of the more permanent hospitals.

Although Dr. Thorngate's present appointment is not directly related to the Missionary Society, it is of great interest

A CHRISTMAS LETTER

(Written by a Seventh Day Baptist mother to her son in the service during World War II.)

My dear Son:

Again it is time for me to take my pen and send you your Christmas letter. I remember your writing last year that the Christmas letter brought you a feeling of nearness to home, and contentment. This one may be somewhat different, but I hope it will bring you an inner peace and a source of strength.

Many years ago on a Judean hillside the Christ was born. Mary, like all mothers, was very proud of her baby and loved Him very much. When the angels sang, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men," and the shepherds came to the manger to worship, and the wise men followed the star bringing precious gifts — Mary held the baby Jesus close to her and pondered it all in her heart.

Like you He was born to fight sin, greed, and selfishness. He did not live in a mechanical world; there were no guns, tanks, or airplanes — yet, He fought. His weapons were His mind, His heart, His tongue, and His hands. He fought with mercy and healing, with lashings of His tongue, calling His enemies hypocrites. Once He made a rope into whips, driving evil men from the temple.

He also came to bring peace — not peace in the world as we think of it, but peace in the hearts of men. Many times like you, He became very tired and discouraged, but He kept in very close fellowship with His Heavenly Father and received strength and courage to carry on. Son, you, too, can receive this strength.

He said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14: 27. Again He said, "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall

to Seventh Day Baptists everywhere. The Sabbath Recorder joins the many friends of the Thorngates in wishing them "good success" in their new adventure for Christ and their country.

have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." John 16: 33.

In your recent letter you say your comrades die so bravely. Like many of your comrades, He was willing to make the supreme sacrifice. He even carried His cross to Golgotha's hill amid the sneers of His enemies, but when hanging on the cross, He looked down on them and said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." He said He must be lifted up on the cross that men, even His enemies, might believe in Him and have eternal life.

The world has not believed, so at this Christmas we still are at war, son. My prayer for you is that at this season your faith may be stronger, though amid discouragements you may be able to sing, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men"; that again you may read the Bible story of the Christ child's birth. I used to tell you at Christmas time, when you were a little boy, that the best gift ever given was that of your Saviour Jesus Christ. He still is today.

Do not hurry through Christmas day; Take time to think and pray. Look up into God's sky, Where fleecy clouds and swallows fly, And somewhere in the day, maybe, You will catch whispers from God to thee.

We hope the package has arrived with the sweater. Dad sends all his love. We shall be with you in thoughts and hearts full of love during this holiday season.

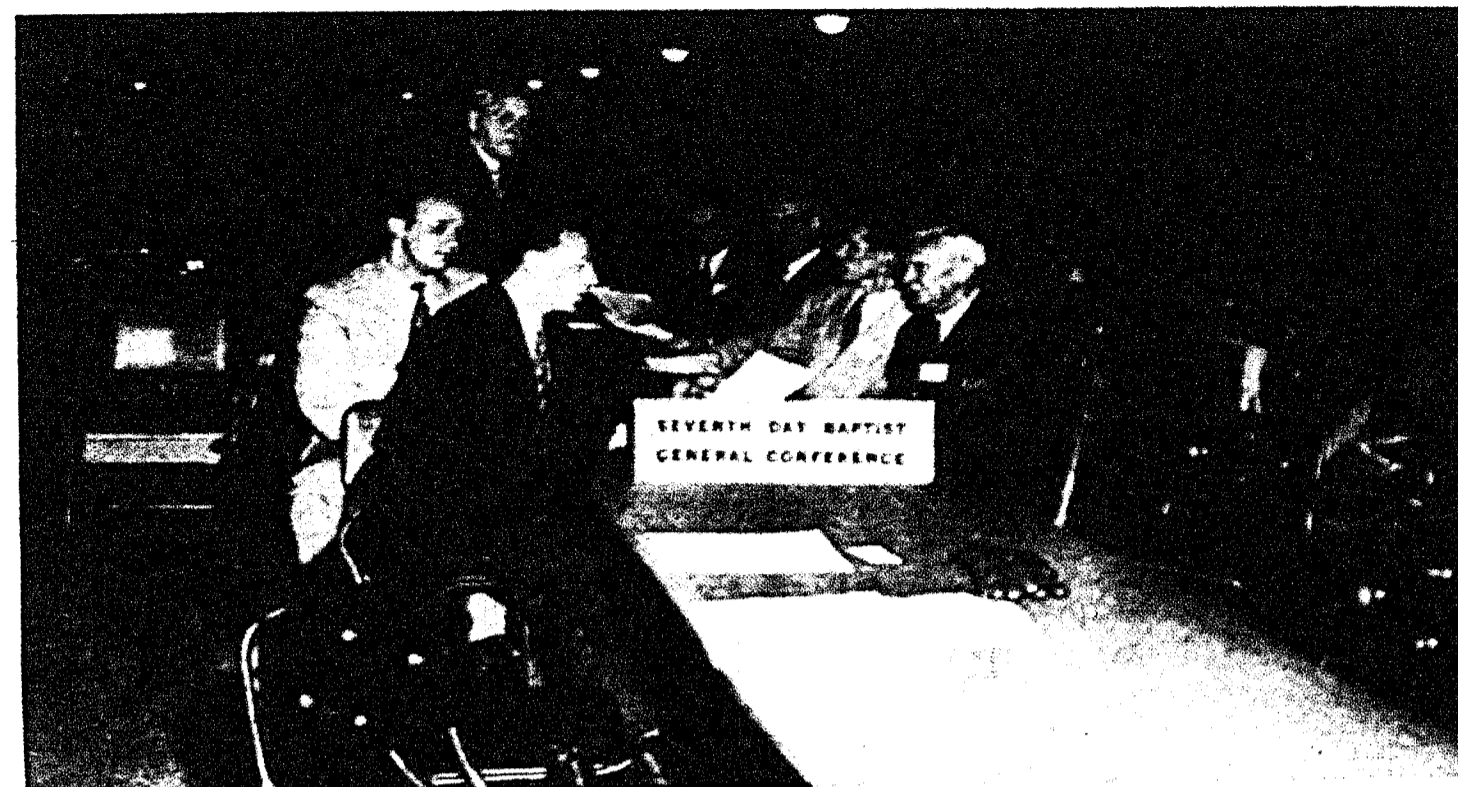
Your Mom.



Christmas Greetings

to All from the

Sabbath Recorder Staff



Seventh Day Baptist Delegates at Cleveland

Left to right: Elmo F. Randolph, Ronald I. Hargis, George B. Utter, Hurley S. Warren, Harold R. Crandall, David S. Clarke, Erlo E. Sutton.

AS OUR DELEGATES VIEW THE NATIONAL COUNCIL

United in the Common Purpose

It is now the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. I am glad that I am one of the seven Seventh Day Baptists who witnessed the birth of the new organization that takes the place of the "Federal Council," that has served nearly thirty denominations in their efforts to work together for the common cause of Christian witnessing.

All my life I have found that I have been stronger in my many activities, when I could work with others as part of New England organizations, of national associations or others. And because I am a member of a Church, I feel that I am stronger because of co-operation with others in the fold.

There is so much to be learned by working together. Problems have been solved by others that have helped me in my business, in the work in my community, and all walks of life.

In the National Council, we are united to build the kingdom of God, and to

strengthen the Christian voice. We need not compromise our conscience as we see it. I find as a result of my part in organizing the new work, that I have merely broadened the opportunities of my Church and denomination. We can work, free men still, with all Christians of the world in evangelism, relief, and education. No other activity in Christendom has any monopoly on these activities that I and my Church cannot enjoy.

I personally can go on as I always have done in my life, laboring with others for betterment of life as Christ showed us, whether it is in business, well-being of all people, or the more intimate life of my own Church.

So let us join our hands and go forward; let us be united in the common purpose.

George B. Utter.

Westerly, R. I.,
December 4, 1950.

Seventh Day Baptist General Conference
ALFRED, N. Y., AUGUST 14-19, 1951

DENOMINATIONAL PROBLEMS THAT FACE US

A picture of a Church was being drawn by one of the young "artists" of my family during a recent Church service. Finally she put the last few lines on the paper and whispered, holding up the sketch, "Is this one of our Churches?"

Remarkably, the drawing looked very like the Church at Westerly, and I could not help but be impressed by the unity of spirit and purpose existing among Seventh Day Baptists. Each Sabbath, as we meet for worship in Rhode Island, in California, or places between, each service is, in part, ours no matter where we happen to be.

Our Churches, in their unified program as a denomination have several especially vital decisions to make in the near future. For example:

Problem: Because of evident overlapping of activities and wasted man power and money, reorganizing of the denominational structures seems imperative. Looking toward carrying our message more effectively to the world, the Commission is recommending some important changes. How rapidly shall these changes be made? How extensive shall they be?

Question: Our denominational magazine is heavily supported. The question arises as to whether or not the expense is justified. The Commission has recommended experimentation to see if expense can be cut and effectiveness maintained or increased. What is the answer to the question?

Suggestion: At the present time our Denominational Building is not being used to full capacity. The suggestion has been made that either we sell the building and relocate our headquarters or take immediate steps to make more complete and effective use of it. How should we respond to this suggestion?

These are just a few of the important considerations before us as a people. They should not be taken lightly; while on the surface they are merely matters of mechanics, underneath they are the great means of carrying out our high calling. The Riverside Church has already had oppor-

tunity to consider these matters. Keen interest and clear thinking have been evident, and there has been an insistence upon keeping foremost in the consideration, "What is God's will?" If we do not lose sight of that which is most important — presenting Christ and His Sabbath to the world and if we do all with prayer for guidance, we will surely be led to the right solutions of our problems. — K. Duane Hurley, in the Riverside, Calif., Church Chimes.

OUR SERVICEMEN Where They Are

(The Church should keep in touch with those who have entered the armed services and alternate services of our country. As an aid in carrying out this privilege, the Sabbath Recorder will publish from time to time the names and most recent addresses of our servicemen. Please keep us informed. Correct information is most essential.)

Marlboro, N. J.

Cpl. Herbert M. Ayars, 13266967
25th Ord. (Maint.) Co.
1st Cavalry Div. (Inf.)
APO 201 (Main)
c-o Postmaster
San Francisco, Calif.

Howard M. Ayars, EM 3rd Class
USS LST 1110
c-o FPO, San Francisco, Calif.

Charles W. Cobb, ETSR 4168696
ET School, Service Command
USNTC, Great Lakes, Ill.

SA Leland H. Cobb, 233-24-08
USS Goodrich, DDR 831
c-o FPO, New York, N. Y.

Crystal Clear

"Abhor that which is evil,
Cling to that which is good."
That expression written clearly
Is most easily understood.

H. F. Hummel.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN BRITISH GUIANA

Reports of Rev. Benjamin O. Berry
and Deacon Joseph Tyrrell

(The following excerpts from workers' reports add urgency and direction to plans for extending our American Tropics work, both in Jamaica and the South American colony of British Guiana. Note the reports and plans in our Missionary Society Annual Report, 1950 Year Book, pp. 121-123; note the British Guiana map in the November 11th issue of the Sabbath Recorder; study geographies on the country; ask for the revised study of Seventh Day Baptist work in the colony and in Trinidad. The latter is being sent to all pastors or Church clerks.) D. S. C.

Georgetown

It will be remembered that I had to move from Georgetown in the month of July. Prior to our leaving Georgetown, Mrs. Berry carried on a fairly good children's work, but this work has suffered greatly on account of our moving. The work in Georgetown was put into the hands of Rev. Charles C. Belgrave as pastor, with Brother Leyland K. Small as missionary leader and all-around helper. Through the very efficient efforts of Brothers Belgrave and Small, new interests are springing up. I have visited many prospective members. I have visited and preached at the hall three times since leaving the city.

The work in the Government Alms House still continues, and cannot be stopped; this function of our denomination is a highly necessary one, because the standard of our denomination is calculated by our relationship to such social and humanitarian services. I pray for the day when the board can send down someone to live in Georgetown. In Georgetown, Brother Leyland K. Small, missionary leader, has launched a yard-to-yard evangelism (especially in tract distribution).

Parika

Without throwing bouquets at the Parika Church, I say she still leads in the work in the denomination here. We are trying to get glass windows throughout

the whole building; we have half the quantity on hand, and are now trying to raise funds for the balance. Then we will have to consider painting and decorating the inside. We are going step by step in this work, and still need help from our brethren abroad. We have organized a Lord's Acre project (planting corn and other things) to help us with our work. We need a small bell, like the small bell of the Alfred Church. We cannot buy such things here — such must be imported — and this bell is very much needed.

The young people's work at Parika continues to be good; the Tyrrells and Deacon Beckles are to be congratulated for their help in this district. We are to have a baptism soon. The young people have already presented the Church with a door mat, and are now working on a project of presenting the Church with a clock. Pray for Parika, because right now we have to use some of her funds to help the other groups.

And from Deacon Tyrrell's October report: Sabbath school and services were held every Sabbath day; also Sunday schools, and evangelistic meetings on Sunday nights; on Wednesday nights our usual prayer meeting; Friday nights the young people's Christian Endeavor; and Sabbath evenings the welcome service. On Sunday night, August 14, a sacred cantata was rendered by the women folks, entitled "The Sayings of Jesus," conducted by Deacon Joseph Tyrrell.

Essequibo and Pomeroon

I think Brother Wardner Randolph has given the board an idea of how difficult it is to be at work in this field because of the cost of transportation. With the help of the Parika and Pomeroon Churches, Brother Tyrrell and I have been able to visit Pomeroon once since Rev. Mr. Randolph left here.

I married a couple here, blessed babies, and we reorganized the Sabbath school and Church as best we could. We were fortunate to have Deacon Wilson of Essequibo Coast with us. Brother Garraway, the leader of this work, is trying his best, but cannot do very much because of ill health.

Again, from Brother Tyrrell's report: In September, I visited the brethren on

the Essequibo Coast, stopping at Queens-town. On Sabbath day the brethren from Adventure and Dartmouth came to Queenstown and we spent a happy time in the Lord. After service I rode nine miles to Devonshire Castle where I held an open-air meeting Sunday night; and on Monday night at Danielstown, accompanied by Deacon Arthur Wilson at both meetings. The next day I returned home to Parika.

The work at Queenstown is a key work for the Coast. Right now it is my solid opinion that if an ordained minister is placed at Queenstown the need of the whole coast would be served for the present. This man would be able to take care of the Pomerion work which is so difficult and expensive to be handled from Georgetown or Parika. He should be able to bless babies, celebrate weddings, baptize, etc. Such an undertaking by the board, or a group or individual through the board, would pay off in dividends fast and more than commensurately.

Rev. Mr. Randolph has visited the place, seen the land, and house, and thinks the spot unique and the district good. All over British Guiana, our brethren can give labor, but not cash; they do not have it, and poverty is extreme. Right now we have good Christian men with reasonable ability to put in every field, but we do not have the means to maintain them.

Wakenaam and Uitvlugt

During the quarter I visited Wakenaam, preached there, and helped reorganize the Sabbath school. I am supplying this Church with Helping Hands and Upper Rooms the best I can, the amount I receive from abroad being inadequate. (The Salemsville, Pa., Sabbath School helps some but needs have risen to 50 Helping Hands and 100 Upper Rooms.) I have supplied Brother Trotman with tracts, and his wife, the organist, with music for the Church. I get the best reception from the members whenever I visit there; our relationship is good.

I have visited Uitvlugt along with my wife, preached there, and have visited among the members. Uitvlugt is also a

THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Friday, February 9, 1951

CALL TO PRAYER

Theme: "Perfect love casts out fear"
1 John 4: 18.

Speak to Him, thou, for He hears
And Spirit with spirit can meet —
Closer is He than breathing,
Nearer than hands and feet.
Alfred Tennyson.

Christians in this turbulent world of today, let us come humbly and unitedly to the altar of God — to PRAY. Let us worship and bow down before the Lord our Maker, whose love alone can cast out the fear in our hearts and minds.

Prayer Changes Things

WE KNEEL, yearning for peace in our distraught minds, and peace among the nations; WE RISE, knowing each one must pay a price for peace.

WE KNEEL, yearning for unity in the Church — Christ's body; WE RISE with will to do the deed we have left undone.

WE KNEEL, blinded with pride of race and culture; We RISE, scales dropped from eyes, enabled to see strength and beauty in all.

WE KNEEL, wrapped about with personal grievances; WE RISE, filled with gratitude for gifts of God everywhere about us.

WE KNEEL, in fear; WE RISE with faith.

Today, at God's altar, let us take off the defeating robes of division and put on the shining garments of our oneness in Christ, the warp and woof of whose cloth are faith and love.

very good district where much work can be done, but for the lack of a Church building, we cannot move ahead. Brother Trotman and his workers have begun a building project fund for Uitvlugt, and all of the other Churches are asked to help. But I maintain that Uitvlugt, with all of her willingness to do her share, cannot build her Church without help from abroad.

THE BOND OF PRAYER

Mrs. Welthy Honsinger Fisher, Chairman,
Miriam Libby Evans, Secretary.

Five thousand delegates from sixty-one of the ninety-two countries which observe World Day of Prayer met at the World Christian Education Convention in Toronto in August. A group of Christian leaders, who attended the institute before the convention, met to discuss plans for World Day of Prayer, 1951. To hear the personal accounts of the way in which the day was observed in all these countries was impressive proof of the bond of prayer and love which unites us all. These countries all plan to hold children's services next year in addition to the women's services.

Each year in the United States the number of services for children and young people increases. It is wise to order all of your World Day of Prayer literature this month so that we may have time to have more printed if needed. Last year we regretted being unable to fill late orders.

We have a new filmstrip this year on children around the world entitled "Of Such Is the Kingdom of Heaven" — \$2.50 — which may be used in preparation for the World Day of Prayer in councils and also in Church schools. "Thy Kingdom Come," the filmstrip of World Day of Prayer projects, to be used in a devotional service of fifteen minutes, is also available. These may be purchased by a council and shown in all of the Churches in a community. They are excellent material for education for peace as well as missions, which have the same goal — the realization of the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. This is the objective of our World Day of Prayer.

Order World Day of Prayer material from United Council of Church Women, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Front Cover Picture

"Where Jesus Was Born"

"Bethlehem, the town where Christ was born. In the foreground is the Church of the Nativity."

RNS Photo.

THE FAMILY PLANS FOR CHRISTMAS

Each year parents breathe a sigh of relief when Christmas is past, for although there are many pleasant memories, the Christmas season is often filled with tensions, strains, and confusion due to last-minute Christmas buying, numerous social activities, and tired, irritable children and parents. Always there is heard the cry, "Next Christmas it will be different," but these resolutions, like others made at "New Year's," are soon forgotten. Thus, as a reminder, may we make a few suggestions concerning the family and Christmas.

It would be well for us to rethink the meaning of Christmas and realize that it is a spirit which should be with us throughout the entire year rather than a sudden burst of activity and seeming good will for one or two weeks each year. There should be a spirit of Christmas and not a "spurt" of Christmas. In light of this let us make plans for this Christmas season.

It should be kept foremost in mind that Christmas is a family celebration. Therefore, activities should be planned and carried out in family groups. They should be so planned that the normal schedule of the home is as little disturbed as possible. This will help to maintain the family equilibrium and result in happier dispositions which make the Christmas season more enjoyable.

The family should plan for the decorating of the Christmas tree together, and each member should have a specific part in the making of the decorations and the actual festivity which goes with the ornamentation of the tree. There should be a special time for this each year so that the children look forward to this time of family fun. This celebration can have an atmosphere of worship which can be climaxed by a brief worship service as a part of the festivity. This atmosphere of worship can be maintained by having a brief worship each evening with the lighting of the Christmas tree as a high moment therein. (For suggested Christmas worship see the December issue of the Sabbath Visitor, a publication for children, under the section, "When We Worship.")

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS NOTES

By Rev. Ronald I. Hargis

Executive Secretary, Seventh Day Baptist
Board of Christian Education

The child is often so overwhelmed with toys on Christmas morning that he seldom can truly appreciate any one toy. If the toys could be given to the child at various intervals so that each toy is fully enjoyed, the gifts of Christmas will take on more meaning and the spirit will last longer. Often it is wise for the parents of young children to open gifts which arrive early for the child, for often the sender does not understand the needs and abilities of a child of a specific age. Many times the child will receive a gift which, if given to him now, will be broken due to his inability to appreciate it; however if the same gift were retained for a later date — a birthday, or special occasion — he may find it to be a most enjoyable toy and surprise.

Another frequent error is the repeated purchase of a mechanical toy for a child by a parent or friend with the innate desire to play with the toy himself. This is often observed in fathers who buy expensive electric trains for young sons who have no capacity to operate them. Mechanical toys are often thought by the buyer to be cute, novel, and unique rather than creative, durable, and sensible. The child grows in proportion to the amount of creative play in which he participates. Thus, creative toys such as paints, clay, manual tools, etc., as well as a few well-chosen mechanical toys, which aid in the physical development of the child, such as sturdy tricycles and certain push-and-pull toys, should be selected.

Last but not least, the spirit of Christmas should be a continuous thing and children and parents should make a point to consciously continue in the Christmas spirit for at least a period of weeks following Christmas. This could be centered in family projects of sharing and of service within the community. Such activities would also help transfer the emphasis of Christmas from getting to giving. We should plan not only in terms of giving of money and gifts, but the actual setting aside of time and talents in such services of sharing should be accentuated.

R. I. H.

For all Christian agencies, the dates November 28 - December 1 are significant. The place was Cleveland, Ohio, and the occasion was the Constituting Convention of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. The International Council of Religious Education was one of these constituting agencies and thus is now a division of the National Council, called the General Christian Education Division. The denomination was well represented at these meetings. Those present were: Rev. Elmo Fitz Randolph, Rev. Harold R. Crandall, Rev. David S. Clarke, Ben Utter, Rev. Hurley S. Warren, George Davis, Rev. Erlo E. Sutton, and Rev. Ronald I. Hargis. You will be hearing direct reports in subsequent issues of the Recorder.

(Editorial apology: Since Secretary Hargis states that George Davis was at Cleveland, he must have been there. Although we did not see him we apologize for having omitted his name from the list of delegates in last week's issue.)

NEWS IN THE WORLD OF RELIGION

By W. W. Reid

Ten-year-old Jris Burkards of Latvia, arrived recently in New York City on the Army transport, "General Hersey," and is now in Green Lake, Wis., sponsored by the Federated Church there, as the 20,000th displaced person brought to America for resettlement by Church World Service, the Protestant interdenominational relief agency. During the summer months, DP's came in at the rate of 2,000 per month, and the rate is now being accelerated. The U.S.D.P. Commission has sent some 10,000 new DP names for validation, and most of these are being given "assurances" by Protestant Churches and individuals. CWS estimates that, in addition to these, there are 25,000 Protestant DP's in Europe still in need of visas and American sponsors.

Children's Page

Dear Mrs. Greene:

My two brothers, Kendall, four years old, and David, two years old, and I are staying with grandma while our parents are on a trip to get a plane that crashed in Kentucky. Daddy will take it apart and load it onto a trailer and take it behind the car to Kansas, leaving it there for repairs.

I had hoped to see you at Conference, but we finally gave up going as we heard there was polio there.

We have a house being built near North Tonawanda and hope to move into it by winter. We like our trailer, but there are too many of us now for a trailer.

We have a cute kitten named Augustus. We call him Gus.

I am seven years old and in second grade at Hamburg, N. Y. I like school.

Your friend,

Judy Wellman.

Ashville, N. Y.

Dear Judy:

I was hoping I would hear from you again soon. I would have been sure of it if I had known you and your little brothers were with your Grandma Carpenter, whom I have known and loved quite a number of years. I think your mother used to write to me when she was a little girl.

I couldn't go to Conference either last summer as I am much needed at home. But next summer Conference is in Alfred and I hope to attend at least one day if not more. Here's hoping I can see you then.

My daughter Eleanor had a cute kitten given her when she was ten years old. She named him Skeezics. Skeezics was quite old for a kitty for he lived almost fifteen years. Eleanor was married and had two children of her own when Skeezics died. He had become our kitty on her wedding day. We missed him.

Your true friend,

Mizpah S. Greene.

Dear Mrs. Greene:

I am four years old, so grandma is writing this, my first letter, to you. David

and I have fun playing hide-and-seek with our kitten, Gus. He will really find us and then run and hide, himself.

We have a cute little puppy engaged, that we are to have when we get into our new house. My "mommy" used to write letters to you when she was a little girl.

Your little friend,

Kendall Herbert Wellman.

Ashville, N. Y.

Dear Kendall:

Please say thank you to your grandma for writing this letter for you. I hope it will not be very long before you write to me your very own self.

Gus must be a very bright kitty to be able to play hide-and-seek with you. We once had a kitty who would hide from us when we tried to put him outdoors, but that is as far as he went for he never tried to seek us.

Our neighbors next door have a black-and-white rat terrier doggie named Queenie. They also have a cute baby boy named Jimmy who loves to watch Queenie and would like to play with her. But Queenie barks and gets out of Jimmy's way as if saying in dog language, "No, you let me alone. You are too rough."

Truly, your friend,

Mizpah S. Greene.

Dear Mrs. Greene:

I haven't written to the Children's Page for a long time, so I thought I would write.

I have five pets, a registered white female collie dog, and a registered white female Persian cat. The dog's name is Lassie and the cat's name is Sissie. I have three little kittens. One is black and white and the other two are black, white, and yellow.

My sister from New York that I haven't seen in two years, and my brother from Nebraska that I haven't seen in one year, and my grandmother from Cheyenne that I haven't seen in two years, are here now.

I guess I had better close as you may not have room for my letter. On the back I am enclosing a poem.

One of your Recorder friends,

Adeline Soper.

Box 86, Fouke, Ark.

(Continued on next page)

CHURCH NEWS

ALFRED STATION, N. Y. — A preaching mission led by the pastor, Rev. Albert N. Rogers, and Rev. Glenn E. Bucher, Methodist minister of Hornell, was held the week of November 19 as a part of the Religion in American Life movement and the United Evangelistic Advance. Mr. Bucher preached three nights on Faith in God, Faith in Christ, and Faith in the Church.

The deacons invited Mr. Bucher to assist in this mid-century taking stock because of his special fitness to speak to the Alfred Station community. He has been outstanding in his denomination and in Hornell since being graduated from Alfred University and Drew Theological Seminary. His wife is the former Miss Maxine Armstrong of Alfred. In the summer of 1949 he visited Germany with a Christian volunteer labor group and he declared this experience has made him feel "the Churches together are going places." He also paid tribute to the Seventh Day Baptist Churches for the true Christian character represented in many of their members.

One feature of the mission was the slogan, "Everyone bring one!" The members of the regular congregation were charged in this way and many responded. Publicity was directed by Pastor Rogers who also presided each evening.

The annual Lord's Acre sale was held November 9 netting something over \$300. The proceeds from the sale of farm and garden produce were sent to CROP but the major part of the funds, totaling \$914.91 for the year to date, will be used for improvements at the community house. Mr. and Mrs. Elmer A. Willard and Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Burdick served as co-chairmen of the Lord's Acre plan this year. Chicken dinners and a public auction raised the biggest share of the fund.

— Contributed.

Dear Adeline:

I must wait until next week to answer your letter. I will save your poem for the evangelistic issue published the first week in January.

Yours,
Mizpah S. Greene.

VERONA, N. Y. — A Union Thanksgiving Service was held in our Church Wednesday evening, November 22. Rev. Richard Bertram, pastor of the Lutheran Church, delivered the sermon.

Mrs. Lula Walker of Oneonta, who is entering her thirty-third year as president of Otsego County W. C. T. U., spoke during our Sabbath school hour on the subject, "The Open Door." She told of several interesting experiences in her temperance work.

A variety shower was given Miss Dorothy Waters and Maurice Warner in our Church parlors on the evening of November 11, sponsored by the Helpers Sabbath school class of which both young people are members. The room was artistically decorated in green, yellow, and white.

Olin Davis announced the program which included a piano solo by Randall Gaffner, vocal solo by Kenneth Davis, trio by the Misses Twila Sholtz, Louise Hyde, and Richard Warner, a humorous reading by Miss Marie Waters, advice to the bride by G. Allison Smith, and advice to the bridegroom by Mrs. Alden Vierow.

A group of young men staged a mock wedding with Garth Warner as minister, Granton Jewett as bride, and Roger Davis as groom. Pastor Polan gave a short talk after which the couple unwrapped many pretty and useful gifts. Ice cream and a fine, prettily decorated cake, made by Mrs. Alden Vierow, were served.

Several young people who are attending college were home for the Thanksgiving vacation.

One of the worst windstorms ever experienced in this area came on Sabbath, November 25. Nevertheless, a good-sized congregation blew into our Church service. Our good janitor had turned on the oil heat before the electricity went off, so our Church was well heated. The wind did great damage to buildings and many large trees were blown down, blocking roads and putting telephone lines out of commission. — Press Committee.

Unhappiness is the hunger to get. True happiness is the hunger to give. — The Bible Advocate.

Deacon Rolla O. Babcock

Rolla Orville Babcock, son of Deacon N. W. and Louisa Davis Babcock, was born July 28, 1875, in Greeley County, Neb., and passed away at his home in North Loup, September 12, 1950, following several months of failing health.

His parents were two of the Seventh Day Baptist pioneers who settled in the North Loup Valley, founding the Church of that faith in 1873. Born of these devout Christian parents, he was a loyal Seventh Day Baptist, faithful to his Church, which he served as deacon for many years and in a number of other official ways.

Married November 24, 1900, to Estella Green, their home continued to be on the old home farm. Here his wife passed away on November 22, 1931. To them were born three sons, Wilson, who died at the age of one year; Orville W., pastor of the Seventh Day Baptist Church at White Cloud, Mich.; and Richard O., on the faculty of the North Loup schools; and three daughters: Mrs. Irma Keown, Scotia; Louise, who died at the age of three years; and Mrs. Ruby Van Horn, Beloit, Wis.

On June 6, 1934, he was married to Leona Sayre at Lanark, Ill. The home continued to be on the farm in Greeley County until 1940, when they bought the Manchester residence in North Loup near the Seventh Day Baptist Church.

His early education was obtained in the district school known as the Mansell Davis School, and in later years he served as a school board member. When the district was consolidated with the Scotia school, he became a member of that school board, serving both as president and secretary, during the time he was in the district.

Besides farming, Mr. Babcock inherited his father's ability to work with wood, utilizing that ability to the betterment of his home and the homes of those he loved, as well as his Church. The beautiful lawn and flower garden at his home, as well as the Church lawn and building which he with his wife helped care for, were a source of great pride and joy to him. He loved his family, was honest and upright,

gentle and kind to all who knew him, a true follower of his Master.

Surviving, besides his widow, are two sons, two daughters, two granddaughters, six grandsons, three great-grandchildren, one sister, Mrs. Winnie Clement, of Riverside, Calif., a number of nieces and nephews and a host of friends.

Memorial services were held September 15 at the North Loup Seventh Day Baptist Church, conducted by Rev. Francis D. Saunders. Interment was in the North Loup Cemetery. E. C. H.

Obituaries

Babcock. — Rolla Orville, July 28, 1875 - September 12, 1950. A more extended sketch appears elsewhere in this issue.

Maxon. — Mabel E., daughter of Henry J. and Phoebe Howland Maxon, was born near Walworth, Wis., July 4, 1878, and passed away at her home in Harvard, Ill., September 20, 1950, where she had lived for about thirty-five years.

She was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Walworth, Wis.

Although Miss Maxon never married she survived by an adopted son, J. J. Maxon of St. Andrew, Fla.

Rev. Mr. Huxell, a Lutheran minister who was "kind enough to bring her the Word of God, and peace, in her last few weeks of life," at her request conducted the memorial service, September 24, 1950.

Interment was made in the Harvard, Ill., Cemetery.

(Note: Information for this sketch was furnished by J. J. Maxon, St. Andrew, Fla.)

Have you not learned that not stocks or bonds or stately houses or products of mill or field are our country? It is a spiritual thought that is in our minds. — Benjamin Harrison.

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The Sabbath Recorder

What Is Christmas?

Is Christmas today just a beautiful thought
When our world with its hustle and din
Steps aside for awhile, and looks for a star,
And a babe and an old-fashioned inn?

Is the path to the manger so crowded and long,
Where I see hungry men walk today?
Are some passers-by that I meet in the throng
Too anxious to be on their way?

For what are men seeking, as Christmas draws nigh,
And bells peal the story of old?
Is it Peace and Good Will, that Christmas might live,
Or just frankincense and the gold?

Dear God — we know that Thy Christmas is Peace,
The angels proclaimed it to man,
Come into each heart, build a castle of hope,
Shape our world by Thy Infinite plan.

— Edith M. Sanders,
Janesville, Wis.,
in the Church Woman.

GOD OF LOVE AND LIFE AND LIGHT

By Ahva J. C. Bond

O God of Love, in love Thou didst create;
Restore in us sweet Eden's pure estate,
Cleanse now our hearts with Thy redemption free
And give us some redemptive task for Thee.

O God of Life, our life to Thee we owe;
O come, we pray, our spirits overflow.
Thy life in us is all our souls require:
Come, satisfy our being's deep desire.

O God of Light, Thy light illumine our way,
Shine Thou upon our path through all our day.
No darkness can Thy loving face conceal —
Thy Love, Thy Life, Thy Light in us reveal.