

## PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH PRESS

Eternal God, who art the Way, the Truth, and the Life, we come to glorify Thy name. Thou hast led us to the path of holiness and Thou hast made us sharers in the life eternal.

We acknowledge Thee to be the source of truth and knowledge, and Thou hast put into our hands the spreading of that truth in all its purity. Grant unto us, Thy servants, such a detestation of the hypocritical, of the false, and of the sensual, that we may bring healing light to our readers.

Prevent us from being warped in our judgments and help us to be ever fearless in battling for the right. Enable us to protect our nations against falsehood, lopsidedness, intolerance, and prejudice. Help us to be leaders in the struggle against the darkness, corruption, and superstitions that threaten our free world and manacle the enslaved world.

O Thou, who holdest the nations in a balance, enable us of the Church Press to be true interpreters of Thy mind and will. Help us to understand aright that we are called to be champions of the truth. As mankind comes to this era's dangerous crossroads, give us grace and wisdom to point the way.

Grant to each one of us that strength of manhood and glory of womanhood, that we may not fail in our duty to Thee or to our fellows in the struggle for freedom and righteousness. Then, having fought the good fight of faith, may we lay hold of the life eternal. Unto Thee, be the glory and the praise, world without end. Amen.

(Editor's note: The above prayer was offered by Dr. John McNab, editor of the Presbyterian Record, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, at the opening meeting of the Associated Church Press in Washington, D. C., April 16, 1952.)

# The Sabbath Recorder

## McGEACHY VISITS GERMANY AND HOLLAND



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Top—Left to right: Elder Kohler of Brunswick Church, Germany, and Rev. Johannes Bahlke.

Top—Brother G. Zijlstra, Elsa, his daughter, and Mrs. G. Zijlstra. Taken at back of their house in Rotterdam, Holland, June 9, 1952.

Bottom—Group taken after the morning service at Hamburg, Sabbath, June 7, 1952.

Bottom—Left to right: Rev. James McGeachy, Brother Farholz, organist, Rev. Johannes Bahlke, and Elder Heinrich Bruhn. Taken after morning service at Hamburg, June 7.

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L. H. NORTH, Manager of the Publishing House

Contributing Editors:

HAROLD R. CRANDALL ..... Missions  
MRS. A. RUSSELL MAXSON ..... Woman's Work  
RONALD I. HARGIS ..... Christian Education  
HARLEY SUTTON, Emeritus  
(MRS.) MIZPAH S. GREENE ..... Children's Page

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Front Cover Pictures

Courtesy of  
Rev. James McGeachy, London, England.

## Conference Publicity

### Conference Accommodations

Letters requesting room reservations for General Conference at Denver, Colo., are piling in, and the Housing Committee is grateful for this early response. Please keep them coming so that all requests may be taken care of early. Write to Mrs. Paul Thorngate, 82 West Byers Place, Denver, Colo.

Arrangements have been made to use the Rockmont College (Bible college) dormitories for the price of \$1 per person per night. This is 18 blocks from the Conference Headquarters and would require transportation, either auto or streetcar. Both men and women can be accommodated there.

Motels, at no greater distance than 1 1/2 miles, are available with cooking facilities for \$6-\$7 for two persons or \$12 for four persons (two double beds, one room) per night.

As stated previously, there are two or three hotels within walking distance of the headquarters with rates beginning at \$1.50 per person per night. — Publicity Committee.

### CLERGY FARE RECIPROCITY

E. B. Padrick, Chairman, Western Passenger Association, has announced that Eastern clergy certificates will be honored in the Western passenger zone, according to information just received by Courtland V. Davis, corresponding secretary of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference.

Mr. Padrick has issued the following statement: "Western Passenger Association lines will participate in the sale of through round-trip clergy tickets . . . to Denver, Colo., upon presentation of Eastern clergy certificates only; dates of sale, August 14-21, inclusive, 1952; return limit, 30 days in addition to date of sale; fares to be on the basis of one first-class fare for the round trip, using fares in effect on authorized selling dates."

Seventh Day Baptist ministers who hold Eastern clergy fare certificates might well present the above statement to the ticket agent when buying the round-trip clergy ticket to Denver.

### "WHAT DOES THE COMMISSION WANT US TO DO?"

"What does the Commission want us to do?" was asked at a recent forum of the Eastern Association held on Sabbath afternoon at Shiloh, N. J.

A good and fair question indeed!

The chairman of the open forum, a member of the Commission, asked if the president of Conference, also a member of the Commission and a member of the forum, would like to answer the question. He politely declined. The matter was referred to the corresponding secretary of the General Conference and secretary of the Commission who likewise elected to make no comment. Also sitting on the platform with the panel was the editor of the Sabbath Recorder, who did not raise his voice by way of explanation — consequently, the question went unanswered at the time.

Why did not one of us attempt to tell what the Commission wants the folks out in the Churches of the denomination to do? We have reflected considerably about the matter since Sabbath afternoon, June 14, the time of the panel discussion and open forum at Shiloh.

All who were in attendance at the General Conference in Alfred last August were brought to realize that at that time the Commission wanted the representatives of the Churches assembled to authorize the appointment of an executive secretary. Of course this matter had been considered during the year previous to our meeting at Alfred and some delegations were instructed by their respective Churches. The voting on the question, however, was by individual response to the roll call of registered delegates. The result was an overwhelming majority in favor of the recommendation of the Commission for the appointment of an executive secretary. This is clearly and definitely something that the Commission wanted us to do. The people responded so favorably that some of the Commission members were swept from their feet by the action. They rallied, however, and have been earnestly seeking to find the person for the office. Again, to date, no announcement had been made of the selection.

It is about time that we put the question in reverse on this particular matter — What do the people want the Commission to do? If we sense the wish of the people of our denomination we feel that they want the Commission to have definitely in mind by the time of the Denver Conference next month, the person for the office of executive secretary.

Now to return to the original question — "What does the Commission want us to do?" The Commission has requested that its proposal of associational representation on the Commission be considered at the meetings of the respective associations prior to the Denver Conference. This is being done from coast to coast and border to border and thus far the expression of the associations has been favorable.

"What does the Commission want us to do?" Of course, the Commission as the Committee on Budget Promotion for the present Conference year wants us to support to the utmost the Denominational Budget in order that it might be realized in full so that the significant work of the agencies represented in the Denominational Budget may go forward without retrenchment or being crippled.

"What does the Commission want us to do?" There are other matters that might be mentioned which could be labeled as those that the Commission wants us to do. But why would four of us in an open forum remain silent when the question was asked? It is high time that the Commission authorize a definite answer to this direct and proper question.

### THE HIGHER PRAYER

By Miss Marion Burdick

I would not pray for safety from harm —  
Lord, make me adequate for the task.  
I would not pray for freedom from evil —  
Lord, give me strength to overcome temptation.  
I would pray for peace on earth, but when  
there is no peace,  
God, give me a peaceful heart, an inner quiet.  
I would not pray that suffering never touch  
me —  
Lord, in Thy wisdom, use suffering as a tool  
to make my heart more like Thine own.  
I would not pray for things I want the most —  
Lord, Thy will be done.

## WESTERLY YOUNG PEOPLE WIN BIBLE QUIZ

Our Senior Youth Fellowship won the final game in the Bible Quiz series 15 to 9. They were testing their knowledge of Acts 1-12 against the youth of the Second Baptist Church of North Stonington. The winners are to receive a free trip to Newport to visit some of the historic religious centers.

Team members were Beryl Obermann, Dick Batchelder, Marcia Madsen, Bill Barber, and Shirley Smith. Those taking part in other games were Frank Robishaw and Jim Tabor. — Pawcatuck Church Calendar.

We are informed that the Bible Quiz was sponsored by the Westerly Pastors' Association and was broadcast over WERI each Wednesday evening.

Further, the Pawcatuck Post states: "The rules are simple. Each player must be a member of a Youth Fellowship and not over 18 years of age. The Bible passage that the questions will be taken from is made known to the competing teams one week in advance. The questions are based on facts only, and the quiz master, a local pastor, is in charge of the program."

Congratulations to the Senior Youth Fellowship of the Pawcatuck Church!

### NEW ADDRESS OF HELPING HAND EDITOR

Rev. Melvin G. Nida  
725 S. Prince Street  
Littleton, Colo.

Until further notice, Helping Hand and other communications for Mr. Nida should be mailed to the above address. He and his family are residing here while Mr. Nida is pursuing postgraduate studies in Denver in order to better prepare himself for a teaching position in the School of Theology at Alfred, N. Y.

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AT WHITE CLOUD

Vacation Bible School has been in session this past week with an enrollment of over 80. Teachers from this Church are Margaret Mosher, Naomi Vandenberg, Shirley Cruzan, and the pastor. — White Cloud Church Bulletin, June 21.

## VISIT TO OUR GERMAN BRETHREN

By Rev. James McGeachy  
Pastor, Mill Yard Church, London, England

Leaving Nancy early on Tuesday morning, June 3, I took the train from Strasbourg to Frankfurt. In the same compartment was a Jewess going to the latter city to renew her fight for the return of property and money taken from her by the Nazis, who had killed her husband. In her more prosperous days she had once employed as a maid servant an Adventist. An American soldier from Indiana also came into the compartment.

At Frankfurt I took the wrong train for Hannover, where I was to meet Pastor Johannes Bahlke, and so arrived two hours late. However, in the train I met two young students for the Roman Catholic priesthood, and learned that they planned to join the White Fathers, and go to Africa as missionaries. I gave them a copy of the German "Jerusalem." Another man had been a prisoner of war in my native city of Glasgow, Scotland, and told how kind the British had been to him.

At last I met Rev. J. Bahlke, and we took the last train to Braunschweig, or Brunswick as we call it. There Brother Kohler, elder of our Church in that city, met us and took us to a guesthouse named the Wartburg, after the name of the castle where Martin Luther was hidden by his friends to save him from his enemies. It appears that the parents of the proprietor had come from Thuringia, where the castle is situated.

On Wednesday morning, Brother Kohler took us to his home, where we were sorry to find Sister Kohler ill with heart trouble, and had been ordered to rest for six weeks. However, she was very cheerful, and Brother Bahlke interpreted to her the message I intended giving to the Church in the evening. This she greatly appreciated. It likewise prepared Brother Bahlke for translating at the meeting.

The meeting was held in a small independent evangelical chapel. About twenty-five were present, mostly our own members and a few visitors. Some were refugees from the Soviet Zone, which was only 20 miles away. The pastor of the chapel was also there.

The subject was "The Second Coming of Christ — the Hope of Israel," tracing the Messianic hope down the ages. The idea of the fig tree as a symbol of Israel was new to some. When one young man remarked about it, using the German for fig tree, "feigen baum," I thought he was referring to the flying bomb, which mistake on my part raised a smile.

I had thought that others from the chapel's own congregation might be there so had chosen this subject as of general interest. We spoke to the pastor, and thanked him for allowing us the use of his chapel.

On Thursday morning we left Brunswick, and broke our journey at Celle to visit an isolated member, Brother Bohme, who also suffers with heart trouble. However, he was able to entertain us in his garden, and showed great interest in foreign missions. At 5:35 p.m. we arrived in Hamburg, and that evening we received a visit in Brother Bahlke's flat from Pastor W. Becker, former editor of Adventist publications in Hamburg, and had an interesting chat with him.

The next morning we visited the only Baptist seminary in Germany. Rev. Mr. Bahlke had been invited to lecture on the Seventh Day Baptists and their history to the students of this college the previous week. We were kindly received by the matron, and given lunch. We were then shown around the chapel, classrooms, and library by a young student who knew English. The college had been rebuilt after the war, in which it had suffered damage, with the aid sent by the Southern Baptists of the U. S. A. They have few books in their library which they are seeking to replenish, but among them was a "History of English Baptists." This I opened and showed the many references it contained to Seventh Day Baptists, for I had seen the book before.

Leaving the seminary we visited at the home of Brother and Sister Hopp, which was near, and then went back to the city to do some shopping. The center of Hamburg has been well rebuilt, but vast open spaces still remain elsewhere, showing the extent to which the city had suffered in the Allied raids. Arriving home again we found Pastor Hennig waiting

for us. He told us of recent lectures on "Bible Difficulties" he had been able to give in a Lutheran Church. Several Lutheran pastors had attended.

We then took the tram to the home of the president of the German Union of Seventh Day Baptists, Elder Heinrich Bruhn, who gave us a very warm welcome along with Sister Bruhn, and their son Lorenz, and his fiancee. We were sorry to see that Sister Bruhn is still crippled from the accident of a year ago, when she fell from a tramcar. However she bears her affliction bravely. Lorenz is a fine young man who served in the German Navy as an officer during the war, but was at a shore station on the Black Sea, and fortunately not involved in battle.

After a good dinner Brother Bruhn showed us an interesting scrapbook he had made containing pictures of our Churches, colleges, and ministers and leaders cut from issues of the Sabbath Recorder.

We made inquiry about some who had been at the conference 14 years before. Some had died, others were missing, and Pastor Aurich had gone to Brazil. After a very pleasant evening we returned to Brother Bahlke's home.

On Sabbath morning Brother Bruhn took us in his car to the little chapel where the services are held. It is owned jointly by the Moravians and the French Reformed Church. They use it on alternate Sundays, while our people use it every Sabbath. About 33 were present, and during the Sabbath school period, I told them of what had happened in our work in England since I had last been to Germany in 1938, and that during the last three and a half years we had sold over 10,000 copies of the special monthly numbers of the Sabbath Recorder in North London. During the preaching service we repeated the subject given at Brunswick.

At the morning service two sisters, Mrs. Margarite Nielsen and Miss Magdalene Cremer, sang duets, the latter accompanying on the guitar. Brother Farholz played the organ.

After lunch Brother Bruhn drove around the Alster Lake, and we sat in the Orchideen Gardens, where there are large

ponds of goldfish. Pastor Bahlke informed us that he expected to visit our Churches in Berlin the following Sabbath. We have one in West Berlin, and one in East Berlin. The latter for obvious reasons is independent of our organization. A pleasant afternoon was spent in the sunshine speaking about these facts, about the morning's subject, and other matters.

On our return home Brother Bahlke showed me records of his visit as an ex-serviceman with other ex-soldiers to England in 1938, at the invitation of the British Legion, of which he is an honorary member. The British Legion is the British ex-servicemen's organization. Brother Bahlke was badly wounded at the Battle of Ypres in World War I, and is still partly crippled from it.

Of greater interest was the correspondence he has had with the Seventh Day Baptists in Brazil, and the information he gave me about them, which deserves an article to itself, and which I am sure will be of great interest to all of our readers.

In the evening we had another visit from Pastors Hennig and Becker, and over supper we recalled many of our mutual friends among our Adventist brethren. Later Brother Bruhn and his son came, and drove us by moonlight around the Alster Lake. This with the other lights of the city made Hamburg look like a fairyland. It was truly a memorable evening. We drove on to the Damtorr Station where I boarded the midnight train for Holland, and bade farewell to the German brethren who had entertained us so kindly during our visit, which had enabled us to renew contact with them after such a long time.

(To be continued)

#### SPECIAL NOTICE

Since the Sabbath Recorder is published biweekly during August, the issues to appear will be those of August 4 and 18. The issues of August 11 and 25 will be omitted. The issues of August 4 and 18 will be 16-page ones, however, as well as that of September 1.

#### CENTRAL ASSOCIATION

By Miss Bernice D. Rogers  
Corresponding Secretary,  
Central Association, 1952

In the beautiful De Ruyter Church, with its beauty enhanced by numerous baskets of lilacs, spirea, iris, lemon lilies, and ferns, the Central Association met for its 113th session on June 6-8, 1952. It was one of inspiration, encouragement, and sincerity. The cordiality of the De Ruyter people, the music from their modern organ with Mrs. Mildred Blowers as organist and Warren Brannon as music director, the delicious meals served by local organizations — all made it a very pleasant meeting.

As Rev. Victor W. Skaggs, pastor at Verona, led the opening devotions he quoted a Negro poem, "You Got to Have a Glory Inside." This, with the sermon on "The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ" by Rev. Paul S. Burdick, Salemville, Pa., delegate from the Southeastern Association, promoted introspection and therewith the renewed sense of need for God's leadership and the blessing which comes from letting Him into one's heart. That is needed before we can spread Christ's teachings to others. The testimonies from many conscientious, consecrated Christians at the conference meeting, which was led by Pastor Skaggs, showed the "glory inside." A solo by Mrs. Wendell Burdick of De Ruyter was another pleasant feature of this program.

That service proved to be an appropriate preface for the development of the association theme, "Go Ye," which was to stress the missionary spirit or evangelism.

The service on Sabbath morning was conducted by Rev. Earl Cruzan, Adams Center, because of the illness of the local pastor, Rev. A. Clyde Ehret.

At the morning service the Verona choir sang an anthem. Rev. Marion C. Van Horn, Brookfield, gave a children's sermon. Rev. C. Rex Burdick, delegate from the Eastern Association, gave the message of the morning, speaking in his home Church, before a congregation which completely filled all available seating space. His was the keynote sermon on the subject, "Go Ye and Teach All Nations." He stressed our personal responsibility for the

spread of the gospel whether in our own back yard or in lands across the seas.

In the afternoon, Alfred L. Davis represented the Commission in presenting a summary of its functions, responsibilities, aims, and problems. At the business meeting the following day, it was voted to approve the plan to have a representative of each association as members of the Commission.

Rev. Harold R. Crandall represented the Missionary Society. He gave a historical sketch of the missionary activities which have been carried on by our denomination through the years with a realistic statement of present conditions, needs, and opportunities.

Between the two speakers, a men's chorus directed by Robert Mickel, a recent graduate of Ithaca College, gave several numbers.

A contemporary meeting for children was held in the York Room with Mrs. Garth Warner in charge. The use of a filmstrip and an accordion accompaniment for singing were features of that meeting. The room was crowded with children.

The young people had charge of the program on the night after the Sabbath with an address by Duane Davis and a missionary movie, "South of the Clouds."

Parts of the services were recorded by wire recorder which Pastor Van Horn brought. He has been using such recordings to take to the homes of shut-ins.

Following the business meeting Sunday morning, Warren Brannon conducted the devotional period. Included was a selection by a male quartet. A number of sentence prayers added spiritual uplift and inspiration.

Rev. Earl Cruzan then gave a sermon with the subject, "Go Ye and Witness by Word and Deed." He spoke of the great need for sincerity where a person's word could be trusted, and fraud and deception could find no place. Our everyday life is witnessing for religion or emptiness, depending upon the sincerity of our words and deeds. The everyday walk of one who has found the way of Jesus Christ should be a witnessing for Him.

Following the dinner Sunday, the women gathered around the tables for an informal meeting led by Mrs. M. C. Van

Horn, associational secretary for the Women's Board. Several points concerning the work for the ensuing year were discussed. It was reported every women's society in the association had contributed \$25 each to the scholarship fund.

At the same time, Rev. M. C. Van Horn conducted a men's meeting at the Church. The possibility of organizing as a group and suggested projects to be promoted were discussed.

Devotions led by Rev. Rex Burdick brought to a close the sessions of the association.

The officers elected for next year are as follows:

Moderator—Wendell Burdick, De Ruyter, N. Y.

Assistant Moderator—Francis W. Palmer, Brookfield, N. Y.

Recording Secretary—Mrs. Ruth Davis, Brookfield, N. Y.

Assistant Secretary—Mrs. Ruth Palmer, Brookfield, N. Y.

Corresponding Secretary—Miss Myra Brown, Leonardsville, N. Y.

Treasurer—Mrs. Margaret Stoodley, Adams Center, N. Y.

The fall association will be held at Verona. On June 5-7, 1953, the Central Association will be held at Brookfield.

#### Colonial Church Service at York, Me., Tercentenary

A Colonial Church service will be re-enacted on July 20 as a feature of the 300th anniversary observance of York, Me., according to recent information from Robert Deardorff of J. M. Mathes, Inc. The townspeople will be dressed in authentic costumes and the Church officials will use an heirloom Bible and tithing rod. "Sentries with muskets will be posted at the door to guard against any possible surprise 'attacks' by Indians, as they were during the original service."

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