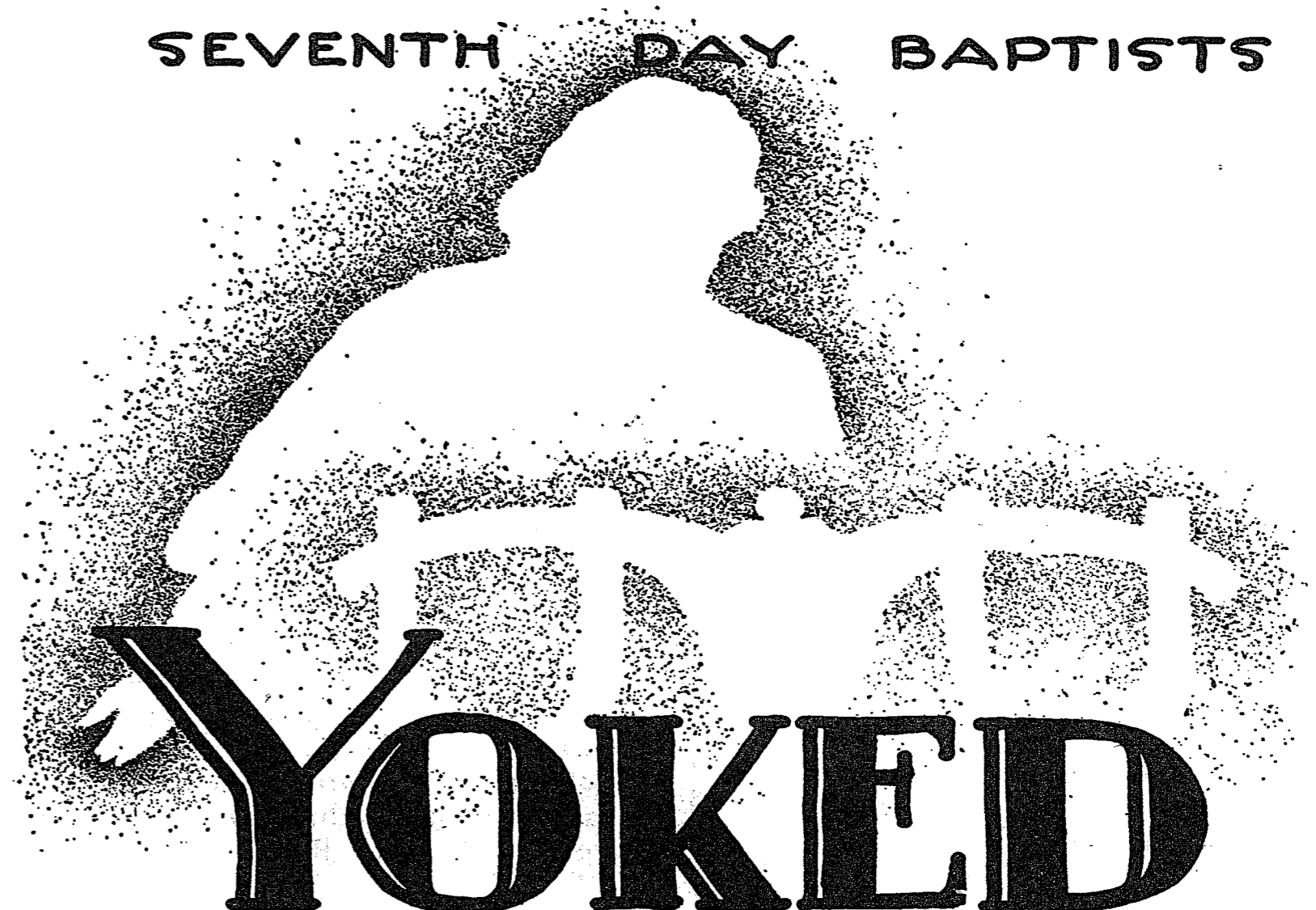


The Sabbath Recorder

SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS



YOKED

FOR LIFE

in CHRIST

"Take My Yoke Upon You
and Learn of Me" JESUS

ER

served the evening meal at the all-church social on May 9. The program was arranged by Dr. B. F. Johanson.

May 9 was made memorable by the visit of Rev. Ronald Barrar of the Nyasaland mission. He gave the morning sermon and the Berean Hour study, and answered many questions. In a simple, unassuming way he told of the amazing progress made in the area during the last five years. It was truly thrilling to hear what great things can be done, as Paul would say, "Through Christ which strengtheneth me." The Nyasaland booklet is full of information but hearing Mr. Barrar talk is much like being there yourself. — Correspondent.

VERONA, N. Y. — The Boosters class held its spring Retreat at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Williams from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon. Rev. Stanley Bean, pastor of the Durhamville Baptist Church, was speaker Friday evening on the theme of the Retreat, "Let Your Light Shine." All attended the Sabbath morning service at Churchville, being joined for dinner by the Helpers class. Both classes joined in the discussion groups of the afternoon. Miss Esther Burdick of Syracuse led the group on "Christian Social Service"; Mr. and Mrs. Garth Warner led the group on "Evangelism"; and Mrs. George Davis, the one on "Service Within the Church." Discussion groups were continued on Sunday, following which the class held a business meeting and adopted many of the recommendations that were presented. The Retreat closed with a Communion service conducted by Pastor Skaggs.

Melinda Mallison has been announced winner of an 8-week contest held in her junior Sabbath school class. A young people's party was given in her honor. The contest was conducted by the teacher of the class, Mrs. Mayola Warner, who is also superintendent of the junior Sabbath school. New contests for the juniors and other classes are now being planned. It is the junior superintendent's hope and prayer that this plan of Christian education will add greatly to the interest of the children as they seek to grow in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man.

When decency should protest, silence is sin. —Hudson News Letter.

OUR SERVICEMEN

Fouke, Ark.

Lewis H. Mitchell
F.A.U. Com. Air Pa C
N.A.S. Box 1290
San Diego 35, Calif.

Carraway Church

Pvt. Paul V. Beebe, US53136917
7th Med. Bn.
APO 7, c-o Postmaster
San Francisco, Calif.

James A. Price, FA769-97-98

U.S.N., M. M. School
Barracks 306, Section 1
Service School Command
Great Lakes, Ill.

Oakdale Church

Pvt. Daniel M. Butler, US53133065
Co. D, 728 MP Bn.
APO 301, c-o Postmaster
San Francisco, Calif.

Births

Barber. — A son, Everett Loyal, to Mr. and Mrs. Darrell D. Barber, Coudersport, Pa., on May 15, 1953.

Neff. — A son, Peter Jonathan, to Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Neff (Ruth Swinney) of Niantic, Conn., on May 6, 1953.

Obituaries

Loofboro. — Wade, 84, was born in Welton, Iowa, September 15, 1868, the son of John and Susan Loofboro, and died at the Beecher Convalescent Home, Janesville, Wis., April 11, 1953. He had been in failing health for several years.

Mr. Loofboro was a faithful member of the Milton Junction Seventh Day Baptist Church. The devotion of his family to the church is outward evidence of his loyalty as a father. Mr. and Mrs. Loofboro celebrated their golden wedding anniversary March 22, 1943. Mrs. Loofboro died the following year.

He is survived by two sons, Howard of Edgerton, and Wesley of Milton Junction; three brothers: Dr. Earl of Janesville, Rev. Eli of Westerly, R. I., and Elmer of Albion; and one sister, Mrs. Alice Burdick of Milton. There are five grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted from the Milton Junction Seventh Day Baptist Church, Pastor Kenneth E. Smith officiating. Burial was in the Milton Junction Cemetery. K. E. S.

WANTED — Woman, preferably Sabbath-keeper, to assist in small nursing home. No laundry or heavy cleaning. Good wages and pleasant family association. Burns Nursing Home, Gallupville, N. Y.

The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

A Magazine for Christian Enlightenment and Inspiration
Member of the Associated Church Press

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MANPOWER SHORTAGE

When Seventh Day Baptists lend their trained ministers to our own and other theological seminaries, it may be a good investment. When they teach in colleges, become military or institutional chaplains, it may be a gain to the people of those institutions; it cannot help but be a loss to our institution.

In discussing the future of our theological school at Alfred it was estimated by some that if the school could be assured of five students each year the cost of operation would not seem excessive. We are not here discussing costs or schools but students. If present tendencies continue it appears that the graduation of five men per year from the various seminaries chosen is not sufficient to meet our denominational needs.

Our missionary secretary reports that there are now fifteen vacant pulpits on the home field. Probably some of them would not be filled even if we had a surplus of ministers. (We have several good ministers who are unemployed.) We note with concern, however, not only the death of several old ministers but that several young pastors are unavailable. Carl Maxson has left Waterford and is looking toward an institutional chaplaincy. Wendell Stephan has resigned from Plainfield for a year of special study in the same field. David Williams expects to become a military chaplain in July. Kenneth Stickney is hoping that his improved health will allow him to get back into the Army. Wayne Rood, Ronald Hargis, Melvin Nida, Carroll L. Hill, and Leon Maltby are not now serving churches.

Some of our students are taking four years of schooling beyond college to secure a master's degree. Some, we hear, are not sure that they will be pastors when they finish. So it appears that we need increasing numbers of ministerial students.

The picture is by no means all dark. Only if the Holy Spirit ceased to operate in the hearts of men could we say that our people would be without pastoral leadership. God is able to raise up men. He is able to give us ready-trained men as well as young students.

We have just ordained a schoolteacher. Edgar Wheeler is coming back into the active pastorate. There is an interim pastor at Riverside. Alfred R. Keller is re-

JUNE 8, 1953

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ENCOURAGEMENT APPRECIATED

In leaving the pastorate which is rich and warm with frequently expressed appreciation the editor anticipated that the new work would be quite devoid of written appreciation for the service he hoped to render. There are indeed elements of loneliness, which we can evaluate better after the family arrives to take away the emptiness of the house. However, the people of the denomination who have had occasion to write to the editor or to the subscription department have been unexpectedly generous in their words of encouragement. It boosts our confidence in redeemed human nature. A great many people are thoughtful.

We cannot personally acknowledge all these little notes that tell of increased joy in reading the Recorder, and we do not think it wise to print them. We are humbly thankful.

There are three heartaches that are always just around the corner: the heartache that results from having to refuse poor or biased material; that which comes from not receiving enough material; that which comes from realizing that there are many homes without the Recorder. The last is the only heartache we really face. That is the one that you can do something about. If you appreciate your paper talk to your friends about it. It will help them and us.

portedly ready to serve the Chicago Church as student pastor. Frank Kellogg serves the Piscataway Church. Some of our southern churches develop their own leaders. The former editor of the Sabbath Recorder is back in a church.

God can meet our needs. If our churches show life they will attract and develop leadership. It is a strange and sad thing to observe that usually a congregation shows up its poorest side when calling a minister. Never is the Spirit of the Lord more needed or the spirit of the world more evident than when the average church tries to choose a new pastor. What is the result? Churches remain pastorless and pastors remain churchless — and everybody but the Devil is unhappy.

MICHIGAN CALLS

If you've never seen Michigan, this is the year,
Come to Conference — many old friends
will be here;
The country is beautiful, all should know
that,
It isn't too hilly, it isn't too flat.
It is green and inviting the whole summer
through,
And its sparkling blue waters are calling
to you.
So we hope to see folks from border to
border —
The Sabbath-wise people who read the
Recorder.

— E. M. — Publicity.

POLITENESS OF THE WORLD

Sometimes worldly people are painfully polite in their efforts to give no offense "to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles." Just prior to Easter some of the major television stations refused to carry an Easter program because it emphasized the Resurrection of Christ, which might be offensive to the Jews. Clergymen felt that this was carrying tolerance too far.

In North Stonington, Conn., the Board of Education has twice refused permission for the Gideons to distribute Bibles to the pupils who expressed a desire for them. The second time, May 20, Mr. Bliven, the Gideon representative, suggested to the board that slips be given pupils to take home. He would then give the Bibles only to those pupils who had the signed consent of their parents. A lengthy discussion followed and action was postponed indefinitely.

Is that the kind of religious liberty envisioned by the framers of our Constitution? There is a point at which religious tolerance becomes intolerance of religion. The Christian will try to avoid giving offense to those of another or of no faith. But he is not more than half Christian who, in overdoing this, fails to think of Christ, and like Peter brings upon himself these words, "Thou art an offence unto me."

"If you'd thrive; don't drink," Ike tells aides. — Indianapolis News.

PRISON EVANGELISM

Dan Gilbert is not a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde though his Christian activities might seem to be poles apart. He has been a most fearless news reporter for many years, fearlessly exposing Communism back in the thirties when to do so was not as popular as now. He exposed other forms of godlessness and anti-Christian teaching in a scholarly but searing way. He became known to the present writer through his book, "Crucifying Christ in Our Colleges," first published in 1933. It is a well-documented but a scathing book intended as "an expose of the methods whereby the Christian student's faith is cunningly corroded and his moral stamina is slyly sapped" — page 22. In one chapter he tells of a classmate who yielded to and followed the philosophy of Nietzsche and ended in a life of sin and shame. Gilbert blasts that teaching in these words: "The philosophy of Nietzsche has power, diabolical power, to debase and damn the virtuous. Well might the modern world recognize Nietzsche as he longed to be regarded, as a symbol of the Anti-Christ" — page 81.

Can honey flow out of this rock? We could quote much stronger words from Dan Gilbert. Is this type of writing characteristic of his spirit? Can he also show the tenderness of a lowly pastor? Does human kindness flow like milk from his heart? Anyone who knows the Apostle Paul knows it is possible and sometimes necessary to have both in the same person.

For the past two years Dan Gilbert has been probably the most successful prison evangelist in America. He spends the greater portion of his time in federal and state prisons going from death house to death house, sitting down with condemned men and leading many of them to Christ. Atheists in professors' chairs may hate Dr. Gilbert but the prisoners love him and write letters begging him to visit them. He has been working recently in the jails and prisons of New Mexico where most of the prisoners are Catholic. We are writing this not to urge support for his work but to stir the hearts of our people to greater love.



MEMORY TEXT

"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up." 1 John 3: 14.



ECHOES OF RALLY DAY

There are indications that many of our churches and pastors put considerable effort into the promotion of Sabbath Rally Day on May 16. Our information is drawn chiefly from church bulletins.

A few postponed the Sabbath emphasis one week. White Cloud did so, but entertaining the Northern Association on May 16 was in itself a rally.

Westerly, Ashaway, Shiloh, and probably many others centered their Sabbath eve prayer meetings around a discussion of Sabbathkeeping. Others, we believe did the same at their afternoon meetings.

At Marlboro, four laymen, two of them Sabbath converts, brought the morning messages.

Here are some of the sermon themes: Alfred, "When the Sabbath Comes True"; Ashaway, "The Sabbath of Our Mothers"; Fouke, "The Sabbath, the True Lord's Day"; Plainfield, "The Sabbath, God's Law of Sanctification"; Piscataway, "Sabbath Observance"; Riverside, "Light of the Sabbath Day"; Westerly, "Why the Sabbath on Saturday?"; White Cloud, "A Day for Spiritual Quickening."

The Shiloh Bulletin Extra announced plans to make Sabbath Rally Day a springboard for the Tract-a-Month Club in a three-month program of tract distribution.

Perhaps some churches had outstanding results. We can only print what we know.

OUR COVER

"Yoked for Life in Christ" is a great theme which will be developed at Conference in Battle Creek. It is more than a speaker's theme; it is the theme for the Conference year. The yoke implies pulling together until the job is done. One of the imperative needs during this last month of the third quarter is to pull together financially on our Denominational Budget. Look at the cover in this light and read the article by Burdet Crofoot in this issue.

MEETING THE JUNE GOAL

A. Burdet Crofoot

June has been named by our Conference president as a month of special giving in an effort to bring our Denominational Budget receipts up to 75% of the total amount to be raised for this Conference year. This will bring us up to date on our giving, as the year will be just three quarters over by the end of this month.

In common with most American Protestants, Seventh Day Baptists last year gave just about one quarter as much for denominational purposes as they did for the support of their own local churches. There was one denomination which reversed this proportion, giving four times as much for denominational enterprises as they did for local purposes.

Perhaps our proportion is about right — God and our own consciences must determine that. But our total giving last year was below that of other Protestants. We gave to denominational purposes \$5.93 per member while the national average was \$6.66. We are not a wealthy group — nor are we a poverty-stricken one. We have always proved generous when special appeals are made. But perhaps if we set and raised an adequate budget, and brought our giving up to the national average, the necessity for special appeals would not occur so often.

One minister's widow recently turned over an entire monthly check from the Memorial Fund (Ministerial Retirement Fund) to the Denominational Budget. Truly a widow's mite! We are not all that devoted. But surely such a sacrifice should stimulate us to review our own ideas of what we can afford to give to God's work as carried forward by our various denominational boards. Or put another way, what can we afford to hold back from God's work?

Our boards work hard to accomplish the most possible with the funds that we make available to them. Our Conference president and officers give of their time as well as their means to promote God's truth as we see it. They all merit our support. Let us see that they have the means to accomplish their objectives. Let us meet the June goal now, and the final budgetary goal by Conference time.

LET'S THINK IT OVER

A New Column

The above heading may appear frequently in the future over a column of short items. It will be in addition to our "Items of Interest" and will be more descriptive of the thought-provoking paragraphs which we wish to include. The challenging material will usually be from other writers but occasionally from the editor.

All empty souls tend to extreme opinion. It is only in those who have built up a rich world of memories and habits of thought that extreme opinions affront the sense of probability. — W. B. Yeates.

Do you believe in home missions? Do you want to see our foreign mission projects strengthened? Are you willing to help with Sabbath promotion? Are you for the strengthening of our churches? A gift to the Denominational Budget is a gift to all of these. Your help is needed now! — Plainfield Church Bulletin.

"It is a very frequent fault with disputants, that the one complains of the sense being badly expressed, the other that it is not well understood: whence it is that the whole dispute often vanishes into a mere mistake of the subject; or which is worse, issues in the most indecent brawlings." — Herman Witsius, D.D., in his preface to a book on Antinomianism and Neonomianism, 1807.

The Christian religion teaches "justification by faith," not "justification by legislation"!

The "Balm of Gilead" for sin is not the "social gospel" and a new social system, but the "salvation gospel," the faith of Jesus Christ, and sanctification of the soul, and life, of man by the Holy Ghost! — Rev. C. F. Christiansen in "Christian Economics."

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for June 20, 1953

The Practice of Christian Liberty
Basic Scripture: Galatians 5: 6

INTERIM PASTOR OF RIVERSIDE, CALIF., CHURCH



Rev. T. Denton Lee

Interim pastors are not the usual thing among Seventh Day Baptists because they are seldom available. When it appeared that the Riverside Church would need leadership for a seven-month period between regular pastors, there was a man of God available to step into the breach. Upon the unanimous recommendation of the Advisory Council the church extended a call to Rev. T. Denton Lee. He gave up his secular employment to devote full time to the pastorate.

Mr. Lee's father was a minister among the Disciples of Christ. Denton was born June 24, 1905. Our source of information does not note the exact time that he became a Seventh Day Baptist. He and his devoted, capable wife have been closely connected with the Riverside Church for ten or fifteen years except for a few years when he was serving another church, during which time he frequently attended the church. He was ordained in the Riverside Church October 31, 1942. The following year he was graduated from the Los Angeles Baptist Theological Seminary.

The Lees have two children: Robert 24, who is through college and married; Annabelle, 22, who is finishing her college work at LaSierra College. Mrs. Lee is the manager of the local Goodwill Industries store,

but is able to devote part of her time to the church and the cause that she loves.

Mr. Lee is a humble scholar of sterling Christian character and a zealous, capable pastor. Through his experiences as a salesman, a teacher, a preacher, a city mission worker, and pastor, his zeal has ripened and his effectiveness has increased. What the future may hold in store for him in the pastoral field depends upon that delicate balance between what he feels to be the call of God and what our pastorless churches may feel to be God's leading. He appears to be acceptably serving his home church — which is ordinarily considered more difficult than serving some other church. We are glad to introduce him to our readers with a brief article from his pen. One of his sermons also has been sent by a former Conference president for publication.

THE WORD OF GOD

Lester G. Osborn

"All scripture," we read in 1 Timothy 3: 16, "is inspired of God." The phrase "inspired of God" is literally, "God-breathed." The Bible is, then, not the word of man, but the Word of God. Since God is Truth, His Word is true. He used men to record His Word, but His Holy Spirit so overshadowed the writers that what appears in the original manuscripts is the infallible and inerrant record of His Word. This being true, there are no discrepancies in the Bible.

Apparent contradictions can, with study, be reconciled. To be sure, if one sets out to prove these "discrepancies" he can instill doubt into minds. We need not seek to determine "sources" to account for supposed contradictions. Let us just recognize the fact that Scripture is "God-breathed" and allow the Holy Spirit to clear up any difficulties in our minds. For example, there is no discrepancy between what Luke wrote in Acts, and what Paul wrote in the epistles, for the same Holy Spirit is behind both.

There are difficulties, but many such have disappeared with patient, reverent, scholarly research. Bishop Ryle said, "Give me inspiration rather than doubt. I accept the difficulties, and humbly wait for their solution." —Ashaway Church Bulletin.

THE SPIRITUAL SABBATH

T. Denton Lee

"I will give you rest." Matt. 11: 28.

Rest here is rest for the mind of the soul; it is the spiritual rest of God in man. Jesus is the Author of that rest; and, if a man has spiritual rest, his body also may rest in the Lord. There is then a rest for the spirit, and a rest for the body.

In the context of the above verse, Matthew 11: 25-30, Jesus speaks of God's rest as knowing the Father and the Son, and that by His name we have rest from demons and Satan, and that our names are written in heaven. (See Luke 10: 17-24.) This is cause for Jesus to rejoice in the Spirit, and to praise the Father of heaven and earth. For in praising the Lord in prayer there is rest to the soul by the Holy Spirit, which indwells us.

The rest of God is to see what the disciples saw, and blessed are the eyes which see it; for in the seeing thereof is rest, for natural sight is likened unto spiritual discernment. He who sees Jesus, and the Father within Him, believes in the Gospel and its message and has rest.

Many prophets and kings desired that rest, that is, to see the Son of God come forth to view; yet they rested in Him and believed in Him from afar off. Today we have seen that rest, and have believed in Jesus, the Messiah of God. In Him we rest from our sins.

All who labor against sin in their own person, and find they are no match for Satan and his crew of demons, are invited to come to Jesus. Those who find themselves loaded with the material cares of a ruthless world will find a sweet sanctuary in the bosom of their Saviour. If anyone is buffeted until his soul is torn with the embroilments of terrestrial life, let him turn to the heavenly rest in the person of the Lord; for He says, "Come to me, all . . . and I will give you rest."

We are to take upon us the yoke of His truth, for He is full to overflowing with gentle lovingkindness and tender mercies; and in this way we are to find rest for our souls. The yoke of His truth is easy when He furnishes His Holy Spirit to teach, guide, and strengthen us; and the burden of His cross, sacrificial living,

is light when He is very near. The blessings of His love are very restful when we have Jesus.

It is so easy to have Jesus, if we will but surrender our lives to Him; to come to Jesus in repentance for His mercy, and to receive forgiveness for our sin. One of our deepest sins is to fail to come to Him in prayer with our burdens, for we lose Him when we attempt to labor at our problems alone, and we miss His rest, both natural and spiritual. And this is the truth, that in resting in Him, He finds rest in us. This is the rest of the Lord in us, that we should cease from sinning by accepting the salvation which He has provided.

CHARACTERISTIC LETTER TO TRACT SOCIETY

Dear Mr. Kellogg:

Thank you for your letter of April 15, and for the nice tracts and booklets you sent.

It has given me great happiness to find, at last, a church that doesn't teach error. How I wish you were on a large radio station for the benefit of the people who don't know that your church exists. I also wish you had more churches out West. It seems every time we convince someone to keep the Sabbath, they join the Seventh Day Adventist Church (for fellowship, they say).

Now and then we have a little tithing. Is this supposed to be sent to your office or some other? And would it be put to a live, useful purpose?

Enclosed is an order and twenty-one dollars.

Yours in His love,
Mrs. J. W. Davis.

Rt. 2, Newport, Wash.

Post Office Blunders

The Sabbath Recorder goes regularly to the American Broadcasting Co., Inc., 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, N. Y.

The issue of May 18 was returned with postage due and carefully marked, "Removed — Left no address." It is hard to believe that the American Broadcasting Co. has gone into oblivion and no one can address mail "to the station to which you are now listening."

SALEMVILLE, PA., CHURCH



Among Seventh Day Baptist churches, Salemville may seem a bit removed from the others in geography and in social life. It is more than 100 miles from any other church of our faith. Even the family names are mostly unfamiliar to other Seventh Day Baptists. The westward migration of families that has linked so many of our churches together, has largely passed us by in this secluded valley. Nevertheless, attendance at associations and Conferences, as well as frequent visits by ministers and laymen of other churches, has kept us informed of people and currents of thought throughout the denomination. The Sabbath Recorder is found in almost every home, and the Helping Hand is used in the Sabbath school.

Of course, the Salemville Church owes its isolation in part to its unique history. It came into being because of a division in the original German Seventh Day Baptist Church in 1885. The following year a part of them asked to be admitted as a church into our General Conference. During the intervening years the church has been served sometimes by local pastors, and sometimes by ministers called from other churches of our denomination. Among the latter have been S. D. Davis, L. D. Seager, Darwin Lippincott, R. R. Thorngate, W. L. Davis, and in more recent days, Marion Van Horn, Orville Babcock, and Trevah Sutton. Each one made a contribution to the church, and is remembered with respect and gratitude. In fact, the grandson of one of these older men, and the daughters of two others,

have found a place by marriage into the families of the church.

The presence of two Sabbathkeeping churches facing each other across the valley, about half a mile apart, has been in some respects a good thing. They have met together frequently for joint services. Whenever one church had a special speaker, the other was invited over to share in the inspiration. For the most part a spirit of friendliness has existed, and Sabbathkeepers are held in respect in the valley, or cove, as it is called.

The membership of our church is around 80, and average attendance is 60 or more for our Sabbath morning services. A young people's society meets Sabbath afternoons, and Sabbath eve prayer meetings are kept up with good interest. A Ladies' Aid is also an active addition to the church life.

For some years, while the financial condition of the church was at a low ebb, it was aided in the support of its pastor by help from the Missionary Board. More recently, however, there has been a disposition on the part of the church to become self-supporting, and steps are being taken in that direction. A majority of the members are farmers, or are dependent on the dairy industry for their support, so that the fortunes vary with the prosperity of that industry. Habits of thrift, and of soil conservation, passed on to them from their German ancestors have taught these farmers the value of keeping the soil in good fertility, so that farms are really enhanced in value from year to year; and we do not find a disposition, found in some parts, to leave the partly worn-out soil of one locality for the lure of richer lands farther west.

The church has been interested in evangelism, and nearly every year has planned for some form of evangelistic meetings. Thus many of our pastors and board secretaries have spent a week or more at a time in bringing special messages to the church. This has helped to maintain a steady inflow of members, and to inspire us with a wider vision of the world task. This year we had Evangelist Wayne Marona for two weeks in April. His messages were strongly spiritual and Biblical. Besides the evening and Sabbath morning meetings,

FROM THE MOUNTAINS OF NORTHERN ALABAMA

Rev. A. T. Bottoms

So many have written asking about our work that I will give this brief report.

The new church (Paint Rock) is finished and Sabbath services are being held there every week besides prayer services twice each week. It was the privilege of the writer to fill the pulpit three Sabbaths while Brother Edgar Wheeler was away on vacation. I also preached the night after the Sabbath when two women came forward accepting Christ and asking for baptism the next week.

We are looking forward to entertaining the Southwestern Association July 2-5 when we hope to have ordination services, and also a memorial-dedication service for the new church.

The school year is closing successfully. However, Mrs. Bottoms and the writer plan to move back to the north end of Sand Mountain where we will have a larger field of service next year.

We will be in Davis High School, 6 miles east of Bryant in Georgia. This school enrolls above 600 mountain children all from the rural area. We will not move to Georgia until after August 15. Our address will be Trenton, Ga.

Should any one know of a church which can send us a Communion set or offering plates (two) for our new memorial church at Paint Rock, Ala., we would be glad to receive them.

The new pews have been ordered and will be delivered before July first.

We wish to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for all contributions in money and material for our needy mountain people.

May God's richest blessings be yours.

there were two broadcasts arranged over a nearby radio station. Visitors were welcomed from several neighboring towns. An opportunity was thus afforded for presenting the Sabbath truth to those outside our immediate community. The results are to be considered in the light of a longer view rather than in the matter of immediate accessions to the church.

Paul S. Burdick.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Seventh Day Baptists have from the very first been interested in the Christian Endeavor movement. At the present time one or two of our churches in Colorado are preparing to have some of their youth active in the big convention that is scheduled for Denver, June 22-27. It is of interest, therefore, to all Seventh Day Baptists to know that a new Christian Endeavor headquarters building is being erected in Columbus, Ohio. This building, to cost more than \$50,000, has been begun and it is expected that the organization will occupy it by September first, according to Dr. Gene Stone, general secretary. It is located on a portion of the lot of the building that the Christian Endeavor has occupied since 1946. The location of this modern two-story building is 1221 East Broad Street.

Christian Science

"Christian churches for centuries have related soul to salvation. They have taught that each mortal has a soul which may either be sinful or good — that after death the good soul is sure of salvation, and the sinful soul is condemned to suffering.

"Christian Science teaches that salvation is universal, and it has a sound basis for this affirmation. To the Christian Scientist, Soul is one of the names for God, and since there is but one God there can be but one Soul. . . . The real, spiritual man cannot be a sinner because Soul is God and has the qualities of purity and holiness."

(The above is an extract from a lecture given by an official Christian Science lecturer at Utica, N. Y., which occupied a full page of the eight-page Brookfield Courier on May 7. No comment is necessary other than to say, "We can't seem to make our Bible say those things.")

This spring 72 Christian schools in Japan opened their doors to 103,000 students, reports "Japan Christian Activity News." All schools are filled to capacity. The total student body is only about 18 per cent Christian and one of the current programs is to draw the students into closer relationship with the local churches and their activities. — EPS.

SUPT. WARDNER FITZRANDOLPH RETURNS TO JAMAICA

Missionary Wardner Fitzrandolph arrived back at Kingston, Jamaica, on May 12, having been visiting the churches of British Guiana since March 19 as superintendent of that field. His reports show that the work is progressing there under the leadership of Pastors Charles C. Belgrave, Benjamin O. Berry, Alexander B. Trotman, and Joseph A. Tyrrell. Brother Fitzrandolph was able to spend some time with each pastor, to meet with the British Guiana Council, and to take a journey into the interior in the company of Pastor Trotman to visit the Bona Ventura Church. We know that he has given our brethren a spiritual "lift" by this visit. We feel confident that his counsel has been wisely given and has been well received by the leaders there.

He concludes his letter of May 4, following the visit to the Bona Ventura Church, with these words: "I feel deeply the need of an organ (portable) on the Essequibo and Pomeroon coasts. I have had a touch of malaria this trip but after the first chill I started a course of atabrine. I am taking my last pill tonight and find that already the chills are gone and I am feeling much better. Pray for me and for the work here."

Let all our people grant this request and uphold in prayer both Brother Fitzrandolph and also the Cause of Christ as forwarded by Seventh Day Baptists in British Guiana. E. T. H.

REVIEW OF COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING

The Council of Seventh Day Baptist Churches of British Guiana met with the Berry Memorial Church at Wakenaam on April 14, 1953, while Superintendent Wardner Fitzrandolph was present. Many problems confronting the council were discussed and given prayerful consideration.

One such matter was an agreement that funds for general use in British Guiana should be allocated by the council for work among all the churches and that "donors

be requested to send all gifts through the Missionary Society to the treasurer of the British Guiana Council, to be used as approved by the council."

It was reported that Helping Hands are being distributed among the churches as follows: 15 copies to Essequibo and Pomeroon churches, 15 copies to Wakenaam, 18 to Parika, 6 to Georgetown, 6 to Uitvlucht, and 8 to Vergenoegen. The council "voted that the churches should sell the Helping Hands and that the proceeds should go into the treasury of the several churches."

With Superintendent Fitzrandolph temporarily taking the chair from Rev. Benjamin O. Berry who has served during the past two years as president, an election of officers for the council was held. The results were as follows: Pastor Tyrrell was elected president; Pastor Trotman, vice-president; Pastor Belgrave, corresponding secretary; and Mr. Aagard, treasurer. Superintendent Fitzrandolph inducted the newly elected president into office. The meeting was closed with the singing of "Higher Ground" and prayer by President Tyrrell. E. T. H.

MISSION BRIEFS

Word has been received that Rev. and Mrs. Orville B. Bond are now booked on the United Fruit Company's SS Cape Cod rather than SS Cape Avinof as formerly announced. The sailing date, June 5, remained unchanged.

Missionary Ronald Barrar writes from Los Angeles, Calif., where he is visiting with Pastor Leon Lawton and the churches of the Pacific Coast Association: "We had a good trip over here, and I believe successful meetings at Battle Creek, North Loup, and Denver. It was a rather exhausting trip as we had to arrive here in a set time which left no time for rest and I felt that the meeting at North Loup would have gone better if we had not been so rushed. I was naturally very pleased to have the opportunity to meet Joan and Beth at Santa Fe. I was very well impressed with them and feel sure that they will do well on the field. They are working

very hard to prepare for their duties and the Catholic Sisters have nothing but praise for them."

Miss Beth Severe and Miss Joan Clement write from the School of Midwifery, Santa Fe, N. M.: "We had a wonderful visit the night of the 13th with Pastor Lawton and Ronald Barrar. We learned a good deal about the mission station and now are more anxious than ever to get started. We were especially encouraged by something Ronald said to the effect that the bulk of our work would be midwifery and that he was so glad that we are able to get this training. There is even a small maternity unit on the station where we will conduct the majority of deliveries. As to our plans, we have requested that we get away as early as possible before August 16 in order to have some time to visit our families before leaving the Coast for Conference. Sister Theophane said that we could probably leave on the 7th for sure and perhaps even as early as August 1. We certainly hope so. We shall just have time for a short visit at home and then leave in time to get to Conference at Battle Creek."

The Advisory Committee of the Missionary Board met recently with the new executive secretary of General Conference, A. Burdet Crofoot. Co-ordinating the work of the boards was the chief item under consideration. Mr. Crofoot had been visiting Secretary Harris during the previous day. Missionary Board officers and committee chairmen gave close attention and sympathetic help to the problems at hand. Secretary Crofoot plans to come again for the business meeting of the board, July 26.

Secretary Harris plans to represent the Missionary Society interests on the Central Association program at Brookfield, N. Y., the first weekend of June, on the Eastern Association program the second weekend of June, and the Western Association program on the third weekend of June. Rev. Loyal F. Hurley has consented to represent the Missionary Society at the Southeastern and Southwestern Association meetings. E. T. H.

SHARING OUR BLESSINGS

Miss Jacqueline Wells

On the way home from Sabbath service, Mrs. Martin said to the family riding in the car, "Would you like to go on a picnic today? God has given us such a lovely warm and sunshiny day I think we should be out-of-doors to enjoy it."

"Oh! may we?" cried the children.

Father said, "I think that would be fine." So plans were quickly made.

Father would, with Johnnie's help, of course, put the wood for the fire, some blankets, and a couple of pillows in the car. Sandy would help Mother pack the noon meal into the picnic basket and make the lemonade.

While Johnnie was carrying the pillows from the sun porch to the car, he noticed Mrs. Adams sitting in the window of her home across the street. He knew that she was a nice old lady and that when she was baking she sometimes gave the neighborhood children warm cookies. The Martins had not lived there long and they did not know Mrs. Adams too well.

Johnnie thought to himself, "She looks lonely sitting there, I wonder if she would like to go with us today."

When he asked Father about it, Father replied, "Why, yes, why don't you go and ask Mother what she thinks, and then if she agrees, you and Sandy invite Mrs. Adams."

It was no sooner said than done!

Sandy and Johnnie walked hand in hand to Mrs. Adams' door and knocked. When she came to the door, Johnnie said, "Mrs. Adams, we are going for a family picnic. Our grandma lives a long distance away. Would you be our grandma today and go with us?"

Mrs. Adams replied, "Oh, I would like that. I was about to write to my grandchildren but I can do that later in the day. It will take me only just one minute to get my sweater and I will be all ready to go." Soon Mrs. Adams came out of her house with a big package under her arm.

When they were all settled in the car someone asked where they were going for their picnic. Father replied that he knew just the place, not too far away, and very near a little stream where it would be

peaceful and quiet. Sure enough, it was a wonderful spot.

Sandy said, "Everybody be still! Hear the birds singing!"

Mother said, "Yes, and see the lovely wild flowers. You may pick just a few down there near the stream."

The picnic table was soon spread and when they had all seated themselves, the children repeated a thank-you prayer that they had learned in Sabbath school.

The meat, potatoes, salad, and sandwiches quickly disappeared. When it was time for dessert, Mrs. Adams opened the package she had brought. "Oh," said Johnnie, "a chocolate cake!"

"It is so nice of you to share your cake with us," said Father.

After the food was cleared away and everyone had found a comfortable place to sit under the big shady tree, Mother asked, "Would you like to play a game?"

She had brought a Bible for each one, and they took turns in playing "Search the Scriptures." It was rather hard for Sandy and Johnnie to find some of the passages, but once in a while they could win. When someone called out verses in the New Testament or Psalms it was easier for the children.

When they were tired of playing, Sandy asked, "May we sing?"

They sang some favorite hymns and each said a little prayer to thank God for His lovely day and beautiful out-of-doors.

When they reached home Mrs. Adams said, "I have had a grand time and am glad you thought of me and asked me to go with you."

At bedtime the children decided they, too, had had a fine day, perhaps because they as a family had shared their lunch and playtime with a new friend.

This story was submitted for a Family Day emphasis last month and not used at that time. The Women's Page material for this week failed to reach us. — Ed.

The church had never such influence over the world as in those days when she had nothing to do with the world. — The Cream Book.

THE WOMEN DO IT

Church bulletins and letters received by the editor indicate that many of the churches are booking the "Joan and Beth Story" and getting a real missionary blessing out of it. By Conference time it could be seen and heard in nearly every church. Write to the Women's Board at Battle Creek for an open date.

We take off our hats to the far-sighted women who in the past and in the present have courageously undertaken projects that seemed impossible and have successfully carried them to completion. Home mission work, temperance, citizenship, education, youth and children's work seem to fall in their sphere of activity, not to mention foreign relief, ministerial education, and foreign mission work. Who can deny them any of this activity? If it is true that "the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world," it is also logical that our good women, who hold a comfortable majority in our churches, must of necessity have their hand in nearly everything. The women's organization reaches more effectively into every church than any other denominational agency. What the women want they usually get, and when they want to see a greater work done, we look, and it is beginning to be done.

— Ed.

Children's Page

Dear Mrs. Greene:

I have not written to you for a long time. Now I can. I'm in the third grade. I am nine years old.

Last week we had a spring concert. I wish you could have seen it. It was about transportation. We had announcers and soloists. We made pictures of trucks, trains, planes, tugboats, and a caravan. We put these in back of the stage.

My brothers, Bobby and Bruce, and I go to Sabbath school in Ashaway. Miss Eleanor Crandall is Bobby's and my teacher. Barbara Ann Waite is Bruce's teacher. We are called the three B's.

Barbara Jean Kenyon.

Ashaway, R. I.

Dear Barbara:

I was just wondering about you when I received your good letter. I have been very much pleased during the past week for I have received six children's letters. I wish that could happen every week, don't you?

I wish I could have both seen and heard your spring concert. It must have been fine.

My son's children are called the three K's. They are Karen, Kris, and Kathy. Kris, my only grandson, has named their dog Kelly to add another K.

Your sincere friend,

Mizpah S. Greene.

Dear Mrs. Greene:

Today we had a special treat in the primary class in Christian Endeavor. I helped the children who were old enough to write letters to you — after a review and Bible story of course. Claire Mitchell and Susie De Leon were too little to write. Rose Marie De Leon and Mary Anne Bernal should go in the junior intermediate class but are at an in-between age and often join the primary class.

I hope more children write to you. I know it must be discouraging when your boys and girls fail you.

Sincerely,

Mary H. Van Horn.

Box 495, Edinburg, Tex.

Dear Mrs. Van Horn:

Thank you for your help in getting so many children to write. I feel very fortunate this week.

Sincerely,

Mizpah S. Greene.

Dear Mrs. Greene:

I wrote a letter about a week ago. I am eight years old and in the second grade. My teacher is Mrs. Cueneu.

Our lesson in C. E. today was about baby Moses.

Love,

Rose Mary Boehler.

Box 495, Edinburg, Tex.

Dear Rose Mary:

It was nice to receive another letter from you. I do so enjoy receiving letters from my Recorder children. I almost feel like calling them my own children.

I am sure you enjoyed the story about baby Moses. That was one of the first

Bible stories my dear grandma told me when I was not as old as you.

I have so many nice letters to answer this week that I must make my answers short.

Your true friend,
Mizpah S. Greene.

Dear Mrs. Greene:

I am eight years old and in the second grade. I want to say hello to all the children in the city and country who read your letters.

I like C. E. very much, too. There were seven children here this afternoon in the primary class.

I have three brothers and I have three sisters, too.

Your friend,
Juanita Newton

Edinburg, Tex.

Dear Juanita:

That is one of the fine things our children's page is for — to give us a chance to say hello to the boys and girls, yes, and grown people who love children as I do.

You must be very happy to have so many brothers and sisters. I had just one brother and one sister and wished I had more.

I hope to receive many letters from you.

Sincerely your friend,
Mizpah S. Greene.

Dear Mary Bernal, Donna Lee Newton, and Rose Marie De Leon, of Edinburg, Tex., and Thomas Nagler of Milton Junction, Wis.:

My page is already too full so I'll have to save your good letters for next time. I'm sorry.

Sincerely,
Mizpah S. Greene.

The Youth for Christ International Convention will meet at Winona Lake, Ind., June 28 - July 12. It is expected to be 15 full days of concentrated meetings which bring together upwards of 3,000 young people from across America. The list of speakers will be headed by Dr. Bob Cook of Chicago, president, and Dr. Billy Graham of Montreat, N. C., first vice-president. Those who plan to attend the convention are asked to register early to be assured of a place to sleep. — Watchman Examiner.

WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

Herbert N. Wheeler

Is the Seventh Day Baptist denomination really on the way to oblivion as some articles in the Recorder and in the Helping Hand, page 34 of the 2nd quarter 1953, indicate? There is some reason for discouragement since our numbers are shrinking, especially in an age when most other religious organizations are growing. Should we say it is just inevitable, that a denomination over 300 years old should die?

Why should not this evidence of disintegration be a real stimulus to new growth? The need is for renewed consecration and intense zeal to take the Gospel to "every creature," as the Bible tells us to do. If every church member got down on his knees three times a day, or oftener, as Daniel did, and prayed earnestly, and then got up and really went to work to help in the salvation of souls there would need be no worry about the future of the denomination. Seventh Day Baptists have always decried proselyting, but why not preach with real fervor to all who will listen, be they non-Christians or believers in some other doctrine, and broadcast on the radio and television in each one of our church communities? Costs money? We can't take it with us, and is there a better use for money?

The need is to teach our young people the basic principles of religion, and what they mean in our everyday life. Sabbath school is important, and so are Vacation Bible Schools and summer camps, but special classes, at least once a week, are essential. Perhaps parochial schools should be established where religion can be taught along with the regular school courses.

Every child should learn that acceptance of Christ as a personal Saviour is necessary for daily Christian living here on earth and for eternal salvation.

Is it possible that some of our churches are simply religious clubs for religious and social fellowship for the members? To be sure, close fellowship is important, but not so exclusive that the chief mission of the church should be forgotten. A church is different from Rotary or other service club or a secret order. If our chief

concern is for the salvation of souls and we pray and work to that end there need be no worry about the future of the denomination. The Seventh Day Baptist belief is simple: The individual must accept Christ as a personal Saviour; be baptized; follow the teachings of the Bible; keep the Sabbath; observe Communion; and try to live daily a Christian life. There is no need to preach and talk of other isms and peculiar beliefs that have nothing to do with salvation. All that is needed in the earnest desire to save souls is to preach Christ and Him crucified.

It is interesting to discuss the beliefs of others and to ferret out the authorship of different writings in the Bible, but doing so may becloud the issue and overshadow the real purpose of the Bible, the salvation of souls. Probably 99% of the people of the United States believe there is a God and that Jesus Christ lived, but hardly half of that number have accepted Christ as the Saviour and have received the Holy Ghost. At least statistics seem to indicate that. Some of us do not like to have people of different beliefs come to our doors peddling their books and literature, but their groups are growing. The question is, has the Seventh Day Baptist denomination still a mission or reason for continued existence? It has had a wonderful past. What of the future?

NORTHERN ASSOCIATION

Rev. Orville W. Babcock

Delegates from the sister churches of the Northern Association gathered at White Cloud, Mich., May 15-17 to join in meetings for fellowship and inspiration, centered around the theme of "The Continuing Task." All the churches were represented except Indianapolis.

In developing the theme, Galatians 6: 9 was used: "Let us not be weary in well doing for in due season we shall reap if we faint not." On Friday evening Rev. Kenneth A. Stickney of Holland, Mich., spoke on the subject, "The Imperative of the Sower," in which the continuing demand to cast the seed of the Gospel was pointed out. On Sabbath morning Rev. Alton L. Wheeler of Battle Creek spoke on the second part of the text,

pointing out that the certainty of the harvest depends on those charged with the task, "if we faint not."

A vesper service on Friday evening opened the meetings as the White Cloud choir presented a group of sacred anthems. Among other music of the sessions was the singing of a male chorus under the direction of Dr. B. F. Johanson on the evening after the Sabbath to the evident pleasure of the singers and enjoyment of the congregation.

Young people had a part on the program on Sabbath afternoon. Gary Branch presided over the meeting which included music by a young men's quartet from Battle Creek consisting of Owen Davis, Dale and Wendell Thorngate, and Arthur Millar. Erle Siems of Fremont played a trombone solo, and Earl Babcock of White Cloud played a saxophone solo. The association was led in prayer by Miss Jacqueline Wells. Dale Thorngate led the group in singing, with Ronald Estes playing the piano.

Among other events was a meeting of the women with representatives of the Woman's Board discussing some of the work which they are undertaking to do. On Sabbath night there was a showing of the sound film, "Into All the World," and the presentation of the first part of "The Joan and Beth Story." This acquainted the group with these two young women who have offered their services as nurses in Africa.

At the business meeting on Sunday morning following the fellowship breakfast it was voted, that because of Conference being held at Battle Creek in August, the fall meeting be omitted, the spring meeting of 1954 to be with the Jackson Center, Ohio, Church. There was some discussion of the scholarship which will be made available for the first time this fall to some person in the association who is studying for full-time religious service in one of our colleges.

It was voted to set aside \$100 to be used for the purchase of a 35 mm camera and such other equipment as might be needed and could be bought for that sum, to be sent to Nyasaland for the use of Rev. Ronald Barrar.

The noon meal on Sabbath day was served to more than a hundred people in the City Hall across the street from the church. The evening meal and the fellowship breakfast were served in the church basement. All arrangements were handled by committees of the entertaining church.

Officers for the coming year were elected as follows: president, Curtis Groves, Jackson Center; secretary-treasurer, Adeline Miars, Jackson Center; first vice-president, Claire Merchant, Battle Creek; second vice-president, George Stewart, Indianapolis; third vice-president, Arthur Millar, Battle Creek; and fourth vice-president, Corneil Siems of White Cloud.

REVIVAL IN ORIENT

The revival that started in Japan has spread throughout the Orient according to reports received. Dr. R. D. Reisdorph, a Wesleyan Methodist recently completing a tour of four continents, tells of revival in India and Africa where God is moving mightily. Other sources of information tell how revival is touching the Philippines. In the Osaka, Japan, Christian College something akin to the great Wheaton College Revival took place. Missionaries testifying of what the Lord had done in their hearts and lives touched off a revival in the last chapel service of the year. The chapel service lasted four hours, with many students being saved and others dedicating their lives for Christian service. The graduation services felt the revival fires as traditions and programs gave way before the moving of the Holy Spirit. Graduation ended with faces glowing and hands lifted in consecration as all sang "Where He Leads Me I Will Follow." Billy Graham is given credit for the starting of this revival in the Orient.

A newly formed alumni chapter of Milton College at Madison, Wis., installed officers on April 26 with the help of the alumni president, Dr. H. Lawrence Burdick, and the acting president of the college, J. Leland Skaggs. Richard Johnson heads the new chapter; George Crandall is the secretary.

The Sabbath Recorder

EROSION

A tiny, tiny streamlet
Down a mountainside did flow —
An idle, aimless trickle
With no notion where to go;
Dancing, rippling, sparkling,
Singing a little song,
Unaware the groove it was cutting
As it idly passed along.

But there came a time in hist'ry
When it began to see
Scenes along its pathway
'Mid which it preferred to be.
But its banks were now so rugged,
Its channel so very deep,
Despite its aspirations,
'Twas compelled its course to keep.

My thoughts like a tiny streamlet
Through my mind forever run.
They're bound to wear a channel
Before life's day is done.
God helping, I'll build embankments,
To guide the course they take,
Then I shall find contentment
In the channel that they make.

Alvin Elverson Babcock.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

SALEM, W. VA. — Among the more than 300 persons who attended the semi-annual session of the Seventh Day Baptist Churches of West Virginia on May 2, in the Salem Church, were:

Rev. Leon R. Lawton, Los Angeles, Calif.; Rev. John F. Randolph, Rev. Elmo F. Randolph, Milton, Wis.; Kenneth Smith, Albion, Wis.; Rev. L. F. Hurley, Rev. Albert N. Rogers, and Mr. and Mrs. Don Richards, Alfred, N. Y.; Mrs. Delmer Van Horn, Little Genesee, N. Y.; Rev. and Mrs. Everett T. Harris, Westerly, R. I.; Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Harris, Shiloh, N. J.; Rev. and Mrs. Paul S. Burdick, Salemville, Pa.; and Mr. and Mrs. Lippincott.

Impressive services at the all-day meeting here included the ordination of Orville B. Bond to the Christian ministry.

At noon, dinner was served to 307 delegates and visitors. — Salem Herald.

VERONA, N. Y. — The mother and daughter banquet was held at our church on the evening of May 9 with Mrs. Alice Hyde as toastmaster and Twila Sholtz, song leader. A tribute to mothers was

given by Jean Stone, a tribute to daughters by Iva Dillman, a reading by Nina Skaggs, and a poem by Marian Sholtz. The speaker for the evening was Mrs. Paul Brown of Oneida who gave an interesting chalk talk. Corsages were given to the oldest and youngest mothers who were Mrs. Vie Warner and Mrs. Maurice Warner.

Pastor Skaggs conducted the Sabbath morning, May 16, service at De Ruyter. At the close of the service he performed the wedding ceremony of Mrs. Mildred Blowers and Harry Parker.

On May 18 Pastor Skaggs underwent a successful appendectomy in a hospital in Oneida. We hope and pray for his speedy recovery.

The Helpers Sabbath School Class had charge of the morning service, May 16. Interesting talks on "Christian Citizenship" were given by Janice Sholtz and Richard Warner. In the evening the class attended a "Youth for Christ" rally at Oneida Castle. A quartette consisting of Louise Hyde, Twila Sholtz, and Maurice and Richard Warner sang at the rally.

A model of the proposed addition to the church is on display in the vestibule as a reminder of the new facilities that will be available when there are sufficient contributions to cover the cost. — Correspondent.

FIRST HEBRON. — Attendance on Sabbath, May 9, Mother's Day, showed a slight increase; attendance on Sabbath Rally Day: 34 members, 11 visitors. On Sunday, May 17, the Hebron Grange and the Sharon Center Grange met to worship together on Rural Life Sunday at the Grange Hall in Sharon Center. The pastor brought a message on "God and the Soil," using Mark 4: 1-8 for the Scripture lesson.

On May 13, the women of the church held a "stork" shower for the pastor's wife, Mrs. Bess Barber. — Correspondent.

Births

Williams. — A son, David John II, to Rev. and Mrs. David Williams of Chicago, Ill., on May 19, 1953.

WANTED — Woman, preferably Sabbath-keeper, to assist in small nursing home. No laundry or heavy cleaning. Good wages and pleasant family association. Burns Nursing Home, Gallupville, N. Y.

IT ISN'T THE CHURCH — IT'S YOU

If you want to have the kind of a church
Like the kind of a church you like,
You needn't slip your clothes in a grip
And start on a long, long hike.
You'll only find what you left behind,
For there's nothing really new.
It's a knock at yourself when you knock your church;
It isn't the church — it's you.

It's really strange sometimes, don't you know,
That things go as well as they do,
When we think of the little — the very small mite —
We add to the work of the few.
We sit, and stand 'round, and complain of what's done,
And do very little but fuss.
Are we bearing our share of the burdens to bear?
It isn't the church — it's us.

So, if you want to have the kind of a church
Like the kind of a church you like,
Put off your guile, and put on your best smile,
And hike, my brother, just hike
To the work in hand that has to be done —
The work of saving a few.
It isn't the church that is wrong, my boy;
It isn't the church — it's you.

— Anon.