

The Sabbath Recorder

*"Righteousness exalteth a nation:
but sin is a reproach
to any people."*



God is not satisfied with a man's worship unless the worshiper is honestly trying to lead a righteous life.

Accessions

Berlin, N. Y.

Baptism:

Ruth Marie Ellis,
Eunice Jane Maxson.

Los Angeles, Calif.

Letter:

Mrs. Marie Hartman,
Mrs. Mabel Davis,
Mrs. Rena Starkey,
Mrs. Grace Lewis Parsons.

Testimony:

George Hemphill,
Mrs. Myrtle Hemphill,
Dr. Alice Mackintosh,
Frank Ferro,
Mrs. Ruth Ferro.

Baptism:

Martha Gregory,
Marie Gregory,
Carolyn Gregory,
Dixie Crouse,
Larry Ashcraft,
Donna Bowman.

Marriages

Unland - Schmid. — Hildegard S. Schmid, daughter of Pastor and Mrs. John G. Schmid of Verona, N. J., to Gerhard Unland, son of Mr. and Mrs. August H. Unland of Clausthal, Germany, were united in marriage at the Plainfield Seventh Day Baptist Church of Christ, on December 7, 1952, by Rev. E. Wendell Stephan. They will make their home at 27 Otsego Road, Verona, N. J.

Obituaries

Fitz-Randolph. — Mrs. Theodate S., widow of the late Robert B. Fitz-Randolph, was born March 2, 1884, and died at her home in Plainfield, N. J., December 15, 1952.

She is survived by two daughters, a son, and six grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the A. M. Runyon Sons "Home for Services" on Friday, December 19, with Rev. E. Wendell Stephan officiating. Interment was in Hillside Cemetery. E. W. S.

Waldron. — Esther E. Bird, daughter of George and Elizabeth S. Bird, was born March 8, 1864, and died at Plainfield, N. J., December 27, 1952.

She was married to L. Craig Waldron on February 21, 1892. He met death in the tragic Westfield, N. J., train wreck in 1902.

Mrs. Waldron was baptized and joined the Plainfield Seventh Day Baptist Church in 1895 and was an active and loyal member until her death. Services were conducted at the Warren E. Patton Funeral Home in Chatham, N. J., by Rev. E. Wendell Stephan. Burial was in Memorial Park, Kenilworth, N. J. E. W. S.

On November 1, a very successful pie social was held in the church basement by the first section of the Ladies' Aid; it provided both fun and fellowship.

Unusually good attendance is both an inspiration to the speaker and soul-inspiring to those present. We shall have a good report for Conference President Elmo Fitz Randolph in his church attendance campaign this year.

Our church was host to the W.C.T.U. Institute for its meetings and for dinner on November 18.

A new pulpit Bible was presented to the church by Deacon and Mrs. Luther S. Davis. It is much appreciated by the pastor and congregation.

We are looking forward to the special meetings which will be held in March, with a deeper life emphasis, under the leadership of Rev. Ralph Coon, professor of Bible in Salem College.

December 22, the Christmas program was presented under the supervision of the primary superintendent, Mrs. Harry Ansink. We made it a White Christmas. Carolers supplied the Christmas spirit to shut-ins with their lovely music. They returned to the parsonage for "something hot."

Our total proposed budget for 1953 is \$4,500. We have willing workers at Marlboro and always a full program with enthusiastic, conscientious, spiritual leaders in our pastor and his wife. — Ella T. Dolbow, Correspondent.

THIS MUCH I ASK

By Bessie Wolvington

I do not ask deliverance from every type of ill,

Hunger and cold, the pain that numbs and binds me to its will;

I do not ask immunity from danger, grief, or loss,

I ask for courage to endure and strength to bear my cross.

I am prepared for hardships that come to human kind;

I only ask deliverance from these that warp the mind:

Self-pity, fear, and prejudice, dishonesty, false pride;

Deliver me from these, I ask, and I am satisfied.

The Sabbath Recorder

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FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

The United States Government sent financial aid amounting to \$82.4 billion to foreign countries during the past eleven years. This is a record, not only for the American Government, but for any government.

This distribution may be grouped into three periods. The first five years were the War Period in which \$49 billion was given chiefly for military purposes. The second five years constitute the Post War Period during which \$28 billion was devoted chiefly for technical aid, relief, and rehabilitation. The third period is the Korean Period, and assistance amounting to \$5 billion was given the first year again chiefly for military purposes.

The major recipients of the \$82.4 billion from the U. S. Government have included the United Kingdom \$35.9 billion, the U.S.S.R. \$11.2 billion, France \$7 billion, Germany \$3.5 billion, China \$3.1 billion, Italy \$2.6 billion, Japan \$2.5 billion, the American Republics \$1.4 billion, Greece \$1.4 billion, and the Netherlands \$1.3 billion. Two-thirds of these foreign grants have gone to meet needs in European countries. The assistance rendered the Soviet and other countries now satellites of the Soviet, was given when they were our allies in the War Period and in the early years of the Post War Period.

Financial assistance given to Asia and Oceania has constituted a comparatively small portion of the \$82.4 billion. Almost every nation in the East has been aided. China was the major recipient, though substantial assistance has also been given to Japan, the Philippines, India, Pakistan, Ceylon, Burma, South Korea, and Indonesia. — Excerpts from release by the Golden Rule Foundation.

The northernmost and southernmost churches in the world are within the jurisdiction of the Lutheran Church of Norway. The northernmost church, in the Norwegian island of Svalbard, was destroyed during the war, but regular services continue to be held there by a pastor of the Norwegian Church. The southernmost church, which stands on the British islands of South Georgia in the South Atlantic Ocean, was erected by Norwegian whale fishermen. They have a local harbor there and gather for worship at the church.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

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MEMORY TEXT

Truly my soul waiteth upon God: from him cometh my salvation." — Psalm 62: 1.

A Prayer

Dear Father, guide us in Thy service. We need Thy presence in life's journey. We are weak and temptations are many. Give us holy faith like unto Job. Guide us from evil; direct our footsteps along the paths of Christian service so our lives may be such a spiritual example that others will want to follow Thee. For Jesus' sake. — Governor Forrest Smith of Missouri.

TWO GREAT AMERICANS

February is the month when we remember two great Americans: under the leadership of the first our great country came into being; under the second, its unity was preserved.

There could scarcely be a greater contrast in the circumstances of birth and early life than between those of these two men. In devotion to country and in high and selfless purpose, however, they were one.

Washington, after leading his country to victory on the field of battle and refusing to be her king through two terms as President, guided the founding and establishing of a new republic. It is said that he "set the precedent for the conduct of the nation and the presidential office." When, upon his own desire, he retired to Mt. Vernon and private life he "was first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

Washington was the son of a Virginia planter, but Lincoln spent his boyhood in the log cabin home of a none too thrifty carpenter father. We are familiar with the story of his early struggles, of his determination to hit slavery hard if he ever had the chance, of the calumny he had to endure, and the dissensions in his own Cabinet. We remember also his final triumph and the vindication of his wise and devoted leadership. We mourn for him as a martyred President and wonder at his patience and his wisdom.

We pray that our new President may worthily follow in the footsteps of these two wise and devoted leaders.

I AM A MAN

Kenneth E. Smith

I am a man. Compared with rivers, mountains, and sunsets, I am small and physically limited. I am outdone on every hand. The ox is stronger; the deer is faster; and the little dove can fly until she is but a speck in the blue. I am but a structure composed of the ordinary chemicals of which other creatures are composed. In fact, it has been pointed out that my physical body, when broken down into properties, has a market value of something better than ninety cents. Yet, in all of this, I am not truly speaking of a man — for a man has been touched with the flame of God — a flame which we call life. That makes a difference. Indeed, that makes all the difference in the world, for a human life is priceless; undeniably beyond estimate. When this chemical wick becomes ignited with this mysterious fire we call life, a man is suddenly capable of such marvelous thoughts and deeds that he stands in a unique place in the universe. How often have ships, planes, and armies of men gone out in search of one man who has been lost. Yet, if the life is gone from the man, how fruitless is the search. The one ingredient of a man which we cannot see, is the true worth of a man.

I am a man. I feel the flicker of God's flame within me and I realize that I am one of these priceless ones. Yet, I realize too, that life can be more than mere existence. Down through the ages there have been those bright and shining souls which have lighted the way for others. These examples, led by the Saviour of men, have shown that it is in the giving that we receive and in the dying that we live. This is a fact of both physical and spiritual living, yet "few there be that find it." This is where the Christian way of life enters in. This idea is entirely foreign to the secular theory of happiness, but the fact remains that only when the life is giving of itself can the light shine out to all men. Great souls like Abraham Lincoln and David Livingstone were not aware that they were sacrificing; they simply lived abundantly without thought for their own welfare. In this way they

found something which few men ever find.

So, I am a man; aware of the spark of life and of the finest way to use that spark. I am aware also of another phenomenon. That spark shall never die. I know the frailty of the body, for I have watched others flicker out when life's tallow was all gone and the flame had no support, but the tallow holds the flame and not the flame the tallow. I am just a man and therefore I cannot say, "See, there is a spark where no candle is!" yet, in the spring, when the leaves and flowers return, I understand what it means.

Yes, I am a man, and these things are all-important. They are tremendous. But do not stop with them, for there is yet a message which all men must hear. There is nothing like unto it! It will echo down the corridors of time until all men shall realize its full significance. It is the one fact which lifts men up and writes anew the destiny of mankind.

"I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

"In him was life; and the life was the light of men."

"If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

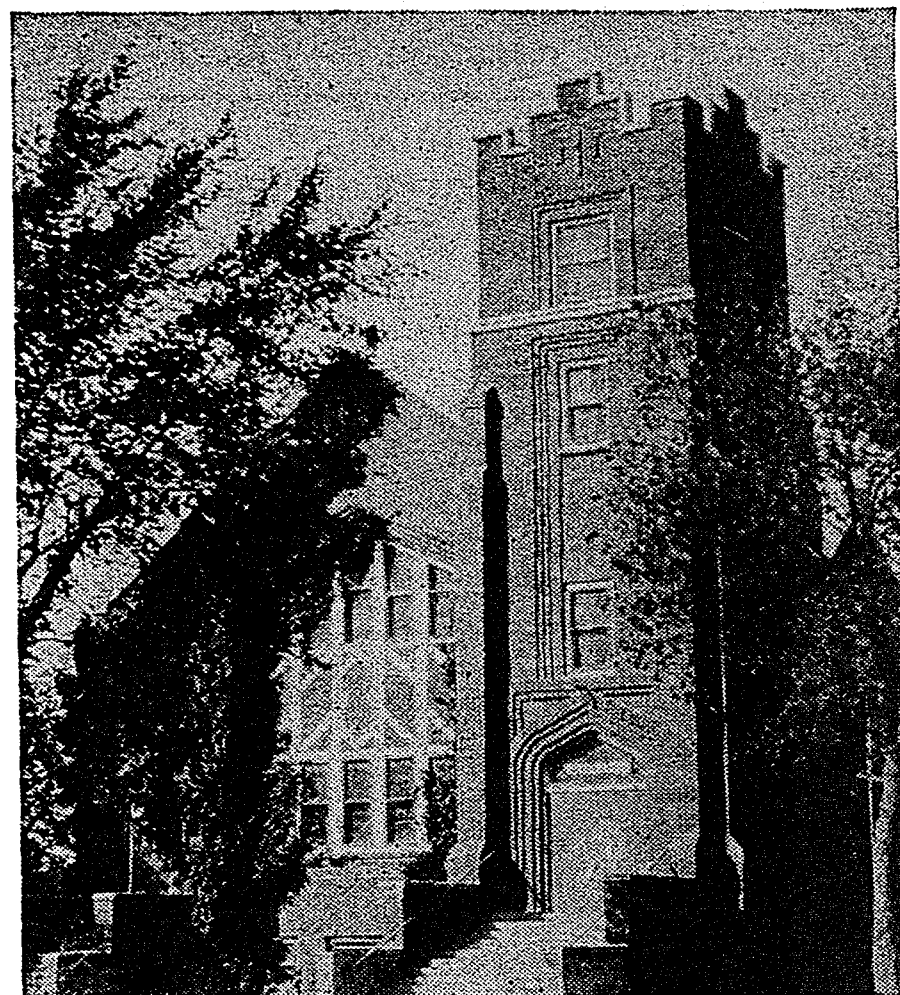
Thank God, I am a man!

J. Edgar Hoover, director of the F.B.I., says: "The spectacle of a nation praying is more awe-inspiring than the explosion of an atomic bomb. The force of prayer is greater than any possible combination of man-made or man-controlled powers, because prayer is man's greatest means of tapping the infinite resources of God. Invoking by prayer the mercy and might of God is our most efficacious means of guaranteeing peace and security for the harassed and helpless peoples of the earth." — Los Angeles Church Bulletin.

Attention Please

It is the policy of the Recorder now as in the past to publish no unsigned article of any sort, including birth notices, marriages, and obituaries.

THE NORTH LOUP, NEB., CHURCH



Sermonet: The Broken-Down Altar

"The family is built upon natural, not artificial affinities."

Identity of political creed binds men together into parties and leagues. It was only a short time ago, through the election campaign, that we were made particularly aware of it. Similarity of taste unites men and women in clubs, associations, and social organizations. Like creeds and convictions draw men together into denominational and local religious organizations. But families are built on natural affinities. You do not choose your father and mother. Your brothers and sisters are who they are because it has been so ordained. The family circle is founded upon the eternal nature of man as created. So it is that the family is the foundation influence for good or for evil, depending upon the course which it chooses to follow.

In chapter 18 of 1 Kings we read that Elijah "repaired the altar of the Lord which was broken down." These words graphically indicate the spiritual condition of the children of Israel. They had sadly departed from the worship of the true God. Idolatry was practiced by many. They were experiencing a time of spiritual declension. The same condition

exists today within the structure of the American Christian home. The altar of the Lord is broken down. I believe that the greatest need of America and the world today is the repairing of this altar. "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world." If that hand does not instill in its children respect and love for God, the world will not be ruled by His precepts. "They who pray together stay together." Is it not safe to say that the absence of prayer within the home is one of the causes of its disintegration? As the family altar again appears within the Christian homes of our nation there will appear also a tidal growth in the Church of Christ.

The family altar is a source of daily strength. With the world moving at such a terrific pace, the child of God feels more and more the need of greater strength to meet all the demands of life. They who have practiced daily communion with God testify that the family altar supplies such strength. The psalmist declares, "The Lord is my light and my salvation — the Lord is the strength of my life." His was an experience of strength because it was an experience of daily worship. Jesus said, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth — lo, I am with you always." It is our responsibility to live close to Him if we would have Him with us, giving strength. "Draw nigh to God and he will draw nigh to you." This is the Christian's source of strength. This is the beginning of revival. Repair the broken-down altar in the home.

The family altar is a source of divine guidance. Surely we have need of guidance. The world has turned to just about every conceivable source to find the answer to perplexing problems. But wars continue to rage. Man is greedy. There is promise of little but destruction in the mad race of things. Many of us are convinced that true guidance is available if we but turn to God. The family altar is the logical beginning. As the family begins to feel the directing hand of God, so will the community, the nation, the world. Where peace efforts by diverse and often opposing groups have failed, the guiding hand of God through consecrated homes will meet with success.

The family altar is a source of true righteousness. "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it." "As the twig is bent so grows the tree." That family which daily presents itself to God in worship will find that God becomes more and more a presence with the circle of the home. Thus evil is replaced by righteousness, and greed by selflessness and love. The righteousness displayed in the home is bound to rub off in the world, reflecting the love and purity of God by a living witness.

The altar is broken down — so what can we do to repair it? The first step is somehow to establish the supreme importance of the altar in our own thinking. We profess to believe that the Christian faith is the most important matter in the world. Is it? If so, then surely it is worth cultivating. Our lip testimony, however emphatic, is often minimized by failure to give a life testimony. If Christianity is the most important issue — if it is the only answer to the problems of the world — if it is the only effective warfare against evil — then it is of prime importance to repair the broken-down altar in the home.

You will never have a family altar in your home until you just take time — daily. The Christian seems to find time for anything and everything but the study of God's Word and prayer — he has time to eat; he has time to sleep; time to work; time to attend the movies and dances; time for magazines and newspapers, clubs, and lodges — but he just can't find time for a family altar, fifteen, ten, or even five minutes.

Take time. This is the most important need of the world today. Repair that altar in your home. Abraham was a nomad drifting from place to place, yet, when Abraham pitched his tent, he established his altar. How about you? Start today.

Francis D. Saunders.

The Sabbath School

Our efforts have been centered on improvement of the Sabbath school, both attendance and spiritual values. There have been a few changes and additions

this past year which we believe are for the better. Following the recommendations of Rev. and Mrs. Ronald I. Hargis we formed an education committee composed of our pastor, Sabbath school superintendent, superintendent of graded department, leader of the junior department, and one other member appointed by the superintendent. This committee with officers and teachers and others interested meets once each quarter, or more often if necessary, to discuss problems and plans for the Sabbath school. The leaders of the opening exercise period for our graded department have been divided into two groups, allowing the older group to conduct their own service and thus to develop leadership. — Mrs. Clare Clement.

The Hour of Power

The North Loup Church has recently started a drive to increase the attendance at the Friday night service. Stirred by our pastor's appeal for a more consecrated beginning of the Sabbath, we believe that we can secure greater spiritual gain from our day of rest by beginning it together in a worship service, thus drawing us closer to each other and to our Lord and Master.

It has been the custom for the past two years to hold a prayer meeting on Friday night. This meeting was attended by a few staunch members, but few if any of the younger people were present. Careful consideration and frank analysis produced the conclusion that for some reason people were avoiding the prayer meetings, not only here, but throughout the denomination, and in many other denominations. Was this the members' fault, or was it advisable to broaden the nature of that service to secure attendance. Such a program has been undertaken under the leadership of the pastor and an advisory committee composed of one member from each adult class of our Sabbath school.

To stir interest and encourage participation, a varied series of services are now being held regularly each Friday night in which the pastor or some designated layman acts as moderator, while we work jointly in presenting the theme and its supporting structure of Scripture, song, discussion, and prayer

We have shifted the choir practice to 7 o'clock Friday evening thereby permitting choir members who live in the country to attend both practice and service with one trip. We also have left the balance of the week clear for whatever the schools, civic organizations, or personal plans call for.

It is likely that a prayer session along the line of the old prayer meeting as well as special study groups may grow out of the movement as the need or demand calls for it. It is hoped that the service can be flexible enough to meet the needs of those who desire these things without imposing a type of meeting upon the members who do not feel the need for that particular sort of service. That it will work out we have every right to hope, for the attendance has steadily grown, but like everything else it requires fervent, diligent, and steadfast members who will put the welfare of the Christian program first, and carry their share of the load — George Clement.

Bible Study Class

The Bible Study class was started shortly after Pastor Saunders came. It consists mostly of young married people, although everyone is welcome. We have studied several books of the Bible, and are now taking up a study of the Sabbath. After our prayer and Bible study, we have a social time and refreshments. The average attendance is in the teens. — Mrs. Doris Williams.

Dr. Grace Missionary Society

The Dr. Grace Missionary Society of about 20 members, composed mostly of young married women, meets every other Wednesday. These meetings alternate between lesson and work meetings. Lunch is served by the hostess which affords an added social time. Each quarter a joint meeting with the other missionary society is held. This past year a quilt was made and sent to the Children's Memorial Hospital of Omaha for their bazaar. This is only one example of many projects undertaken during the year in trying to be of assistance to others, both at home and abroad. Serving lunches at Pop Corn Days and baked goods sales are the biggest sources of income. — Mrs. Merle Crow.

The Missionary Circle

The older women of the church are organized into the Ladies' Missionary Circle. Its object is to "encourage each other in earnest Christian living, to create and promote interest in missionary work, and to raise funds as they shall be needed." It meets twice each month. One meeting each quarter is a joint meeting with the younger group of women of the church. The programs are of an educational and inspirational nature, several this year being given to the study of "Africans on Safari," two to "Sand and Stars," besides lessons on our own denomination and its missions. An interesting project of the society has been the adoption of Esthriana Anderson of Jamaica. She is being financed through Crandall High School. — Mrs. Leona Babcock.

Gospel Team Goes to Denver

On December 4 the North Loup Gospel Team, a quartet composed of George Cox, Joseph Babcock, Dell Barber, and Donald Clement, with Mrs. Donald Clement, accompanist, and Rev. Francis Saunders, speaker, left for Denver for a weekend series of meetings. The trip was sponsored by the Mid-Continent Association. We set out for Denver with the intent that through our efforts the Denver Church might be inspired to greater Christian work. We came home with the realization that not only had we helped the Denver Church, but we had awakened our own hearts to a more fervent Christian attitude. Five meetings were held while we were there. Rev. Mr. Saunders spoke on the following topics: The Impetus of Christian Grace, The Broken-Down Altar, The Example of Christ, Wells of Water, and The Call to Life. The topics were messages that should and do concern all Christian people today. We considered this trip a wonderful privilege and an opportunity to help further the words of our Christ who said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel." — Mrs. Phyllis Clement.

The Junior Christian Endeavor Society meets on Sabbath afternoons. The older young people meet once a month for a program and social.

Membership, 269; average attendance for the last quarter of 1952, 113.

MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL

Rev. C. Harmon Dickinson

(Continued from last issue)

One wonders if the inclusion of the Foreign Missions Council of North America, along with the other agencies, hasn't increased the outlook and scope of the present National Council of Churches. Dr. Leber's contribution certainly helped to lift our eyes to the need for a dynamic Christian witness throughout the whole world.

Dr. James H. Robinson, a Negro pastor from New York who made a missionary trip around the world, spoke forcefully on "The Church in the World Today as Seen from an Asian Perspective." He declared that the redemption of Christ through missions is the only force that can meet the problems in Asia today.

Bishop Dibelius of Germany said that only spiritual force can win the present conflict between Christianity and Marxism. He said, "Communism will be conquered only through the Christian faith; Christ Jesus will win the battle."

Perhaps the most significant contribution of the Denver Assembly was the issuance of a letter addressed to the Christian People of America. This letter, consisting of fourteen double-spaced typewritten pages, speaks of many areas of Christian concern expressed by the council: its purpose, the publication of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible; the role of the nation functioning under God and the prophetic witness of the churches within the national life; the relationship of religion to the public schools; concern for freedom of thought, racial equality, and the violation of human rights; evangelism and world missions; the spiritual life of the churches; a deeper seriousness to the individual Christian responsibility; and working together unitedly in those common things that need to be done.

We can better understand the council by letting it speak for itself via several excerpts from this letter.

"The National Council of Churches, composed of thirty communions, with a membership of 35,000,000 people, is not itself a church, but a council of churches. Neither is it a super-church, and does not

aspire to become one. It does not legislate for the constituent bodies which compose it, each of which retains its full autonomy. Nor does it claim for its member churches superiority over Christian churches which, for one reason or another, are not a part of its fellowship. The council does, however, afford a unique medium whereby churches which differ in many respects from one another can meet together, worship together, think, plan, and act together.

"We are, above all, churches of Christ. The constitutional tie which binds us is our common allegiance to Him as our divine Lord and Saviour. Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, who is for us all the one and only Head of the Church, drew us together and holds us together, in unswerving loyalty to Himself and to one another, and leads us to seek an ever greater unity."

"The publication of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible is a basic contribution of this council to the prophetic mission of the Church. The Bible is the record of God's self-disclosure to mankind, where the knowledge of His redemptive love is found, and where men are confronted with Jesus Christ. Through the Bible we have communion with God. The Bible is the Word of God in a sense that is not true of any other document in human literature."

"The Church has also a redemptive role to fulfill. The lives of men need light to guide them; but still more, they need love to redeem them and to equip them with spiritual strength for living. The churches must mediate to people the love of God in Christ and represent to them the spirit of the gospel. We must so identify ourselves with perplexed and suffering people that we shall think through from their perspective the problems which concern them. We must in no case be mere spectators.

"It must be the abiding concern of our churches that the gospel be proclaimed to all people. Evangelism, the confrontation of men with Jesus Christ so that they may accept Him as their Saviour and follow Him as their Lord in the fellowship of the Church, is the Church's primary task. It is not sufficient that the gospel be preached

in established places of worship. It is necessary that it be taken to the people. Let our complacency be shaken by the fact that today, even while church membership stands at an all-time peak in the history of our country, there are still 66,000,000 people in the nation who have no religious affiliation.

"The Christian churches must thus be witnessing as well as worshiping churches. The worship of God must pass into the work of God. The love of our brethren must pass over into the love of our neighbors who are outside the Christian fellowship."

"We rejoice that the churches of our nation, together with those of other lands, have over a period of a century and more contributed decisively to the Christian missionary enterprise which has been the most important spiritual movement in human history. The American churches have at the present time an increased responsibility to carry the knowledge of Christ and the fruits of His spirit beyond our national boundaries, to keep alive throughout the world the spirit of Christian fellowship, and to support with prayer and work those members of the fellowship who are suffering persecution."

"The spiritual life of our churches must be deepened. We must fathom depths of spiritual experience which we have not yet fully explored. The meaning of a 'new man in Christ' is something which millions who profess the name of Christ do not know. Let us betake ourselves to the devotional study of the Bible individually and in our family circles, and let more courses for Bible study be provided in our churches. Let prayer become a deeper reality. Let us not absent ourselves from the corporate worship of God. Let us take advantage of every help to the understanding of our faith which our churches make available for us. Let us as good stewards of our abundance regularly devote to the work of God through His Church an ample share of that which He has entrusted to us. Above all, let us commit ourselves to God and to His will with joyous abandon, asking Him to help us to pay the price of being 'filled with the Spirit.' Unexpected insights and new experiences of release and spiritual power will then come to us. Everything will become new."

QUARTERLY MEETING OF MISSIONARY SOCIETY

(Items of interest from the quarterly meeting of the Board of Managers of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society held January 25, 1953, at Westerly, R. I.)

The meeting opened with tributes being read to Walter D. Kenyon and Dr. Rosa W. Palmberg, followed by prayer by Pastor Lester Osborn.

A call to service was extended to Miss Joan Clement and Miss Beth Severe to serve as missionary nurses and/or teachers under the direction of the Missionary Society. It is expected that the field of service will be Nyasaland, Africa.

A call to service was also extended to Mr. and Mrs. Orville B. Bond to take the place of Rev. and Mrs. Neal D. Mills at Crandall High School, Jamaica, B. W. I.

It was voted to continue Co-Secretary Harold R. Crandall in the office during the absence of Secretary Everett Harris who reported on plans for an extended visit to the churches of the Southwestern Association.

Rev. Wardner Fitzrandolph, superintendent of missions in the American Tropics, will visit British Guiana this spring to observe and encourage the work there.

Secretary Harris reported completion of a course of study at Kennedy School of Missions at Hartford and expressed appreciation to those who had made this time of preparation possible.

There were twenty members and three visitors present. E. T. H.

JAMAICA

The following is gleaned from a letter from Rev. Wardner T. Fitzrandolph.

"The work here is progressing nicely. We held our quarterly Advisory Board meeting last Wednesday, January 7. The churches were well represented. The board adopted the policy of each church having two weeks of evangelistic meetings and will pay travel expenses to send in an outside evangelist."

Their Woman's Board reported the holding of a bazaar in November with receipts of over £88. This was transferred to the fund for establishment of a

country (vocational) school. There is now in that fund an amount of about £600. Their aim is £1,000. They are interested in what the Missionary Society may be planning to do in this project.

The Bath Church was dedicated on January 1 with many representatives present from St. Thomas churches outside of Seventh Day Baptists. A write-up of the event is promised.

"The Millses and Fitzrandolphs are able to be working, but many are ill with a sort of flu." H. R. C.

A PRAYER FOR CHINA

(Offered by G. B. Utter, Chairman of China Committee, at the meeting of the Missionary Board, January 25, 1953.)

God, help us not to forget our brethren in China. There for many months they have been shut away from us, surrounded by a government that knows no God, which has forgotten our Christ.

We are constantly thinking of them who are still in the churches, the schools, and the hospital. We pray that the pastors, the deacons, the Bible women, and all those who labor there may have the strength and the ability to carry on the work, as when freedom of worship prevailed.

Help us to have mercy for them. Keep them faithful to the end, when Christianity may again enlighten the world, when love may prevail.

God, we thank you that we here are still free men. May they in China be soon liberated. And when that happens, may we here in the denomination and the Missionary Board be ready to give them generously the aid in the rehabilitation that is bound to come.

So God, help us not to forget. Amen. E. T. H.

DIVISION OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

(Report of Rev. C. Harmon Dickinson, the Missionary Board's representative at the Division of Foreign Missions Assembly held at Denver, Colo., December 8-9, 1952.)

The theme of this third Division of Foreign Missions Assembly was, "Christ Calls to Mission and Unity: What Must the Churches Do?" A slogan on the pro-

gram read, "Every Area a Mission Field — Every Church a Mission — Every Christian a Missionary."

Much thought was given at the sessions to an interpretation of the International Missionary Conference held in July, 1952, at Willingen, Germany. Insights from the conference were reported, problems facing the twentieth-century missionary task of presenting the gospel to the whole world were raised, and thought and discussion followed as to how these concerns and convictions could be more dynamically used in achieving our common missionary goals.

Resulting from the Willingen Conference was a deepened awareness of the "oneness" of all Christians, that a new relationship has developed between the younger churches (those in mission lands) and the older churches, both being the "one body" of Jesus Christ, that God's call is unmistakably clear to "Go Forward" into the "virgin areas" for missions throughout the world. As C. P. Charles, secretary of the Burma Christian Council, expressed it: "There are several unreached areas in this world. There are millions of unreached men in every part of the world. Christians have the marching orders. Every Christian must become vitalized in his personal life, the churches must be charged with divine power. The waters of life must flow over from heart to heart, community to community, nation to nation and thus the barren lands of the earth must be watered and become fruitful."

In Denver an effort was made to translate these results into aggressive worldwide action. For instance, let the churches of the homeland and the new churches in mission lands pool their efforts. By allowing mission churches to develop their own program as soon as possible, the foreign society or missionary has more time for new advancement. Then too, many of the so-called mission churches are well established and desire to send out missionaries themselves and enter new areas. We should work together at this point because there are always unevangelized areas for each to enter. In this relation, also, the need is so great throughout the world that every effort should be made among various missions

to eliminate needless duplication and waste in areas where more than one mission is ministering to the same community and the same people.

The main contribution of Willingen, however, was the conviction that Christ is calling to mission and unity, this being the prevailing challenge of the division meetings. But why the concern for mission and unity? Within the last century two movements emerged within the Church side by side, but it would seem with little connection between the two. The one was the modern missionary movement and the other has been known as the ecumenical movement. Now after all these years there seems to be dawning upon the Church an awareness of an integral relation between the two. Modern missions began with a response to the call of God to take the gospel to the whole world. Our present word "ecumenical" comes from the Greek "oikoumene" which means "the whole inhabited earth." Yet this word in recent years has been used to express primarily the pursuit of unity. Within the Church there is a oneness — one Lord, one Christ, one faith, one baptism, one mission — to bring the one gospel to the whole world. Christians are called to unite in a common task to "make disciples of all nations." Christ calls the Church to fulfill her mission in the world; He calls us to unity for the sake of witness in presenting His message to all mankind.

There were three major affirmations resulting from Willingen that were presented for discussion at the Denver meetings:

"I. We are convinced that God is guiding His Church in every land to a new understanding of its function in the world. This centers in the call to mission and unity.

"II. We are convinced that the call to mission requires a greater outreach in the life of the church and the missionary organization.

"III. We are convinced that the call to unity requires that we act together if we hope to discharge this larger missionary obligation."

So important is "Christ's Call to Mission and Unity" in the thinking of Chris-

tian leaders that it is to be given major emphasis by the National Council for the biennium, 1953-54, especially by expressing an answer to the question, "What Must the Churches Do?"

Africa is the continent suggested for intense mission study during this year. There were two addresses by Dr. Henry C. McDowell, an American Negro who has spent many years as a missionary in Africa. He spoke of an alternative to disaster in Africa in the rapidly growing Protestant Church which he asserted is the greatest force in Africa today. This discussion was of special interest to me in regard to Nyasaland. E. T. H.

A Poem for the New Year

Irene Post Hulett

A brave New Year is dawning,
A tired old year has flown,
A year of opportunity
Is ours to call our own.

Increasing seems awareness
Of God's Almighty Power
Among the citizens of earth
Who live in this dark hour.

They gaze with new-found wonderment
On earth and sky and sea,
And think, "How can it all exist?
A Maker there must be."

And yet, when they are made aware,
So many dare to live
Without responsiveness to God
Who breath of life does give.

No thought of an indebtedness
Is theirs, that they should pay
For God's redeeming work, through Christ,
The Life, the Light, the Way.

Each human being has some gift
Which, nurtured by much prayer,
Could grow into a blessing
For people everywhere.

The year is ours, and wisely used
Much happiness will bring.
Live well for God, for Him, and world
That Freedom's bells may ring.
Forever ring!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Worship Thought for March

Extra Miles

Matt. 5: 41

If only, in our daily dealing,
We took of His truth one small part,
Hand would reach out to hand, and healing
Descend upon the heart.

Joseph Auslander.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

"And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain." Matthew 5: 41.

What did Jesus mean by the extra mile? How can we go the extra mile?

1. By willingness to do more than what is expected, or necessary — "The last full measure of devotion." Illustrious examples are our Seventh Day Baptist missionaries with their long and devoted labor in foreign lands; Dr. Schweitzer, who is devoting his talented life to the Negroes in Africa; Dr. Grenfell, who gave his life to work among the fishermen and Eskimos in Labrador; Dr. William A. Morgan, who spends his vacations treating the poor people of the Dominican Republic.

2. By unstinted expression of appreciation, as shown by Mary's alabaster box of perfume, or the Samaritan leper, the only one of the ten whom Jesus treated who returned to thank Him.

3. By the grace of forgiveness, as expressed in Jesus' prayer on the cross, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Such divine forgiveness has never been excelled.

Going the second mile reveals an instinct for bearing burdens, for going beyond the mere letter-of-the-law giving, because it springs from the great love and compassion of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

Mildred Greene,
Associational Secretary.

Berlin, N. Y.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON for February 28, 1953

The Duties of Leadership.
Scripture: Matthew 22: 34—23:39.

PRACTICING THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Louise Fick

Most of us have our periods of prayer and meditation when everything is quiet. It is good that we do. How often do we wish we could stay on the high mountain of inspiration and not have to descend to the plain of everyday living. But descend we must or else the inspiration is for nothing.

You can take God with you into the kitchen and He will help with the breakfast, getting the children off to school, and all the many things that come up. Tangles straighten themselves out marvelously when you remember that God, Almighty God, is right there in the kitchen with you. God is the author of peace, not of confusion.

When the children are noisy and you long for a moment of quiet, just speak to God about it. It may surprise you how wonderfully God works, but it should not surprise you.

A friend of mine had to take care of her grandchildren for a few days. The little girl cried so hard when her father went to work in the morning that my friend was naturally concerned and for a moment could not think what to do. Then the thought came that God could take care of the situation. She started to say the Lord's Prayer out loud so the little girl could hear and also for her own sake. Before she was finished the little girl was playing with her toys and did not cry again. It was a wonderful experience and surely strengthened her faith.

When you are washing dishes, peeling potatoes, or doing some other routine chore, think about the blessings God has showered upon you, and thank Him for them. It gives one a decided mental lift just to think about the goodness of God.

When you are especially rushed with a multitude of tasks, think of God as helping you. He is never rushed or in a hurry, but He can work fast. So if God is helping you, which He surely is, you are not rushed or in a hurry.

If a neighbor or anyone else helps, we immediately thank him. So we should likewise thank God for His constant presence.

The above is just a little of what could be written about practicing the presence of God. I humbly hope it helps someone.

Martha's Prayer

Lord of all pots and pans and things;
since I've no time to be
A saint by doing lovely things, or watch-
ing late with Thee,
Or dreaming in the dawnlight, or storming
heaven's gates,
Make me a saint in getting meals and
washing up the plates.

Although I must have Martha's hands, I
have a Mary mind;
And when I black the boots and shoes, Thy
sandals, Lord, I find.
I think of how they trod the earth, what
time I scrub the floor;
Accept this meditation, Lord, I haven't
time for more.

Warm all the kitchen with Thy love, and
light it with Thy peace;
Forgive me all my worrying, and make all
grumbling cease.
Thou who didst love to give men food,
in room or by the sea,
Accept this service that I do — I do it
unto Thee.

— Author unknown.

The present address of Rev. Kenneth A. Stickney is 144 East 18th Street, Holland, Mich.

Our Children's Letter Exchange

Dear Mrs. Greene:

I read some letters in the Sabbath Recorder and I decided to write, too.

My sister has the measles and I hope she gets better soon. She has red spots all over her.

I hope to be baptized this summer. Mr. Delmer Van Horn is my pastor and I like him very much. I sing in the junior choir and I am chorister in Christian Endeavor.

I am in the sixth grade.
Your pastor, Don Sanford, is my cousin.
Yours sincerely,
Stanley DeGroff.

Little Genesee, N. Y.

Dear Stanley:

I am glad that reading letters on our Children's Page led you to decide to become one of my Recorder children. Please write often.

I hope your sister proved to have a light case of measles and is nearly over them by this time. My son, Claire, came down with the measles soon after we moved from Independence. That night the Andover basketball team was to play against the Whitesville team, the game to be played here in Andover. "Oh, I can't have the measles now. I've got to play basketball," said Claire. But when the doctor told him that his "running mate," another member of the team, also had the measles, and that the game had to be called off, he decided that he really did have the measles.

When I went to bed last night there was hardly a bit of snow in sight and it was raining; so how surprised I was when I awoke this morning to find the ground covered with a heavy snowfall. Did Little Genesee get it, too? And the thermometer showed that it was below zero. How about Little Genesee weather, and do you like it?

I feel sure you must love music since you are taking such an active part in it. I'd like to hear your junior choir sing. The Independence Church has a junior choir and when I go there for Sabbath service I enjoy hearing them sing.

Don't forget that I'm hoping to hear from you often.

Your friend,
Mizpah S. Greene.

THE BUTTERFLY'S SECRET

A caterpillar on the garden wall,
Upon a very warm and sunny day,
Down driven by the wind, did chance to fall
Upon a dusty path, and grieving lay.

Upon a branch above, a butterfly
Spread wide his graceful wings of palest gold,
And flitting gayly to the flowers nigh,
Drank scented nectar, all that he could hold.

"Alas! alack!" the caterpillar said,
"Why should the butterfly so favored be?
Why should I creep through dust and mire,
instead
Of flying here and there, I cannot see."

The little breezes as they hurried by
Did laugh so softly, for they're wise you know,
And said, "Just wait; perhaps some day you'll fly,
You fuzzy caterpillar. Ho! ho! ho!"

The caterpillar sadly shook his head,
And slowly climbed again the garden wall.
Among the vines did spin his cocoon bed,
To sleep away his troubles, one and all.

Safe hidden there he slept, nor did he dream
That soon a glad awakening would be;
Until his cocoon bed too small did seem.
It burst from end to end and he was free.

He now began to stretch and look around,
And then to open wide each sleepy eye;
For in surprise and great delight he found
That he had now become a butterfly.

A butterfly, most beautiful and rare,
In richest tints of orange, brown, and gold;
And in the rays of sun reflected there
Still other rainbow colors did unfold.

He tried his shining wings and found them
strong;
He spread them wide and tried to reach the sky.
At last he was content the whole day long,
So grateful that he was a butterfly.

He did not seek to know the reason why:
It was enough for him that it was so;
And when the little breezes frolicked by,
He laughed to hear them say, "We told
you so!"

Mizpah S. Greene.

THE VILLAGE OF ELEPHANT HUNTERS

Mrs. Helen S. Thorngate

When we were in Indo-China we made several trips into the country of the Mois, the aboriginal tribespeople of that part of Asia.

One day we drove with some missionary friends in their station wagon many miles along a road almost like a green leafy tunnel through the jungle. We passed many branching paths which we could only guess ran back to little villages of thatched houses perched on poles. Often we met tribespeople walking along in their primitive attire, the men often wearing only a breechclout and heavy earrings.

They carried knives and sometimes bows and arrows and never walked singly because of the danger of tigers.

We stopped to see a graveyard where tall poles topped with bright flags marked a new grave mound on which a miniature house held the sacrifices laid out for the gods. I wondered why all the graves there seemed new and was told that after a year or two of being tended, they were swallowed up by the jungle.

As we approached the village of the elephant hunters we saw a strange sight. Close to the road was one of the long thatch-and-bamboo houses high on poles with a platform at one end. Two big work elephants with their drivers perched on their broad heads were standing before the platform. Squatting on the platform in front of them a wizened old sorcerer with a bowl of buffalo blood was chanting incantations, dipping his fingers into the blood and tracing symbols on the foreheads of the elephants. A buffalo had been killed as a sacrifice and the entrails hung draped in a symbolic form near the elephants. Water buffaloes are raised on half cleared land in the Moi country not to be used as work animals or even for eating except in conjunction with sacrifices. The buffalo's head was placed first on the head of one elephant and then on the other as the sorcerer droned on.

When an elephant (which is a very valuable possession) is sold it must be sent away with proper propitiation to the gods that good luck may go with it.

Another part of the ceremony was going on inside the house where portions of the buffalo flesh were being chopped and cooked over an open fire. A tall earthen jar of rice wine was being refilled with buffalo-horn measures of water as the fluid was sucked from the jar through a long reed.

Does this sound like 1952? Unless one has watched such a scene, it is hard to believe that anywhere in the world there are still people whose only idea of religious worship is to sacrifice blood and flesh to angry gods to ward off evil, as our own ancestors did thousands of years ago.

How fortunate we are in knowing a loving Heavenly Father who cares for us

and is always ready to help us if we but call on Him. How eager we should be to carry the gospel message to these primitive brothers of ours.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Governor Lausche put a ban on the serving of liquor at any pre-Christmas parties on "State property in Columbus (Ohio) or elsewhere in the State." — National Voice.

The deepest water known to man was discovered in the western Pacific Ocean between the islands of Guam and Yap in 1951. The National Geographic Society notes that the bottom plunges to 35,640 feet at this spot. — Westerly Sun.

When Rev. Roy A. Sturm, home missions secretary of the Methodist Church, "dropped off" a plane in Unalakleet, Alaska, recently, and had an hour to spend on the ground, he wandered through a nearby cemetery. One lone stone headstone — in the midst of wooden crosses and tablets — especially attracted his attention. On it he read, "Rev. Axel E. Karlson. Born in Sweden, Sept. 15, 1856. Arrived in Unalakleet, 1888. Died Jan. 15, 1910. When he arrived in this village there was no Christian. When he died there was no heathen." — W. W. Reid.

In 1952 there were no lynchings in this country, which is a record. There has been a steady decline in the number of lynchings in the last fifty years, until in 1951 there was only one such crime; then last year left a perfect record.

We hope with all our hearts that the record of our beloved country may henceforth be kept clear of the stain of such unchristian and revolting deeds on the part of her citizens.

Young people in thousands of Protestant churches throughout North America observed Christian Endeavor Week, January 25 - February 1.

"Strive to Know — Dare to Believe" was the theme for the celebration which marked the 72nd anniversary of the founding of Christian Endeavor. — Release.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

SHILOH, N. J. — The annual church meeting was held the first Sunday in January. Dinner was served in the church dining room.

Miss Mary Vicinus, a missionary teacher in Bogota, Colombia, was a guest speaker in January. She showed colored slides and told of some of the persecution of Protestants in South America. A social time followed and refreshments were served by the Tri C Class.

The columns for the new addition to the "Session Room" have been placed, thus completing the exterior.

Beginning January 19 and for the following five Monday nights, services of the West District Training School are being held in the Shiloh Church. The first hour is in charge of laymen or speakers on various subjects. The second hour is in charge of Rev. S. Dan Morgan of Palmyra, N. J., and his subject is "Life of Paul."

A Loyal Temperance Legion has been started under the leadership of Mrs. David S. Davis. The group numbers about 15, with a possible 20. The meetings of these young people are held the last Sabbath of each month. — Mrs. Percy C. Davis, Correspondent.

NORTONVILLE, KAN. — Pastor Davis and Miss Nannie Greeley flew to Denver, December 7, to attend the Mid-Continent Association executive committee meeting.

Repairs have been made on the stained glass windows in the church.

At the prayer meeting services on Friday nights the pastor is conducting a study in the Book of Ephesians.

A very nice Christmas service was held at the church Christmas Eve. The bulletins were furnished by the primary class.

As a symbol of the true meaning of Christmas, the classes and organizations of the church presented White Christmas Gifts to be used for specific purposes. A large group went caroling after the services.

About 90 attended the annual New Year's dinner, January 4, and the business meeting was also well attended.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Stillman celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in November so quietly that no one knew of it till later.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Coon held open house December 23 for their golden wedding anniversary. Their children and other relatives and friends were present.

On January 1, Mr. and Mrs. Asa Prentice celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with an open house at which all of their children and their families were present, with many other guests.

We were all saddened Christmas Day by the passing of one of our older members, Mrs. Jennie Hurley.

Our pastor has hung out his latchkey on Sabbath nights, "for any who wish to spend the evening in games and fellowship together." His efforts have been appreciated. — Correspondent.

ALFRED, N. Y. — The annual church dinner and business meeting of the First Alfred Church was held at the parish house the evening of January 11. Vice-President Gerald Burdick presided with Paul C. Saunders as clerk and 65 members attending. Dean A. J. C. Bond offered prayer.

The report of Mr. Saunders showed the present church membership as 427, of whom 189 are nonresident. Pastor Warren reported an average church attendance of 126 and on pastoral calls he met 233 persons. His report showed a full schedule and good co-operation.

Next year's elected officers are: Church president, H. O. Burdick; vice-president, George C. Potter; clerk, Paul C. Saunders; treasurer, Edith D. Place. The board of trustees has nine members.

The pastor's committee for Christian advance includes one member for each of the following: Church social life, membership and attendance, tract and Sabbath literature, stewardship, young people's activities, religion in the home, improvement of worship.

The annual report presented by the treasurer, Mrs. Edith D. Place, showed the church expenditures to be \$7,022, while contributions to the Denominational Budget and other special gifts amounted to \$3,151, making a total of \$11,073. The Ladies' Aid report was one of the highlights of the evening. The Aid had full charge of the maintenance, operation, and use of the parish house. The president, Mrs. Prentice Stillman, reported that aside

The Sabbath Recorder

One Great Hour of Sharing



Thousands of refugees in India, like this East Pakistan mother and child, will be kept alive this year through "One Great Hour of Sharing" gifts sent by American Christians.

"Inasmuch"

from all meetings of church organizations — the Aid, Evangelical Society, suppers and sales, etc. — the parish house has been used by others, among whom were: the Red Cross blood bank, chest clinics, Home Bureau, Camp Fire, Western Association, Community Vacation Bible School, and Community Ministers' Association. Reimbursement is by voluntary contribution only.

Superintendent Howard Jacox reported for every department of the Sabbath school, showing that it is well organized and doing good work.

The Evangelical Society at their regular meetings have had good programs including studies and special speakers. Mrs. Dora Degen is president, and Mrs. A. J. C. Bond the key worker for the Woman's Board.

Don Richards, student in the School of Theology, was elected assistant to the pastor for 1953. — Mrs. B. R. C., Correspondent.

DAYTONA BEACH, FLA. — The Daytona Beach Church is always happy to welcome friends from the North who spend parts of the winter here. We wish more of them would do it.

The Church Aid Society began holding regular meetings in November. At the December meeting Dr. M. Josie Rogers was elected president. The January meeting was held in the afternoon of January 28, and was followed by a Chinese supper. There were chopsticks at each place, but only Dr. and Mrs. Crofoot were expert enough really to eat with them. After the supper, Dr. Ruth Rogers showed us colored pictures of people, birds, and flowers from her collection. These were greatly enjoyed.

A Christmas pageant, "No Room in the Inn," was presented on the Sabbath before Christmas, taking the place of the regular church service and the Bible study. The pageant, directed by Dr. Ruth Rogers, was presented in four acts: (1) No Room in the Inn; (2) While Shepherds Watch Their Flocks; (3) And the Wise Men Came; (4) You Will Find Him Lying in a Manger. Each group taking part wrote its own script. Dr. J. Nelson Norwood was narrator, reading the Bible story with appropriate comments to introduce each act. Carol singing, with Mrs. C. M. Rogers at the piano, formed a part of the program.

The annual church meeting was held January 11, following the usual Co-operative Dinner. Dr. Norwood was elected president; Dr. Ruth Rogers, vice-president; Dr. W. A. Titsworth, treasurer; and L. E. Babcock, clerk. — Ruby C. Babcock, Reporter.

Walking with Alfred (Lord) Tennyson in his garden, a friend asked him, "What do you think of Christ?" The great poet, stooping to examine a flower at his feet, replied, "What the sunshine is to that flower, the Lord Jesus Christ is to my soul." — Christian Digest.

Marriages

Ryan - Howard. — At the home of the bride's mother and stepfather, Mr. and Mrs. William Wray, in Bloomfield, N. J., on October 16, 1952, Timothy F. Ryan and Martha Faller Howard, both of Bloomfield, were united in marriage by the pastor of the bride, Rev. E. Wendell Stephan.

Obituaries

Griffin. — Lyman H., son of S. P. and Eliza Saunders Griffin, was born September 20, 1863, and passed away January 27, 1953, at Nortonville, Kan.

Mr. Griffin lived most of his life in the Nortonville community, except for a few years in Gentry, Ark. He was married to Rosa Miller, who preceded him in death by several years. For some time he and his sister operated a grocery store in Nortonville.

He is survived by one sister, three nieces, and two nephews. Funeral services were conducted by his pastor, Duane L. Davis, and burial was in the Nortonville Cemetery. D. L. D.

Greene. — Abbie Spicer, daughter of George E. and Mary (Champlin) Greene, was born in Hope Valley, R. I., July 30, 1870, and died there on January 21, 1953.

On August 27, 1887, she was baptized by Rev. Joshua Clarke and united with the Rockville Seventh Day Baptist Church. This relationship she has maintained through the years, although she had been able to attend the services only on rare occasions.

Miss Greene is survived by a niece and a nephew.

Funeral services were held at the Avery Funeral Home, Sabbath afternoon, Rev. Harold R. Crandall officiating. Burial was in Pine Grove Cemetery. H. R. C.

"If a nation values anything more than freedom, it will lose its freedom; and the irony of it is that if it is comfort or money that it values more, it will lose that, too." — Somerset Maugham.