

# The Sabbath Recorder

## Accessions

Nortonville, Kan.

Testimony:

Jack Mitchell

Salem, W. Va.

Baptism:

Mrs. Lewis May (Nancy Carskadon)

Esther Hansen

Charles Hansen

Profession of Faith:

Mr. and Mrs. George W. Freeland

## Marriages

**Coll - Swiger.** — J. Howard Coll and Mary Helen Swiger, daughter of Mrs. Ottis F. Swiger, Salem, W. Va., were united in marriage in the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church, on Sunday, June 17, 1953. Pastor Clifford W. P. Hansen officiated. Mr. and Mrs. Coll now reside at 29 Cedar Blvd., Apt. 15, Pittsburgh 28, Pa.

**Nicoll - Saunders.** — Bruce Douglas Nicoll, U. S. Air Force, and Ann Saunders, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Saunders, Albion, Wis., were united in marriage at the Albion Seventh Day Baptist Church, August 8, 1953. The bride's pastor, Kenneth E. Smith, officiated.

## Births

**Boyd.** — A daughter, Carol Ann, to Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Boyd, on February 26, 1953, at New Enterprise, Pa.

## Obituaries

**Langworthy.** — Harry E., son of George B. and Lenora Barber Langworthy, was born in Ashaway, R. I., October 4, 1895, and died in Westerly, R. I., July 23, 1953.

He was a member of the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church and of the H. W. Merrill Post, American Legion. Besides his wife, nee Elizabeth Patterson, Mr. Langworthy is survived by two daughters: Mrs. Lenora Elizabeth Hansen and Miss Evelyn Langworthy; two grandchildren; a brother, Lloyd B. Langworthy of Ashaway; and three sisters: Mrs. Donald Bertch of Harrisville, R. I., Mrs. Byron Taylor of Potter Hill, R. I., and Mrs. Grace Hiscox of Granby, Conn.

The funeral service was held in the Schilke Funeral Home on Sabbath afternoon with burial in River Bend Cemetery. Rev. Harold R. Crandall officiated.  
H. R. C.

**Brown.** — Estella Babcock, daughter of Rev. Simeon H. and Elizabeth McCormick Babcock, was born in Maplewood Township, near Jackson Center, Ohio, on July 25, 1870, and died in Janesville, Wis., July 23, 1953.

She was married to Dr. Mark L. Brown on November 15, 1894. Much of her married life was spent in Milton. Later the family moved to Ft. Atkinson, Wis., where her husband passed

away in 1921. Mrs. Brown lived in Milton during the later years of her life, until her failing health made it necessary to care for her elsewhere.

She was baptized in childhood by her father and was a loyal member of the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church. Surviving her are a daughter, a son, two brothers, a sister, a granddaughter, two great-grandchildren, and many other relatives.

Farewell services were conducted by her pastor, Rev. Elmo Fitz Randolph, in the Milton Church on July 26, 1953, and interment was in the family plot in Ft. Atkinson, Wis.

A. B. V. H.

**Loofboro.** — Elmer E., son of John Wade and Susan Forsythe Loofboro, was born May 4, 1862, in Clinton, Iowa, and died August 3, 1953, at his home in Albion, Wis.

He was married to Euphemia Narcissi Sayre on Dec. 2, 1885, and the couple marked their 65th wedding anniversary in 1950. Mrs. Loofboro died Jan. 19, 1951. Surviving are a son, Dwight, of Albion; two brothers, Dr. E. B. Loofboro, Janesville, and Rev. Eli Loofboro, Westerly, R. I.; a sister, Mrs. Alice Burdick, Milton; six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted from the Albion Seventh Day Baptist Church by the pastor, Kenneth E. Smith. Burial was in the Evergreen Cemetery, Albion. K. E. S.

**Randolph.** — Idell Bingaman, was born in Salem, W. Va., October 10, 1876, and died June 18, 1953, in Washington, D. C.

She was a faithful member of the Salem S.D.B. Church for more than half a century.

She is survived by one son, Jennings Randolph, of Washington, D. C.; one daughter, Mrs. H. F. Carr of Birmingham, Mich.; a brother, Burlin Bingaman of Okmulgee, Okla.; and two sisters, Mrs. Berta Ford of Syracuse, N. Y., and Mrs. S. M. Moore of Clarksburg, W. Va.

Funeral services were held in the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church on Sabbath, June 20, with burial in the church cemetery.

C. W. P. H.

### HELP WANTED

**The Seventh Day Baptist Publishing House has a good opening for some young woman who is a high school graduate and who has a knowledge of typing. Must be on "friendly terms" with figures since cost finding and billing will be the main job. Here's a chance to work in pleasant surroundings with church privileges and other advantages near at hand. Good salary, vacations with pay, etc. Write**

**RECORDER PRESS**

**Box 868**

**Plainfield**

**New Jersey**



Rev. Lester G. Osborn

The newly elected president of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference was born in Milton, Wis., spent considerable time on the Pacific Coast, received his theological education in the East, has served the midwestern church of Nortonville, Kan., has completed a relatively long pastorate at one of our strongest eastern churches (Shiloh, N. J.), and is currently pastoring the historic First Hopkinton Church at Ashaway, R. I.

See article on page 100.

# The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

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

REV. LEON M. MALTBY, Editor

Contributing Editors:

MISSIONS ..... Everett T. Harris, D. D.  
WOMEN'S WORK ..... Mrs. A. Russel Maxson  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ..... Ben R. Crandall, D.Ped., Ph.D.  
CHILDREN'S PAGE ..... (Mrs.) Mizpah S. Greene

Terms of Subscription

Per Year ..... \$3.00      Single copies ..... 10 cents

Special rates for students, retired Seventh Day Baptist ministers, and servicemen.

Postage to Canada and foreign countries 50 cents per year additional. Gift and newlywed subscriptions will be discontinued at date of expiration unless renewed. All subscriptions will be discontinued six months after date to which payment is made unless renewed.

Published weekly (except August when it is published biweekly) by the American Sabbath Tract Society.

Entered at the post office in Plainfield, N. J., as second class matter. The Sabbath Recorder does not necessarily endorse signed articles. All communications should be addressed to the Sabbath Recorder, Plainfield, N. J.

PLAINFIELD, N. J., SEPTEMBER 7, 1953  
Vol. 155, No. 8      Whole No. 5,557

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## THEME FOR NEXT CONFERENCE

To know Him and make Him known.

## CONFERENCE IN RETROSPECT

To be a historian is to have a gift almost as rare as that of statesman or prophet. The real historian is not the one who only digs up the past and relates it to other ancient events; he is the one who can evaluate present happenings with something of the accuracy with which they will be viewed generations hence.

Thoughtful minds at the conclusion of a denominational Conference voice the question, how will this Conference go down in history? Some of the hundreds of delegates returning home from the recent gathering of Seventh Day Baptists at Battle Creek wish they had the answer to that question. Since we cannot claim any high degree of prophetic insight our opinions may vary somewhat in proportion to the number of Conferences we have attended.

This was not, in our opinion, the most inspirational, Gospel-filled, or prayer-filled Conference held by our people in recent years. The program contained fewer sermons, worship services, and prayer meetings than usual. There were some moving messages given, and as usual, a climactic effect was felt as we moved through the week. However, if this gathering stands out in the long history of Seventh Day Baptists it will be for other reasons.

The music of Conference was outstanding under the quiet and delicate direction of Dr. Ellis Johanson. His father, Dr. B. F. Johanson, also added much to the musical enjoyment of the delegates by his able direction of the orchestra and the forty-voice men's chorus which sang on several occasions. But, again we would agree that Conference is more than the music.

The printed report of the Commission is usually the center around which the business of Conference revolves. Sometimes it may well be called the storm center. That was not true this year. The recommendations presented were so largely concerned with the details of the by-law revision that they more properly find their place in the Year Book than in the pages of the Sabbath Recorder. However, the additional recommendations made during the Conference week were of tremendous and far-reaching importance to our people and will be reported fully in these pages.

SEPTEMBER 7, 1953

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President Randolph wanted the Battle Creek session to be known as a working Conference. We believe that hope was realized. When committee reports came to the floor on Friday and Sunday, the business began in earnest. Proposed changes of financial policy were discussed and tabled on Friday and brought up again on Sunday. Never within our memory have we held a business meeting from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. with such manifest interest and such an apparent desire to do what was for the best interest of our far-flung work.

This was indeed a working Conference. Long strides were taken toward reorganization. Progress was made in closer co-ordination of the boards and agencies. The wisdom of having a quiet, unassuming executive secretary began to be felt. There were some misgivings about the wisdom of some of our decisions. Time will aid the historian in that respect. We were sure that in some problems we had only part of the answers. However, a well-oriented Commission and a capable executive secretary should be able to guide us through the year until the next Conference convenes at Milton, Wis. It is expected that the whole matter of the theological seminary will then be reopened, and the budget changes further evaluated. The year ahead must be one of determined self-sacrifice in giving and in propagating the faith which we dearly hold.

## HOW WE DO OUR BUSINESS

It is not customary for local churches to instruct their delegates to the General Conference except occasionally on controversial items. The delegates are free to vote according to their individual light or conscience.

Knowing that the reports and business can be catalogued to a considerable extent the president on the first day of Conference sets up a list of committees from the advance list of delegates as follows: Publishing Interests, Women's Work, Christian Education Interests, Reference and Counsel, Missionary Interests, Nominations, Vocational Interests, Credentials, Petitions, and Courtesies and Resolutions.

The Committee on Reference and Counsel always looms large because it considers

the report of Commission and is concerned with all budget matters. It had an unusually heavy responsibility this year in deciding whether to recommend the adoption of a greatly enlarged budget.

Other committees assume importance in proportion to the significance of the matters referred to them and the vision and daring with which they wrestle with the problems coming within their scope.

This year the Committee on Publishing Interests made some far-reaching suggestions for the guidance of the Tract Society, but since they were not couched in the form of recommendations their report occasioned little stir on the floor of Conference when it came up for adoption.

The same might be said of the Committee on Missionary Interests under the chairmanship of Rev. Hurley S. Warren. It was well attended both by members and visitors. Important questions were carefully weighed in its early morning and late afternoon meetings. Returned missionaries, the executive secretary, the missionary secretary, and others were brought into the committee hearings. The recommendations made to Conference did not prove to be controversial and were readily adopted after some discussion.

The committee which received perhaps the most prominence this year on the floor of Conference was the one on Christian Education, under the chairmanship of Rev. Wendell Stephan. It made sweeping recommendations, some of which were amended, some tabled until Sunday for further consideration, but most of them adopted in the end. It was this committee which recommended that the new full-time secretary of the Board of Christian Education, Rev. Neal D. Mills, who had just returned from the mission field, be reduced to a half-time basis. This was proposed as an economy measure to release money for strengthening the School of Theology. Conference rather reluctantly finally adopted this recommendation. Some of the discussion relating to it appears elsewhere in this Recorder.

How is our business done? It is done in quite a democratic way. As we have indicated, most of the important matters are referred to committees. Even the Commission actions are subject to review by

committee. If there is disagreement both the recommendations of the committee and the Commission are considered item by item on the floor of Conference. There is no telling what may happen or what motions may be presented. But, being Baptists and Seventh Day Baptists, we like it that way. This year's Conference was outstandingly harmonious in all its business sessions. None could rightly say that the president was unfair or that matters were "railroaded" through. To the best of our memory, no one appealed from the decision of the chair or took him to task on any occasion as a presiding officer. The third vice-president also did a commendable job when she was called to the chair to moderate discussion.

### NOTE OF APOLOGY

It appears that some of the church correspondents have misapplied or misconstrued one of our editorials on "Good Recorder Material" in the June 15 Recorder. We have to remind ourselves that when we shoot at long range with a scatter gun some of the pellets go astray. We were aiming primarily at writers of articles.

The purpose of the editorial, twice stated, was to encourage writers to do their best, not to frighten them. To hope for articles in typewritten form does not reflect a new editorial policy; every editor has expressed such hope. We do not expect that every local news correspondent will be a typist; the editor himself is not. We never refuse news because it is not in double-spaced typewritten form. We want news and feature articles from all over the denomination in that form which is the best that you can do. We have a part-time secretary who can copy material when that is necessary.

We do not want to hurt people's feelings. We do want your co-operation in keeping our office costs as low as possible and in making the Recorder as good as possible. More important than typing is clearness of expression.

I fear nothing but doing wrong. — Sterne.

### NEW CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

It has been the custom, but only a custom, to alternate between a minister and a layman as president of the General Conference of Seventh Day Baptists. The retiring president is a minister; the new one should have been a layman. The Nominating Committee was hampered by the strong feeling that they should not nominate for president one who had not recently served on the Commission. We understand that the laymen considered eligible and suitable by the committee declined the honor. Therefore it seemed necessary to choose a minister; and, from a wide range of eligibles, Rev. L. G. Osborn was named and duly elected.

Mr. Osborn has long been known as a conservative leader in the denomination (conservative in the theological sense only). He has frequently registered a minority opinion on questions before the General Conference. He has served on the Commission for several years, and since moving to Ashaway, R. I., has been active in the Missionary Society. For a longer period of time he has been closely associated with the American Sabbath Tract Society. Many of our most popular Sabbath tracts have come from his pen.

The new president has many qualities that should make him well fitted for the task which lies before him. His ministry in the churches he has served shows unusual planning and organizing ability. His publicity has been aggressive and effective. He was one of our first ministers to carry on a continuous weekly radio program. We may well expect these qualities to be used effectively in the preparing of next year's Conference program and in the spiritual leadership of the denomination through the year which can well go with the office.

Not everyone has agreed with Mr. Osborn in times past, but, as the retiring president expressed it, "He is my president, and I shall follow him." A well-deserved honor and a great responsibility have been thrust upon our good brother. We have every reason to believe that he will dignify the office and deserve the confidence placed in him. There are perhaps some who are of the opinion that a conservative president might not be as fair-

### "BY FAITH . . ."

Executive Secretary

Conference for 1953, within the past two weeks, adopted a Denominational Budget for 1954 which is more than a quarter larger than the budget which we have not yet raised for this year. And this budget was adopted with enthusiasm. Why? Because we have faith in spite of previous records, that this denomination can contribute enough to God's work to help Him accomplish His purpose with mankind.

When the budget was being discussed, expressions were heard all around the floor of Conference that we were taking a forward step and demonstrating the depth of our faith in the teachings of our denomination. Part of this confidence was because steps have been taken to channel through the budget a large amount of giving which has previously gone direct to the beneficiaries, and part of it was because of enthusiasm for expanded programs of some of our denominational agencies. These expansions of work were also supported enthusiastically by Conference.

This does not betoken the possibility of any let-down in our efforts to raise the necessary amounts. Rather it challenges us all to greater effort to make certain that funds are available for the carrying forward of a program which we honestly believe to be God's program. All of us must give — and give even more generously than we have in the past to raise this budget, but "By faith . . ." we can do it.

One step that would help materially toward facing the new budget would be to end this Conference year with its budget entirely raised. We still have most of the month of September to accomplish this. While figures on August giving are not yet available, indications are that this was quite generous, and it can be hoped that the 1953 budget year will end up not far behind the goals we set ourselves a year ago at Denver.

minded as a liberal. We can look to Mr. Osborn to prove that fairness is not rightly associated with any particular shade of theological conviction.

### MEMORY TEXT

"But 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." 1 John 1: 7.

### MINISTERIAL RELATIONS

Erlo E. Sutton  
Chairman of Committee

Early in the Conference year the chairman of the Committee on Ministerial Relations had an article in the Recorder concerning the committee and something of what we felt its duties were, and inviting both churches and ministers to keep the committee informed concerning Seventh Day Baptist ministers not employed who might desire employment, churches seeking pastors, and churches or pastors desiring a change. Information has been received concerning three ministers who desired employment, two requests for the names of ministers who might be available from churches seeking pastors, and information concerning a church where a change was desirable. Consequently there has been little the committee could do to help either churches or ministers, for it has long been the policy of the committee not to make suggestions unless requested to do so.

Could the committee be kept informed of ministers seeking employment, churches seeking a pastor, and churches or pastors desiring a change, it might be helpful in getting ministers and churches together, and perhaps prevent the catastrophe of a church dropping a pastor, not because of any fault of his, but that he had served his greatest usefulness in that church and community.

Someone has said, "When a Christian worker has more admirers than intercessors, he is in danger." This could rightly be modified to include: "When the Christian church with any of its departments has more admirers than intercessors, it is in danger." — Bible Advocate.

## SIGNIFICANT MISSIONARY ACTION

Alfred Davis, chairman pro tem of the Commission, came before Conference Thursday afternoon to present the special recommendations of the Commission in regard to Nyasaland. He introduced the recommendations as follows: (We are quoting in part from a tape recording of those remarks.)

"Since arriving here in Battle Creek, special meetings have been held early mornings and continuing up until the time of our business sessions. These meetings have included representatives from our Missionary Board, representatives from a group of people who have been contributing most substantially to the Nyasaland field (Pacific Coast Association), plus the Commission, plus Rev. Ronald Barrar. As a result of that which, in my judgment, has been a tremendous Christian spirit on the part of all these folk, we have a really significant recommendation and one which I am presenting on behalf of this committee and as chairman pro tem of the Commission. I am certain I don't have the ability to dramatize this thing as it might be dramatized. It's the kind of recommendation which, in our judgment, is one of the most significant recommendations made by a committee or Commission in a long time."

## THE NYASALAND RECOMMENDATION

On the recommendation of a joint committee composed of representatives of the Missionary Board, Missionary Barrar, a representative of the American group which has contributed most heavily to the Nyasaland work, and the Commission, the Commission recommends to Conference the adoption of a two-point plan to bring about the unification of our efforts with respect to the Nyasaland field. (I might say at this point, this committee that has been meeting has made a very serious effort to review the needs of the Nyasaland field and tried to compile some estimate of the cost of developing a program there. Our first point in this program is):

(1.) The addition to the 1953-54 Denominational Budget of \$7,360 against a

total of \$10,260 for the field, for the financial support of the Nyasaland Mission.

(2.) The committee recommends the endorsement in principle of a joint trusteeship to secure the property and the affairs of the mission, the exact terms of trusteeship to be worked out with legal counsel and to the satisfaction of the Missionary Board, Rev. Ronald Barrar, and the Commission. To insure the success of this program the joint committee urges that our people make all contributions for the Nyasaland field through the Denominational Budget with the reassurance that funds so designated will be used for the support of this field.

(Note: This recommendation was referred to two committees, the Committee on Missionary Interests and the Committee on Reference and Counsel.)

The Committee on Missionary Interests after careful deliberation recommended approval with a slight change in the last sentence to read substantially as follows: "with the reassurance that funds so designated will be forwarded as promptly as possible, as in the past, for the support of this field." The Committee on Reference and Counsel also approved the budget increase. It was adopted.

The proposed trusteeship was later fully explained by attorney Clarence Rogers who has agreed to see the matter through. In brief it calls for a corporation to be set up in Nyasaland which shall hold title to the property. It is expected that there will be three citizens of Nyasaland, two New Zealanders, and two Americans on the board. The majority must be in Nyasaland in order to function. (This plan closely resembles the one proposed by Missionary Barrar.)

## Annual Meeting of American Sabbath Tract Society

The annual meeting of the American Sabbath Tract Society will be held in the Seventh Day Baptist Building, 510 Watachung Ave., Plainfield, N. J., on Sunday, September 13, 1953, at 2 p.m.

Franklin A. Langworthy,  
President,  
Frederik J. Bakker,  
Recording Secretary.

## STRENGTHEN THE LOCAL CHURCH

(Recorded remarks of Conference President Randolph.)

I don't like to do what I am going to do except because of the fact that I believe in it. I have not heard in much of this discussion any direct concern for this phase of our problem. I want to speak to the question of the grass-roots-center- vitality in all our denominational life at the level of the local church, where the pastors of the local churches are attempting to do the job.

There isn't anybody in the Conference more delighted than I to get on the bandwagon such as we are in the process of doing in terms of outreach and new enterprises and faith in missions and all that kind of thing; but I do believe somebody needs to say to us that we must have a balance between the center and focus of our work on the home front at the level of the local church, and the outreach in all directions through denominational channels beyond the local church.

Now to get to the point! If we are going to be out of balance, my friends, in terms of spending a budget that extends us in missions and Christian education and tracts and so on, to the point where we have leadership in the home churches paid submarginal salaries and working in the main on a part-time basis in the local church we are cutting our own throats, though we may get a "terrific charge" out of doing it.

Now I am sorry I am not equipped with the statistics, but I know whereof I speak. A high percentage of our local church ministers in this denomination at the present time are not adequately paid and are not able to give full time, not to speak of hearts and minds, to the interests of the local church. This is not just on the level of the missionary churches. This is all up and down the line, with all too few exceptions.

There is another facet of this thing which we cannot deny. We are at the moment in dire need of recruits to the ministry. We ought to go out and put the finger on the finest talent of our youth. We ought to train them, but, I submit to you, that so long as at the local church

level we offer to this youth a submarginal salary that does not permit them any security in terms of their economic status we shall never succeed in recruiting the kind of leadership we need.

I want to go with this budget; I am thrilled with it. I realize that this Conference officially has no control over what the local church will do with its own pastor, God bless him, who works in the front lines. But I want to get out of my mind and heart this grave concern. It is not something of the moment but something I have lived with over a period of years as I have seen the picture of this denomination. If I had a prophetic voice, I would need to say to us as a people that unless we can bring into balance the center of our work where our roots are in terms of worship and fellowship and service and all of that — unless we can bring it into balance with the much more dramatic appeals of the mission fields (and thank God they are dramatic); but unless we can bring them into balance — we are doomed to disappointment and disillusionment and ultimate failure in the total cause. I want to have it said of me at this Conference I made this point. I pray to God that in this total upsurge of denominational enthusiasm, we shall be concerned and ready to bring this enthusiasm into the local church where it has concern with the leadership there and the recruitment of leadership to fill the vacant pulpits. When we can do that, my friends, we'll move.

[Note: The above remarks were made on Sunday afternoon in connection with the general subject of budget adoption. Mrs. Alberta Batson, third vice-president, was called to the chair while the president delivered this appeal.]

## SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for September 19, 1953

Counsel for Christians

Scripture: Titus 2: 7, 8; 3: 1-11.

## Annual Meeting of the Missionary Society

The annual meeting of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society will be held in the Pawcatuck Church, Westerly, R. I., September 20, 1953, at 2 p.m. E. T. H.

**TOO LATE FOR CONFERENCE**

(A message originating with Pastor Bahlke, Hamburg, August 18.)

European Seventh Day Baptist Ministry sends greetings and best good wishes to the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference, 1953, in Battle Creek.

**Our Message**

Cordially dedicated by prayer and blessing due to our dear Lord's holy Word: St. John 17: 21, "That they all may be one; as thou, Father, are in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one, even as we are one."

Co-operative by our dear Lord's Grace,  
Fraternally yours,

(Signed)

Rev. Pastor Johannes Bahlke,  
Hamburg  
Rev. Pastor E. J. P. Hansen,  
Kobenhavn, Danmark  
P. Taekema, Haarlem  
James McGeachy,  
Mill Yard Church, London.

The following note was added when the letter reached Pastor McGeachy:

The enclosed message from the European Seventh Day Baptist ministers has come too late for the Battle Creek Conference as Pastor Taekema points out, but it was a happy thought on the part of Pastor Bahlke of Hamburg so I am sending it on to you in the hope that you may be able to attach it as an appendix to a report of the General Conference in the Sabbath Recorder.

It might be then passed to the S. D. B. Historical Society as an interesting and unique document to be preserved in its archives.

James McGeachy.

**NEW DENOMINATIONAL BUDGET**

Courtland V. Davis

The budget of \$52,211.22, presented by the Commission, was increased in several actions of Conference during its six business sessions by \$10,910 to a new total of \$63,121.22, the largest in many years. New items added were \$7,360 for the Nyasaland mission field (toward a total budget of \$10,260), \$2,500 for the work of the Women's Board, and \$50 for the expenses of the Vocational Committee of

Conference. The budget item for the School of Theology was increased by \$1,000 to a total of \$4,000.

The two largest increases were made by inclusion within the budget of contributions which had previously been listed as specials. The \$7,360 for Nyasaland was added upon the recommendation of the Commission after a series of conferences with Rev. Ronald Barrar, head of the Nyasaland Mission, Rev. Leon Lawton, representing the interests of many who have been contributing largely to the support of that mission, and other interested Conference delegates.

Under a new directive to the treasurer of the Denominational Budget adopted by Conference all specific contributions to budget objectives will be sent directly to the specific objective but will be counted as a part of the budget total for that objective. Recipients of direct contributions have also been asked to report them to the treasurer of the Denominational Budget so they may be included in the budget totals. With the same provisions in mind, the budget for the Women's Society was increased by \$2,500 to include direct gifts to the society made by the women's organizations in the churches. The only approved item still outside the budget will be the Continuous Support Program of the School of Theology which now amounts to about \$1,500 per year.

Commission recommended that the asking of the Board of Christian Education for the School of Theology (\$4,000) be reduced by \$1,000. However, when the report of the special Committee to Consider the Theological Training of Our Ministers was approved, Conference voted to replace the thousand dollars in order that the Advisory Council of the School of Theology might proceed with the improvements deemed necessary to avoid rescinding of accreditation for the school. It is understood that an additional three thousand dollars annually will be required for this purpose beginning with the 1954-1955 budget year.

The fourth addition, fifty dollars for the expenses of the Vocational Committee, corrected an oversight in the preparation of the budget.

**Denominational Budget**

The Denominational Budget for the year beginning October 1, 1953, as amended and adopted by Conference is as follows:

**Missionary Society:**

Toward a budget of \$41,394.00

Nyasaland .....	\$ 7,360.00
Other Foreign Missions .....	8,860.00
Home Missions .....	4,160.00
Administration .....	4,130.00
National Council of Churches .....	250.00

\$ 24,760.00

**Tract Society:**

Toward a budget of \$20,350.00

Sabbath Recorder .....	\$ 3,400.00
Literature and Visual Aids .....	1,000.00
Administration .....	1,200.00
Light and Janitor Service .....	150.00

5,750.00

**Board of Christian Education:**

Toward a budget of \$11,350.00

School of Theology .....	\$ 4,000.00
Administration .....	4,386.00
Publications .....	1,650.00
Retirement .....	600.00
National Council of Churches .....	165.00
Youth Work .....	50.00
Miscellaneous .....	49.00

10,900.00

**Women's Society:**

Toward a budget of \$3,500.00

Committee expenses .....	\$ 400.00
Society Projects .....	2,500.00
Administration .....	520.00
Booklets .....	80.00

3,500.00

**Historical Society:**

Toward a budget of \$4,228.81

Office Supplies and Expenses .....	\$ 110.00
Salary, Assistant Librarian .....	500.00
Insurance .....	100.00
Accessions, Research, Care of Library .....	500.00
Expansion .....	140.00
Light and Janitor Service .....	150.00

1,500.00

**Ministerial Retirement:**

Toward a budget of \$13,500.00

**Seventh Day Baptist Building:**

Toward a budget of \$2,538.52

**World Fellowship and Service:**

Toward a budget of \$250.00

World Council of Churches .....	\$ 50.00
National Council of Churches .....	100.00
Commission on Chaplains .....	50.00
Religion in American Life .....	50.00

250.00

**General Conference:**

Toward a budget of \$10,125.00

Expenses of Officers .....	\$ 775.00
Expenses of Commission .....	1,200.00
Year Book .....	675.00
Executive Secretary salary .....	4,200.00
Executive Secretary expenses .....	2,000.00
Vocational Committee .....	50.00
Budget Promotion .....	400.00
Printing and Stationery .....	200.00
Contingent Fund .....	625.00

Total Budget .....

\$ 10,125.00

Less Surplus .....

1,500.00

8,625.00

Total Denominational Budget .....

\$ 63,121.22

## INSPIRATION AND INTERPRETATION

Karl G. Stillman

(This is a portion of the address given August 20, 1953, on the Missionary Board program of General Conference at Battle Creek, Mich., prepared by Karl G. Stillman, treasurer, and read by Rev. Harold R. Crandall, president of the Missionary Society. E. T. H.)

The Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society under the charter granted it March 26, 1880, by the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations was authorized to disseminate "the gospel in America and other parts of the world" and also it was chartered "for kindred religious and benevolent objects." Furthermore, under its adopted rules and by-laws it is stated that it shall be the duty of its representatives "to preach the gospel" and in connection therewith "to endeavor to indoctrinate the people in those special truths which distinguish us from other Christian denominations" and also "to seek to gather and hold the people together in churches and encourage among them the habit of systematic contribution toward the support of missionary and other denominational work."

These are the things we have been attempting to do through the years even before we were incorporated and although we recognize our failures and shortcomings, in all humility we believe we have accomplished much and perhaps more than seems to be understood throughout our denomination. The possibility focuses attention on two additional responsibilities we are trying to discharge. They are first of all to be a source of inspiration to all Seventh Day Baptists everywhere, and second, a medium of interpretation of Seventh Day Baptists and their beliefs to the world at large.

Our history as a people is filled with inspiring accomplishments as we have developed from groups of individuals in Rhode Island and New Jersey through home missionary endeavors into a denomination with members living in nearly every one of the United States. In those early days, missionaries like Elders Matthew Stillman, John Greene, Amos Wells, and others who came before or even later traveled entirely by horse-drawn vehicles. It took many days

of tiresome travel to reach a planned destination, yet their work prospered with ever-increasing numbers of people becoming converted to Christianity and to the Sabbath. When we contrast the primitive means of transportation of those times with the modern railroad, steamship, or airplane now at our disposal, it is not strange for us to wonder why we are not making greater progress in this day and age. Our earlier evangelists added large numbers to our membership lists. Why can't we today exceed those results with the radio, television, and other improved facilities available to us?

It is my considered opinion that the chief reason lies in the fact we have seen fit to stress our foreign missionary work to the detriment of a good wholesome growth at home. There is no doubt but that the "Great Commission" commands us to go into all the world but if we do not build our effort on a strong foundation in the form of adequate support for our total program we will not be able to go anywhere and so fall down on the execution of that portion of all-over missionary work that is the appropriate share of Seventh Day Baptists in the advancement of God's kingdom.

Our foreign missionary efforts began in 1847 with the establishment of our China Mission in Shanghai and the work there prospered until at the time of seizure by the Communists, we had an excellent secondary school with several hundred boy and girl students, a small hospital replacing one much larger destroyed by the Japanese during their earlier occupation of China, and a church with the largest membership of any in our denomination. Later under the guidance and personal leadership of our former secretary, Rev. William L. Burdick, our Jamaica Mission was founded with headquarters in Kingston. Today our work there has developed into an ever-increasing evangelistic effort with over a score of growing churches scattered over the island and a well-staffed secondary school duly accredited by the strict Cambridge authorities. A growing mission also exists in British Guiana which again owes its development to the personal investigations and recommendations of Secretary Burdick. Some four ordained native

ministers serve churches in all parts of that country under the general supervision of Rev. Wardner T. Fitzrandolph, head of our Jamaica Mission. We are aiding the work in Germany which among other activities sponsors and distributes the publication "Wahrheit, Licht und Leben" (Truth, Light, and Life) which circulates widely among German people and also maintains contact with German-speaking Seventh Day Baptists in Brazil. In the past, we have helped our Holland brethren in the support of a mission in Java and at one time or another have contributed to work in Australia and New Zealand, England, and elsewhere in the world. Very recently it was our privilege to pay the expenses of a representative of our denomination from Holland in attending a conference in Denmark of Danish and Scandinavian Sabbathkeepers who we understand believe as we do. In fact the Copenhagen Church is asking for membership in this Conference or recognition as a Seventh Day Baptist church by it. These are some of the worth-while accomplishments of our foreign missionary endeavors.

What has been happening to our churches in America during this same period? From 1805 until 1915 when the high point in membership was reached, there was a steady growth, but from there on there has been a decline, the reasons for which are difficult to determine with any degree of certainty. One fact stands out clearly however, and that is, budgeted items for work in America have steadily declined in percentage as compared with those earmarked for foreign missions. The amounts allocated to this society by the 1952 Conference in the Denominational Budget in round numbers were \$3,178 for home missionary work and \$11,567 for foreign missions or nearly \$4 for foreign missions to \$1 for building up our home base. An analysis of the society's total budget for 1953 demonstrates the fact that its Board of Managers closely followed the apparent wishes of the denomination as exemplified by the Denominational Budget allocations since a total amount of \$7,252 was budgeted for work at home as contrasted with \$20,483 for that to be done abroad or approximately three times as much for foreign missions as for those

at home. If we were blessed with substantial resources or income at home, such proportions would not be out of line, but if our membership continues to decline as it has over the recent past we are going to be in real trouble during the present generation. Are we not being "penny wise and pound foolish" if we continue our present policies of apportioning our budget at such a great disadvantage to building up our strength at home?

## A STATEMENT OF APPRECIATION

Rev. and Mrs. Neal D. Mills were present at the Missionary Board meeting held July 26, 1953, and told of their work in Jamaica as principal and teacher. They are currently visiting the churches as they return to their home at Alfred. The White Cloud, New Auburn, Dodge Center, and Milton Churches may be included in their itinerary.

The following statement of appreciation, prepared by Dr. Edwin Whitford, was adopted unanimously by the board:

"It was with much interest and even greater appreciation that the Board of Managers of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society listened to the reports of Rev. and Mrs. Neal D. Mills regarding their work in Jamaica, B. W. I.

"Their report gave much encouragement to the board as it learned of the addition to the membership of our churches, and the advancement of the standards of the school.

"The esteem of the Jamaica Department of Education is manifest by its interest and helpful co-operation.

"The Board of Managers feels that its interest and policies have been most adequately and profitably carried out by Mr. and Mrs. Mills, who, despite the lack of domestic facilities, equipment, and comforts, carried on uncomplaining, cheerful, and courageously faithful, as they have proved. The board wishes hereby to express its grateful acknowledgment for work well done, and to pledge its support, sympathy, and prayers for happiness and success in their future work with the Board of Christian Education."

E. T. H.

## REORGANIZATION RECOMMENDATIONS

The Commission report to the General Conference at Battle Creek which was printed last week in part was primarily concerned (aside from the budget) with details of denominational reorganization. The only recommendation going into effect this year provides that the first vice-president shall be chosen with a view to his becoming president the following year. Thus Clarence Rogers will probably hold office for the year 1954-55. The change in the by-law as adopted, follows:

"The first vice-president shall be elected with the understanding that, unless unforeseen circumstances arise in the meantime to prevent such action, he will be elected at the following General Conference to the presidency. The president and first vice-president shall be members of the Commission by virtue of their election to their respective offices."

Notice also was given in the report of a proposed by-law change which would group the nine associations into three regions, as follows: (1) Eastern, Central, and Western; (2) Northern, North Central, and Southeastern; (3) Mid-Continent, Southwestern, and Pacific Coast. Under this proposal, one "Regional Commissioner" would be elected to the Commission by each group of associations with the individual associations taking turns in naming the representative. This would keep the Commission small in the interests of economy. The Committee on Reference and Counsel proposed three alternatives for decision at the next Conference as follows:

(1) To maintain the status quo and use the same machinery as now is provided — thus making no amendment necessary.

(2) To amend the constitution as proposed in the report of the Commission.

(3) To provide an amendment to read: "Membership on the Commission shall be chosen by the nine associations, each association choosing a representative if it so desires. These members shall not only represent the association at the Commission meetings, but shall be expected to visit the individual churches of the association and present the needs of the denomination

and acquaint the churches with the problems which are confronting the denomination, whether financial, pulpit supply, training of ministers, or otherwise."

The relative merits of these plans may well be discussed in all of our churches during the year.

## BUDGET ADOPTION BUSINESS

(A sampling of the tape recording of an important business session of General Conference to let our readers know what it was like.)

**President Randolph:** We look now to the Board of Christian Education with a total budget of \$11,350, asking from the Denominational Budget \$10,900. What is your will regarding it? The motion is before us. We are ready for remarks.

**Alfred Davis:** I must point out that the budget written on the board is merely a reflection now of what Conference has authorized except that you have not reflected in this figure the half-time secretary program which Conference has endorsed this afternoon. Can you make the appropriate adjustments?

**Victor Skaggs** (secretary of Committee on Reference and Counsel): As I understand it the action this afternoon approved the program of the Board of Christian Education half-time secretary but made no adjustment or suggestion to the committee (Reference and Counsel) regarding the amount which might be deleted from the budget. The committee has had no opportunity to meet and we will leave it to the floor of Conference to make that deletion.

**President Randolph:** Do you understand the problem?

**Courtland Davis:** Mr. President, I would like to see that item left in the budget with a gentlemen's agreement that it not be used by the Board of Christian Education unless needed and that the treasurer of the Denominational Budget be notified if it is needed. The Board of Christian Education has made a commitment and is morally bound even though our good friend Mills has said, "We will work it out some way. It is all right." They will try to work this thing out. If they can, then the budget item could be cut. But is it fair of us, knowing that the Board of Christian Education has no other funds to depend on, to cut that item now? If it should happen that it couldn't be

worked out, the situation would be unpleasant and would reflect on us. Let us leave it in the budget with the understanding that if the Board of Christian Education can work it out, they will so notify the treasurer of the Denominational Budget and he will adjust his proportions accordingly.

**President Randolph:** We are glad for this suggestion in line with the motion. The motion is that the item of \$10,900 for the Board of Christian Education stand as the original amount set up by the Commission.

**Alfred Davis:** The original amount was \$9,900.

**President Randolph:** We added a thousand for the School of Theology.

**Alfred Davis:** By action of Conference in adopting Plan 1 of the committee's report (see last week's Recorder p. 93) \$1,000 has been reinstated and again I am in the position where I can favor all these things. But, right or wrong, I am acting here on behalf of Commission, I think, in just bringing to your attention that in the adoption of Plan 1 you have not adopted a stop-gap measure as far as the School of Theology is concerned. It is a stop-gap measure that you will be voting \$1,000 more this year for the School of Theology. But Plan 1, as I understand it, and I hope Mr. Rogers will check me, is that next year to keep up with the accreditation standards required, it will be two or three thousand more, and the next year it will be two or three thousand more on top of that. We are not adopting any stop-gap measure in Plan 1. We are committing ourselves to ever-increasing expenditures for the School of Theology. Am I right or wrong?

**Albert Rogers:** You are right in part. I think the recommendation which this committee presented this afternoon indicated that, as far as we can see now, our askings a year from now for the School of Theology will be slightly less than \$3,000 more than at the present time. We can't commit ourselves more than a year in advance. We will do our best to keep within reason but I will have to dissent on the last part in which you said it might be two or three thousand dollars more beyond that. We don't know.

**Alfred Davis:** But of your \$10,900, \$4,000 this year is earmarked for the School of Theology. Next year presumably the budget would go to \$13 or \$14,000 of which \$7,000 would be marked for the School of Theology.

**Albert Rogers:** That is right. . . .

**Albert Rogers** (later in the discussion): The suggestion of Courtland Davis was very generous and understanding. He knows how a board has to rustle when the squeeze is put on them. I don't know just how we will work this out when we get back to Alfred. It would seem that if we could put Neal Mills on half salary right at the start we would probably save nearly \$2,000, but we need a little leeway to work it out. We are not going to put him on half time the first month he is employed. That would be unreasonable and I don't think anyone would ever expect it. I would suggest that \$1,500 be subtracted from that \$10,900 (more, if Dr. Ben here or any other member of the Board of Christian Education present thinks we should do it) and we'll save every penny we can above that. I think \$1,500 would reflect the good spirit and sincerity with which we agreed in principle with that reduction.

(Editor's note: According to our records the full \$10,900 was left in the budget when the matter came to a vote. We noted the consistency of Albert Rogers in voting against the inclusion of that amount. We further understand that the gentlemen's agreement is assumed to be in effect.)

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

Military chaplains overseas are now encouraging giving as a part of worship. Chapel services are undenominational, but even so, there are benevolent causes that appeal to all: relief of suffering, establishing orphanages, building native churches. At least one chaplain has hit upon a novel giving program. On alternate Sundays he distributes blank envelopes with spaces to write in the name and address of the soldier's home church. Later the chaplain mails the contributions back to the church with a cover letter. The response has been good, and the home churches have been happily surprised.

## Children's Page

### A CURE FOR BETTY LOU

In a pretty brown cottage on the outskirts of a little western town, lived a little girl about seven years old, named Betty Lou Allen. Her hair was golden like the sunshine, her eyes as blue as the summer skies, and her chubby cheeks like twin blush roses.

Her parents and friends loved her dearly and were very proud of her, but, sad to relate, although she could be very sweet and lovable, she had one serious fault, a very bad temper, which made everyone around her unhappy. If she could not always have her own way about things, she would fly into a terrible fit of temper and scream and cry. Sometimes she would even kick and slap those who tried to correct her.

Her dear mother and father said many times, "Oh! if we could only cure our poor little Betty Lou of her dreadful temper!" But she seemed to grow worse instead of better.

When she began to go to school, her teacher and schoolmates loved her at first, she seemed so sweet and bright; but of course she could not always have her own way in school any more than she could at home, and when she could not, she was cross and saucy to her teacher and unkind to her playmates. She could not even play games unless they were played just her way.

One warm spring day, Betty Lou called to the other children at the noon hour, "Come on, let's play hide-and-seek."

With a hop, skip, and jump they ran to play the game, but they did not play it her way. When they would not change to please her, she ran home crying and screaming.

Betty Lou's mother had just returned from calling on a neighbor; for she always wanted to be at home when her little girl returned from school. She heard Betty Lou crying and screaming. She shook her head sadly and prayed silently: "Dear Heavenly Father, help me to cure my little

girl of this terrible temper which grows worse every day."

Then she said to her cross, unhappy little girl, "Go right to your room and shut the door. Don't come out until you can be kind and pleasant. I'm ashamed of you when you give way to your terrible temper," and she left the little girl still crying and screaming, her cheeks flushed, and her eyes full of anger. Betty Lou thought her mother would soon get tired and tell her to come out. She finally stopped and listened to hear if Mother were coming to let her out. But Mother did not come and the house seemed very quiet. She opened the door and called, "Mommy I'm not cross now." No one answered, and though she looked all through the house and called, "Mommy, Mommy, where are you?" no Mommy could she find.

She hurried to the barn but no Daddy could she find. The car, too, was gone, and she decided that Mommy and Daddy had gone for a ride and left her behind. She began to cry but this time she was sorry, not angry. She said to herself, "After this I'll try not to scream when I can't have my own way."

Betty Lou found she had a hard lesson to learn, but with her mother's help she gradually began to control her temper and to realize that she could not always have her own way and must learn to sometimes let others decide for her. Every night and often during the day she asked her Heavenly Father to help her to become a better and happier child. And how happy she was when Mother said, "I am proud of my little girl."

Dear Recorder Children:

As you see I have received not one single children's letter in the past two weeks, so the story.

I am having a happy vacation at the home of my son in Bridgeton, N. J. I haven't decided just how long I'll stay. It's very warm here but I'm told it's just as warm in Andover.

Here's hoping I'll have a number of letters to answer next time.

In Christian love,  
Mizpah S. Greene.

## NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

VERONA, N. Y. — Our Sabbath School held its annual picnic Sunday, August 9, at Bingleys Picnic Grove near Chittenango. The men enjoyed a ball game until halted by rain. Roger and Willis Davis, Robert and Gerald Sholtz represented our church at the Pre-Conference Camp. Robert attended Conference also. Pastor and Mrs. Victor Skaggs, Rev. and Mrs. Eugene Davis, Mrs. Leila Franklin, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Sholtz and daughter Joyce, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Warner also attended Conference. — Correspondent.

BEREA, W. VA. — At present, Rev. Clifford W. P. Hansen, pastor of the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church, is acting as a supply pastor in the absence of Rev. Ralph Coon. He comes two Sabbath afternoons a month, which we greatly appreciate. On the other Sabbaths we get some minister nearby to speak.

We extended a call to Rev. David Pearson of Paint Rock, Ala. He has accepted the call and will come to us early in the fall.

The third week in August we had a Union Bible School with the Methodist group in the community. — Conza Meathrell, Correspondent.

ASHAWAY, R. I. — A very successful Vacation Bible School was held from June 22 - July 3. Several churches from the nearby area participated also. The closing program and exhibition of handwork was given on Sabbath Eve, July 3, when each class gave a summary of its lessons.

An automatic time switch has been installed on the outside bulletin board for lighting purposes.

The church has adopted a Jamaica student and has sent money for eyeglasses as well as for his regular living expenses at Crandall High. A family in our church also provided him with a scholarship.

During the pastor's absence in August, the deacons provided us with supply speakers: Rev. Raymond Brendle, Aug. 15; Pastor Robert Greene, Aug. 22; and Rev. Everett Harris, Aug. 29.

The church has a bell it is offering to any Seventh Day Baptist Church that is willing to pay for the crating and ship-

ping. Anyone interested may contact Pastor Osborn. — Mrs. Raymond Kenyon, Correspondent.

RIVERSIDE, CALIF. — Camps at Pacific Pines have closed for this camping season, except for the Young Adult Retreat which is planned for the Labor Day weekend. In spite of all the problems which arose in preparing for camp, all reports show they were fine.

Much credit is due our Young Adults for their splendid co-operation. The leaders and teachers were a group of consecrated Christians, all working together to bring the Bible teachings to the campers.

The theme for all camps was: To Know Him and Make Him Known.

There is great joy in working with children, noting their eager faces as they listen to Bible stories, in teaching them of Jesus and the Bible truths. How good it is when in childhood they learn that they can love and serve Jesus, and give their hearts to Him. "Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise." Matthew 21: 16b.

The Family Bible Conference was exceptionally well staffed but the attendance was not large. One lady who was privileged to be there the full week said, "We had a wonderful time together and spiritual food enough to last until next year." That speaks well for the spirit that was manifested.

Quite a group went up Sabbath day to join them in the service and mealtime fellowship. Rev. Ralph Coon preached the sermon, "The Three Levels of Christian Experience." Beth and Joan, our Nyasaland missionaries, brought challenging messages in the afternoon, firing our missionary zeal.

We still rate our camp program as our best evangelistic effort and we give all praise and glory to the Lord for its success.

Within the past two months our pulpit has been supplied by five outstanding men of our denomination: Rev. Leon Maltby, our former pastor, now editor of the Sabbath Recorder at Plainfield, N. J.; Dr. Loyal F. Hurley, also a former pastor here, now professor in the Alfred School of Theology at Alfred, N. Y.; Rev. Leon Lawton, pastor of the Los Angeles Church;



# The Sabbath Recorder

Rev. Ralph Coon, professor of Religion and Science at Salem College, Salem, W. Va.; and Arlie Davis of Phoenix, Ariz. They all brought us inspiring sermons.

About twelve from our church attended Conference.

On August 15, through the influence of Elder Ballenger, baptism was administered to Cecil Russell from the State of Washington. She made the trip especially for the occasion, the fulfillment of a long-cherished wish of hers.

Our attention is now turned to the repairing and redecorating of the parsonage, that it may in readiness for the coming of our new pastor, Rev. Alton Wheeler, this fall.

The general work and worship services of our church are moving along very well under the leadership of our interim pastor, T. Denton Lee. — N. M. Stone, Correspondent.

## LET'S THINK IT OVER

Speaking recently before a group of chaplains on the subject of Religious Education on Army Posts, Chaplain Hebert (denomination unknown) made the following observation about Sunday school teaching in general: "The sweet, sticky type of religious education that dwells on the birds and the bees is no longer satisfying." He went on to say that we are learning that we must teach our children the hard, realistic fact of a wicked world.

**Atheist** — A man with no invisible means of support. — Walter Damrosch.

## Marriages

**Halterman - Maltby.** — Joseph Bud Halterman of Parawan, Utah, and Lucille Ruth Maltby, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Leon M. Maltby, were united in marriage in the Verona, N. Y., Seventh Day Baptist Church Sunday, August 16, 1953. The father of the bride officiated.

## Obituaries

**Wiard.** — Clara E., daughter of Daniel C. and Clara Randall Waldo, was born in Cussewago Township, Pa., March 11, 1868, and passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Arthur L. Willmarth, 815 Grove St., Meadville, Pa., July 27, 1953.

She was married to Henry W. Wiard December 26, 1900. He, together with a son,

H. Waldo, and a daughter, E. Mildred (the second wife of the late Rev. A. Clyde Ehret), preceded her in death. Surviving besides her daughter, Mrs. Willmarth, are two brothers, one sister, and two grandsons. She was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of New York City. Funeral services were held at the Byham Funeral Home with Rev. D. P. Shafer of the First Christian Church officiating. Burial was in the Carmel Cemetery.

Maybelle Willmarth.

**Maxson.** — Elva, was born at Berea, W. Va., Aug. 17, 1872, and died in Parkersburg, W. Va., July 27, 1953. Mr. Maxson was a faithful member and deacon of the Berea S. D. B. Church.

He is survived by his wife, Minnie E. Jones-Maxson; four sons: Carlton and Waymond of Parkersburg, W. Va., Glen of West Union, W. Va., and John of Waverly, W. Va.; and eight daughters: Mrs. L. B. Flesher and Mrs. Peal Meeks of Parkersburg, Mrs. J. B. Shepler of West Union, Mrs. Ray Bonnell of Berea, Mrs. Chester Howell of Clarksburg, Mrs. Ralph Straley of Oxford, W. Va., and Miss Winnifred Maxson and Mrs. Leroy Eckman of Baltimore, Md.; and two sisters, Mrs. Jackson Hudkins and Mrs. Nevie Brissey of Berea, W. Va. Services were held July 30 in the Berea Seventh Day Baptist Church, with interment in Pine Grove Cemetery.  
C. W. P. H.

**Van Horn.** — Willard M., was born in Marion, Iowa, March 26, 1872, and died August 22, 1953, in Waukesha, Wis.

He was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church at Garwin, Iowa, before transferring his membership to the church at Albion, Wis. Though he was a nonresident member of his church, he was interested in her activities and loyal to her precepts.

Surviving are two sons: Roland, of Garwin, and Bernard, of Waukesha; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren; three sisters: Mrs. Rachel Davis, Milton, Wis.; Mrs. Myrtle Farrow, Delmar, Iowa; and Mrs. Ora Vester, Battle Creek, Mich. His wife, Ruth, and one son, Harold, preceded him in death.

Funeral services were held August 25 at the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church, and burial was in the Milton Cemetery. His pastor, Kenneth E. Smith, officiated.  
K. E. S.

**Rasmussen.** — Kathryn Stanley, the two and one half month's old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Rasmussen of Minneapolis, Minn., passed away in that city, August 15, 1953.

The funeral was held in the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Boulder, Colo., August 19, conducted by Rev. Erlo E. Sutton, pastor emeritus of the Boulder Church, and Elder Alexander Dugger, Bassett, Neb., of the Church of God (Seventh Day).

Survivors, besides the parents, are two sisters: Martha Belle and Carol Miller. The paternal grandparents are Clarissa (Wheeler) and Orville Rasmussen of Boulder; and the maternal grandmother, Mrs. Alta Leonard of Minneapolis.  
E. E. S.

## Our Nation's Prayer

By Ralph Loofboro

God of the land, the water, sea, and air;  
Thou God of hope, the cure for all despair,  
Look down, we pray, and see our growing plight.  
May we not grope, forever, toward the light.  
Teach us Thy will; not ours, but Thine be done.  
May we behold, again, Thy loving Son  
In heart and mind. Again we wander far —  
Thy love remote and distant as a star.  
The scourge of war is seen in every land.  
Almighty God, stretch out Thy helping hand.  
We needs must kill, perhaps, the demon foe;  
Yet from our heart there need no hatred flow.  
O God, Thy Son, whose riven side flowed red,  
Did not avenge, but prayerfully He said:  
"Father, forgive; they know not what they do" —  
The words so old but ever grand and new.  
Oh, point the way — we know not where to tread,  
Our hearts are cold and filled with anxious dread.  
Thyself reveal, O God of destiny,  
Or perish now this nation of the free.  
We in our might are wind-blown chaff and dross  
If we reject that Saviour on the Cross.  
We knew Thee once, O Wondrous God above;  
In freedom prayed, and prospered by Thy love.  
Yet now we find, through Satan's tempting gold,  
We've gone astray, far from the Shepherd's fold.  
Show us the path where once our fathers trod;  
Search out our hearts and cleanse, Almighty God.  
Lord, give us strength, through Thee we ask it all  
In humble faith. Though nations rise and fall,  
We will emerge, victorious, great, and free,  
If we, at last, will place our trust in Thee.