Southwestern News Letter

One of our smallest printed publications is the quarterly Southwestern News Letter published by Elder Clifford Beebe at Pomona Park, Fla., and edited this year by Miss Mary Fisher, Conway, Ark. Though small it is full of life and is cherished by a wide circle of readers who receive it free of charge. The November issue contains news from Nady, Fouke, Gentry, and Little Rock, Ark., as well as from Paint Rock, Ala. It also tells about the association meeting at Edinburg, Tex., the coming General Conference at Mount Sequoyah Camp Grounds at Fayetteville, Ark., and the young people's camp held at Columbus, Tex. Recorder readers should note that two of the 11 campers from the Hammond, La., Church, Louise and Betty Joyce Hutchinson, failed to get mentioned in the good story of Camp M-I L-E-S which appeared in our November 22 issue.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

WHITE CLOUD, MICH. — The year has brought a number of material and spiritual blessings to the church, some of which have been previously reported.

Completed during the year were the erection of the road signs at each main highway entrance to the town and an illuminated sign in front of the church. The auditorium and Sabbath school room floors have been beautifully refinished. A small house and lot next to the church were purchased for future development of the church property. The Memorial Fund indebtedness incurred at the time the church was built has been reduced almost to the zero mark with \$325 reported as having been paid on it during the year.

Gifts to interdenominational work included \$21.25 to the American Bible Society and \$24.51 to One Great Hour of Sharing. The penny-a-meal boxes, widely used in our group, brought in a total of \$216 which was sent to the Denominational Budget. The Ladies' Aid raised \$540 and disbursed to various causes \$490.

In addition to a full schedule of services on 52 Sabbaths the pastor reported at the annual meeting in October that the church had been blessed through the preaching mission in April, led by Rev. E. H. Bottoms. — Gleaned from News.

Something You Need

In order to properly discuss the Sabbath school lessons for the first quarter of 1955 every member of a class which is using the Helping Hand would do well to have a personal copy of Seventh Day Baptist Beliefs (A Manual for Study). This 100-page paper-bound book is available from the American Sabbath Tract Society now at the absurdly low price of 25 cents per copy. Teachers and class members need this supplementary material to go with the lessons on Christian Teaching as developed by our own writers. It would be well for teachers to compare it with what the various interdenominational writers have prepared on the same subjects.

Obituaries

Larkin. — Ruth Anna, the daughter of Asahel and Ruth Potter Larkin, was born in Bradford, R. I., Aug. 17, 1864, and died in Westerly, R. I., Nov. 25, 1954.

Surviving her are a nephew, Charles S. Larkin, of Westerly; three nieces: Mrs. Anna Henderson, of Westerly, with whom she made her home; Mrs. Gertrude Hoxsie, of Wakefield; and Mrs. Ruth James, of Providence. Miss Larkin was a member of the Second Westerly Seventh Day Baptist Church at Niantic (now Bradford).

The funeral service was held at the Schilke Funeral Home, Rev. Harold R. Crandall officiating. Interment was in River Bend Cemetery.

H. R. C.

Baxter. — Bertrice Nancy, daughter of Nathan and Clara Baxter, was born in Kasson, Minn., May 18, 1902, and died in Los Angeles, Calif., Oct. 17, 1954.

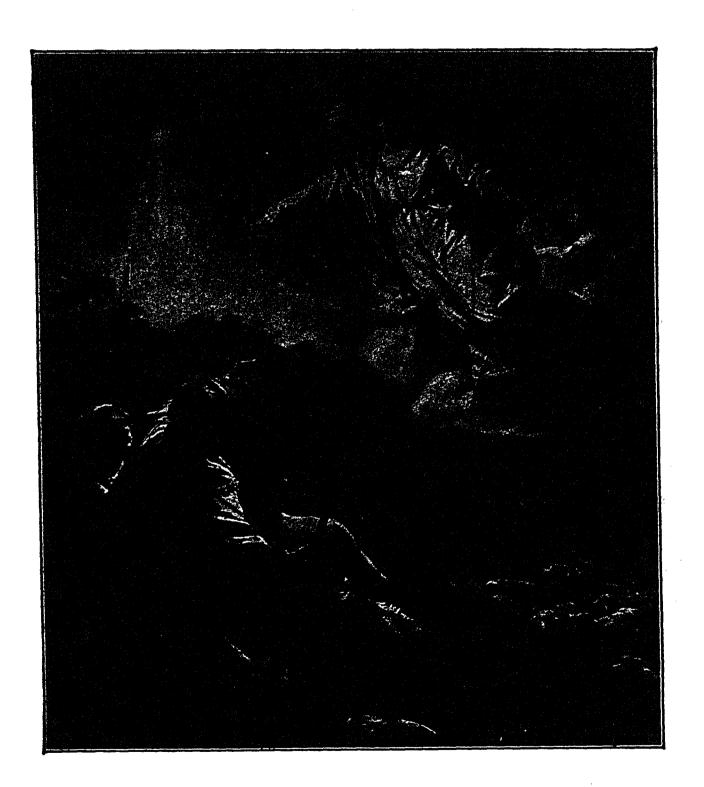
After the death of her mother in 1912 Bertrice made her home with her sister and husband, Effie and Roy Houston in Riverside, Calif. She was a member of the Riverside Seventh Day Baptist Church and was at one time president of the County C. E. Union. Graduated with honors from Milton College, she took advanced work in Los Angeles University and devoted her life to teaching, attaining wide recognition as a secondary school principal in the Los Angeles school system.

Farewell services were conducted by her pastor, Rev. Alton L. Wheeler, and interment was in Olivewood Cemetery, Riverside. On November 21 a memorial service was held at Palms Junior High School at which time a fund was raised to purchase a memorial electric organ for the auditorium.

Survivors in Riverside are her sister, Mrs. Effie Houston and a brother, Richard; a brother, Glenn, of Alameda, Calif.; and two other sisters, Gertrude Felton of Buena Park, and Mrs. Grace Dunlap of Everett, Wash.

E. H.

The Sabbath Recorder



While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.

First Issue June 13, 1844

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

REV. LEON M. MALTBY, Editor

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CHRISTMAS GIVING

The spirit of giving is in the air. True, some of the giving is not completely unselfish, and much of it is fostered by those who want to make a profit on sales rather than by those who are the prophets of the Christian religion. Nevertheless, we rejoice that almost everybody loosens up his purse strings at Christmas time and gives as lavishly as he can afford to loved ones and friends. The spirit of giving ought to be encouraged.

As Christians we try hard to keep our giving motives well up above those ordinary human motives of family love which are pretty much on the same level regardless of religion, race, or circumstance. How well do we succeed in this effort? Does our Christmas giving reflect the fact that we have been redeemed — that Christ has come into our lives? When we have finished giving all of our gifts — to family, to friends, to the poor, to the church, and to missions, how do they add up? Are we able to sit back and view it with satisfaction?

One cannot escape the feeling that most people do better in their shopping on week days than in their giving on Sabbath morning. Isn't it true that we claim a sense of well-being when we have given dimes to missions and dollars to the merchants?

We talk a good deal about tithing our incomes for the Lord's work. Over and over it has been shown that regardless of the smallness of one's income he can usually get along just as well or better if he gives one tenth to the Lord. We ourselves found joy in that kind of giving when our salary was less than one fifth of what we now receive. But if others have found it hard to tithe their living, could any claim inability to tithe what they are able to give away at Christmas time?

Have we forgotten whose birthday we celebrate? We trust that most of those who read these words have not. Many of you are making sacrifices for the Lord's work instead of giving lavishly to friends and relatives. We praise the Lord for this. But when we think of our missionaries far away from our bulging department stores, when we think of the millions without even a copy of the Word of God to bring them the Gospel story, we wonder if our giving has been as pleasing to the Lord as it might have been?

WHY THE COMMANDMENTS?

Christian Endeavor Societies throughout the country will begin the new year with four discussion topics dealing with the Ten Commandments, according to the December Christian Endeavor World. The general topic is "The Commandments Then and Now." The printed discussion material for the first meeting contains the following significant sentences:

"When God gave the Decalogue to His people to guide them in the ways of righteousness He recognized their need. That need remains today and the Commandments are still the Law of God to determine our conduct. Moral standards may change from age to age, but the basic laws of God do not. Right remains right forever — and wrong is forever wrong!"

Unfortunately, or so it seems to Sabbath-keepers, when the writers attempt to give discussion help in a later lesson on the Fourth Commandment they make a too-easy transition from the obligation of keeping the Sabbath holy to keeping the Lord's Day sacred. A three-column heading for intermediates asks, "Should Christian Young People Study on Sunday?"

The discussion for senior young people begins thus:

"The Fourth Commandment is one that is taken much too lightly today. 'Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. . . .' Truly men steal time that belongs to God. In our present culture, everything but the earning of one's daily bread is relegated to the Lord's Day — and even work is too frequently required on that day."

Young people of the senior age group are being trained in high school and college to think clearly. Many of them, stopping to think, will realize that any such statement as the above falls short of clear thinking and consistent Bible interpretation. How can we expect young people to have confidence in their elders if those leaders appeal for authority to the commandment which says, "The seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God," and then immediately turn to a discussion of the first day of the week, claiming that to work on that day is to steal time that belongs to God?

If thousands of Sabbathkeeping young people are capable of thinking clearly on that subject why should not the vastly greater number of other young people be encouraged to straighten out that discrepancy of thinking. It may have been permissible to hold back some things from younger children, but it is dangerous to try to hide such clear and basic issues from older young people. We believe that the youth of the church ought to study the Sabbath-Sunday question in lessons like this which rightly try to establish the authority of the Ten Commandments.

PASTORAL CALLS AND TV

To whom it may concern: When the pastor comes to your home, it is not to be entertained by your favorite TV program; he comes on business for the King. As David said, "... the king's business required haste." 1 Sam. 21: 8. The pastor cannot ordinarily afford to wait until the program is over. Good church members, of course, will have the courtesy to shut the thing off. The minister, even though he is conscious of being a representative of Christ and His Church, does not feel like re-enacting the story of the man who had climbed a tree for a better view of the greatest miracle worker of his day who was passing by with His crowd of enthusiastic fans. It might be appropriate for the pastor to say to the modern TV watcher, "Zaccheus, make haste, and come down; for to-day I must abide at thy house." No, that would not be diplomatic, regardless of the burning urgency in the heart of the minister.

For situations where the family is not made up of courteous Christians the column, "Minister's Miscellany," in Protestant Church Administration and Equipment, suggests a technique for the caller. He cannot successfully talk above the amplified TV voice, but he can grow confidential and speak in low tones about something the folks will not want to miss. Then they will probably turn the volume down or flick the switch. This strategy may be called fighting mystery with mystery. Of course, the minister had better have something of spiritual significance to say after the TV is turned off or he will be less welcome the next time.

The Inn That Missed Its Chance

What could be done? The inn was full of folk —

His honor, Marcus Lucius, and his scribes Who made the census; honorable men From farthest Galilee, come hitherward To be enrolled; high ladies and their lords, The rich, the Rabbis, such a noble throng As Bethlehem had never seen before And may not see again. And there they were

Close herded with their servants, till the That feeds an army with a loaf of bread, And if a soldier falls. He touches him.

Was like a hive at swarming time, and I Was fairly crazed among them. Could I know

That they were so important? Just the two,
No servants, just a workman sort of man
Leading a donkey — and his wife thereon
Drooping and pale — I saw them not
myself —

My servants must have driven them away.
But had I seen them, how was I to know?
Were inns to welcome stragglers up and
down

In all our towns, from Beersheba to Dan Till He should come? And how were men to know?

There was a sign, they say, a heavenly light Resplendent. But I had no time for stars. And, there were songs of angels in the air Out on the hills; but how was I to hear

Among the thousand clamors of an inn?
Of course if I had known them, who they
were.

And who was He that should be born that night —

For now I learn that they will make Him King —

A second David who will ransom us From these Philistine Romans — who but He

That feeds an army with a loaf of bread, And if a soldier falls, He touches him, And up he leaps uninjured! If I had known!

I would have turned the whole inn upside down.

His honor, Marcus Lucius, and the rest, And sent them all to stables, had I known. So you have seen Him, stranger, and perhaps

Again may see Him? Prithee, say for me I did not know — and if He comes again, As He will surely come, with retinue And banners and an army, tell my Lord That all my inn is His to make amends. Alas, alas! to miss a chance like that! The inn that might be chief among them all.

The Birthplace of Messiah — had I known. —From an old scrapbook, submitted by Mrs. L. A. Wing.

Treasurer's Statement on Back Page

Attention is called to the monthly statement of the treasurer of the Denominational Budget. We believe that it is the most important news of the issue and will be so accounted by most of those who have had a part in the totals reported. Jesus seems to have felt that one of the best ways to determine the spiritual condition of people was to stand by the temple treasury and observe how proportionate or how ostentatious was the giving of the worshipers.

Your editor thinks he sees in the comparative figures some healthy increase in consistent, systematic giving. Anyone can see that the totals are higher than a year ago. The list of contributing churches is also somewhat higher. (See Recorder of Dec. 28, 1953.) The percentage raised of a much larger budget is also up noticeably.

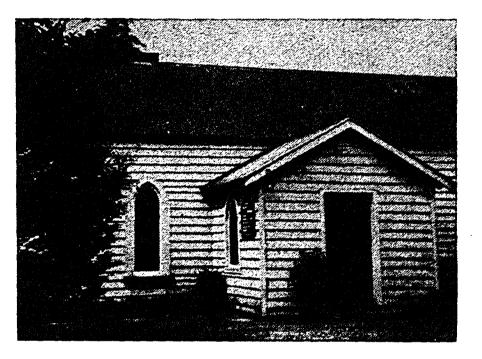
Far more significant, it seems to us, is the record of some of our smaller churches. We would say that the De Ruyter Church could be singled out as one of the most outstanding. Compared with the largest churches its gifts are almost equal; compared with those of like size and circumstances they are high indeed. The Marlboro Church holds third place in total gifts though its membership is relatively small. Other small churches show rather large amounts.

It appears that the giving of the stronger churches is a little ahead of last year but some of them failed to send in their gifts, which makes true comparisons difficult. We draw our usual conclusion that the treasurer's statement indicates consecration rather than ability to give as judged by worldly standards.

Letter from Rev. Edward Barrar Christchurch, New Zealand

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the members of the South New Zealand Seventh Day Baptist Church, 16 Livingstone Street, Christchurch, I would like to pass on a few thoughts to your readers.



The above church is a very small company. We have never been able to boast of more than twenty members.

About eight years ago I was asked to put before the church the needs of the Seventh Day Baptist Churches, or should I say people, in Nyasaland, Africa. I understood from Seventh Day Baptist records that these disorganized groups in Nyasaland were the result of an unsuccessful attempt by the American Seventh Day Baptists to establish a mission work in Nyasaland. But that is just by the way most of you probably knowing more about it than I do. My son, Ronald, from a very small child, had the burning desire in his heart to be a missionary. He answered the call of our African brethren. This call had sounded, I am told, in the ears of the Missionary Society, U. S., for about fifty years.

Ronald had been attending the School of Theology here for some time. It was my opinion he was too young for such a task. However, he had his mind made up and there seemed to be nothing I could do but to send him away with God's blessing. It was a very big sacrifice for

me to send my son away to a strange land without any regular means of support.

The church here gladly accepted Ronald as their missionary. The next thing which had to be considered was the cost. Several hundred pounds were needed for fares alone, but within a week the money was in hand. To Ronald it was a faith mission. Not long after, the church assembled and with many tears bid Ronald Godspeed and blessing in his future work. Most of those dear souls have fallen asleep in Jesus, but those left are still in the prayer circle for Ronald and his work for God in Africa.

We know Ronald is not without fault and that he has made mistakes. Nevertheless, we are not blind to the good work he has, with God's help, built up in Nyasaland. We know, too, that if we make a mistake, Jesus Christ does not cast us off with the words, "I have no confidence in you." Dear me, no; that is not the way of Jesus.

We are very sad at heart because we have, or so it seems, lost our Makapwa Mission; not so much because of the hundreds of pounds we put into it, but rather, because Ronald, who is very dear to the hearts of all our people at our little chapel, went away from our midst; and until Ronald left for the U. S., the mission was growing and doing so well.

Now, concerning other matters re Makapwa Mission, it is very clear to us that Ronald, who had put his own money into the property, had every right to sell his interest to whomsoever he pleased, but of course, he did not sell what we have put into it.

[At this point we omit a paragraph discussing the relative value of American and New Zealand investments which we consider a personal matter between two people.]

To all who think they have purchased it twice, we say we are still willing to purchase Ronald's interest and to consider some compensation for buildings or equipment that the Missionary Society mentions—so why pay for a thing twice?

Be this as it may, once again the little church at Livingstone Street, S. New Zealand, is harnessing all resources, with God's help, to again establish their mission work in Nyasaland.

For and on behalf of the Seventh Day Baptist Church, Livingstone Street, Christchurch, South New Zealand, I am

> Yours in His Service, Edward Barrar.

P. S. — To all friends in the U. S. who have suggestions or would like to join our prayer circle, I would be pleased to hear from you.

Address: 116A Dyers Pass Road, Cashmere, Christchurch, N. Z.

Editor's note: We would agree that Brother Edward Barrar and his church have a moral right to establish an independent mission work in Nyasaland if they are able. However, Ronald Barrar appears to have felt that practically all of the property investment in the Makapwa Mission besides his own came from American rather than New Zealand Seventh Day Baptists. Feeling that it was for the best interests of the progress of the mission to have new leadership he has withdrawn and sold his home and other interests to the Missionary Society which now owns a number of buildings and supports four American missionaries on the field.

WITH THE NEW BOOKS

The Role of the Servant by Warren W. Slabaugh, Brethren Publishing House, Elgin, Ill., (\$2.00) is something new in a popularly written Life of Christ. Consistently throughout its 160 pages the author calls attention to the suffering servant concept which Jesus had in planning and conducting His ministry. However, this is only the framework for retelling the whole Gospel story with a freshness of style. There is enough modern Biblical research emerging in various spots to make the book interesting and helpful to the up-to-date Bible student as well as to the one who reads with a little less scholarly discernment or with devotional and inspirational ends in view. It contains little quotation from other authors and no footnotes. The book is Biblically sound and leaves one with a pleasant feeling of having partaken of a good meal of spiritual food.

JOINT DEPARTMENT OF EVANGELISM

The quarterly meeting of the Board of Managers of the Joint Department of Evangelism, NCC, was held in New York City December 8. It was the privilege of the editor of the Sabbath Recorder to attend that meeting substituting for our duly appointed representative, Secretary E. T. Harris.

It seems to be the feeling of this department that it represents the very heartbeat of the National Council of Churches. We gathered also from the discussion that members of the board who had attended previous meetings felt that this was a more than usually creative meeting. This was partly due to the fact that the department had been headed by one man for about 25 years and that some new adjustments had to be made with the coming of the new executive director, Rev. Berlyn Farris, and the rather acute financial situation which has developed because of the recent expansion of the work of the department. Up to the present time there has not been a budget committee. The matters of budget and finance took up the greater portion of discussion time and resulted in the setting up of a budget committee and a special committee to attempt to wipe out the current deficit of \$35,000.

The work of this department embraces, among other things, Christian Ministry in the National Parks, Visitation Evangelism, University Christian Missions, National Christian Teaching Mission, Pulpit Evangelism, Evangelistic Literature, and Armed Forces Preaching Missions. These and other aspects of the work are represented by appropriate committees which reported at the meeting.

The Department of Evangelism has operated on a budget of about \$100,000. It was pointed out that part of this income comes directly from participating denominations, part from offerings at evangelistic services, and a specified amount of \$25,000 from the undesignated contributions to the parent body, the National Council of Churches. One of the members figured out that evangelism does not receive a very large propor-

tion of the funds of the NCC. He stated that only 1/40th of every dollar contributed to that body was turned over to the work of evangelism, although it is not distributed on a percentage basis. Some denominations give money directly to this department and others do not. Seventh Day Baptists are apparently among the number of those who do not.

DECEMBER 20, 1954

It was noted that the nation as a whole is experiencing a considerable upswing in pulpit evangelism. The outstanding work of Evangelist Charles Templeton who had formerly served the department was highly commended. One of the problems faced was how to replace such a man or whether to attempt to have one national evangelist. The matter was not fully decided. One board member felt that this generation could not see another evangelist with the drawing power of Billy Graham.

In spite of facing a deficit there was considerable optimism in the group as we observed it, and the feeling that in many situations co-operative evangelism of the type which this department is prepared to sponsor could be more successful than any other. This was felt to be particularly true in the University Christian Missions. A young Russian soldier (of the Orthodox Church) who had escaped to this country has recently conducted a mission in one of our universities and was present to speak in glowing terms of the opportunity that Americans have of capturing the minds of youth. Among other things he stated that since 1917 Russia has been calling the natives of nearly all of the countries of the world to Russia to be trained by their own native leaders under the supervision of the Communists, then to go back to their own countries. During the past year the Soviet Union has spent the equivalent of three and one half billion dollars for this work. He appealed to the assembled leaders to try to match that zeal.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON for January 1, 1955 The Bible,

The Source of Christian Teaching Lesson Scripture: John 20: 31; Rom. 15: 4; 2 Tim. 3: 14-17; Heb. 4: 12; 2 Peter 1: 16-21.

MEMORY TEXT

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Heb. 4: 12.

Sabbath Thought

The fourth of the Ten Commandments (the Sabbath) is the only one that tells who the God is who created all things. He put it into the bosom of the Ten to bind them all together. If we leave the fourth out we are at sea without a compass or chart, so to speak. — J. J. Jobe.

National Attention Focused on Fayetteville, Site of Next S. D. B. Conference

A two-page article in the November 24 issue of Christian Century calls attention to the leading role played by Fayettville, Ark., in its removal of barriers to receiving Negroes into the university and the high school. The University of Arkansas (4,000 students) admitted Negro students in 1948 and was the first southern state university to do so. In May of 1954, a few days after the Supreme Court ruling on desegregation, the school board moved without incident to accept Negro students in the high school. There are only 400 Negroes in the city of 18,000 but the move was significant and has drawn comment from all over the United States. The Nippon Times, leading English newspaper of Tokyo, carried a picture and story of it.

Mount Sequoyah, a Methodist camp ground in the outskirts of Fayetteville, has been chosen as the meeting place of the 1955 General Conference of Seventh Day Baptists to be held August 15-20. A progressive city that has come into such national and international prominence should well claim the interest of a large number of prospective delegates. This prominence could also make it easier to identify to others our meeting place.

It is not difficult to learn how to Stuart Chase. listen — just unusual.

Missions

Builders of the Kingdom

(Conclusion of sermon preached at Kingston, Jamaica, Seventh Day Baptist Church by Rev. Socrates Thompson.)

We continue to pray "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." God's will can never be done until His kingdom has come in men's lives, and this is the task we are attempting to do in Crandall High School. We are seeking to bring this kingdom in the life of your child by helping those who come to us to gain an education in a wholesome atmosphere. I do not know just how much we are succeeding in this attempt. Your children will be able to tell you that, much better than I, but your shilling can be the means of helping to have this task accomplished.

It has been rightly said that when a man's pocket is converted he has been really converted. If your pockets are converted, there will be no trouble in the raising of the twenty thousand shillings which we need for the payment of this debt.

Man is covetous. Every one of us is covetous. It is because of this covetousness that the cause of Christ lags — why the kingdom is so slow in its building. It is because we are covetous that we refuse to give God a tenth of our earning which would be more than enough for the spreading of His cause.

When the Children of Israel went into captivity into Babylon, they lost the kingdom to which they belonged, and when Nehemiah appeared before the king with sad countenance and was questioned for his being sad, he expressed his desire for the re-establishment of God's kingdom in the lives of those Jews in Jerusalem. He had the desire to see the kingdom of God rebuilt both in Jerusalem and in the lives of his people. This kingdom was of so much value to the people of God, we are told, that they did enough to gain the favour of the king who gave all they needed for the building of the temple. And with no less certainty, the kingdom suffered violence. The Samaritans wanted to aid in the work, but the Jews refused

had to build with a bit of tool in the one hand, and a bit of weapon in the other. Would it mean enough to you to have your child educated in a school which aims to point them to the kingdom of God, one in which they get the atmosphere which you so much desire? Would you care so much about that type of school as to be willing to build it with a trowel in one hand and a bit of hardship in the other — hardship of the kind which comes out of real sacrifice?

There have been those, perhaps some of you here among them, who at some time or other have refused to send your children to public schools because some one told you that your child would be polluted by the children of ungodly parents, and would be taught by teachers who were not righteous. Your children under such conditions were bound to grow up unable to read.

At Crandall we aim at getting the child assimilated in such a way as to have him come out fully balanced and ready to take his place in the world in which he has to live.

When we came to Christ, we covenanted with Him to do our part in the bringing of souls into His kingdom. Many of you will tell me that you cannot preach a sermon. That may be true. Let me quote the words of the poet:

"If you cannot cross the ocean And the heathen land explore You can find the heathen nearer, You can help them at your door.

"If you cannot sing like angels,
If you cannot preach like Paul,
With your prayers and with your bounties
You can answer heaven's call."

Many of you will say you cannot sing. In fact if you are as good a singer as I am, you can successfully say this, but you cannot successfully say that you cannot give one shilling for the purpose of building up an institution which will serve for bringing the kingdom in the lives of some one who is dying for the light of the gospel of Christ.

"For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building" (1 Corinthians 3: 9). "So we built the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work." Nehemiah 4: 6.

Nyasaland in the Budget

Since the 1953-54 budget was only seventy per cent raised our mission work in Nyasaland was one of the fields that felt the effects of this reduced income. Plans were necessarily revised to make up for the failure to receive approximately \$2,000 that had been anticipated in a budget of \$7,360. Anyone with a bit of thought can well realize what a hardship this has wrought upon our mission workers.

The 1954-55 budget amounts to \$7,910 of which \$2,400 has been pledged by special contributors toward salaries of mission workers. The amount which must come through Denominational Budget channels is \$5,510 or 20.1% of the Missionary Board's monthly receipts from the budget.

An interesting item in this year's budget is an amount for the purchase of a safe in which to keep funds of the mission. We understand that the mission money has been kept in a suitcase under the bed. There is an amount also for a much needed typewriter.

Other amounts in the 1954-55 budget call for expenditures of \$1,000 for teachers in the school. A small amount of this item will go to Mrs. David Pearson, the remainder to native teachers. There are items included also for the work of the dispensary and for the upkeep of the buildings at the Makapwa Mission station. An amount was included for travel expense as the mission car is used to carry on the work of church, school, and dispensary.

This budget was prepared by Beth and Joan, was referred to Conference and accepted without change by the Conference and Missionary Board. However, no amount was included to make up the deficit from last year's budget. Somehow we must raise this year's budget in full and do it proportionately month by month. Workers must be paid month by month and we want to be a dependable people

supporting our workers in every practical way. "Faith without works is dead," and prayers without gifts are usually insincere.

Letter from Jacqueline Wells

A letter has come from Miss Jackie Wells stating that her trunk has arrived at Kingston and that the contents were in good condition.

She wrote: "About a week ago, I went with Pastor and Mrs. Randolph, Pastor Smellie, and Sister Smikle up into the mountains to see the site (of the country school). I took three slide pictures of same and they are now in the U. S. being developed."

She wrote that they had a used mimeograph but that they wished they might be able to afford a new one or at least a newer one. "The Commercial Department students should be taught the use of the mimeograph but it is impossible to use this one for instruction," she writes.

A Ministry of Healing at Makapwa

Through the kindness of Dr. W. B. Lewis of Battle Creek, Dr. Milton Davis and Dr. Burdick of Milton, fifteen tubes of penicillin were sent for use at the Makapwa Mission medical dispensary. The penicillin was carried by Rev. and Mrs. David Pearson as they traveled by plane.

The Pearsons also carried two missing parts of a microscope, the mirror and stage which were somehow lacking when a microscope from Dr. Lloyd Seager had previously been shipped to the nurses.

Beth comments in a letter dated October 27, as follows: "We received the penicillin and the parts of the microscope in good condition. We are indeed grateful for them. The penicillin has been doing its usual wonderful work. At present we have a man who has had draining abscesses on his neck for a year, and they are nearly healed up now because of it. Also have a young boy who had a large draining abscess on his lower leg, with another, abscess about the size of a bread plate on his inner upper leg, that are nearly well. Then we have another boy with a large abscess on his cheek, that had caused his eye to be swollen shut and one side of his

WORSHIP PROGRAM FOR JANUARY

By Mrs. Gerald Coalwell, Metairie, La.

Theme: Time for inventory — or facing the new year day by day

Scripture: Psalm 90: 1-12

Scripture Text: We spend our years as a tale that is told. Psalm 90:9.

Leader's Comments: We say we "kill" time or we "pass" the time. Paul asks us to "redeem" the time; buy up the opportunities, opportunities that come to us each and every day. The Psalm says we "spend" our time. How did we use it in 1954? How will we spend it in 1955?

The psalmist also points out that our lives are limited, with some allotted more time than others. But with each and every one of us, only one day at a time is what God requires of us.

Our purpose in making New Year's pledges is to use our time for richer, fuller living, but because we can carry them out only one day at a time, our resolves often fail. For the same reason, if we fail one day, we can succeed the next.

Poem: At Close of Day

At the close of day comes this thought to me:

Have I lived as God would have me be? Have I met mankind with truth and love, That would help them know God reigns above?

Or have I been to all unkind, And to the beauties of life made others blind?

face to about double its size, that is coming along nicely. So maybe you can catch a glimpse of why we say we are grateful."

Beth also writes: "We are happy to say that the buildings were completed in good enough shape, the day before school opened. They yet have such things lacking as windows and doors, but the rest of the things were completed. We are very happy for the new schoolrooms. The students and Joan the happiest, for they were the ones to go to school in the old mud schoolrooms."

God grant that I may live each day, That at its close I may kneel to pray, And know that some poor tired soul Has been helped by me to reach his goal. Selected.

Hymn: Make Somebody Happy Today Resolution:

We pledge ourselves
To follow, through the coming year,

The light that God gives us.

The light of Truth wherever it may lead,
The light of Freedom, revealing new opportunities for individual development
and social service,

The light of Faith, opening new visions of the better world to be,

The light of Love, daily binding brother to brother, and man to God in closer bonds of friendship and affection, Guided by this light,

We shall go foward to the work of another year with steadfastness and confidence.

Anonymous.

— Selected.

Prayer: Dear Father, sustain us as we live each day of this New Year, and may our years show Thy glory, through Thy dear Son. Amen.

The following poem was sent to us by Mrs. Clarence Beebe, Orange, Conn. Others have shared it with her and now she shares it with us.

Who Are the Wise Men?

Who were the Wise Men in the long ago?

Not Herod, fearful lest he lose his throne;

Not Pharisees, too proud to claim their own;

Not priests and scribes whose province was to know;

Not money-changers running to and fro; But three who traveled, weary and alone, With dauntless faith, because before them

The Star that led them to a manger low.

Who are the Wise Men now, when all is told? Not men of science; not the great and strong; Not those who wear a kingly diadem; Not those whose eager hands pile high the gold; But those amid the tumult and the throng Who follow still the Star of Bethlehem.

You can't be happy doing the right thing unless you enjoy it. — Hudson News Letter.

YOUTH WEEK

It is time for pastors and youth groups to be planning for the observance of Youth Week Jan. 29 to Feb. 6, 1955. The theme suggested is "One Fellowship in Christ." A small folder giving suggestions and listing available materials has been sent to all pastors. Other materials might be obtained from Christian Endeavor headquarters, 1221 E. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio. The week may be observed within a church or in co-operation with other churches in the community.

The Sabbath morning worship may be planned and conducted by the youth, and a special evening meeting may be arranged with a speaker who can challenge youth. A "Books Instead of Bombs" campaign might be conducted to collect books and Bibles, or money to provide them, to be sent to other countries. A visitation program to interest young people of the community in the church, or a social or religious program might be planned by several churches together. I would be glad to hear how your church observed Youth Week. The Beacon and the Sabbath Recorder would like a report.

Pastors have also received a slip calling attention to "The International Journal of Religious Education" as a very useful aid to teachers, pastors, and leaders. I believe Sabbath schools would do well to subscribe to this monthly magazine for their pastor or superintendent or both. I know that some Sabbath schools are now doing that. If subscriptions are sent through me a commission will be allowed to the Board of Christian Education. — N.D.M.

WORKSHOPS IN WESTERN ASSOCIATION

The first session of a workshop on Church Finance and Stewardship was held at Alfred Station, N. Y., December 4. It was planned by a committee of the Western Association and the Board of Christian Education. Representatives from all the churches of the association were present. Rev. Ivan Cash, director of Town and Country Work for the Baptist Missionary Convention of New York State,

presented the subject using large charts, filmstrips, and sound recordings. He explained methods of setting up the church budget and of making the every member canvass, and described the experiences of many churches which had greatly enlarged their programs of service, and whose members had had a real awakening to their privileges and responsibilities of stewardship in the kingdom of God.

Another session of the workshop was held at Little Genesee on Sunday, Dec. 12, for the people of the western part of the association, and a third is planned for Alfred, January 8, for the eastern area.

A second workshop, on Church School Materials and Methods, is being planned to begin early in the new year. Secretary Mills has ordered materials from various publishers to be studied and evaluated by the workshop members. This workshop will spend part of each session as a single group studying the general aspects of the subject and then divide into several sections to study the applications to various age groups.

The Board of Christian Education considers these workshops as pilot projects from which it can work out procedures which can be followed in other associations and groups of churches or in individual churches.

Billy Graham, U. S. A.

Miss America is the beauty queen of the year chosen at Atlantic City, N. J. Mr. America is the strong man of the year whose torso adorns the muscle magazines but is less well known than the feminine specimen of physical perfection. Would mail addressed to them by title only, reach them? Perhaps so. Mail from foreign countries is sometimes addressed "Billy Graham, U. S. A.," and it reaches him. The great evangelist is physically well made but he is known the world around for his work — his success in presenting salvation to countless thousands. On the Judgment Day you and I will not be inconspicuous; we will be known and judged, not by our forgotten looks, but by what we have done with Christ and for Christ.

OUR CHILDREN'S LETTER EXCHANGE

Address: Mizpah S. Greene Andover, N. Y

Dear Mrs. Greene:

Grandmother and Grandfather visited us for several weeks. They live in Westerly, Rhode Island. I have written to you once before.

I have a dog. Her name is Lassie.

My birthday is December 30. I will be nine then. I haven't written to you very much, so I thought I would write again.

Grandfather's birthday is tomorrow. My teacher's name is Mrs. Park.

I guess I had better say good-by. So long.

Cynthia Rogers.

Alfred Station, N. Y.

Dear Cynthia:

Good girl! I was delighted to receive another letter from you, and I am hoping that after this you will write much, much more often.

I'm wondering if you named your dog after the Lassie I watch on TV every Sunday night at 7 o'clock. That Lassie is a wonderful dog and I imagine your Lassie is, too.

Here's hoping you will have a very happy birthday with the presents you like best of all.

I attended the meeting at Alfred Station Sabbath afternoon to consider raising the right amount of money for church and denominational expenses. It made us all smile when the man who led the meeting introduced himself, for his name was Mr. Cash.

Now don't forget that I'm hoping to hear from you again soon and very often. May your Christmas be a very happy one.

Yours in Christian love,

Mizpah S. Greene.

Dear Mrs. Greene:

We have a good time in Junior meeting each Sabbath afternoon. The Leonardsville and Brookfield boys and girls meet together. We take turns being leader. I was leader last week.

I have not seen you since I can remember but you probably know me. I am nine years old now and in the fourth grade. I like school.

I am a Brownie Scout. Next year I will be a Girl Scout. We have lots of fun and learn to do many things. We are making things for Christmas now.

There are eighteen children in the ministers' families in our Central Association — The Cruzans, the Wheelers, the Skaggses, and the Van Horns. We have lots of fun when we get together.

Merry Christmas to you.

Sincerely, Josephine Van Horn.

Brookfield, N. Y.

Dear Josephine:

Junior C.E. furnishes fine training for boys and girls in Christian service. I have always been sorry that I had no such training when I was a child. Children nowadays have much for which to be thankful.

Yes, I must have seen you when you were much younger but probably you have changed so much since then that I'm pretty sure that when next we meet, we'll have to be introduced to each other.

Both Brownie Scouts and Girl Scouts meet each Tuesday, in what used to be our Andover Seventh Day Baptist Church, in the dining room, the Brownies in the afternoon and the Girl Scouts in the evening. They have very pleasant and worthwhile times together. They are planning a Christmas party together.

Here's hoping you enjoy a very happy Christmas with the presents you like best.

> Yours in Christian love, Mizpah S. Greene.

Dear Recorder Children:

Let us thank God for Christmas, and may its happiness remain in our hearts all through the year, for on Christmas day love should fill the hearts of every one of us and should stay with us throughout the year. Let us try by loving deeds to show that nothing can really harm Christmas joy.

Yours in Christian love, Mizpah S. Greene.

Youth News

Every year the universities and colleges of the land select a few students for mention in "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges." It is not strange to find Seventh Day Baptist students well above the average in scholarship and achievement or to find them mentioned quite out of proportion to their numerical percentage. Of the three seniors at Milton College listed this year, Robert W. Burdick of Milton is one. At Salem College the faculty picked eight seniors of whom at least two are Seventh Day Baptists.

The Salem College chapter of the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship has recently been reorganized according to an article in the college paper, the Green and White. The local group is being sponsored by Rev. Ralph Coon, professor of Bible and assistant professor of physics.

The article states that this is, "An organization dedicated to God and the church, its primary purpose is to study the Bible, hymns, and to conduct group discussions related to the Bible. Problems of religion and missionary work take an important place in the meetings."

A letter from IVCF headquarters tells the story of the organization in the following interesting way:

"The average student in his crowded day of classroom sessions and study finds it hard to maintain daily personal reading of the Bible. To attend regularly and to take an active part in group Bible Study is even harder, and can only be achieved at the cost of effort and determination. Only those who are convinced of the need for Bible study and whose hearts are really in it will go out of their way to take the time from other things. In spite of all of this, there are several thousand students to be found in weekly or daily Inter-Varsity Bible study groups and prayer meetings. At times it is quite an accomplishment for the group to find a convenient time, a place to meet, and then secure permission from the school officials to arrange for a meeting, but again and

again God has done this, and the number of Inter-Varsity groups has increased year after year.

"May I invite you to visit a Bible Study meeting held on the campus of a large midwestern university? Fourteen students have come out for the meeting. By using the available chairs, the floor, the study table, and the bed, everyone has found a seat.

"After the portion of Scripture is read, the passage is divided into subdivisions and a rather general question based upon the passage is asked by the staff member or the leader of the group. Silently, it is considered for a few moments until one of the students ventures to tell what he believes the passage teaches. Everyone takes part in the questioning and answering. When one of the non-Christian students objects to the application of the doctrine considered, there is a moment of anxious quietness. Then a recently converted student gives the answer, illustrating from his own experience how the teaching helped him during his recent experience. There is not a dull moment; the practical application of the passage to the students' everyday life makes them anxious to understand what the Word of God really teaches. Almost every phase of Christian living will sooner or later come up for discussion and the lesson learned at a time like this goes deep and helps them grow spiritually and to conform more and more to their ideal, the Lord Jesus Christ."

19 Million Attend Chapel

Attendance at religious services in Army chapels over the period of 12 months ending June 30, 1954, totaled 18,913,495, the Department of the Army announces. The figure, of course, includes some civilians and does not include attendance of Army men at nearby civilian churches.

This compares with a total attendance of 20,225,001 at services held in Army chapels during the previous 12 months.

During the period covered, Army chaplains solemnized 7,579 marriages, performed 11,977 baptisms, and conducted 5,477 funerals.

PREACHING CRUSADE AT VERONA

Rev. Albert N. Rogers

The Verona Seventh Day Baptist Church joined with the Alfred University School of Theology in a Preaching Crusade November 14-21. Rev. Victor W. Skaggs, pastor of the church, was assisted by three professors and five students in evangelistic work there.

Professor Loyal F. Hurley, veteran of many such campaigns, preached each evening and on Sabbath morning, November 20, in the Verona Church. The evening meetings and music were directed by Rev. Albert N. Rogers, acting dean of the school, and morning study periods were led by Professor Melvin G. Nida. Pastor Skaggs supervised a program of visitation in the various suburban communities near-by and in the rural parish of the church.

Students who shared in the crusade included Donald E. Richards, David L. Beebe, Mynor G. Soper, Doyle K. Zwiebel, and Rev. Paul G. Osborn. On Sabbath day, after all had shared in the regular services of the church, Mr. Rogers and Mr. Osborn accompanied Pastor Skaggs to Syracuse for his monthly service there.

Members of the host church entertained the men in their homes and underwrote the extended mileage involved in such a program. The team went as a whole to sing for the sick and infirm, but most of the calling was done in twos. Periods of discussion and prayer and suppers together at the church gave an opportunity for sharing insights and concerns. Intercessory prayers were offered for those in special need.

Publicity for the crusade was handled through local newspapers and by circulation of a printed announcement from Pastor Skaggs. Laymen brought many neighbors and interested parties and suggested homes to be visited. It was apparent to the visitors that the Verona Church is a working fellowship and special interest was seen in the large addition to the church being erected.

Objectives in the Verona Crusade were similar to those a year ago when a team from the school went to Westerly, R. I., to serve Christ and the local church and

PERSONALIZED CHRISTMAS

Chaplain David J. Williams

Nearly 1,000,000,000 people throughout the world celebrate Christmas annually. Even the thought quickens the pulse, lifts downcast hearts, excites children, and gladdens all true believers. Gifts are exchanged and tangible reminders of love encompass the globe. Nationalities, social classes, and geographic locations shrink into nothingness when Christmas comes, and hearts genuinely embody the Spirit of Christ.

The Biblical account of the Nativity prompts hope, confidence, and faith. Indeed, rejoicing is in order. For ages men anticipated the fulfillment of God's promise that ONE would come to deliver men from their sins and give unto them eternal life. Uniquely enough, God allowed His only begotten Son to be born as a babe. At this momentous, historic occasion even angelic messengers proclaimed the Saviour's birth:

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Luke 2: 14.

Shepherds were alerted to Christ's spectacular birth by an angel who breathed words of comfort and assurance to the amazed workmen:

"Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." Luke 2: 10-12.

Despite the complexity of twentieth-century living, the fear of another global war, gross immorality and degradation characteristic of many modern youth — the Almighty extends to ALL of us the good news of Christmas. A Christmas without Christ is no Christmas at all. A Christmas personalized by a living, vital affiliation with Christ as Saviour and Friend is another facet worth consideration. By accepting Christ as one's personal Saviour, He takes on meaning and sig-

to gain field experience for the students who will soon be in pastorates themselves.

nificance far overshadowing everything else. How can Christ become real to me personally? Simply by an act of faith. Believe Him. Trust Him implicitly with all you are or ever hope to be. There is joy in the presence of the angels in heaven when individuals — YOU and your friends — repent of sin and turn wholeheartedly to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Won't you make your Christmas truly Christmas this year by acknowledging the Babe of Bethlehem to be your own lifechanging, life-giving Saviour?

Bull Gets Drunk; Gores Three to Death on Street. It couldn't happen here in this country where only people get drunk and gore the innocent pedestrians with chromeplated car bumpers. But in a town 60 miles west of Calcutta, India, a bull poked his nose through an opening in the rear of a roadside tavern and drank nearly a gallon of country-made liquor. Before he could be cornered and clubbed to death the drunken bull gored three people to death on the main street.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

RIVERSIDE, CALIF. — Riverside continued sunny throughout most of the month of November, but toward the end she began to show her winter face. We are most thankful for the much-needed rain that has fallen.

Attendance at church has been encouraging and a good spirit prevails. On November 20, the second of a series of films from the American Bible Society was shown in the social room, following the fellowship luncheon. Renting of these films has been a joint project of the Riverside and Los Angeles Churches.

Although the annual Thanksgiving dinner at the church had become almost a tradition, it was somewhat happily cast aside this year for the even more traditional family dinner at home. Because of various conflicts, it was voted to hold our Thanksgiving service on Wednesday evening. The evening service proved inspirational with a fair number of visitors expressing their thankfulness with us. Pastor Wheeler preached on "Learning to Be Content." Special music for the oc-

casion consisted of an appropriate anthem by the choir, under the direction of Mrs. Gleason M. Curtis, and a violin duo by Mrs. Don Watkins and Mrs. Starlin Ross.

The proposed 1954-55 church-operating budget was submitted to the church body and brought to a favorable vote at a special business meeting November 28. Our new budget is larger than any previous one, but we are determined to go forward with Christ and have accepted this new challenge with faith. — Correspondent.

LOS ANGELES, CALIF. — Although there have been two or three articles recently having to do with the work of the Los Angeles Church the editor feels that a little of the financial news as reported for the year in the Angelus is of wide interest.

The local expenses outside the pastor's salary were \$1,308.43. The local missions expenditures were \$519.91. Publicity expenses made an additional \$494.84. There is also a Specified Building Fund showing receipts of nearly \$700. The indebtedness on the new church building is shown to be down to \$10,700. Receipts for the Denominational Budget as such are listed in the report as \$131. However, the church has also a world missions item showing total receipts of \$3,141.30. Of this, a total of \$2,692.50 was expended as follows:

The pastor's annual report closed with the following items which he said he wanted to encourage:

- 1. A more active program of visitation by our membership on inactive members and those who visit our services.
- 2. Backing the Southside services scheduled to begin November 20.
- 3. More regular attendance by every member at the regular services of the church.
- 4. A program of tract distribution that will make Seventh Day Baptists known in the Highland Park area.

DENOMINATIONAL BUDGET Statement of the Treasurer, November 30, 1954

Receipts

	November	2 months
Balance, Nov. 1	. \$ 12.38	
Albion	. 19.67	37.34
Alfred, First	353.35	353.35
Associations and groups		36.13
Battle Creek		428.88
Berlin	. 22.00	46.00
Boulder	32.17	73.94
Brookfield, First		10.00
Chicago	40.00	
Daytona Beach	. 70.00	160.00
Daytona Deach	38.10	81.80
Denver	71.98	71.98
De Ruyter	. 272.00	613.63
Dodge Center	. 8.80	103.80
Edinburg	10.86	10.86
Farina		30.00
Hebron, First	24.68	24.68
Hopkinton, First	105.05	
Independence	103.03	105.05
Independence	14.00	44.00
Indianapolis	5.00	20.90
Individuals		1,953.11
Irvington	200.00	200.00
Little Genesee		64.29
Los Angeles	50.00	126.50
Marlboro	293.00	
Middle Island	293.00	610.82
Mileon		16.13
Milton	272.65	636.40
Milton Junction	63.75	191.44
New Auburn		18.72
Nortonville	22.00	56.50
Philadelphia	20.00	40.00
Piscataway	21.00	33.00
Plainfield	150.75	
Putnam County		367.25
Pichham County		16.00
Richburg	65.50	65.50
Ritchie	30.00	30.00
Riverside	496.66	496.66
Roanoke	25.00	25.00
Rockville		11.00
Salem		
Salemville		135.00
Schangerada		68.00
Schenectady	15.00	115.00
Shiloh		580.00
Verona	55.00	55.00
Walworth		25.00
Waterford	50.19	71.54
White Cloud	50.17	31.59
		31.39
Totals	62 275 54	20.004 T 0
Totals	\$3,3/3.34	\$8,291.79
Dist		
Disburse	ments	
	Budget	Specials
	1954	1953
		1933
Missionary Society	\$1,083.32	\$357.21
Tract Society	253.40	3.00
Board of		3.00
Christian Education	495.32	35.00
Women's Society	122.34	
Historical Cariana	122.92	55.00
Historical Society		
Ministerial Retirement	348.88	72.84
S. D. B. Building	48.44	
General Conference	202.94	

General Conference

and Service

Totals \$2,850.69

Balance, Nov. 30

World Fellowship

392.84

9.80

\$524.85

50.69

Comparative	Figures		
Receipts in November:	1954	1953	
Budget	\$2,838.31	\$1,562.88	
Specials		428.87	
Budget Specials	6,050.69	3,966.19	
Annual Budget	2,241.10 70,750.00	804.29 63,121.22	
Percentage of budget		,	
raised to date	8.55%	6.28%	
L. M. Van Horn,			
Milton, Wis.	Tı	reasurer.	

A Voice from the Early Days

Among the papers of Rev. Enoch David, Philadelphia, Pa., is a pamphlet entitled — The Bible—Baptist, author — John Leland, date of publication — 1789, in Baltimore. (Pamphlet is not complete.) This is a portion of the introduction (quite appropriate for the year 1954): "Truth is in the least danger of being lost, when free examination is allowed. As our government gives us this privilege, I am determined to improve it myself, and recommend it to others."

Marriages

Parker - Hunting. — Edward J. Parker and Miss Ruth V. Hunting, both of Plainfield, N. J., were united in marriage in the Plainfield Seventh Day Baptist Church on Sabbath afternoon, Nov. 6, with Rev. E. Wendell Stephan officating, assisted by Rev. Lee Holloway.

Obituaries

Stillman. — George Alfred, son of Barton G. and Sophronia Wells Stillman, was born in De Ruyter, N. Y., March 13, 1862, and died Oct. 20, 1954.

He was united in marriage with Cora A. Stillman of Friendship, N. Y., June 2, 1886. They had four children: Raymond, now deceased; Laurence of Alfred; Vida (Mrs. Clarence E. Greene) of Spring Valley; and Ruth (Mrs. Edwin Huggler) of Rochester.

The Stillmans moved to Alfred in 1911. Mr. Stillman joined the church here in 1914.

Mrs. Stillman died in 1927. In 1928 he married Mrs. Edna Windus, who died in 1939. Survivors other than children include a sister, Mrs. W. H. Cossum of Seattle, Wash.; ten grandchildren, nineteen great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews.

Farewell services were held Oct. 23, at the First Alfred Church, with his pastor, Rev. Hurley S. Warren, officiating. Burial was in Alfred Rural Cemetery.

H. S. W.

The Sabbath Recorder



Sincere, warm greetings are extended to all the Recorder family along with appreciation for the kindly interest of so many readers during the past twelve months. May the blessing of the Lord rest upon all who love Him!