

Letter From a Serviceman

I am to leave Korea July 1, so please change my Recorder address to Box 174, Pomona Park, Fla.

I am very much pleased with the articles and Statements of Belief that have been appearing in the Recorder.

I would like to see a Seventh Day Baptist camp leaders' school started in some convenient place; am sure many of us would profit from one.

It is my sincere belief that if every Seventh Day Baptist diligently tithed all that he earns, we would have no problem as to how our work is to be financed. Truly there is a great blessing in knowing we are doing our share in the advancement of God's kingdom. I have come to feel a great deal closer to our Lord while in Korea.

May you walk in His way.

Love in His service,

Paul V. Beebe.

Dr. Ivy asks the following pertinent question: "We spend \$200,000,000 a year to advertise \$9,000,000,000 worth of a product which produces, according to experts, the number four public-health problem in the United States." — Clipsheet.

Marriages

Reynolds - McKee. — At the First Seventh Day Baptist Church, Alfred, N. Y., Sunday afternoon, June 27, 1954, Lester Eugene Reynolds, Alfred, N. Y., son of the late Edwin O. Reynolds and Mabel Foster Reynolds, and Dorothy Annette McKee, Alfred, N. Y., daughter of Thomas and Myrtle Puckett Meade, were united in marriage, Rev. Hurley S. Warren officiating.

Colflesh - Green. — Wayne Edward Colflesh, serving now in the Air Force, and Georgia Green, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Paul Green, Milton, Wis., were united in marriage June 7, in the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church. The bride's pastor, Rev. Elmo Fitz Randolph, officiated. Mr. and Mrs. Colflesh are at home at Nashville, Tenn., Route 1.

Braswell - Seager. — Harold Morris Braswell, Jr., Little Rock, Ark., and Miriam Bertha Seager, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Lloyd Seager, Little Rock, Ark., exchanged marriage vows in a service conducted in the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church, June 19, with Rev. Elmo Fitz Randolph officiating. The couple will reside in Little Rock where the groom is a medical student.

Accessions

Milton, Wis.

By Baptism:
Rolland Arthur Maxson
Leila Mae Wright Maxson
Charles Whitford, Jr.
Monte Whitford

Births

Burdick. — A daughter, Susan Gale, to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Burdick, Jr., Milton, Wis., May 4, 1954.

Prentice. — A son, Carl Orvan, to Mr. and Mrs. William Prentice, Janesville, Wis., May 11, 1954.

Obituaries

Lowell. — George David, son of Alfred and Lucinda March Lowell, was born at Chillicothe, Ill., Oct. 19, 1876, and died at his home in Gentry, Ark., June 11, 1954.

His wife, Ora, a sister of Darwin E. Maxson, survives him. Other survivors are two daughters, Mrs. J. L. Head and Mrs. J. C. Forrester, both of Oklahoma City, Okla.; two sisters, Mrs. Maude Eyerly, Eureka, Calif., and Mrs. Lillian Utt, Salina, Kan.; and one granddaughter.

Funeral services were held at the Seventh Day Baptist Adventist Church with Elder Jameison officiating, and burial was in the Gentry Cemetery.

Bakker. — Jacob, was born August 27, 1874, in Oude Pekela, The Netherlands, and died June 21, 1954, in Muhlenberg Hospital, Plainfield, N. J.

He was the son of Rev. Freerk and Aefien Smit Bakker who were pioneer Seventh Day Baptists in Holland. Mr. Bakker came to the United States in 1892, and became a naturalized citizen in 1897. He worked for nearly thirty years for the Recorder Press.

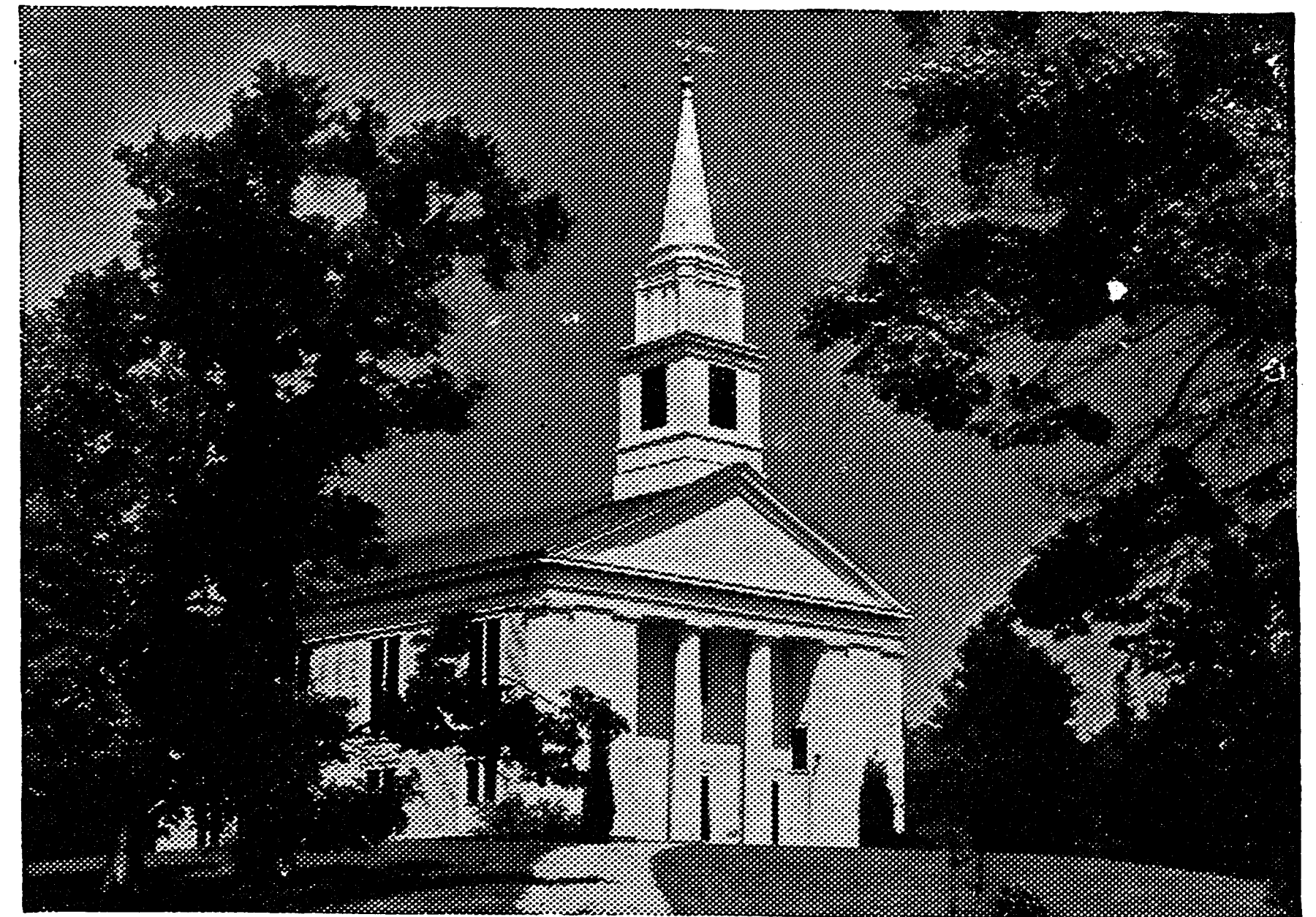
A staunch Christian, he was a member of the Plainfield Seventh Day Baptist Church for many years serving much of that time as a Sabbath school teacher. For a short time, he served as a missionary as head of the Sabbath Industrial Mission in Tanganyika, British East Africa. He was married on Dec. 31, 1903, to Geessina Schuur who died on Oct. 13, 1943.

He is survived by two brothers: Garrelt, of Adams Center, N. Y., and Frederik, of Plainfield; a daughter, Mrs. C. Harold Thompson, of Bound Brook, N. J.; and a son, Frederik J., a lawyer in Plainfield; and two grandchildren.

The funeral services were held in Runyon's Funeral Home in Plainfield with Rev. Lee Holloway officiating. Burial was in Hillside Cemetery, Plainfield.
L. T. H.

A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches. — Proverbs 22: 1.

The Sabbath Recorder



THE CHANGE: Spiritual interest in the U. S. is growing fast. Membership in religious congregations has increased *twice* as fast as our population.

THE OPPORTUNITY: Our spiritual gains can help us to lead richer, fuller lives — and help us to make the most of our material gains.

The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

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Member of the Associated Church Press

REV. LEON M. MALTBY, Editor

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Conference Reminders

Place and Date: Milton, Wis., Aug. 17-22

The Theme: To Know Him and Make Him Known

Theme Verse: 1 John 1: 3

Bumper Cards: Free, order from the Publishing House

Tract Packets: Get your supply from David Sheppard, Cedarville, N. J.

Further Information: Watch these pages every week.

DENOMINATIONAL BUILDING

Should our imposing, three-story denominational building in Plainfield be sold? Would it be good business to remove our historical treasures and library to rented space in the Plainfield area? Would our cause be advanced financially by selling this building and buying or constructing a more modest headquarters in a cheaper, more central location? Not only are these questions being asked by responsible leaders of the denomination but some churches have recently held meetings called for the purpose of discussing them and possibly instructing their delegates.

If some churches are instructing their delegates in how to vote on these questions at the General Conference next month and other churches do not know that decisions on such drastic changes are coming officially before our people, something is wrong with our publicity. We feel that our denominational paper should have been free to publish such news earlier than this. It is probably already too late for some people to make plans to attend the General Conference — people who would have attended if they had known that disposing of the denominational building was likely to be an issue. In a democratic organization like ours no one can predict all the motions that may come to the floor of Conference. Neither can anyone foretell what the ten or more committees will recommend. However, when a few people know that the sale of our denominational building is being urged, all those people who can be reached by this denominational organ should have a chance to know it.

What are the pros and cons in this matter? We are not prepared to attempt a statement of them in this brief article. We suppose that responsible leaders have spent considerable time discussing the problem, in theory at least. In our opinion, this question cannot be properly considered or settled by a theoretical study of real estate values. It requires on-the-spot study of the physical relation between the one-story publishing house and the denominational building which is joined to it. It calls for careful consideration of whether or not the offices, display rooms, and board room which so adequately meet our needs would be sufficiently attractive for business purposes to command a good price. It is your editor's opinion and, we

JULY 19, 1954

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HOW MANY NEW CHURCHES AND PASTORS WILL WE NEED?

The chart printed below shows the probable increase in population, churches and clergymen, between 1952 and 1975. The figures are supplied by W. J. Taussig, a director of Church Industry Relations for the National Association of Manufacturers. All of these guesses are subject to the will of God, Atomic Age uncertainties, and the possible return of our Lord. The need for churches and preachers will also depend upon the evangelistic efforts of the churches during the next 20 years. More church building is

now in progress than ever before in our history.

What will be the need for new churches and new pastors in our own denomination? We know that the world needs our message, but will the world recognize that need? An increasing population requires of us far greater net gains even to hold our own. Will we be equal to the task? How many of those 100,000 new churches and 75,000 additional ministers will be called for in our denomination?

August Recorders

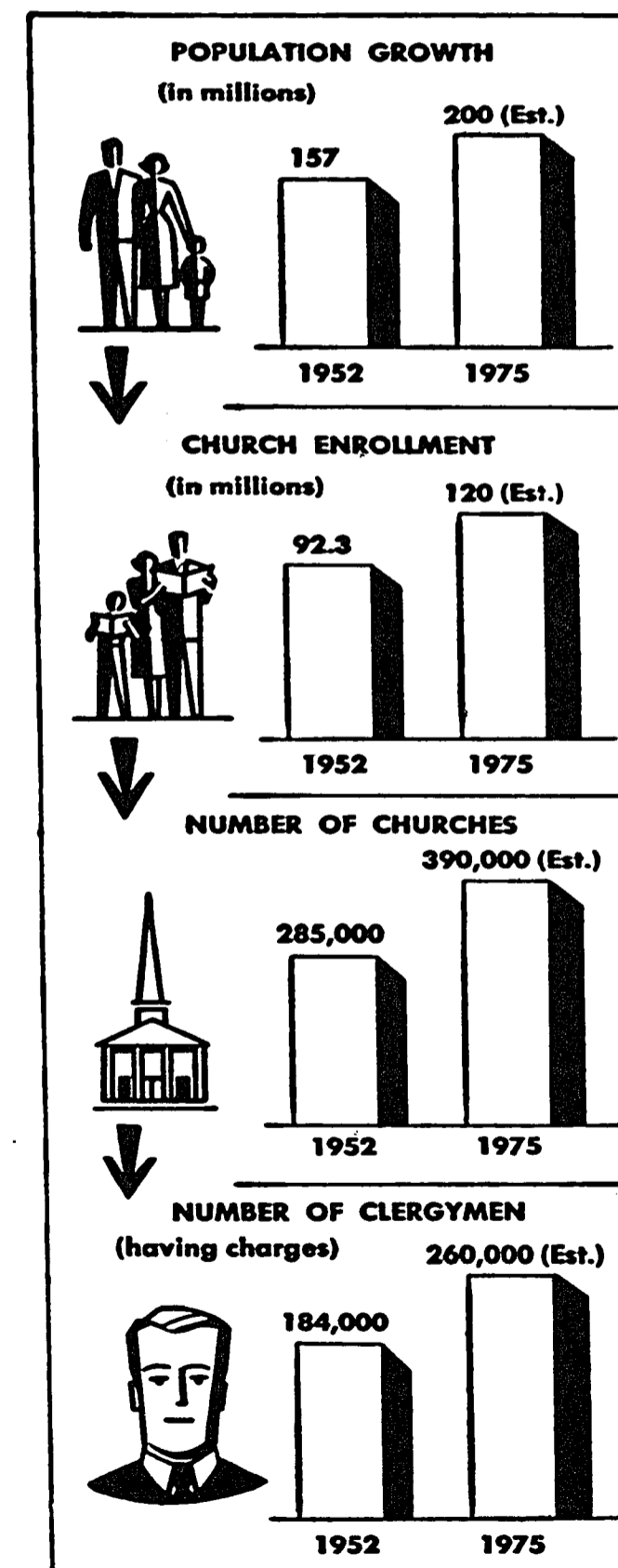
As stated in the masthead two Recorders are omitted during August. The publication dates for this year are Aug. 2 (8-page), Aug. 16 (16-page), Aug. 30 (16-page). The first reports of the General Conference will be featured in the issue of Aug. 30.

The Advisory Committee has encouraged the editor to give Recorder readers extra value for their money by making the August 30 issue 24 pages instead of 16. We believe this can be done without exceeding our budget.

believe, the opinion of the astute businessmen well acquainted with our building that any attempt to move our headquarters to another location in these high-cost days is economically unsound. In addition, there is the question of whether it is morally right to sell what was given to us by our people in order to realize a profit which would be diverted to other phases of our world-wide work.

It appears that the leaders who are advocating sale, all live at considerable distance from Plainfield though most, if not all of them have, of course, visited the building. Plainfield people, as we know them, cannot be accused of a sentimental attachment to the headquarters structure. Their advice should be sought and their voices heard.

It might be observed in passing that the only churches which, to our knowledge, are seeking to instruct their delegates in this matter are churches that have very close contact with some member of the Commission.



BRIGHTER THAN THE SUN

A man living in the times of ancient history once testified before the king that he had seen a light that was brighter than the sun. "Impossible! A great exaggeration," some would say. Not until this twentieth century has man been able to produce a light as intense as the sun. The flash of an atomic explosion is of the same kind as the sun, but being so much closer, in effect is 100 times stronger. No scientist would now dare to deny that the light which struck down Saul the persecutor could have been brighter than the sun.

The scientist, if he were not a Christian, would still be unable to explain how that blinding flash which left Saul with darkened eyes could have so illumined his soul that he was forever thereafter a transformed man. The searing light of heaven is still performing that miracle in the conversion experience of men.

The last chapter of Daniel deals with the glorious possibilities of Christian witnessing in this life and the eternal brightness of the redeemed. His beautiful, poetic words are these: "And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness, as the stars for ever and ever." Daniel 12: 3. It was probably this verse which inspired the Christian hymn-writer to include these less elegant words in his hymn:

"When we've been there ten thousand years

Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun."

At the threshold of an Atomic Age we can begin to appreciate what the New Testament prophecy tells us about the destructive power of brightness. A verse which a few years ago had only an imagined meaning now bursts into startling focus. We refer to the words of this same Paul of the Damascus Road in 2 Thessalonians 2: 8 as follows:

"And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming."

Slowly (or is it rapidly?) the doctors are learning the effects of atom-fission

brightness. Almost ten years after the first atom blast in Japan, four doctors are quoted in an AP release as to the effect of the light of that type of explosion on the human eye. These doctors from the School of Aviation Medicine at Randolph Field, Texas, reported the other day that such a light could turn the fluid of the eye to steam which would explode the eyes. Not a very pleasant thought, is it? In the clear night air of Nevada during the recent atom tests the eyes of rabbits 49½ miles away were injured.

That Wicked (the man of sin) mentioned above is not the only one to be destroyed by the brightness of the coming of the Son of God when He comes in judgment. According to Revelation 20: 10, 15, the beast and the false prophet, the devil, and whosoever was not found written in the book of life will find their places together in the lake of fire. This corresponds to the picture painted in the parable of Jesus in Matthew 13: 50.

The brightness of His coming can well be more than 100 times the brightness of the sun. His coming, however, is the most glorious event remaining in earth's history. Just how soon it will be revealed we know not. Our relation to Him, our readiness to receive Him will determine whether that brightness will be delightful or destructive. Which will it be?

Church Bulletins Wanted

The Sabbath Recorder receives quite a number of church bulletins. We could serve the denomination better if we received all of them. If the churches do not feel that they can afford the postage to keep the editor on the mailing list, we would gladly pay the bill for the stamps used. However, unless the bulletin carries some news besides the morning service, it is of little value to us. In checking through our files recently to make a list of Vacation Bible Schools, we were distressed to find that a number of pastors who announced the beginning of their school failed to say anything about the close of the school or the number enrolled. Nobody likes to be left hanging in mid-air, not even an editor.

MEMORY TEXT

And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or parents, or brethren, or wife, or children, for the kingdom of God's sake, who shall not receive manifold more in this present time, and in the world to come life everlasting. Luke 18: 29-30.

Prayer Thought

It has been said that Satan laughs at our toiling and struggling but trembles when we pray. Indeed he knows human weakness better than we do ourselves. As Paul says, "We are not contending against flesh and blood but against spiritual hosts of wickedness." We know from both experience and observation that man by himself is no match for Satan and his hosts. You may call them the forces of sin if you wish. If we have any faith in God we also know that He who created the universe is more powerful than all of the forces of evil. We must put aside our self-confidence and look to God in prayer. Then all of the forces of the universe become available for the defeat of sin.

Note how Peter came to this position. It was in self-confidence that he said to the Lord Jesus, "I am ready to go with thee both into prison and to death." The Master told him that he was to be sifted as wheat is sifted and that by the testing of Satan himself. After he had denied his Lord he was thrown into the depths of despair at his own failure. However, when he found that Jesus still wanted him he was ready to trust only in the Lord. Self-confidence was gone and he was ready to live by prayer in faith. How the devil and all of his forces trembled then as he preached or as he defied the threats of the Sanhedrin! Perhaps we need to go through a similar experience.

Ralph H. Coon.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for July 31, 1954

Christian Worship and Fellowship

The Lesson Scripture: Acts 2: 46-47;
Colossians 3: 12-17; Hebrews 10: 23-25.

SOUND DOCTRINE OR ITCHING EARS

Sabbath morning sermon at Western Association as reported by Rev. Albert N. Rogers.

The Sabbath morning sermon called each listener to self-examination lest his faith in Christ be not sound doctrine at all but the product of "itching ears" seeking familiar, comfortable platitudes. Reviewing the antagonism to the prophets of the Northern Kingdom and the refusal of Jesus to accept the Messianic concept of Judas and the Zealots, Pastors Sanford said that many today will flip a coin to see whether they go to church or "stay home with a cold," and keep on flipping until they get the result they want. Charles Clayton Morrison was quoted as saying that there was a time when the layman hired the minister to convert sinners, but now he is becoming suspicious that the preacher is trying to convert him, and few people enjoy paying for their own conversion.

"To Know Him and Make Him Known" implies the use of the intellect as well as the emotion, he continued. Citing the tremendous twentieth-century interest in Christological study he warned lest we read only our favorite biographies of Jesus like those in Paul's day who, "wanting their ears tickled, find a multitude of teachers to satisfy their own fancies." (2 Timothy 4: 3, Weymouth.) "Out of all the mass of study," he affirmed, "there have come interpretations of Jesus which have stripped Him of all His divinity. And these interpretations have tickled the ears of many — it was just what they believed right along."

"But there is another outgrowth of the quest for further information about Christ and God's revelation to man," he continued, "and this likewise has tickled the ears of many. Perhaps by reaction and perhaps by honest conviction, many have attempted to define sound doctrine by means of certain limiting definitions. If you believe this, and this, and this, you are Christian. But if you believe that, and that, and that, you are a heretic and we want no part of you!" And when we attempt to know Christ by creeds and dogmas, the preacher declared, "We limit Christ to the level of the human intellect

and emotion. And Christ can not be so limited."

The sermon closed with the personal experience of Pastor Sanford in learning Christian doctrine at the Alfred School of Theology and how Christ and the Sabbath are integrated with the Seventh Day Baptist faith and witness.

NEW DOCTORS

Edward R. Wheeler, a member of the Nortonville Seventh Day Baptist Church, received the degree of Doctor of Medicine at the University of Kansas on June 7.

Dr. Wheeler earned his B.S. from Kansas University, having taken work also at Ottawa University and at Salem College. Better known as "Bob," he is the son of Mrs. Edna Wheeler of Nortonville, and a brother of Rev. Edgar Wheeler, of DeRuyter, N. Y. His wife recently joined the Nortonville Church by baptism. The Wheelers have a seven-month-old daughter, Beverly Faye. They will reside at Wichita, Kan., for the next year, where Dr. Wheeler will serve as interne at St. Francis Hospital.

Victor Burdick, son of Rev. Paul S. Burdick of New Enterprise, Pa., also received his M.D. early in June from the College of Medicine at Albany, N. Y. He plans to serve his internship at White Memorial Hospital in Los Angeles.

Louis May of Salem, West Virginia, another loyal Seventh Day Baptist whose newlywed Recorder subscription has recently been changed to a paid subscription, received his doctor's degree from Jefferson Medical in Philadelphia, where he recently completed his internship. Doctor May has also gone to California for a year as resident physician in the County Hospital at Sacramento.

The road to a medical degree is long and hard and expensive. We may not know all the tribulations through which these and others have come to this point in their training, but we may well salute their achievement and wish them God's blessing as they enter upon a lifework of humanitarian service. The fine tradition of such service built up through the 300 years of our denominational history will, we trust, be nobly carried on at home and on the mission field by those now completing their medical training.

PLENTY OF ROOM AT MILTON

The Conference Registration and Entertainment Committee wishes everyone to know that there are several types of housing facilities in the Milton area. We hope you may all find just the kind of housing that will make your visit a most pleasant occasion.

There are dormitory facilities at Milton College. If you make arrangements for these rooms you will need to bring your own bedding. All beds are single.

There are hotels and motels within a radius of 8 to 12 miles from Milton. If you prefer this type of shelter it would be well to contact the committee immediately.

Camp Wakonda, about four miles from Milton, offers an excellent trailer park site. Those who plan to travel to Conference via trailer are urged to do so.

Most important, there are many rooms open to visitors in our homes. There is room for all in our Southern Wisconsin area and we hope for a large group of visitors from all churches.

We urge you to decide now to come to Conference. We also urge the church pastors and clerks to send in their lists of delegates and visitors if they have not done so already.

Miss Marjorie Burdick, chairman.

Stop the Clock

Professor D. N. Inglis of Milton, Wis., whose retirement was written up recently in these columns came out of his nocturnal retirement June 20 to close the window during a thunderstorm. No sooner was he back in bed than he began to play a new version of the TV show "Beat the Clock." A peal of thunder bounced the alarm clock off the window sill and under the bed. Another flash of lightning turned out the ceiling fixture and blew a fuse. The unperturbed professor and his wife, realizing that light was gone, the clock was stopped, and the windows were closed, went back into retirement and caught some more sleep.

Ill-founded optimism may be dangerous, but it is a denominational illness more easily cured than malignant pessimism. Ed.

GETTING THE CAMP READY

The camping season is one of the most thrilling periods of our church year! Living in an atmosphere of the beautiful out-of-doors and Christian community, the younger and older derive mutual inspiration and spiritual rejuvenation. There, the Lord manifests Himself as very near and dear. There, many accept Christ as Saviour and Lord, and others rededicate their lives to the Heavenly Father.

This is to remind every church member and Christian friend that he may actively participate in this eventful adventure and marvelous witness.

Some will be attending the camp as students, others as leaders and cooks. Some have worked extended hours in planning for the camping season, while many others have worked daytimes and evenings to complete the construction of the boys' barracks as soon as possible. The maintenance committee has been assisted by over a score of workers in putting the facilities in good repair for the camping season. But this represents but a part of the participation.

There are those who have provided fees for campers who otherwise would not be able to attend. Some have given toward the expansion building program. Some have given toward general expense. ALL can pray, and share the ministries here to the glory of God!

NOTE: The above paragraphs come from the Riverside Church bulletin and apply to Pacific Pines Camp. With a few variations they would fit several of our camps. Ed.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

The World C. E. Convention meeting in Washington, D. C., July 24-28, is of sufficient importance to draw some of the world's greatest speakers. One of the first messages of Evangelist Billy Graham upon his return to this country will be delivered to the youth of this convention at the foot of Washington Monument Sunday afternoon, July 25. An audience of about 30,000 is expected. In his London crusade Dr. Graham had a total audience of nearly one and a half million. Dr. Daniel A. Poling, head of the World's

Christian Endeavor Union and editor of two national religious magazines, will preside and will deliver the closing address Wednesday, July 28. Both of these leaders, particularly the latter, are well acquainted with Seventh Day Baptists.

Nigerian Library

There will be a public library in Nigeria next year — the first library in the history of the country. It will be possible because young American high school and college students responded to an appeal and collected more than 70,000 books for its shelves. The appeal came from Rev. James H. Robinson, pastor of New York's famed interracial Church of the Master. From him young people all over the country heard the story of Nigerian students who for lack of textbooks had to "bone up" for exams by copying whole sections in longhand. He told them the story of the young African who prepared for his exam in New Testament by first writing out all of the Gospels and the Book of Acts — and of another who copied fifty pages from an algebra book. The story reached the hearts of American students and they went to work. From church and campus groups all over the country the donations poured in. In New York, a group representing four of the city's colleges collected nearly 8,000 volumes and then "chipped in" to sort and pack the books for shipment.

Approximately 200,000 persons are starving in the Philippines as a result of destruction by ravaging bands of rats in a huge farming area in two provinces of Mindanao Island, according to news reports. An estimated 80 per cent of this year's crop has been destroyed in Cotabato Province. Also hard-hit is the Davao region. Elder Rodriguez and the Seventh Day Baptist churches on Mindanao are not in these provinces. The United Nations and some other relief organizations have sent powdered milk and food packages to the area, but the need is still great.

Protestants' work can still be carried on to some extent in Israel at this time, according to "The Witness," organ of the International Hebrew-Christian Alliance, in London.

The Sabbath Recorder

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

NORTONVILLE, KAN. — The church extended congratulations to our graduates at the services on May 15. Darlene Crouch Smith was graduated from Nortonville High School as valedictorian of the class, Judy Wells and Billy Crandall from the eighth grade at Nortonville, and Danny Niemann and Jimmie August from Atchison County. Edward Robert Wheeler (Bob) received his M.D. degree from Kansas University.

Mr. and Mrs. Albyn Mackintosh and family visited our church June 5. As a member of Commission, he brought us a report of the problems of our denomination. A fellowship dinner was held in the basement following the morning service. In the afternoon Mr. Mackintosh showed slides of Seventh Day Baptist work.

Vacation Bible School ended Friday, June 11, with over 40 pupils enrolled. The teachers were Lila Rose Bond, kindergarten; Mrs. Floreen Bond and Mrs. Julia McCoy, primary; Miss Zella Babcock, the junior; and Pastor Davis the junior high. Pastor Davis was the supervisor. Mrs. Charles Wheeler had charge of the Bible School picnic. The school presented a very interesting and well-planned program, June 12.

On Sunday following the Bible School Miss Babcock entered Cushing Hospital for major surgery which was successful.

The Ottawa Fellowship met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Reser at Wellsville, on Sabbath afternoon, July 3. —Mrs. Laurence Niemann, Correspondent.

RIVERSIDE, CALIF. — Early in June, Pastor Alton L. Wheeler made a ten-day trip through much of the state visiting lone Sabbathkeepers. During his absence from the pulpit Dale Curtis was in charge of the Sabbath morning worship service with Robert Henry of Fontana as the speaker.

Upon his return, Pastor Wheeler devoted a Sabbath eve prayer service to recounting this trip in which he met both encouragement and heartbreak. Following the fellowship lunch Sabbath noon, he gave a further account and outlined some of the problems confronting the Pacific Coast Association in attempting a unified work over such a widely scattered area. Since the Bakersfield section is

reasonably near, and there is a good interest there, it was proposed that work be done in the near future under joint responsibility of the Riverside and Los Angeles Churches, with Bakersfield co-operating. This proposal was met with enthusiasm. There is a possibility that some work could be carried out during the summer in the San Francisco Bay area while Oscar Burdick is still in Berkeley. Later, it was hoped that other localities could be included.

A mid-June highlight was the graduation of two of our young people from Riverside Polytechnic High School along with some six hundred other students. Lloyd Curtis, who has college in his future plans, and Martin Sloan, keenly interested in forestry, were the graduates.

On June 27, Mr. and Mrs. John Henry of Fontana were congratulated by their many relatives and friends in celebration of their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Intensive and sacrificial activity throughout the month has resulted in a nearly completed duplex boys' barracks at Pacific Pines Camp. For this near miracle we rejoice as we focus our prayers and attention on the camping season. — Correspondent.

CAMP NEWS BITS

Camp Wakonda, the Seventh Day Baptist camp being developed in the Milton, Wis., area, entered a comical float in the 4th of July parade and won third place.

The Shiloh, N. J., Church, at its bi-monthly business meeting in July, voted to establish a fund for a campsite and appointed a committee to investigate possible future campsites. The South Jersey camp has had the use of the building belonging to the Shiloh Deer Hunters' Club.

Camp Holston at Battle Creek, Mich., like some of the other conveniently located permanent camps is widely used by the whole church, according to a recent bulletin.

Lewis Camp, our oldest camp, had to call in extra help to take care of an enrollment which was twice as large as had been anticipated (44). The campers worshiped in the Ashaway, R. I., Church, Sabbath morning, July 17, with the dean of the camp, Rev. Paul Maxson, preaching the sermon.



U. S. Army Photograph.