

The Sabbath Recorder

good progress toward finishing the new church building on the eastern edge of the city.

Verona continues the finishing touches to the interior of the large addition to the church which has been in use for some time. Workmen of the church are also making repairs of considerable extent on the parsonage property.

White Cloud, as already reported, has recently renewed the trim on the church. This all adds up to quite a story, showing the general prosperity of our churches and indicating that places of worship are well cared for. Many of those not mentioned have made major improvements within the last few years.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

LITTLE GENESEE, N. Y. — Vacation Bible School was held in July for the church and community children with an average attendance of 70 pupils.

Pastor Delmer Van Horn was director, assisted by the following teachers: Ferris Whitford, Mrs. Grace Enos, and Mrs. Margaret Cook. Teachers' helpers were Mary Cartwright, Irene Wedge, and Nina Traver. Mrs. Leta DeGross of Buffalo assisted with the music and handwork.

A union baptismal service with the Richburg Church was held here in our church August 25. Pastor David Beebe baptized two from the Richburg Church and Pastor Van Horn four from the Little Genesee Church. — Correspondent.

BERLIN, N. Y. — On August 27 the family of Mrs. Ida Greene held open house helping her to celebrate her 89th birthday. She is next to the oldest member of the church. Earlier, on May 12, the Fellowship Group observed Mrs. Ella Wing's birthday at the monthly supper by providing a birthday cake with 91 tiny candles.

On August 23, a very successful Sabbath school picnic was held in the grove at the rear of the church. A good attendance, delicious food, and well-planned entertainment made the afternoon pass all too soon.

We had the pleasure of having Dr. Victor Burdick meet with us for an informal talk and question period on August 25. Our earnest prayers and good wishes go with him as he enters on his missionary work.

In July, Berlin celebrated its sesqui-

centennial, and five of our church men joined the "Brothers of the Brush" and raised beards. Arlie Greene won a \$10 prize.

Our men have met often with the Schenectady group to help in the construction of their new church building.

We were happy to learn that our pastor, who had received a call to another field, decided to remain with us for another year at least. The whole town would not know how to get along without him, and many call him "the community pastor." — Correspondent.

Mid-Continent Association Announced

A full weekend of services is planned for the Mid-Continent Association when it meets October 5-7 with the North Loup, Neb., Church. Seventh Day Baptist groups represented in the Association are the Boulder, Denver, North Loup, and Nortonville Churches, and the Kansas City Fellowship. Only two of our nine Associations hold their annual meetings in the fall although most of them have briefer semiannual fall sessions in addition to the spring meetings.

Northern Association at White Cloud

On the weekend of October 12, 13, and 14, the churches of the Northern Association are expected to meet with the White Cloud, Mich., Church. The local church is looking forward to a large gathering from Battle Creek, Jackson Center, Indianapolis, and other points in the area.

Dates for North Central

Word has been received that the third weekend of October has been selected for the fall meeting of the North Central Association, composed of the churches in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. More details will be given later.

Accessions

Little Genesee, N. Y.

By Baptism:
Mrs. Nellie Crance
Martin Wardner
Frieda Stone
Faith DeGross

By Testimony:
Mrs. Mary Enos

"When you speak of heaven let your face light up with a smile, but when you speak of hell just talk as you usually do."

— Quoted in a Conference sermon.

World Wide Communion



Many and varied are the artists' conceptions of the Last Supper. Some paintings have become so famous that church people have come to think that the institution of the Lord's Supper must have been just like that picture. The painters, regardless of their differing conceptions of the sacred scene, have done one great service. Almost all of them have pictured intensity, as in the painting reproduced here. We do well to look carefully at such a picture on World Wide Communion Day and then ask ourselves if we approach the Lord's Table too casually. Is our observance Christ centered?

The Sabbath Recorder

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Member of the Associated Church Press

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"The church has become one of the values we fight for instead of a force in itself. It is not regarded as the working source of wisdom and strength, but as a factor, a respected possession, a shelter for conscience." — Norman Cousins.

SEEN ON A SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Late September with its shortening days, crisping nights, and aging leaves reminds us that summer has ended and fall is beginning. Springtime and fall somehow stir our emotions more than the other two seasons which are sometimes disagreeable in the intensity of their heat and cold. We like the seasons of change. Spring is full of growth and promise. Fall is not less interesting even though its message is less promising. Regardless of what happens to flowers and leaves as the time of their maturity and dormancy approaches, we experience a new zest with the change in the weather. God has stated that the crowning achievement of creation was man and that all nature was for him. Man is designed to live above nature and to use it to the glory of God.

Mid-September in the East this year brought a series of days that were colder than comparable dates for the past 50 years. There followed a glorious week-end, warm and brilliant. In our suburban area motorists took to the roads in great numbers to enjoy family outings at the sea, in parks, or in shady glens. The editor also felt the lure of the country on Sunday afternoon. When one has been brought up on a farm in a northern region, these early fall days stir memories and longings for the out-of-doors which scarcely can be satisfied with back yard activities.

An automobile trip has its appeal but it is relatively inactive. The beauties flow by the open window too effortlessly. Able-bodied people seek expression for the zest that comes with these early fall days. From the editor's point of view, nothing serves quite as well under his circumstances as a bicycle trip through rolling country. Fortunately there are a few such trips available from the city of Plainfield that enable one to see much and experience more.

One of the thrills of bicycle riding is the conquering of distance without consuming too much time or energy. Strength is multiplied and speed is increased by the mechanical principles built into a bicycle. It is one of man's simpler inventions but it is still rather marvelous how a man or boy without unusual strength or stamina can cover 40 miles in three hours and feel more refreshed at the completion of

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it than when he started. Three hours on the road bring many changing horizons and much time for meditation. It is particularly rewarding when one sees not only nature but people — many people. Nature's beauties cannot take on their brighter hues unless related to people for whom they were made by the hand of God.

Twenty miles in the direction chosen led past the homes of thousands of people in parts of several cities and towns and a half dozen lesser communities. The route took us by a dozen churches, at least ten big schools, business districts, industrial sites, nurseries, and florists' gardens in uncounted numbers. The coolness of miles of well-paved forest roads is refreshing. Four small lakes and trickling streams glide by on the right. Two well-cared-for golf courses lie below in the valley. On the left, scores of families beside their cars relax in the expanse of close-cropped, sloping meadows, tend their little cooking fires, or play baseball on the turf. A hundred cars are seen parked along a fence of a reservation to let the children feed the deer.

One meadow is unusually attractive. It is fringed with native dogwood, the first of the shrubs and trees to take on the deep crimson color of fall. Above the dogwood is the light green of poplars, and higher still, extending to the hilltop horizon, stands a mass of oaks and other hardwoods clothed in their deeper, mature green garb.

All this is seen along a traffic-laden road where unknown people are enjoying themselves. We feel a kinship with them. We rejoice that so many find satisfying joy in the simple, half-tended beauties of these miles of protected forest. We cannot stop, for in our busy schedule we have not allowed enough time. Our trip has a destination. Beyond this reservation in another city we hope to see some warm Christian friends. All these beauties will be seen again on the return trip. We look forward to spending an hour with a few people of like faith. It gives point and purpose to the effort expended. We find them at home and the talk centers around spiritual things.

Returning as the day draws to a close, we see from a far better vantage point

than our city home the sinking sun turning to gleaming gold the thin clouds which would hide its light but find themselves taking on its luminance. We are reminded that we, too, when permeated by the Light of the World, become radiant and fringed with glory.

As we again approach the city of our residence and of our daily effort in the Lord's work, we become conscious of thousands of others homeward bound. Our westbound traffic is flowing freely but cars headed back toward the metropolitan area in a double lane are only creeping. The moment's delay of a traffic light backs them up farther than the eye can see. As we glide by on the other side of the island we look into the faces of perhaps a thousand people before we turn through the line onto a less traveled street. For the most part, they seem happy and not too impatient with the delay. We hope that many, many of them have found the joy of salvation as well as the pleasure of a day spent away from the city's din.

Speaking of new zest in the fall, let us show it in our church and Sabbath school work and in a new zeal for winning souls.

Fell Asleep and Died

There seem to be stories in the news almost every day of catastrophes on land, sea, or in the air. Not as spectacular as the sinking of the liner Andrea Doria was the announcement of the swamping of the American freighter Pelagia in a storm off the northwest coast of Norway on September 15. At the time of this writing only 5 of its 37 crewmen were known to be alive.

The survivors reported that theirs was the only lifeboat which the crew had been able to launch. There were six men in their little boat drifting with the wind and current in the icy waters of the Arctic where the air temperature hovered around 45 degrees. They did not believe that men could survive long enough to be picked up by searching parties. What seemed tragic was that the sixth man in the lifeboat perished from exposure. We suppose that the exposure was the same for all. According to the report, in spite

of all their efforts to keep him awake, he "fell asleep and died."

An obvious lesson can be drawn from this bit of information about a sea tragedy. Under normal conditions a temperature of 45 is not considered dangerous, but it is only half our body temperature and survival over a long period of time in wet clothing would depend on activity and will power, both of which cease during sleep. We as Christians, as church members, as Sabbathkeepers are in a hostile world where the temperature is relatively low. In the lifeboat we ought to survive. Can it be true that some such proportion as 1 out of 6 within the church are like that ship's steward, Jean Lopez of Santiago? In spite of the desperate efforts of five fellow men to keep him awake as the Arctic cold numbed him, he fell asleep and died.

The greatest cause of death in the Christian Church is that falling asleep. Are we spiritually awake? Are we aware of the necessity both of staying awake ourselves and of constantly rousing others of less stamina? The term "revival" is frowned upon in some religious circles, but on the southern edge of the Arctic Circle in a lifeboat it is constant revival — or death. Let us not criticize, unduly, terminology or methods in religious work. Rather let us struggle to maintain and to stimulate life. May we fill the lifeboats to capacity and keep alive those we are able to save.

News of Executive Secretary

For those who may have missed the editorial and the news item in last week's issue about the new executive secretary we repeat the fact that the Commission has now secured a well-qualified person to undertake the heavy duties of executive secretary of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference. She is Mrs. R. T. Fetherston of Battle Creek, Mich.

Mrs. Fetherston, who was vacationing at Riverside, Calif., with her husband when the news of her appointment reached us, writes that her office will be at 476 N. Washington Ave., Battle Creek, Mich. It will be recalled that her responsibility will include not only executive work but also the duties of corre-

sponding secretary of General Conference. Courtland V. Davis of Plainfield, N. J., has been handling all official correspondence on an interim basis. Now all official reports of churches and communications pertaining to the General Conference from this country or abroad should be sent direct to the Battle Creek address mentioned above.

We expect that Mrs. Fetherston will soon make use of a column in the Sabbath Recorder which is reserved for whatever message she feels needful from week to week to carry forward the program of our people as voted by Conference and Commission.

Evangelism at Battle Creek

As this Recorder goes to press the Battle Creek Church is in the midst of its evangelistic campaign under the leadership of Field Evangelist Loyal F. Hurley. Recent church bulletins have indicated unusually well-laid plans and much prayer preparation. Teams of laymen were sent out to contact people on the responsibility list the week before the meetings began. This program was brought to a climax on Sabbath day by cancelling all afternoon meetings and urging people to go out, two by two.

The purpose of this "Preaching Mission" was stated as fourfold.

1. To bring the message of God's love to a war-torn and troubled world.
2. To deepen the spiritual life of faithful Christians.
3. To call out those who have joined Christ's Church but seem to have forgotten.
4. To search out those who know not the Saviour.

Our readers will be looking for a report of this local effort and will be remembering in prayer the churches in West Virginia where the evangelist will soon be leading other series of meetings emphasizing visitation evangelism followed by public meetings.

"Two things fill me with unutterable awe: The starry heavens above and the moral law within!" —Immanuel Kant.

President's Column

Prayer and the Book of Hebrews

By Rev. Earl Cruzan

[The Epistle to the Hebrews is the book we are suggesting for special study during the year partly because of its emphasis on prayer. The following article from a pastor who has just completed such a study with his people was submitted at our request.]

The Book of Hebrews is a book of better things: a better covenant, a better priesthood, a better revelation of God's love for us through Jesus Christ, His Son. Recognizing the greatness of Christ, our High Priest, who is now ascended into the heavens and who is at the right hand of God, let us approach God through Him.

Since He has experienced our infirmities and knows the temptations of life which are common to us upon this earth, and since He has in faith overcome them, He can understand the perplexities and struggles of our lives.

In Hebrews, we find set forth the meaning of faith: "... the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." It means that we believe in the reality and mercy of God even though we cannot see Him with our eyes or touch Him with our hands.

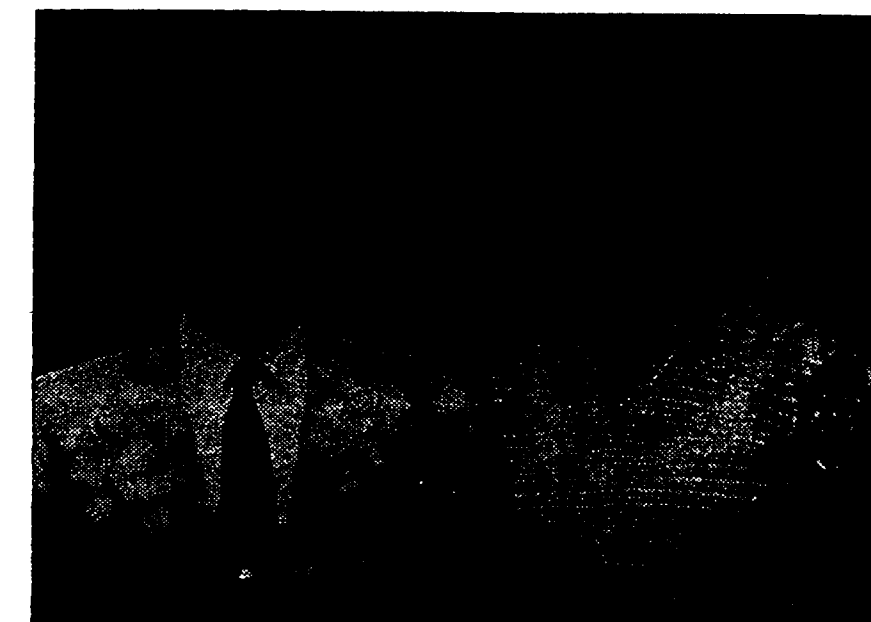
Let us approach God in prayer, through Christ, knowing that as we come in faith, believing, He will hear, and hearing, that He will intercede for us before the throne of grace. Let us obtain from Him the mercy that is promised us; and ever seek from Him the strength that is needed in daily life.

Let us engage upon the study of the Book of Hebrews in the attitude and practice of prayer in order that the truth of the better covenant may become a source of increasing hope and encouragement as it reveals to us the depth of our Father's love.

Let us know, in the intimateness of prayer, the priesthood of Jesus and with it the assurance of the forgiveness that is ours. Let us ask that our faith waver not. Let us encourage one another in the way of life which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

A Minister in the Making

When a young man with a large family decides to change his main vocation from teaching to preaching it is news — good news — in a denomination where partially self-sustaining pastors are a definite need in many of the smaller churches. We are glad to introduce to those who do not know them Mr. and Mrs. S. Kenneth Davis originally of Plainfield and now living at Alfred, New York.



Mr. Davis, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. Courtland V. Davis, taught in the Plainfield school system and later transferred to Ohio where he was active in the Ashtabula Seventh Day Baptist Fellowship which was a considerable distance from their home in Bristolville. Feeling an urgency to prepare for the ministry the parents moved their family to Alfred last spring as soon as school was out. He took some summer school work at the School of Theology and is now employed as a teacher at the local centralized school. He is carrying on seminary work on a part-time basis.

Jean Bailey Davis, his wife, the granddaughter of Abbie B. and the late Herbert C. Van Horn (former editor of the Sabbath Recorder), is an accomplished musician both in organ and voice. Familiar with parsonage life, she is by temperament, inclination, and ability well qualified to be a real help to her husband in the church work in which the whole family will be involved in the years to come if present plans work out. We understand that she, too, is attempting to take at least one special course offered at the seminary.

**Rais'n's* Budget Promotion Committee

As of today's publication date the interim committee, named at the December, 1955, Commission meeting and continued last August to finish the fiscal year, goes out of existence. Along with it goes the pleasant though sometimes frustrating and usually time-consuming privilege one of us has assumed — to furnish promotional material for a Monday night deadline! We have enjoyed our connection with *Rais'n's, although our fond hopes both for budget progress and for the use of asterisks in appropriate places have not always worked out 100 percent.

Whatever measure of success there may have been in persuading Seventh Day Baptists to visualize and then support fully the \$74,114 program adopted at the 1955 Fayetteville Conference, the committee would express its thanks for the prayers and help we have felt from all sides. Without naming any, lest we omit one, we would acknowledge here the cooperation extended by the Recorder staff, members of Commission, officials of boards, missionaries, and individuals who have furnished inspiration, guidance, and written material for our campaign. We regret we could not fit all of the material into the space and time allowed.

Most of all we would thank God for those Seventh Day Baptists who have seen a vision of the need and have given sacrificially to the Denominational Budget.

To the incoming executive secretary, Mrs. R. T. Fetherston, we would extend our heartiest best wishes in her task and our pledge to support that work. May "Our World Mission" really find a place in our hearts and tug mightily at our purse strings so that God's Kingdom shall come, here on earth!

For the Committee,
Rev. Charles H. Bond,
Rev. Earl Cruzan,
Charles H. North, Chairman.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for October 13, 1956

Ten Laws for Life

Lesson Scripture: Exodus 20: 1-17.

Tract Board Shows Progress

Meeting at the Seventh Day Baptist Building in Plainfield, Sunday afternoon, September 16, the Trustees of the American Sabbath Tract Society took action on the quarterly reports of officers and committees and made plans for the fall and winter months, in all lines of activity. There were twelve Plainfield members present and eight members and four visitors from South Jersey. All those present were entitled to vote in that portion of the afternoon devoted to the annual meeting of the Tract Society (which elects officers and trustees).

Tract distribution of 22,220 for the summer quarter was reported. This is approximately 9,000 above what has been considered normal. The figure includes 8,400 sent out in a special mailing to about 4,200 individuals or families within the denomination. The secretary also reported an unusually large number of letters written in spite of the fact that he was away from the office three of the thirteen weeks.

The publication of 20,000 tracts during the quarter at a printing cost of \$304 was noted by the treasurer, which is within the amount allowed by the board's budget. In the previous quarter the expense ran higher, \$677 for 17,000 tracts. It is expected that during the September — December quarter publication will show a marked increase since there are 20,000 already on order. Another 20,000 ought to be printed soon to replenish the supply of popular tracts. The board has authorized also a 10,000 edition of a new salvation tract, the publication of another in the salvation series, entitled "Change Your Mind," and a new Sabbath study workbook for the junior-intermediate age in a 3,000 edition. Further action was taken on this last one at the current board meeting upon the recommendation of the Committee on Publications.

The board asked its Budget Committee to give some consideration to revising its larger-than-usual budget in view of the fact that Commission and Conference did not increase this board's share in "Our World Mission" as much as hoped for. Even so it is expected that the work of the society can be increased this year. The

treasurer reported that even though the board had spent beyond its budget in some lines of its publishing work during the past year, there was a steadily growing reserve in the general fund.

The Supervisory Committee, which is concerned primarily with the operation of the publishing house, reported that one half (\$695) of the cost of the new sidewalk in front of the property had been paid from publishing house funds. The report showed also the installation of oil-burning equipment for more adequate heating of offices and shop with less janitorial expense, at a cost of something over \$2,000. The huge coal bin (with a new opening next to the elevator) is now available for storage of paper in carload lots. Business prospects were thought to be favorable although the last quarter did not show a profit.

The new budget of the board contemplates a certain amount of wide-scale advertising of the Sabbath and the Seventh Day Baptist cause. The Committee on Distribution of Literature reviewed the results of some of the advertising done by the Mid-Continent Association and attempted to set a temporary policy for assisting in this type of publicity. Its recommendation to offer to match funds to the extent of \$100 for any Association engaging in this type of advertising was adopted by the board. This would authorize the expenditure of \$900.

In other action growing out of recommendations by the above-mentioned committee it was agreed to ask the Women's Board to continue work on the master mailing list so that mailings of tracts could be made to families; that a call be sent to all churches and fellowships to appoint a local tract correspondent to keep in touch with the secretary of this board; and that members of the Co-ordinating Council of the denomination in their personal contacts with churches be asked to promote such appointment of correspondents.

The Advisory Committee, which does not ordinarily make recommendations, this time asked the board to purchase for the editor of the Sabbath Recorder a Polaroid Land camera and equipment at a cost not to exceed \$110. The camera was used to some extent in the picture-

reporting of Conference and will continue to be used to brighten some of the articles appearing on the pages of the magazine. The particular advantage of this type of equipment for an editor is that individual prints are available within a few minutes instead of a few days.

As reported in a recent issue of the Recorder the question was raised at General Conference by a special committee as to what sort and how many periodicals are needed to best serve our Seventh Day Baptist constituency. The committee recommended two monthly publications but did not have details worked out as to just how this could be accomplished. One, according to the thinking of the committee, would not contain denominational or church news as such but would be more in the nature of an evangelistic, promotional journal. The other would be more of a picture newspaper done by the offset printing process (which the publishing house does not now have). Conference asked the Tract Board to study the whole matter and to present its specific findings next year. Accordingly the board at this first meeting authorized the president to appoint a committee to work on the matter. The president will announce the full committee soon. Courtland V. Davis has consented to act as chairman.

Too Much Church

"Ever and anon someone declares that his parents made him go to church so much when he was a child that now he has no taste for worship. The funny part of the story is that the glib conversationalist does not smile. It is like saying that our parents made us eat so much when we were children we never intend sitting down for another meal. Three times a day was just too much. So we will now cultivate antipathy to food, our desire for nausea, and accept downright starvation. We had too much fresh air and sunshine, so now we will avoid the sun and breathe only tainted air. We were loved too much when we were children. Now we do not want anyone to love us and we will never share our affection." — G. Ray Jordan in *Beyond Despair*.

"OUR WORLD MISSION"

By Rev. Earl Cruzan
First Vice-President of General Conference

The figures given below show a general breakdown of the budgets of the various boards and agencies which participate in "Our World Mission." Each participant has a more detailed breakdown of its budget for its own use and also for submitting to Commission for review before they are all put together into "Our World Mission."

We ask our boards and agencies to be forward-looking in their programs that they may more effectively do an ever greater work for Christ's Kingdom through Seventh Day Baptists. Our boards are looking forward. They are visualizing programs which will enlarge the scope of our work.

Yet it is discouraging to them to see certain items in their plans cut in the

final financial structure that goes before General Conference for approval. It is also discouraging to the Commission to see and share in these visions of expanding work and yet to have to cut from proposed budgets to try to keep the asking from "Current Giving" within what might seem to be figures which can reasonably be reached by Seventh Day Baptists.

If each and every one of us could give equal support, it would only take about \$1.30 from each of us each month. But no work undertaken by any group of people can be equally apportioned. Support depends on both interest and ability. Where the interest is greater the support is greater. Let each of us give according to the ability that is ours and to the support of the mission that is before us as a people.

Seventh Day Baptists — Our World Mission

Missionary Society:	
China Field	\$ 1,260.00
Jamaica Field	10,590.00
British Guiana Field	6,000.00
Nyasaland Field	12,187.50
United States:	
Aid to churches	5,330.00
Expansion on the Home Field	4,850.00
Unbudgeted emergencies and advancements	500.00
Division of Foreign Missions, N. C. C.	525.00
Secretary's travel in U. S.	750.00
Administration	9,550.00
	\$ 51,542.50
Tract Society:	
Sabbath Recorder	\$ 15,450.00
Helping Hand	3,100.00
Printing and distribution of literature	2,500.00
Audio-visual aids and Sabbath promotion	800.00
Administration	4,959.00
	\$ 26,809.00
Board of Christian Education:	
Administration	\$ 5,158.00
Publications	4,150.00
Purchase of literature	200.00
Workshop development	300.00
Youth Work	200.00
National Council (Division of Christian Ed.)	175.00
Debt reduction	350.00
Miscellaneous	200.00
	\$ 10,773.00
Women's Board	\$ 2,445.00
Ministerial Retirement	\$ 17,000.00
Ministerial Training (including School of Theology):	
Committee expense	\$ 350.00
Scholarships	750.00

School of Theology:	
Salaries	15,820.00
Public relations and travel	650.00
Library	700.00
Utilities and sundries	570.00
	\$ 18,840.00
Historical Society:	
Salaries	\$ 2,090.00
Supplies	450.00
Utilities	200.00
Reports	125.00
Insurance and Conference exhibits	160.00
	\$ 3,025.00
Denominational Building	\$ 2,200.00
World Fellowship and Service:	
National Council	\$ 50.00
World Council	100.00
Delegates' expenses to ecumenical gatherings	275.00
Ecumenical Committee's expense	25.00
Commission on Chaplains	50.00
RIAL	50.00
World Baptist Alliance	25.00
	\$ 575.00
General Conference:	
Officers' and Commission expense	\$ 2,000.00
Executive secretary	5,575.00
Year Book	800.00
Vocational Committee	100.00
Budget Promotion	750.00
Contingent Fund	500.00
Local Conference cost	300.00
	\$ 10,025.00
Grand total	\$143,194.50

Happiness Through Spiritual Poverty

By Rev. C. Harmon Dickinson
Conference Sermon, August 14, 1956

The message this evening is based on the first of the Beatitudes: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

If there are seven beatitudes, they represent a holy number. If there are eight, as some insist, they are an octave of kingdom music. If there are ten, depending on how we count the verses and determine which are the Beatitudes, they represent the new decalogue which Jesus gave, not with the intention of abolishing the old but rather enriching it and fulfilling it in order that we might have a new and higher standard by which we as Christians might live. The Beatitudes are a "string of pearls" giving a lofty summary of some

of the greatest of the teachings of Jesus Christ our Lord. They are jets of light and love kindled against the darkness of the world. They state the conditions by which one enters into the kingdom of God and participates in the kingdom after one has entered.

There are two parts to the Beatitudes. The first part states a condition to which a person must subscribe in order to become a Christian. After one has subscribed to the principle he must strive to live according to that principle. The second part (and you will notice as you follow through on the Beatitudes that they are divided into two parts) is the promised reward which comes to us and

to those who meet the requirement of each opening statement.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." The first part of it says that blessed are the poor in spirit, or blessed are those who are poor in spirit, for to them belongs the kingdom of heaven. You see first of all the condition that each of us must subscribe to and after that we have the promised reward. In fact, those who are poor in spirit already enjoy the blessings of the kingdom of God.

The Real Meaning of Blessedness

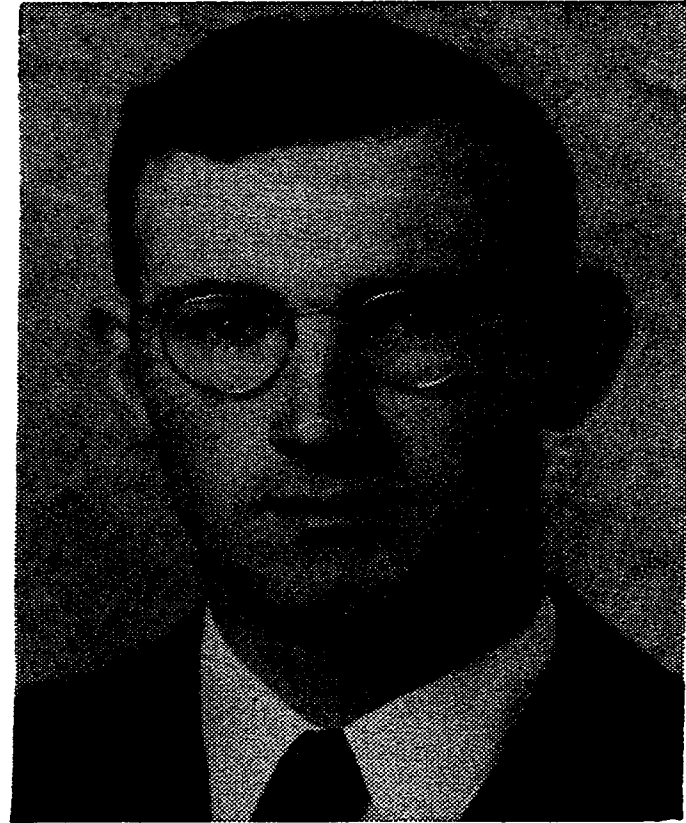
Blessedness comes from being in a right relationship with God. Life has new meaning. There is inward peace and joy. There is also the special favor which God gives to those who live according to His will.

Blessedness also means happiness, as has been suggested by our Conference president as a dominant theme. A Christian should be a happy person. Jesus came to bring joy and happiness. You remember the words of Jesus in the fifteenth chapter of John and the eleventh verse: "These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full."

Do We Really Have This Happiness?

Christians are happy people. We should be happy people. Sometimes we look so worried and troubled. We look so puzzled about life and so bothered with many things, that often one might wonder whether we are really happy. But we have something to be happy over. God has done something for us to fill our hearts with happiness and joy and we should be happy. But many people in this world are not happy. They are miserable. A neighbor said to another one day, "Are you completely miserable?" "Why, no!" came the astonished answer, followed by a crestfallen apology: "Oh dear, I guess I grow so involved with little things that I don't look happy, but down deep inside, I am. I don't mean to keep it a secret."

A minister once exhorted his congregation: "Now when you speak of heaven, smile. Let your face light up. Speak happily. And when you speak of hell, just talk the way you usually do."



REV. C. HARMON DICKINSON
Pastor at Denver, Colo.

We must show the world that we are happy. Let us show by the radiation of our hearts that we are happy, and may happiness be written on our faces because of what the Lord has done for us.

Whence Comes This Happiness?

The Beatitudes state who are happy in God's sight. And in this case the poor in spirit are those who are happy in the sight of God. True happiness comes to those who are poor in spirit. As Jesus said, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." In Luke 6: 20 He also said, "Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God." Does poverty bring a blessing? Is it true that the poor are the happiest people? And are the rich the most miserable? Hardly, for sometimes the poor are the most miserable, and the rich are the happy people. But it is the attitude that one has toward God and towards spiritual things which determines whether people are happy, and whether a person is poor in spirit.

Someone has spoken of the Beatitudes as the "beautiful attitudes" of Jesus Christ. It is the condition of the heart which brings abiding happiness regardless of one's material status in life. To be poor in spirit is to have a humble and conscious

dependence upon God characterized by right attitudes toward God. Those who are the poor in spirit realize their own spiritual need. In Isaiah, the fifty-seventh chapter and the fifteenth verse, we read words which give the condition of the heart for those who are poor in spirit: "For thus saith the high and the lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones." The God of heaven, the lofty One, the holy God whom we worship, is the One who receives the humble and the contrite heart.

The condition for happiness in God's kingdom is opposed to many of the accepted standards of the world. It is a humble and contrite spirit in contrast to the proud and haughty spirit of those who are not followers of Christ's teachings. In first Peter the fifth chapter and the sixth verse we read these words: "Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that in due time he may exalt you" (RSV). Humble yourself under the almighty hand of God, if you would be exalted.

Goodspeed gives a meaningful rendering of this verse. His is a little different from most translations I have read, and yet I think he brings out the point that Jesus made in this beatitude: "Blessed are those who feel their spiritual need, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to them." The first step in becoming a Christian is for one to feel a spiritual need which urges him to find a solution to that need in God and in Jesus Christ His Son. A Christian is one who to overcome the poverty of his own soul has accepted Jesus Christ as Saviour. He has fled from his own spiritual insecurity and unrest to the security and rest that only Christ can give.

Declaration of Dependence

It is important in this process of standing in a right relationship with God that there be a declaration of dependence upon God. Back when our nation was born, the thirteen colonies gave a Declaration of Independence, asserting that they were no longer under the control of a foreign

MEMORY TEXT

For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. Hebrews 5: 12.

power. And yet while they declared themselves independent of other foreign nations, they did not declare themselves independent of God. They were much in dependence upon God as they organized this new nation and laid the foundation that has achieved greatness for us as a people.

By nature, man asserts his independence. He takes pride in his self-sufficiency, and for a time he convinces himself that he is prospering well without conscious awareness of his fellow men or of God. But such a false sense of security does not carry him over the turbulent areas of life. He becomes unhappy. He becomes miserable and a victim of self-pity. When he comes to himself, as the prodigal son did in the parable of Jesus, he comes to himself by making a declaration of dependence upon God. He is willing to surrender his independence and to declare his dependence upon Almighty God. In doing this he enters into the new birth; he is regenerated; he becomes a member of God's kingdom, a child of God. As Paul said, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things have passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Cor. 5: 17). This miracle of regeneration is absolutely essential if we are to enter into God's kingdom, and we enter in by being poor in spirit.

We must be aware of our dependence upon God and spend little time or less time worrying about the necessities of life — food, clothing, and shelter — and about the future. Those who are dependent upon God are those who are secure, and we must, in faith, depend on God to supply our needs and to give us joy and happiness in life.

(To be continued)

Seventh Day Baptists and Their World Mission

By Rev. Earl Cruzan

To have a mission means to have heard a call and to set forth with an effort to meet that call. The general mission of Seventh Day Baptists is, first of all, in response to the Great Commission of Jesus, to teach the Gospel of Christ and to bring people through faith in Christ into the fellowship of Christians.

The specific mission of Seventh Day Baptists is to bring the knowledge of God's Sabbath before all people in such a way that out of their love for a God, who manifests a holy, redeeming love toward all men, that they seek to observe the Sabbath according to His teachings.

To be more adequately able to respond to the calls of this great mission, Seventh Day Baptist churches have organized a General Conference and have organized boards and agencies to carry out assigned functions of our work as a people.

Work can be done, calls can be answered in proportion to the financial means available to carry on the work. A portion of our financial resources comes from the love of those who have lived before our generation and who have left endowments from which the interest is used according to the donor's wishes. A small portion comes from sales and services. This represents subscriptions to periodicals, sale of books, library fees, etc.

The largest portion of the money to carry on "Our World Mission" must of necessity come from living donors, you and me, who live in the present and have an interest in answering the Kingdom calls that come to Seventh Day Baptists.

Below is a chart showing the financial structure of our denomination. The needs of each participating agency are shown with the sources from which the financial support is expected.

Seventh Day Baptists		— Our World Mission		
Agency	Current Giving	Investment Income	Sales and Service	Total
Missionary Society	\$ 41,542.50	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 51,542.50
Tract Society	5,349.00	14,660.00	6,800.00	26,809.00
Board of Christian Ed. ...	9,448.00	250.00	1,035.00	10,733.00
Women's Board	2,355.00	90.00		2,445.00
Ministerial Retirement ..	10,250.00	6,750.00		17,000.00
Ministerial Training (School of Theology) ..	12,190.00	5,850.00	800.00	18,840.00
Historical Society	2,975.00	50.00		3,025.00
Denominational Bldg. ...	760.00	770.00	670.00	2,200.00
World Fellowship and Service	575.00			575.00
General Conference ..	10,025.00			10,025.00
Totals	\$ 95,469.50	\$ 38,420.00	\$ 9,305.00	\$ 143,194.50

The total need from "Current Giving" is \$95,469.50. This represents an increase of approximately \$3,390 over last year; although the total appears much larger than the total termed "Denominational Budget" last year. The reason is that this year all current giving is reflected in the "Current Giving" of "Our World Mission." The gifts which our various boards and agencies receive direct or designated are included in this total. The "Continuous Support" program of the

School of Theology was not authorized this year; yet the approximate \$3,000 which has been received from it has been included in the needs for the School of Theology in "Current Giving." Reflected in this total is the one half of the contributions of the churches toward the Ministerial Retirement plan which will be used to help in the current year's support of the retired ministers or their widows. These items have not been reflected in the needs from "Current Giving" in the

For Jr. High Readers

Haystacks and Runaway Horses

Each section of the country has certain peculiarities of speech or local customs. One of the things a person cannot help noticing as he drives through West Virginia is the way the farmers build their haystacks. For generations they have been putting up their hay in sharply peaked stacks with a pole in the center something like the one pictured below. We asked the teen-age girl to pose in front of this one in order to show how small it was. Each stack, we are told, has about 2 tons of hay in it.



Patricia Nose of Newburg, W. Va., fits into this peaceful hillside scene as if she belonged there. She does. She was on her way from another hayfield to the

past; yet they have been received. Without them, portions of "Our World Mission" would have been curtailed.

Each month \$7,956.00 is needed. Let us give systematically, according as God has prospered us. The Scriptures tell us that a tithe belongs to the Lord.

house hidden behind this older haystack. But things were not as peaceful as they seemed. She had just gone through an experience which might have sent her to the hospital or to the grave.

We had been driving along Highway 50 looking for a picture like this which we could share with the readers from other states. Here was a beautiful sloping meadow beyond a little stream. The haystack would stand out against the sky. We prepared the camera as we started up the hill. The peace was shattered by a team of runaway horses charging down over the brow of the hill straight towards us. Pieces of equipment were flying along behind the frightened horses. Our picture was forgotten. We must try to stop the team before they hurt themselves more. Fortunately it was possible to stop them and quiet them down before the owners came to take them on to the barn.

It was only after we had taken Patricia's picture that we learned that she had been riding the hayrake when the horses ran away. Fortunately she had only bruises to show for the fall she had taken. If she had fallen in front of the rake it would have been far more serious.

Did you ever stop to think that in every peaceful home, either in city or country where there are teen-age young people, there is a possibility of runaway horses? There is boundless energy, great pulling power, and a chance of the finest teamwork with all members of the family working together. But in many homes the balance of safety is uncertain. It takes so little (or so it seems to the adults) to start a runaway. Work stops, energy is lost, and there is bleeding at the heels of the horses where they have hurt themselves. Others also suffer pain.

How can we avoid problems with parents, with police, with community and church standards, and with the better natures within us? Let us remember that we ourselves hold the reins on those horses. We must watch the little things in our lives and not allow them to get big and frightening. It is when we forget — when we forget Christ — that the horses run and we hurt ourselves and others.

Following Our Lord

[Contributed by a Colorado reader]

Jesus Christ is the supreme authority. He is the head; He is the foundation; He is the Rock (Matt. 16: 16-20). Only in Him will we see the future glory of God.

The church is a body made up of born-again believers having Christ as its head, priest, and Saviour. The believers are His humble servants trying to discern what is acceptable to God rather than discerning what is acceptable to men.

Jesus said to His disciples:

My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work. Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth. I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours (John 4: 34-38).

What did these words mean?

Christ definitely did not want His disciples to put off their mission to a future date, explaining in the parable that the accepted time was present. What about His disciples today? Christ's words were for all time. For us, His disciples, it means the same. Now is the accepted time. Jesus' disciples followed the truth because Christ is Truth.

Who are His disciples today who have the whole truth? To these disciples He says today as then: "I sent you to reap whereon you bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours." To reap means to gather, to get as a return. As His disciples we hold the whole truth. But it is not enough just to hold the truth for ourselves. This is the Gospel Truth that must be released to the four corners of the world.

Truth-bearing tracts can be sent directly to ministers of all churches throughout the world — not to their councils because God works through the heart, soul, and mind of the individual. Christ gave this example in choosing the Twelve. To Him the door-keeper opens the door and the sheep hear His voice; and He calls His own sheep by their names and brings them out. And when He has brought out His sheep, He goes before them;

and His own sheep follow Him because they know His voice.

He knows the teachers in the synagogues that will see and follow; the priests who will lay aside their robes and follow; the ministers that love and labor for the Lord who will follow. Others have laboured; the true sheep will follow. Their very admission of blindness, deafness, and hardness will bring out the multitudes of God's people. Christ is not divided. God's people will come out.

God is giver and sustainer of life. "In him we live, move, and have our being." In Him the answer is always yes — not yes and no, but yes. This is why we utter the Amen to the Glory of God.

Mid-Continent Association Announced

A full weekend of services is planned for the Mid-Continent Association when it meets October 5-7 with the North Loup, Neb., Church.

The theme is "... forgetting what lies behind . . . I press on toward the mark . . . of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 3: 13, 14).

Northern Association at White Cloud

On the weekend of October 12, 13, and 14, the churches of the Northern Association are expected to meet with the White Cloud, Mich., Church.

Yearly Meeting at Plainfield

Eastern New York and New Jersey Churches meet for inspiration and fellowship Oct. 12-13, the theme, "Building a Spiritual House." The invitation is to all in the area. Free lodging is of course available to all who send in their names.

Dates for North Central

Word has been received that the third weekend of October has been selected for the fall meeting of the North Central Association, composed of the churches in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. More details will be given later.

Pacific Coast Association

The Los Angeles Church, 4976 North Figueroa Street, is host for the fall meeting to be held October 19-21. Attention is called to the full weekend of meetings rather than just Friday eve and Sabbath.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

MILTON, WIS. — Much of the activity in the Milton Church has centered around Camp Wakonda this summer. We are using our camp, we hope, to increase our interest in the things of God.

In June an auction sale was sponsored by the Eutharsis Class of the Sabbath school for the benefit of the camp fund. It was held on the lawn back of the church. Many articles of furniture and household items from the Dr. L. M. Babcock estate were donated to the sale, and church members contributed many salable items. Approximately \$575 was realized plus some valuable equipment saved for Camp Wakonda.

In July two successful associational camps were held. Pastor Randolph conducted the Junior Camp, assisted by Pastor Kenneth Smith of the Albion and Milton Junction Churches, Calvin Babcock, Emmelyn Burdick, and Laura Sayre. The high-school-age group was directed by Pastor Smith assisted by Pastor Randolph, Calvin Babcock, and Paul and Denise Green. Mrs. Charles Nelson was head cook for both camps.

The Sabbath day services of the July Quarterly Meeting were held at Camp Wakonda with Pastor Smith preaching the morning sermon. The congregation enjoyed a picnic lunch after the service. In the afternoon Dr. Forrest Branch led a discussion on "What Is Going to Happen at Conference."

The church celebrated "Home-coming Sabbath" on August 24, beginning with a vesper and Communion service on Sabbath eve. Pastor Randolph's Sabbath morning subject was "Your Church and You" (Numbers 10: 29). Afternoon talks were given on "Yesterday," "Today," and "Tomorrow" by Prof. D. N. Inglis, Dr. Forrest Branch, and Paul Green, Jr., respectively. A Sabbath snack supper was served at Camp Wakonda by the Young Adults followed by a vesper service and an evening of fun and fellowship.

The Woman's Circle recently enjoyed a travelogue given by Mrs. Jessie Davis who projected pictures of South Amer-

ica taken on an extensive trip made by Dr. and Mrs. Davis and son Milton last spring. On this trip they visited the William O. Whitford family in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Mr. Whitford is a grandson of former Milton College President William C. Whitford and is a representative of General Motors in Sao Paulo. The Davises also visited San Salvador, Puerto Rico, Jamaica, and other places.

Fourteen of our young people went to the Pre-Con Retreat and to Conference. A goodly number of adults also attended Conference.

We have helped celebrate two wedding anniversaries. In July, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Camenga of Beaver Dam held open house at the Leland Skaggs' home in honor of their 25th anniversary. Mrs. Camenga is a daughter of Rev. and Mrs. James L. Skaggs. Mr. and Mrs. Clark Todd held open house in August in the church social rooms celebrating their golden anniversary. — Correspondent.

Deacon Joshua Clark

Joshua Perry Clark, son of Benjamin F. and Emily F. Kenyon Clark, was born in Westerly, R. I., February 3, 1860, and died in New Haven, Conn., August 3, 1956. He and Mrs. Clark, the late Mabel V. (Lanphear) Clark, joined the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church May 1, 1885. He was ordained to the diaconate in that church Sept. 30, 1894, and was elected deacon emeritus at the annual meeting in April, 1956. Deacon Clark's home was in Westerly until, because of advancing age, he went to the home of his daughter Catherine, Mrs. Albert W. Tucker, in New Haven, Conn., where he died. He is survived by the daughter and two granddaughters, all of New Haven.

The funeral service was held at the Harvey W. Buckler Funeral Home, Westerly. Rev. Harold R. Crandall, pastor emeritus, officiated in the absence of the pastor, Rev. Charles H. Bond of the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church. Burial was in River Bend Cemetery.

H. R. C.

"It matters not how long we live, but how." — Philip James Bailey.

Accessions

Ashaway, R. I.

By Baptism:
Miss Lois Burdick
By Profession:
Montford Condon
Norma Condon (Mrs. Montford)

Marriages

Granger - Williams. — Harry Granger, of Cedar Rapids, Neb., and Jeanette Williams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Williams of North Loup, Neb., were united in marriage at the Seventh Day Baptist Church in North Loup, on Sunday, Sept. 16, by Rev. Francis Saunders, pastor of the bride. They will be at home at the Beeville, La., Army Base.

Green - Bond. — At the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Lost Creek, W. Va., on Aug. 21, 1956, Leland S. Green of Milton Junction, Wis., and Dortha Jane Bond of Jane Lew, W. Va., were united in marriage by Rev. Loyal F. Hurley.

Births

Abel. — A daughter, Cheryl Rae, to Howard and Jeaneane (Brennick) Abel of North Loup, on Sept. 12, 1956.

Clement. — A son, Victor Ted, to Mr. and Mrs. Donald Clement of North Loup, Neb., on Sept. 14, 1956.

Obituaries

Brightman. — Gertrude L., daughter of Samuel D. and Mary Murray Bliven, was born March 19, 1872, in Minneapolis, Minn., and died at her home in Pawcatuck, R. I., Sept. 11, 1956.

Mrs. Brightman, wife of the late Walter P. Brightman, had been a resident of Pawcatuck for the past 32 years and was a member of the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church and the Woman's Aid Society.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Bert Shippee of Newington, Conn., and Mrs. Raymond Spargo of Hinckley Hill, R. I.; a son, Frank P. Brightman of Schenectady, N. Y.; three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held September 14 with Rev. Charles H. Bond and Rev. Harold R. Crandall officiating. Interment was in the River Bend Cemetery. C. H. B.

Longfellow. — Nellie M., daughter of Orlando S. and Phebe C. (Geary) Longfellow, was born at Taunton, Mass., Feb. 24, 1872, and died in Cranston, R. I., Aug. 22, 1956.

For many years her home had been in Rockville, R. I., where she was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church. The funeral service was held at the Avery Funeral Home, Hope Valley. Rev. Harold R. Crandall of Rockville

officiated, assisted by the recently arrived pastor of the Rockville Church, Rev. Neal D. Mills. Burial was in Mayflower Hill Cemetery, Taunton, Mass. H. R. C.

Clark. — Deacon Joshua Perry, son of Benjamin F. and Emily Kenyon Clark, was born in Westerly, R. I., Feb. 3, 1860, and died Aug. 3, 1956. See more extended obituary elsewhere. H. R. C.

Shaw. — Nellie R. C., widow of the late Rev. Edwin Ben Shaw and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jay Campbell, was born in Cambridge, Wis., Nov. 6, 1870, and died at Milton, Wis., Sept. 3, 1956.

With the exception of 14 years in the parsonage at Plainfield, N. J., she spent her life at Milton. She was married to Dr. Edwin Shaw July 24, 1895. He retired from the faculty of Milton College in 1944 and died in 1950. Mrs. Shaw was a member of the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church and of the Women's Village Improvement Club.

She is survived by two sons and two daughters: Leland C., Elston E., Mrs. Constance Bingham, and Miss Stephana Shaw, all of Milton; seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Two of her five sisters also survive: Mrs. Edith Greene of Seattle, Wash., and Miss Myra Campbell of Janesville, Wis.

Funeral services were held in the Milton Church, conducted by Rev. Elmo Fitz Randolph. Burial was in the Milton Cemetery. E. F. R.

Rasmussen. — Orville S., son of Christian and Marthea Rasmussen, was born May 10, 1891, in Union Grove, Wis., and died at his home in Boulder, Colo., Aug. 3, 1956.

He married Clarissa Wheeler (daughter of Rev. Samuel R. Wheeler) in 1920. During all their married life he was a member of the Boulder Seventh Day Baptist Church. By trade he was a painter and decorator. Besides his wife, he is survived by a son, Stanley, who is an atomic research scientist at Berkeley, Calif.; two granddaughters; three brothers: Gordon of Salem, Ore.; Chester and Roy of Milton, Wis.; four sisters: Mrs. Ruth Saunders, Misses Irene and Annette Rasmussen, all of Milton, and Mrs. Clara Olson of West Palm Beach, Fla. Farewell services were conducted by his pastor, Rev. David S. Clarke, assisted by Rev. Erlo E. Sutton. Burial was in Green Mountain Cemetery. D. S. C.

Sabbathkeeping churches and promoters of the Sabbath of the Bible can now procure an invaluable historic Chart of the Week, showing the unchanged order of the days of the week and the true position of the Sabbath as proved by the combined testimony of 160 ancient and modern languages. It was prepared by the scholar, Rev. William Mead Jones, D.D., who was pastor of the Seventh Day Baptist Church in London, England. A photostatic copy in 4 parts each measuring 17½ by 22½ inches and suitable for framing may be procured by sending \$10 to Mark Wiley, 5614 So. Morgan St., Chicago, Ill.

The Sabbath Recorder

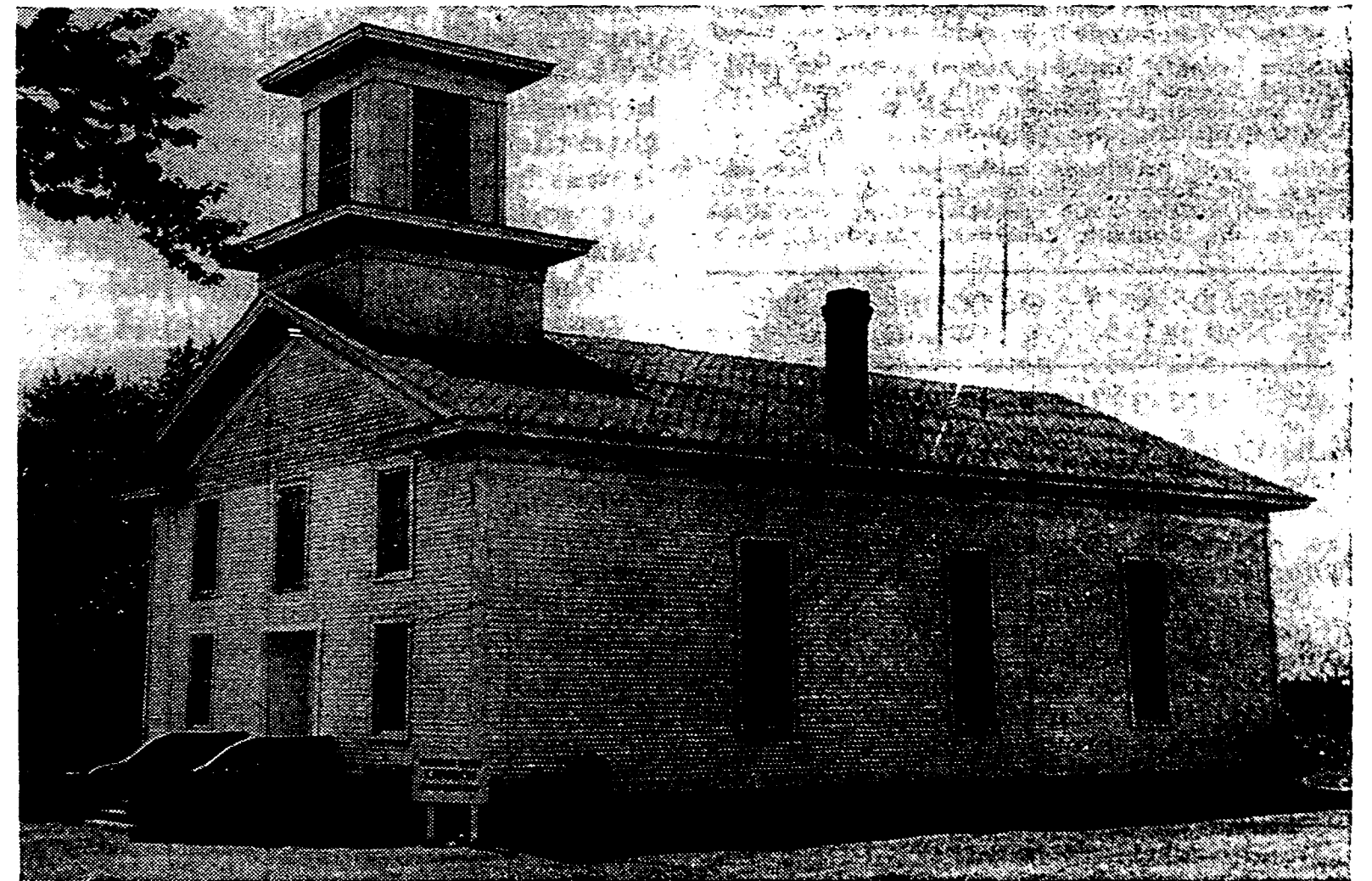


Photo Courtesy of Vandalia Leader

FARINA, ILL., SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH,
featured in Vandalia Leader (see story inside).