

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

ADAMS CENTER, N. Y. — A Vacation Bible School was held in the two churches of our village with 90 enrolled, June 25-July 6. Three of the teachers were from our church: Pastor Cruzan, Mrs. Nellie Barbur, and Mrs. Gerald Greene; and three of our young people were helpers; Diane Avery, Barbara Cruzan, and Rodney Greene. Twelve of our young people later went to Camp Harmony for a week. At least three plan to attend Pre-Con and Conference.

Funeral services for Rev. E. H. Bottoms were held in our church June 6. Mr. Bottoms was well known in this community, having served as our pastor until he was called to take up missionary work. The large attendance and the many floral tributes showed the high esteem in which he was held.

On the evening of June 30 a company of the church people gathered at the parsonage, as a surprise for Pastor and Mrs. Cruzan, the occasion being their twentieth wedding anniversary. Gilbert Horton in behalf of the company presented them with an electric clock and a purse of money. The evening ended with music and community singing.

Our church was pleased that the editor of the Sabbath Recorder was with us June 30 and July 7. (Mr. Maltby was serving his annual two weeks of chaplain duty at Camp Drum.) At Pastor Cruzan's request he preached the first Sabbath he was here on the topic, "What's Ahead for Seventh Day Baptists." On the second Sabbath he assisted with the Communion service.

The Maltby name has had a long association with the Adams Center Church. When the children are up in the front pews of the church listening to the special sermon our pastor has for them, it is not at all unusual to see several sixth-generation Maltbys among them. The editor was born into this church, was baptized and joined it in early youth. Throughout his college years and while in theological school all his vacations were spent back here at Adams Center. When he and Mrs. Maltby were married, it was our pastor at that time, Rev. Loyal F. Hurley, who united them; and when he was ordained into the ministry, that happy

occasion was conducted in the Adams Center Church. Through the intervening years, those early close associations have been as far as possible maintained, and it is always a gladsome occasion to us when "Leon" comes home. — Correspondent.

WHITE CLOUD, MICH. — The first Sabbath day in July was another full day. Communion services were held, followed by a fellowship luncheon. Then the new officers of the Ladies' Aid Society were formally installed with a candlelighting ceremony. Mrs. Orville Babcock read the charge to each officer. The program concluded with the presentation of two one-act plays written by Mrs. Wilkinson, dramatizing the founding of the first Seventh Day Baptist Church in America.

Action was taken by the church to pay our pastor's expense in driving to Conference. We are glad to report that Pastor Babcock has fully recovered from his surgery and has been able to resume his outside work again — preaching in first-day churches in Big Rapids, Big Prairie, Fremont, and Newaygo.

Friends of Nathan Branch will be sorry to learn of the death of Mrs. Branch on July 13. She had been confined to her home for many months.

The Harold Bakker family will soon be moving to Battle Creek, Mich., where Mr. Bakker will join the teaching staff of the Battle Creek school system. — Correspondent.

Births

Burdick. — A son, Bruce Stanley, to Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Burdick of Middletown, Conn., on June 20, 1956.

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



Members of the Commission of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference pictured at Alfred, N. Y., after their week of deliberation. Left to right, back row: Clarence M. Rogers, Salem, W. Va.; Rev. Earl Cruzan, Adams Center, N. Y.; Rev. David S. Clarke, Boulder, Colo.; front row: Albyn Mackintosh, Los Angeles, Calif.; Rev. Charles H. Bond, Westerly, R. I.; and Charles F. Harris, Shiloh, N. J. The same men will serve next year except that Dr. C. LeRoy DeLand of Bellevue, Mich., will replace Mr. Rogers.

The Sabbath Recorder

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Member of the Associated Church Press

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"Wrestling prayer can wonders do;
Bring relief in deepest straits;
Prayer can force a passage through
Iron bars and brazen gates."

— Unknown.

ACTIVITIES PRECEDING CONFERENCE

The one hundred forty-fourth annual session of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference began its six-day meeting with the daily prayer hour at 9 a.m. Tuesday, August 14, in the university town of Alfred, N. Y., with sessions being held mostly in the local church — the only church building in the village.

These columns will report in this and later issues much that was said and done at Alfred, but in our first article we wish to point out some of the activities preceding Conference. There are always special meetings just before the annual gathering of our delegates. This year there were many more than usual. This may have been partly due to holding the Conference in an area and a community where such pre-Conference activities did not present the problems faced last year when the Conference was held in rented facilities a considerable distance from any Seventh Day Baptist church. We must note also that there are more organizations and committees functioning now than there were a year ago.

The Commission of the General Conference, which always faces a more intensive period of deliberation just prior to Conference than at its midyear meeting, found this year no exception. It began its meetings one week ahead at Little Genesee, N. Y., one of the other churches in the closely knit Western (New York) Association. It is reported that this group of six men under the chairmanship of Albyn Mackintosh of Los Angeles spent about fourteen hours each day in business sessions, the only respite being on the Sabbath. They moved to Alfred for the work of the final two days when there were special meetings with other groups. Their report, the longest one ever submitted to Conference, was printed in record time and was made available to all delegates on Tuesday afternoon, the opening day of Conference.

Very important to representative young people from widely scattered areas of the nation was the Pre-Conference Retreat centered on the Alfred University campus, with meetings beginning on Thursday evening and ending Monday evening just prior to the opening of General Conference.

The Ministerial Training Committee, a

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top-level planning group which began to function this year, was also featured in the activities which preceded the Conference session. Its report this year shows progress which may pave the way for a more realistic facing next year of the over-all program of training our future leaders.

On Sunday afternoon, representatives of the boards and agencies joined the Commission in a four-hour consideration of a detailed outline for denominational growth and expansion to be included in the Commission's report.

There will be more about this later.

Again that evening the fifth meeting of the Planning Committee, which Commission and Conference set up last year, was called together to endorse its report on the probationary period of the new churches in Nigeria. This small group of paid secretaries also assigned tasks to be accomplished before the next meeting in October.

On the evening before Conference the financial program contemplated for the denomination in its total world mission was laid before the treasurers and other representatives of the participating boards by members of the Commission.

These were some of the denomination-wide activities in the Alfred community before the president's gavel called the first public meeting to order in the well-filled church auditorium on August 14.

On the more local level there had been tremendous activity also in too many directions to be mentioned here. Well-manned committees, local church trustees, and college personnel had left nothing undone in the months, weeks, and days leading up to the entertainment of the Conference. From the visitor's point of view everything was in order. The church properties were well cleaned and renewed. The exterior of the building glistened with the whiteness of new paint. Homes, dormitories, and camping facilities were ready for the large delegation expected.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for September 8, 1956

The Source of Human Conflicts

James 3: 4-5; 4: 1-12.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Behind the News

Most of us try to evaluate the news we hear, especially when there is reason to believe that it is slanted for propaganda purposes. We believe that some news coming from government sources in our own country is so slanted. To a far greater extent and for purposes far less noble the news from the Soviet Union and satellite countries is, we believe, colored. It needs to be read with some kind of see-through glasses.

Take, for instance, the much-heralded cut in Soviet military forces. We try to understand what is back of it. In our opinion an editorial comment in the religious monthly *Eternity* offers a better explanation than we have seen advanced by any news analyst. The editor states that Russia is simply making propaganda capital out of something that had to be done out of economic necessity. The fact is, he states, that the Russian birth rate dropped sharply during World War II and that next year the number of available 17- and 18-year-olds will begin to drop. By 1959 and 60 it would be impossible for them to keep their military forces up to strength and have enough young men to meet their industrial needs. Thus the necessity for cutting the military forces.

Another little item of news needs evaluating. The Moscow radio reports that a number of ancient cathedrals and churches in the Ural Mountain region are being restored with funds provided by the Soviet Government. We cannot take that at face value even though they name five cathedrals or churches to be restored as "monuments." The Soviet Union claims to be a Communist government. Communism is avowedly atheistic and militantly so. How then can there be any real religious intent in the restoration of these old buildings? And, if church buildings are restored at government expense, does it not make the benefited congregation or the church as a whole largely subservient to the state? A further question might be asked: "Why pick out churches for restoration that are so deep in Soviet territory as to be inaccessible to foreign observers?"

We should not be cynical of the motives of good men, but neither should we be dupes of the devil. To believe in the good intentions of those who would destroy Christianity if they could is neither wise nor Christian.

CONFERENCE AT PRAYER

The organized prayer meetings of Conference this year were an integral part of the program rather than an after-hours activity. Daily prayer meetings were scheduled in the church auditorium at 8 a.m. except on the first day when it was at 9 o'clock and on Sabbath morning when the hour was set at 8:30. There were also some small private gatherings in some of the rooms of the dormitories, but these were the daily half-hour prayer periods.

Those who found themselves too busy with other matters to get in the pews exactly on time for the first prayer session were a bit surprised to find the doors locked to avoid disturbing those engaged in prayer. They learned the lesson quickly and tried to arrive on time on the succeeding mornings. These were times of refreshing and moments of power for those who attended.

In a sense this was a nation-wide prayer meeting, which gave one a different feeling than that of the local church group getting together on a Sabbath eve. On the second morning, for instance, as the faithful caretaker sent the strong tones of the church bell echoing back and forth between the hills of Alfred, people were taking their places from far beyond those hills. The organ inside the church set the spirit of prayer. We look about us to see from whence these good folks come in the early morning and we see around us people from Los Angeles and Riverside, Calif., from Ashaway and Westerly, R. I.; from Shiloh and Plainfield, N. J.; from Denver, Colo., and Nortonville, Kan.; from Philadelphia and Salemville, Pa.; from Adams Center, Alfred, De Ruyter, Schenectady, Verona, and Berlin, N. Y.; from Milton Junction, Wis.; from Washington, D. C.; Lost Creek, W. Va.; Irvington, N. J., and finally, from Jamaica, B. W. I.

On other mornings the representation would be widened. This meeting, under

different leadership each day, was a source of strength. Besides this there were, of course, the many prayers connected with periods of worship, Bible study, and special programs throughout the days and evenings. Unison prayers were used once each day in the morning devotions, some of which may be shared with the readers of the Recorder. Although prayer was not the theme this year as it will be next year it did contribute much to the general tone and success of the meetings.

HIGHWAY HOMICIDE

In a National Safety Council ad prepared for inclusion in daily and weekly papers it is pointed out that in all probability this year's record will show 6000 highway accidents that were not accidents at all. The FBI reports that 15 per cent of all traffic deaths are crimes, not accidents. This highway homicide due to driver negligence ought to be stopped. Automobile drivers have a frightening responsibility. They will be responsible for 40,000 funerals this year.

Although alcohol is responsible for a great many of these crimes it is not responsible for all. Youthful recklessness is accurately measured by insurance statistics, but that does not account for all the trouble. We know that Christian drivers are more conscious of highway courtesy and highway hazards than other drivers, but far too many professing Christians are not as careful about carrying their religion with them on the road as about being able to show a driver's license. It is to our eternal shame that we display so much selfishness in our driving habits when we have repudiated selfishness at our conversion and baptism.

The Bible does not specify safe driving speeds, but from the days of Cain and Abel to the end of Bible history, responsibility for the health, safety, and salvation of our neighbors is pointedly taught. Our contribution to foreign missions does not relieve us of responsibility for those with whom we must share the nation's highways. It is not enough to avoid the traffic courts; we will be summoned before the court of heaven for the deeds done in the body — and in the family car.

WELCOME TO CONFERENCE DELEGATES

By Dr. J. N. Norwood

President Bond, Ladies and Gentlemen, Christian Friends:

President Drake has welcomed you to the university, its campus, its spirit, and its hospitality. His welcome was not just personal; he spoke for many others who welcome you through him. My welcome, too, is a multiple one. I welcome you in the name of this 144-year-old First Alfred Church, the Second Alfred Church at Alfred Station, and other assisting churches, as well as to this Western Association since it also is your host — for all these I speak and for myself.

We welcome you because we are who we are — the members of these churches. This church, in particular, has been the mother of churches; and its members played a leading role in the founding and early development of Alfred University. In that sense it can claim to be the mother of the university. Another reason we are glad to welcome you is that we have been working for you. Through travail of soul and sweat of brow, men and women have created opportunities for you by which this week you may live, eat, sleep, work, visit, meditate, and pray, and in spare moments, if any, even rest. Oh, I know from experience that you prepared excellent arrangements for us when we came to the General Conference in your home churches. We welcome you to these fruits of our labor and trust that the results may be adequate and enjoyable. Any distress you may experience in using them, kindly make known to Dr. Harold O. Burdick, our general chairman, and your unhappiness, I am sure, will be dispelled.

So we welcome you because we are who we are.

By the same token we welcome you because you are who you are — the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference, delegates and friends, our denominational representative body founded even before this church was founded. While I do not wish to belittle you, I do make bold to ask, what, according to strict Baptist polity and tradition, do you as a Con-

ference amount to? By those traditions the local church is a law unto itself recognizing no superior ecclesiastical authority. Hence, all you can do as a Conference is to recommend, advise, and then attempt to persuade our individualistic samples of the otherwise-minded to accept your advice. By that philosophy you can never tell the Alfred, Milton, Westerly, and other churches what to do. No Sir!

Now do I hear murmurs of dissent? "Norwood," they say, "you are too hard on us. You are going too fast and too far." Well, your objections are partly correct. We cannot live by such extreme doctrines.

Two circumstances³ limit the full application of such frozen individualism. The first is the fact that Seventh Day Baptists like other Baptists wish to carry on various joint enterprises which they cannot do as separate churches. You know them — home and foreign missions, a publishing house, tract distribution, a denominational periodical, religious education, evangelization, and others. Therefore, we organize tract and missionary societies, a board of Christian education, a seminary, and the like which require the support and direction of more than one church.

The other circumstance which creates and enhances your power is that these boards and societies need money from many churches. Oh, yes, they have special gifts and endowments of their own, but not enough. The remainder comes from sources you control, i.e., general denominational giving. We all know that anyone who can hand out cash can exercise power.

Hence, the desire for these larger enterprises which require joint action and cash which comes from us all, gives you General Conference delegates the real **entre** into the picture.

The boards, societies, and secretaries survey their corporate projects and state their needs from denominational funds. Then your officers and your Commission spend days and days (until they are in a daze often) examining these plans and requests which have come in, and in the light of their wider field of vision, including all the interests and the available

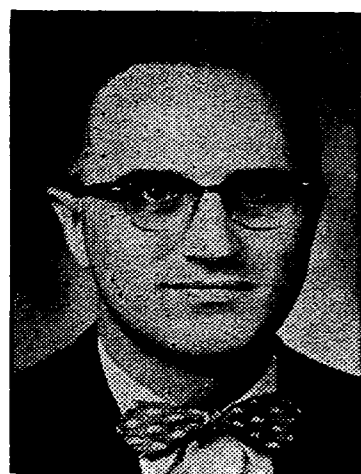
means (that is, the cash they have been able to squeeze out of us church members) recommend to you what should be done. All this comes before you, and you have, maybe not legally but by the circumstances I have mentioned, the ultimate decision. You and your predecessors have been doing that for more than one hundred fifty years, so you must have proved to be of some continuing use.

All this week you will be struggling through these knotty issues. You will come up with **recommendations** to the boards and churches; and for the most part the circumstances described will assure their general acceptance.

So we welcome you because we are who we are — fellow Seventh Day Baptists, friendly and generally well known to each other in this family-type denomination; and glad to be your hosts. We welcome you because you are who you are — our General Conference with plenty of work to do for us. Yes, we welcome you all to our Association, to our communities, to our churches, to our homes, and to our hearts.

BE HAPPY! YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!

Rev. Charles H. Bond, President



As I sat in my study thinking about the message of the Conference president — what I might say that would be most helpful and challenging — I seemed to be in the dark. So it was that I thought about God at the beginning of time as He sat in the darkness looking out upon a mass that was without form and void. I recalled the first words that the Scripture says God uttered: "Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light that it was good" (Gen. 1: 3-4a). He set the sun in the sky to give light by day, the moon to give light by night, and He spattered the heavens with the lesser lights. Now that there

MEMORY TEXT

And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: but I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren. Luke 22: 31-32.

was light in the world, it was possible to bring forth life. And after He had created various forms of life, He created man in His own image. He set man in the world to be a light and a guide — yes, to have dominion over His creation.

But how could He keep His light flowing into the life of man if man did not take time for Him? So it was that He created the Sabbath, a day blessed and sanctified by God, for communion and fellowship.

As time passed, God realized that while He was trying to get into the lives of men they were more interested in the things of the world. What could He do? He determined that He would send His own Son into the world to give spiritual light. Then man could see himself for what he was, and God as the loving Father. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3: 16).

Let me illustrate with a true story which was told some years ago at a Ministerial Association meeting in Wells-ville, N. Y., by Rev. John Amsden of Cuba, N. Y. He said that when he was a boy living in Norway the family's largest source of income was from fishing. Christmas was only two days off so his dad took him and an older brother fishing. When they caught nothing close to shore, they pushed on out into the deep. The hours soon passed. They became very cold, the fog rolled in, and night fell. When they were ready to set their course toward home they could scarcely tell which way to go. They began to row in the direction they believed to be toward shore as they strained their eyes toward the land. Finally they saw a

faint light in the distance and they pulled that much harder on the oars. After reaching land they once more turned toward the light, still unable to see their hands before them. Finally they stumbled in on the porch of a house, and when the door was opened they discovered they were at home. As they warmed by the fireside, the mother told what had gone through the minds of the loved ones who had waited at home for their return. They knew that it was cold, foggy, and dark, but what could they do? There were two things — put a lighted lamp in the attic window, and pray.

As God looked upon man He realized the separation which was there through no fault of His. But what could He do? He could set out a light and pray within Himself that man would see the light and follow it. John puts it like this: "That (Jesus) was the true light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world" (John 3: 9). Jesus burned with the fullness of life to bring the love of a heavenly Father to man.

The greatest and simplest principles of His life He put into words in what we know as "The Sermon on the Mount." Here He teaches the true meaning of happiness, and how happiness can be secured. Jesus, too, realized that if this light were to be kept alive the Sabbath must be revived with its true meaning and significance. "He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day as his custom was," and then pointed out that "the Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath." By His example and teaching He showed that the Sabbath must be observed if the light of God were to be kept burning in the lives of men.

Jesus said, "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me; and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him and will manifest myself to him" (John 14: 21). But because men were slow to comprehend, He was crucified. Jesus assured them that death was not the end for a true follower but the beginning of a new life — "Because I live, ye shall live also" (John 14: 19).

After His resurrection He said: "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing

them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." He who first said, "I am the light of the world" now says, "You are the light of the world."

We are here at Conference because we have seen the Light, and because we want to have a part in the shedding of that Light abroad throughout the world. This we do individually and as a group. As Seventh Day Baptists we have a twofold mission: first we must give Christ to the world and then we must teach men to keep this Light glowing in their lives through the keeping of the Sabbath.

This we have tried to do as a denomination through our various boards and agencies. This work has been supported by what we call our "Denominational Budget." Somehow, I have grown more and more to dislike the word "budget." It is too dead and lifeless. I wish we might change the wording from "Denominational Budget" to "Our World Mission." Let us give to "Our World Mission" and keep before our people the mission which is ours. "We are the light of the world."

Just what is our mission? Look for a moment at the Board of Christian Education. This is to promote the teaching arm of the church. More than 70% of the people who come into our churches come in through the Church School. Our teaching mission is vital. What about the Tract Board? Many people are brought a knowledge of Christ, the true Light, through the printed word. Here is a vital part of "Our World Mission." The work of the Missionary Board speaks for itself. Its mission is at home and abroad, as is the mission of our other boards.

What about the part of our budget that goes to the School of Theology? Certainly we have a mission to prepare young men and women to teach and preach the Gospel. This mission also extends to our affiliations with other denominations. Dr. Torbet said at our Ministers Conference that one of the main

(Continued on page 111)

Introductory Remarks by Secretary E. T. Harris

[On occasion of presenting Missionary Interests at General Conference, on August 15, 1956.]

The presentation of the Gospel message runs the risk, not only of looking ridiculous, which is its glory, but of being ridiculous, which is its disgrace.

As to the presenting of the Gospel looking ridiculous or of missionaries of the Cross actually being laughed at and abused, the answer to this is the same as in the day of the Apostle Paul, who cried, "God forbid that I should glory save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." It did not matter to Paul if he was ridiculed, persecuted, imprisoned, or stoned — just so Christ was lifted up for all men to see in all His purity and goodness. When one's basic motive is to express one's love and devotion to a crucified and risen Lord, then it does not matter greatly if that missionary is held up to scorn. In fact he can glory in it.

But as to the presenting of the Gospel actually being ridiculous, this is quite a different matter. This is its disgrace. Does it ever happen?

When a missionary's life or a missionary board secretary's life does not match his teaching, it opens the way for the presenting of the Gospel to be ridiculed and the cause of the Master to be disgraced. Again when the missionary has not tried to prepare himself to be a missionary or has made no effort to learn the language, customs, background, and traditions of the people he would serve, it may turn out that he will become a laughingstock and his message so irrelevant as to be ridiculous.

It is to keep this from ever happening that the Missionary Board urges the missionary-elect to take special training in an accredited school of missions. It is also urged that any missionary going to a new field be advised by trusted friends among the natives or by older experienced missionaries who can help him make the necessary adjustments, serving the real needs of the people in a way that they can understand.

But again, when the basic motive is love and deep caring for these people it

will not take long for them to know and return that love.

Jesus "touched" the eyes of the blind, "held" the little children in His arms, "touched" the leper as He healed him, and identified Himself with these people. He cared so deeply that He could not stand off in the distance and intone words of wisdom to them. The common people heard Him gladly because He mingled with them and was counted as one of them.

Every means that human intelligence, ingenuity, and devotion can bring to bear is needed to achieve the primary aim of missions — that is to show forth by word and deed the love of God in Christ. It may be difficult at times to communicate this love to the people but love — real love, will always find a way. And sacrificial love will never be ridiculous. It is the glory of our Christian faith — a marvelous thing caught from the Saviour of the World.

Work in Nyasaland

A letter from Rev. David Pearson dated July 26th states they are now having a pastoral training session. He writes, "Beth and Joan are teaching approximately three hours a day (soul-winning). Bettie takes an hour on church history. I utilize the greater part of the morning and have been taking up a study of the Sabbath in detail."

Looking forward to the possibility of purchasing the much-needed new mission car Pastor Pearson states: "Put a deposit on Land Rover this week. They are in demand. Now they will hold one for us when others come in."

Reporting for the quarter, Pastor Pearson gives the following information: Six out-churches have been visited during the quarter requiring eleven days' time. The executive committee of the African Conference has met twice during the quarter, April 1 and June 24. The European staff have prayer meetings on Friday evenings as often as possible. The church program at Armstrong Memorial consists of public meetings Friday at sunset, Sabbath morning when Sabbath School and worship service are held, and Sabbath at sunset. There is a baptismal candidates' study class conducted by Pastor Nathale and assist-

ants; women's meetings Tuesday afternoons in charge of Mrs. Pearson; and men's class Wednesday afternoons in charge of Pastor Pearson. Approximately five village services have been held during the quarter. Slides and filmstrip of American leaders and churches have been shown at three churches.

Plan Commissioning Service

As mentioned previously on mission pages of the Recorder, a Commissioning Service for missionaries-elect, Rev. and Mrs. Leon R. Lawton and Dr. Victor H. Burdick who are to serve in Jamaica and Nyasaland, Africa, respectively, is being planned by the committee appointed by the Missionary Board at its last quarterly meeting, July 22, 1956.

This Commissioning Service will be held in the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church, Sabbath afternoon, September 8, 1956, at 3 p.m. The following program is being arranged.

Opening Worship Service —

Pastor Charles H. Bond in charge

Scripture and Prayer —

Rev. Paul S. Burdick

Presentation of Missionaries-elect —

Secretary E. T. Harris

Statements of Candidates —

Mrs. Leon R. Lawton

Rev. Leon R. Lawton

Dr. Victor H. Burdick

Anthem by the Choir of the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church

Charge to Candidates —

Dr. Edwin Whitford

Charge to Seventh Day Baptists —

Rev. Lester G. Osborn

Consecration Prayer Circle, Benediction — Rev. Harold R. Crandall in charge

The ladies of the board are being asked to have charge of a social hour in the vestry of the church following the Commissioning Service.

A most cordial invitation is extended to all Seventh Day Baptists to attend this service.

It is expected that Rev. Leon R. Lawton will speak at the Sabbath morning service in the Pawcatuck Church on that day.

Evangelistic Plans for 1956-57 Conference Year

The following letter, sent to all churches in our denomination, will inform all Seventh Day Baptists of evangelistic plans for the 1956-57 Conference year:

"Dear Brothers in Christ:

"On June 12, 1956, a letter was sent to all Seventh Day Baptist pastors and ministers carrying an urgent request. They were asked to designate their willingness to bring a series of evangelistic messages sometime during the 1956-57 Conference year if asked to do so by one of our churches and if the home church agreed to release them, providing for the filling of the home pulpit in their absence. Nineteen pastors have designated such willingness.

"The letter to the pastors stated: 'It is our plan to provide our churches with a list of names of those pastors who have designated willingness to serve as evangelists, leaving it to the churches to decide whether or not they want to hold such services and if so to contact from the list one whom they might choose to assist their pastor in such meetings.'

"By following this plan it is hoped that Rev. Loyal Hurley, evangelist on the home field, will be relieved from giving his full schedule of services to the older established churches and will become increasingly available for extension work in the more needy areas where opportunities are open.

"The list of names of those pastors who stated willingness to serve as evangelists is included in this letter. The churches are urged to begin plans for special meetings early in the Conference year.

"Also you are urged to release your pastor for at least one such special series if he is invited and wishes to accept. It is not expected that a pastor should accept more than one such release during the year unless for very special and urgent reasons. His first duty lies with the church which he serves as pastor. However, such a preaching experience will surely strengthen his own evangelistic message and eventually bless the church which releases him for this service to our Lord and Saviour."

The list of pastors as submitted with the foregoing letter is as follows: Pastors

Addison Appel, Clifford Beebe, Charles H. Bond, C. Rex Burdick, Paul S. Burdick, Oscar C. Burdick, Earl Cruzan, Leland Davis, Duane Davis, C. Harmon Dickinson, Robert Lippincott, Paul L. Maxson, Neal D. Mills, Albert N. Rogers, Kenneth E. Smith, Ralph M. Soper, Elmo F. Randolph, Elizabeth F. Randolph, and Alton L. Wheeler.

Let us all work together for the furtherance of Christ's kingdom on the home field.

Notes from the August Meeting of the Women's Board

The report of the Summer Project Committee showed that all requests from churches could not be filled as only one person, Miss Joyce McWilliam, volunteered. She has had a busy schedule assisting in Bible Schools at Palatka, Fla.; Paint Rock, Ala.; Nady, Ark., and in the Southwest Association Camp.



[Miss McWilliam who caught a night train after finishing her work in Arkansas arrived at Alfred in time for the opening of General Conference and told her experiences to the women of the denomination at the Friday luncheon.]

Final plans for Conference were discussed. It was voted to present each pastor's wife at Conference a "corsage" to wear throughout the meetings to identify her so that we may become better acquainted with these important women of our denomination.

It was agreed that the next two Newsletters would be published November 1 and February 1 and be 3-page issues. This change from the regular schedule of three 2-page issues was made because of the expected absence of the editor.

It was voted that we sponsor the hymn and gospel song contest another year as

a Conference project. Winners for this year are expected to be announced at Conference.

The report from Karl Stillman on the receipts from the "Jeep" coin cards showed \$893.01 received by August 6. The board voted to pay any balance to raise the \$1,000 needed for the new car on the Nyasaland mission field.

The new books of children's songs written by Mrs. W. D. Millar are now on hand and their price is set at 25 cents each. We agreed to send a sample copy to each Sabbath School superintendent, in the hope that all children of the denomination may have a chance to use these Bible songs.

It was voted that we again underwrite the course for the wives of our theological students at Alfred. Mrs. Harley Sutton was the teacher last year and it is reported that the students found the course very helpful in their preparation to become ministers' wives.

We also voted to make a gift of \$400 to the Alfred School of Theology to be divided among the wives of Seventh Day Baptist ministerial students attending there the coming school year.

In the interest of helping to raise the Denominational Budget for this year and thereby assist in the total program of the denomination, we voted a \$1,000 contribution to this fund. M. P.

The Light Shines Through Christian Education

Under the above heading, the president of the Board of Christian Education, Wayne Crandall, gave a short opening talk as the board's program began on the first afternoon of Conference. Mrs. A. Burdet Crofoot had charge of the worship service and spoke of ecumenical work camps in Europe.

Miss Alta Van Horn, of the Southwestern Association, had charge of a play. It was in three scenes. Terry Ann Hurley of Salem explained the play and gave the settings. Others in the play were: John Ogden, Sheryl Butts, Cynthia Rogers, all of Alfred; Andrew Kolstead, Alfred Station; Rev. Rex Burdick, Steve Rogers, Esther Hansen, Sarah Jane Rogers, and Marie Hutson, all of Salem,

and Ann Bond, Lost Creek, W. Va. After the play, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Rogers and President and Mrs. Duane Hurley sang an old hymn.

Everett Harris, Jr., gave the history of the board. Eugene Reynolds told how the members of the board are nominated and elected. Dean Albert N. Rogers gave a report on the Finance Committee. Other members are Dr. Ben Crandall, Eugene Reynolds, H. O. Burdick, and Gerald Burdick. David Beebe gave a report for Rev. Melvin Nida on the Higher Education Committee. Others on that committee are: Dean A. J. C. Bond, Rev. Loyal F. Hurley, Dr. and Mrs. Nelson Norwood, and Rev. Hurley S. Warren. Paul Green gave the report of the Youth Committee. Rev. Delmer Van Horn recognized the chairmen of the subcommittees under the Church School Committee. Miss Miriam Shaw is chairman of the Helping Hand Committee, Mrs. Elizabeth Percy of the Sabbath Visitor Committee, and Rev. Duane Davis is editor. Mrs. Madge Sutton is chairman of the Workshop Committee. Miss Onnalee Saunders is chairman of the Junior Quarterly Committee.

Rev. Loyal F. Hurley led in a prayer of dedication for the new secretary of the board, Rev. Rex Zwiebel. Mr. Zwiebel then spoke very briefly as the time allotted had expired. — Conference Crier.

PRE-CON RETREAT

Pre-Con Retreat, 1956, is now a matter of history. For four full days 89 Seventh Day Baptist young people all over the United States participated in class study, worship, committee work, and recreation in the university town of Alfred, N. Y. The parish house was the headquarters for study and dining, while worship and campfire activities were held at Camp Harley, Western Association camp site.

Hearty commendations go to the Youth Committee of the Board of Christian Education, especially to Chairman Paul Green, E. T. Harris, Jr., and Barbara Warren. Others who served faithfully and well on the staff were Denison Barber, Emelyn Burdick, Revs. C. Rex Burdick, Everett T. Harris, Paul Maxson, Victor Skaggs, and Kenneth Van Horn;

David Beebe, Denise Green, Helen Ruth Green, Marilyn Osborn, Mrs. Madge Sutton, Ellen Swinney, Rev. Delmer Van Horn, and Addie Snyder. Secretary Rex E. Zwiebel was the director.

The boys were housed in the Lambdi Chi Fraternity, and the girls stayed in the Theta Gamma and Psi Delta houses. Alfred University property was used by courtesy of Fred Palmer, and chairs were borrowed from the Community Building at Alfred Station. It takes many persons to properly entertain Pre-Con, and this year the co-operation was more than adequate and given in a thoroughly Christian manner. The classes, "Questshops," were: "The Christian Home," taught by Mr. Skaggs; "Using Audio-Visuals," Mr. Burdick; "Right Use of Evangelism," Mr. Harris; "Know Your Bible," Mr. Maxson.

Worship periods were under the direction of Rev. Kenneth Van Horn with music directed by Rev. Delmer Van Horn, and recreation led by Emelyn Burdick.

[A list of the campers will be published later either in these columns or in the Beacon.]

Greetings from Jamaica

Miss Gem Smellie of Jamaica brought greetings from the churches of the island Wednesday afternoon when she was asked to speak extemporaneously to the Conference. Miss Smellie won the friendship of her audience. She is a graduate of the University College of the West Indies in Mona, Jamaica, near Kingston, with a B.A. degree. She will return there this fall with a scholarship to do graduate work. This summer, Gem attended a conference on "Solving International Tensions," sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee at Davidson, N. C.

Miss Smellie says that she has been very much inspired by the devotional and worship services of the Conference though they do not begin as early in the morning as in Jamaica (5:00). She likes the religious character of our Conference business and especially enjoyed the women's program. Gem feels at home among us, perhaps because she already knew a number of the denominational leaders.

COMMISSION OF GENERAL CONFERENCE

The full report of the six-member Commission of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference covering its activities which began with the organizational meeting last August at Fayetteville, Ark., is printed in a 16-page booklet distributed to the delegates at Alfred during the 1956 session of General Conference. Most of our readers are aware that the two principal meetings of this group are held between Christmas and New Years and in August, the week preceding Conference.

Ordinarily the Sabbath Recorder publishes the report in full as soon as possible. For three reasons we are not doing so at this time. First, it is unusually long; second, we have already printed a rather full report of the action taken at the midyear meeting in the issues of January 9 and 23; third, the representatives of nearly all of our churches probably carried home a number of extra copies of the full report in order to put into use the seven steps in the "Program for Denominational Expansion and Growth" (which occupies five pages in the report). Some of these things will be reported in later issues and the whole will be printed in the 1956 Year Book as it was finally adopted by Conference.

We pick up the Commission's report at the point where it begins to review the activities between the midyear and pre-Conference meetings in order that our readers may have a background for the important recommendations which form the heart of the actions recently taken and acted upon by the General Conference. The whole report was considered in detail and through many hours of consultation and deliberation by the large president-appointed Committee on Reference and Counsel. This committee brought in its completed report on the last day of Conference. The relatively insignificant changes recommended by the committee (and adopted) in some of the first six recommendations are incorporated in our printing; the seventh is printed as prepared by Commission and then as adopted by Conference after being rewritten by the committee. We quote:

The latest meeting of Commission was held

at Little Genesee, N. Y., beginning August 7, 1956, with all of Commission members in attendance. Our first concern in this meeting was to review in detail Commission's responsibilities as they have been assigned by General Conference. The obtaining of an executive secretary continues to be one of our major assignments. We appreciate the efficient services of Courtland V. Davis as interim corresponding secretary, and chairman of the Planning Committee.

The report of Rev. Elizabeth F. Randolph who was appointed to represent Seventh Day Baptists at the National Convocation on Immigration and Naturalization, at Washington, D. C., May 20-21, was received. It was noted that she was appointed by that group as a member of their continuing committee.

Clarence M. Rogers reported on attendance at the National Study Conference on the Church and Economic Life, April 12-15, 1956, in Pittsburgh, Pa. K. Duane Hurley and Clifford W. P. Hansen also attended the conference as delegates.

Secretary L. M. Maltby offered to carry on the preparation of material for the budget filmstrip in the process of preparation by A. Burdet Crofoot. Due to the detail of the work, the filmstrip was late in production, but gives a very accurate picture of our total mission as a denomination.

Charles North, who accepted the responsibility of budget promotion with the assistance of Charles Bond and Earl Cruzan, is to be commended for the very thoughtful analysis of both needs and receipts that he has kept before the denomination through the pages of the Sabbath Recorder.

Six bulletin covers have been sent to our churches in the interest of budget promotion. These have been prepared by various boards showing their part of our mission as a denomination.

As this report is being written, the budget is but 62.01% raised. If the program of the denomination for the current fiscal Conference year is to be realized, the budget must be raised in full. Your Commission would lay the burden of stewardship upon your hearts that the vision and service through your boards and agencies be not dimmed by an unrealized budget.

The Auditing Committee reports that the

accounts of the treasurer of the Denominational Budget and of the treasurer of the General Conference have been duly audited by a competent auditor and found correct.

A list of Seventh Day Baptist ministers has been prepared and is available for inspection at this Conference. Permission is requested to make any necessary changes of address occurring between now and the publication of the Year Book.

We are encouraged by the formation of a new Seventh Day Baptist Church at Pasco, Wash., under the sponsorship of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Los Angeles, and would extend to them our fellowship and prayers, and look forward to their recognition as a member church of this Conference next year.

We have received requests from Denmark and New Zealand churches which we are continuing to study and investigate.

The Ministerial Training Committee reported to Commission its work, and the progress made by the School of Theology. The Commission has considered the report including the budget submitted. The Conference president has allotted time in the program for the Ministerial Training Committee to report directly to Conference. Alfred L. Davis was appointed to this committee for a term of five years.

Because of increasing demands upon current giving and denominational funds required for the continuance of the Alfred School of Theology, Commission has suggested to the Ministerial Training Committee that it give consideration to alternative plans for the training of our ministry.

The interim Ministerial Relations Committee reported to Commission that accreditation cards have been mailed to ministers and that correspondence has been carried on with churches and ministers.

The Commission met with the Co-ordinating Council on December 28, 1955, and August 12, 1956. At each of these meetings the report of the Planning Committee has been reviewed and progress has been made in developing the program of expansion and growth. The Commission has brought problems to this council and has found the discussion in this larger body most helpful.

The report of the Co-ordinating Council has been reviewed by Commission and is presented to General Conference in outline form for its

consideration. It is planned to amplify this form for publication during the coming year. In the meantime any questions concerning the use of these plans can be answered by the secretaries of the various participating agencies.

The budget for 1956-57 has been prepared and is submitted to General Conference with the trust that the manner of its presentation this year will be another step in unifying the work of Seventh Day Baptists in their world mission.

The following recommendations are presented to General Conference for its consideration:

1. We recommend that the president of General Conference be authorized to select the chairman and members of the Conference committees prior to the General Conference, subject to revision at Conference.

2. We commend the churches and the denominational agencies which have co-operated with the Ministerial Retirement Plan and recommend to the General Conference that it urge all others to participate fully in this program.

3. We recommend that the Commission solicit from the Associations and churches invitations for the Conference meeting place several years in advance in order to rotate the areas in which Conference meets and to reserve suitable assembly grounds.

4. We recommend that General Conference approve sending representatives to the North American Study Conference (The Nature of the Unity We Seek) of the World Council of Churches being held at Oberlin, Ohio, from September 3-10, 1957, and that the Ecumenical Relations Committee be asked to select these representatives.

5. We commend the Trustees of the General Conference for investing the General Conference permanent funds through the Board of Trustees of the Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund and recommend that this General Conference urge other boards and agencies to consider taking similar action.

6. We commend the Associations which have increased their activity and developed a more forward-looking program during the past year. In particular, we note that some have increased their youth programs, some their home mission activities, some have made more use of our boards and agencies, and some have developed successful workshop programs. We urge con-

tinued development of present programs and further recommend that:

(a) Executive Committees be selected and set up in such a way as to provide a continuity for Association activities.

(b) Standing committees promoting the different phases of our denominational work be elected and the chairman of each be asked to meet with the Executive Committee.

(c) The Executive Committee be asked to meet quarterly so that they may carry on a program of activities throughout the year.

(d) Special emphasis be placed on workshops as a part of Association activities.

(e) Work projects and summer employment projects be considered.

7. Commission has presented to General Conference Our World Mission which includes income from sources classified as current giving. This classification is intended to include undesignated gifts and designated giving for items within the program whether sent to the denominational treasurer or directly to any board or agency. Commission understands that it has been assigned the responsibility of distributing undesignated gifts to the participating boards and agencies. In order to clarify previous Conference actions which have created misunderstandings between Commission and boards and agencies concerning current giving, we recommend that the General Conference give to the Commission explicit direction in regard to our authority in the apportioning of undesignated gifts within Our World Mission, recognizing the unbalance which frequently occurs between stipulated salaries to be met, designated giving, and emergencies.

Reference and Counsel Committee Proposal Regarding Commission Recommendation No. 7

1. We unanimously recommend that General Conference reaffirm, with certain clarifications which follow, its basic action taken in the 1953 session held in Battle Creek, Mich., as contained in the adopted report of the Committee on Christian Education Interests (p. 55 of 1953 Year Book) which reads as follows:

(1) That the Denominational Budget be made to be what it was originally intended to be — a budget which accurately reflects the total needs of our boards and agencies, without extra-budgetary askings, unless specifically authorized by the Commission;

(2) That all of our boards participate in con-

tributed denominational funds only to the extent of budget allotments and be asked to report all direct gifts as part of this amount;

(3) That our people be encouraged to make gifts for special purposes, or to send money directly to the boards, but that our budget policy be flexible enough to allow these gifts to go toward budgetary requirements; and

(4) That any amount received over the total budget allotment by any board be held over as a balance for the following year or used with the approval of the Commission.

This affirms the function of Commission as given in the by-laws of General Conference, Article 8, Sec. 3, sentence 2 (see p. 73, 1954 Year Book) which reads:

This distribution (i.e., of the Denominational Budget) shall be made at the direction of Commission and in accord with the expressed wishes of the donors, respectively, of the funds to be distributed.

2. We recommend that on an approximately quarterly basis the Commission evaluate current giving and current needs in the light of Our World Mission, distributing funds on an equitable basis taking into consideration both undesignated monies and designated gifts.

We would further recommend that the distribution for the first quarter be on the basis of a percentage distribution of undesignated monies according to the participation of each board or agency in our total undesignated budget plus designated gifts, and in succeeding quarters Commission adjust this percentage in the light of the amount of designated gifts received by each board during the preceding quarters of the Conference year.

3. We recommend, in the light of Commission's Recommendation No. 7, that this be the explicit direction of the Conference to the Commission regarding their authority in apportioning undesignated gifts within Our World Mission.

EXPLANATION: It appears that some Sabbath School leaders assume that the Junior Quarterlies are published at Plainfield. We are sorry for the confusion. The July 23 Sabbath Recorder, on the basis of a telephone call received as we went to press, published the "be patient" note from a representative of the Board of Christian Education at Alfred. The Quarterlies are not published or handled here but the Sabbath Recorder promotes their use.

*Rais'ns Budget Promotion Committee

After almost a month, this column reappears on the strength of a renewed request from the Commission to continue until the 1956 fiscal year is completed. Budget figures on the last page show that we are ahead of last year both in amount and percentage of our goal raised — for which we thank God! As it is every year, however, the last mile is perhaps the hardest — so let us not slacken our efforts for a Denominational Budget raised in full this year. If we are to accomplish next year's "Our World Mission" goal, it is imperative to finish 1956 in the black.

We would give special recognition to Farina, Irvington, New York, and Plainfield, who have passed the goal suggested in the July 23 tabulation. Edinburg also has come very close to its goal and many others are making real progress.

Then we would also report rough figures for the Conference Sabbath receipts. Approximately \$1,660 was given a year ago, but this year's total was about \$1,340 at Alfred plus \$1,450 in 19 local churches for a total offering of \$2,800. Perhaps some later column or a report from the treasurer, Olin C. Davis, will give the exact figures, but we are highly encouraged by the present indications.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Continued from page 103)

reasons why the American Baptist Convention belongs to the National Council of Churches is to witness to the importance of the individual, that every man stands as a priest before God. Our witness as Seventh Day Baptists is the same as that of the Baptists but goes one step farther as we bring before man the Sabbath — God's means of keeping contact with the Light. Yes, we have a world mission that is vital. "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

I trust that here at Conference we may catch something of the significance of all

this through the prepared program — worship services, anthems, sermons, Bible studies, reports, etc. And may we begin to live a truly happy life with a desire to share it with the world. May God bless us as we meet here. May He touch our hearts until we become true lights of His.

"Be happy!

You are the light of the world!"

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

CHICAGO, ILL. — Rev. and Mrs. Melvin Nida and children, en route to Denver, Colo., were welcome guests of various members of the Chicago Church the last weekend in June. A lunch was served at the church on Sabbath, June 30, following the worship service. Professor Nida was a former student pastor while attending Theological Seminary in Chicago. It was good to have them with us again.

We had also looked forward to a visit with another former student pastor, who co-pastored for a year and a half with Mr. Nida, Rev. Leon R. Lawton. He and his family had planned a stopover on their way East from Los Angeles. However, due to the severe polio condition in the city, it was deemed best to bypass Chicago.

On July 16, members of the Chicago Women's Society made a trip to Walworth, Wis., where the society has annually been entertained in July at the home of Miss Ethel Butterfield, a member of the society. A luncheon furnished by the Walworth and Chicago women was held in the basement of the church, now owned by the Christian League for the Handicapped. Women of the league were guests. The Chicago society, Mrs. Agnes Post Schertz, president, assumed work for the League for the Handicapped as a project for the coming year.

Miss Ethel Butterfield, advisory project chairman, was in charge of a short program of music following the luncheon in the auditorium of the church. Members of the Chicago society were given the opportunity to visit the Myrtle Lewis room in the Home (formerly the parsonage). Furnishings for the room were donated by Miss Myrtle Lewis, a former member of the Chicago Women's Society. — Correspondent.

The Sabbath Recorder

DENOMINATIONAL BUDGET

Statement of the Treasurer, July 31, 1956

Receipts		Budget	Non-Budget
July	10 mos.	10 mos.	10 mos.
Balance, July 1	\$ 10.44		
Adams Center		\$ 729*	\$ 43
Albion		321	64
Alfred, 1st		2,910	191
Alfred, 2nd		677*	206
Assns., etc.	96.04	574	
Battle Creek	1,081.90	2,645	1,474
Berlin	32.51	453*	
Boulder	38.05	402*	103
Brookfield, 1st	30.00	257*	
Brookfield, 2nd		365*	47
Buffalo		100	
Chicago	80.00	1,212*	100
Daytona Beach	31.65	501	20
Denver		517	155
De Ruyter	80.80	698	60
Dodge Center	92.47	376	60
Edinburg		189*	9
Farina	223.15	624*	
Fouke	6.60	119	
Friendship		152*	
Hammond		49	
Hebron, 1st	37.50	168*	
Hopkinton, 1st	100.85	1,081*	170
Hopkinton, 2nd	200.00	187*	100
Independence	51.00	569	44
Indianapolis	10.00	145	
Individuals	45.00	1,368	1,076
Irvington		500*	
Jackson Center		50*	
Kansas City	40.00	210	
Little Genesee	207.99	483*	
Los Angeles	25.00	768*	178
Los Angeles, Christ's		66*	
Lost Creek	28.80	795	128
Marlboro	323.01	1,682	181
Middle Island	16.50	190*	
Milton		3,772*	667
Milton Junction	113.89	1,251	22
New Auburn		68	
New York City		350*	
North Loup		431	127
Nortonville	202.80	777*	69
Pawcatuck		3,206	264
Piscataway		160	
Plainfield	210.19	4,059*	532
Putnam County		82	3
Richburg	15.00	270*	72
Ritchie	11.50	167*	
Riverside	891.89	2,062	215
Roanoke	15.00	143*	

Rockville	9.73	44	
Salem	75.00	955*	24
Salemville		120	
Schenectady	12.00	248	
Shiloh	399.25	3,054	181
Stonefort		55	
Syracuse		50	
Texarkana		12	10
Twin Cities	32.85	54	
Verona	367.06	1,119*	126
Walworth	36.00	127	
Washington	10.00	138	
Waterford	85.69	363*	115
White Cloud	92.89	663*	67
	\$5,470.00	\$45,960	\$6,912

Note: Totals in columns 2 and 3 are rounded to nearest dollar.

Disbursements

	Budget (Designated & undesignated)	Non-Budget Gifts
Missionary Society	\$1,779.89	\$ 336.19
Tract Society	301.74	
Bd. of Christian Education	533.92	
School of Theology	475.17	
Women's Society	183.30	
Historical Society	80.84	
Ministerial Retirement	624.63	295.38
S. D. B. Building	59.22	
General Conference	645.31	
World Fellowship and Service	15.98	
Memorial Fund		80.00
Balance, July 31	58.43	
	\$4,758.43	\$ 711.57

Comparative Figures

	1956	1955
Receipts in July:		
Budget	\$4,747.99	\$ 5,038.72
Non-budget	711.57	869.14
Receipts in 10 months:		
Budget	45,959.99	38,127.59
Non-budget	6,911.67	10,768.94
Current annual budget	74,113.50	70,750.00
Portion of budget raised to date	62.01%	53.9%

Olin C. Davis, Treasurer.

Verona, N. Y.

* Budget gifts from these churches have exceeded the same period last year.



New President of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference, Charles F. Harris, head of the science department of Bridgeton High School, Bridgeton, N. J. His theme for the new Conference year: "Pray without ceasing — Abound to every good work."

NEXT YEAR'S CONFERENCE

Conference will be in the Milton, Wis., area next August. Charles F. Harris of R.D. 1, Bridgeton, N. J., was elected president, serving this year as first vice-president. The emphasis during the year will be on prayer, his theme, "Pray without ceasing — Abound to every good work."

COMING RECORDER ISSUES

A page of Conference pictures was crowded out this time as well as several good articles, especially one by Dr. Victor Burdick, missionary-elect to Nyasaland. Remember to pray for the Leon Lawton family flying to Jamaica the middle of September.