

The Sabbath Recorder

people and children on all the streets within reach of the public address equipment. Pastor and Mrs. Cox furnish both the musical instruments and the speaking system.

Many have come to know the Lord through these meetings and our fellowship has made many personal contacts through these services. Following the street meetings the Youth for Christ Rally is held in the YWCA. Our members divide up in groups and make visits, holding song services and prayer and Bible studies in the homes of shut-ins and new contacts.

Our fellowship and the Hammond Church were co-hostesses to the Southwestern Association and camp, June 2-9, held in the beautiful Salvation Army Camp between Hammond and New Orleans. The attendance at both was good.

Our young people were invited recently to attend a box social held at the Hammond Church. All seemed to enjoy it. — Correspondent.

Accessions

Berlin, N. Y.

By Baptism:

Nancy Ann Burdick
Charlene Ann Greene
Althea Mae Greene
Sandra Bentley
Howard F. Ellis
Robert C. Ellis
Allen C. Bentley
Maryann Maxson
Norridan Stanley
Mrs. Norridan (Hazel Burdick) Stanley

By Letter:

Mrs. Arlie L. (Irene Brownell) Greene
Mrs. George (Helen Clarke) Burdick

Salespeople Wanted. Men and women interested in selling to their friends the program of Seventh Day Baptists are needed. The Sabbath Recorder is our only denomination-wide weekly periodical through which interest can be developed in the local churches for our nation-wide and world-wide work. You who have the Recorder are the agents upon whom we must depend to extend the circulation of this vital means of communication between denominational leaders and the people. Will you help by sending in names?

Obituaries

Davis. — Mrs. Leola C., daughter of Clarence and Ila Bloss Clarke, was born in Independence, N. Y., Aug. 9, 1885, and died at Battle Creek, Mich., April 9, 1957.

She was married in August, 1905, at Independence, N. Y., to Wilburt Davis who later as a Seventh Day Baptist minister held charges in Farnam, Neb., Gentry, Ark., and Middle Island, W. Va. After a number of years at Marlboro, N. J., they moved to Battle Creek in 1928.

She is survived by her husband; one daughter, Mrs. Donald (Sara) Reams of Adams City, Colo.; two sons: C. Burton, of Flint, Mich., and Arnold A., of Battle Creek; a sister, Mrs. Herbert (Reva) McCaffery of Dansville, N. Y.; a brother, Fred Clarke of St. Petersburg, Fla.; seven grandchildren; and two nieces.

Farewell services were held in Battle Creek with Pastor Leland E. Davis officiating. Interment was at the Memorial Park Cemetery.

L. E. D.

Davis. — Herbert H., son of Wilson S. and Mary M. Davis, was born Feb. 28, 1885, in Shiloh, N. J., and died June 28, 1957, in California.

His early life was spent in Shiloh, moving to San Gabriel, Calif., in later life. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Arah Ford Davis, in 1933, and by his second wife, Marie Hills Davis, in 1955.

He is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Davis Randolph of Palo Alto, Calif., and one grandchild, Mrs. Arah Joan Harris.

The funeral, with Rev. Robert Lippincott in charge, was held in the Shiloh Seventh Day Baptist Church, and interment was in the Shiloh Cemetery.

R. P. L.

Harris. — Winfred R., son of L. Hoover and Kate Holmes Harris, was born Dec. 11, 1882, near Shiloh, N. J., and died June 5, 1957, at Dunedin, Fla.

In March of 1911 he married Nellie Williams of Plainfield, N. J., where they made their home until entering the teaching profession at Salem College, Salem, W. Va. He later moved to Wilson, N. C., where he taught until 1950 and retired because of declining health.

Besides his wife Professor Harris is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Edward Worcester, and 2 grandsons, all of Clearwater, Fla., except the eldest grandson who is serving in the Navy on Long Island.

Burial was in Dunedin Cemetery, Dunedin, Fla. — Martie Harris Hitchner.

Help Wanted: Married man with dairy farming experience. Year-round employment. Eight-room house with 1½ bathrooms, hot and cold running water, and automatic heating system. Contact Edward D. Lawrence, R. D. 1, Bridgeton, N. J. Phone BR 9-2656J12. State wages desired.



Photo from Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, Mass.

The Village Blacksmith

"Under the spreading chestnut tree, the village smithy stands."

Many years have passed since Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote his famous poem. The progress of the years has brought changes to the face of America. The few blacksmith shops which remain keep the forge but have replaced with newer tools many of the items pictured above which are no longer needed. Carpenter shops such as that in which Jesus worked never existed in America, but the Carpenter of Nazareth is needed as much as ever in our society. So, too, our lives need to be set aglow and fashioned anew on the anvil of God's Word.

The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

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

REV. LEON M. MALTBY, Editor

Contributing Editors:

MISSIONS Everett T. Harris, D.D.
WOMEN'S WORK Mrs. Lester Nelson
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION Mrs. LeRoy DeLand
..... Rex E. Zwiebel, B.A., B.D.

Terms of Subscription

Per Year \$3.00 Single Copies 10 cents
Special rates for students, retired Seventh Day
Baptist ministers, and servicemen.

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

Published weekly (except August when it is published bi-weekly) for Seventh Day Baptists by the American Sabbath Tract Society, 510 Watchung Ave., Plainfield, N. J.

Second class mail privileges authorized at Plainfield, New Jersey. The Sabbath Recorder does not necessarily endorse signed articles. All communications should be addressed to the Sabbath Recorder, Plainfield, N. J.

PLAINFIELD, N. J., JULY 22, 1957

Vol. 163, No. 4 Whole No. 5,753

IN THIS ISSUE

Editorials: Who Needs the Gospel?	2
The Church Reaches Out	3
Features: Daily Bible Studies on Prayer at Conference	4
Executive Secretary.—Vocation Workshop ..	5
Pastors Receive Degrees	6
Milton College Ends Year "In the Black".—In the Mountains of Jamaica	7
Prayer and Our World Mission	8
Advance Information About Conference Registration	10
It Took a Miracle	11
Western Association Story	12
Teen Talk	13
Missions: Home Field Work	11
News from the Churches	15
Our World Mission	Back Cover

Who Needs the Gospel?

In the New York Crusade of Billy Graham it is interesting to pick out of that portion of the vast audience the people close at hand who can be presumed to need the Gospel most. A few can be spotted at the beginning of the service. Their general appearance, like the Galileans present at the midnight trial of Jesus, betrays them. For the most part, however, one can only guess which ones have come out of deep need. Some apparently do not recognize their own need until it is pointed out by the evangelist. A study of their faces as the service progresses often strengthens our feeling that these strangers need help. We pray for some of those known to us and we begin to pray for a few of those sitting nearby.

Take the case of the yellow-haired lady dressed in white who sits in a reserved seat one or two rows behind Mrs. Billy Graham. What a contrast in faces. The evangelist's wife sitting there is a picture of serenity and noble purpose. There is sweetness in the smile, high resolve and sincere dedication in the lift of her chin, something of deep penetration in her eyes. To look from her to her husband on the platform one is struck with a rather close resemblance, although the facial contours are not quite the same. These two belong together; they evidently share the great responsibilities which God has thrust upon them. Grace and simple charm seem to be hers without the slightest affectation of dress or manner. A serious-minded girl just looking at her might well say, "I would like to be like her when I grow up."

But the lady on our left is different. She seems unable to sense before the meeting that she is probably the only woman sneaking a smoke. She wears a diamond ring that must have cost nearly \$2,000. Otherwise there is nothing to betoken riches or social position. The white dress is probably expensive. Her face lacks lustre. It is white, almost gray. No smiles lift the corners of her mouth. Perhaps she is alone in more ways than one. Is she the type that would normally be expected to be interested in such a meeting or, having come, to respond to the invitation? Far from it!

What is she thinking as the message draws to its climax? Dr. Graham has been preaching on the value of the soul in the sight of Satan and of God. When the invitation comes it is not easy to judge

JULY 22, 1957

3

whether or not she has been listening with "the ears of her heart" as the preacher often urges his hearers to do. Her eyes are closed, her chin rests on her hand. Five minutes have gone by. She has not moved or flicked an eyelash so far as we can notice. Already the whole front of the auditorium is full of people who have come down like Zacchaeus from their vantage points high above the platform.

Suddenly, quietly, the yellow-haired woman with the dead face picks up her handbag and moves up the steps of the arena to the exit. Christian people are praying and wondering with a little feebleness of faith whether she will go outside when she gets to the main floor or will turn to the stage entrance with the others. The moment of suspense ends. In the front corner almost unobserved appears a woman in a white dress, the one we have been watching for. We feel sure that in the counseling room someone will be able to answer her questions, give her satisfying Scripture promises, and lead her to the particular decision she needs to make.

Another meeting has drawn to a close. Quickly the 19,000 people leave the great, vaulted arena. Hundreds come down to wait on the main floor for the happy reunion with friends and loved ones who will soon be coming up from the counseling room with a new light on their faces.

The average number of recorded decisions per night is nearly 600. Throughout the nation from the Sabbath night televised service, the number of decisions reported by letter averages 2,500 per week, says Mr. Graham. Why are there such numbers? The evangelist does not know; the audience does not know. There is always a question mark as Dr. Graham stops speaking and waits for the spontaneous response. Perhaps the appeal to authority is one of the determining factors. Early in this sermon the statement was made, "People today want to hear the voice of authority. They do not go to church to hear the voice of the preacher, but the voice of the Bible."

One of the interesting statistics given at the close of this particular service was that 1,200 students at Columbia and New York University have come forward during this 8-week campaign, largely as the result of the campus work of those who

are devoting full time to student evangelism within those universities. The results of such evangelism cannot be tabulated until the lives of these young people have cast their influence on the society in which they will live and speak.

The Church Reaches Out

Almost every church has a very good opportunity to reach out and draw unto itself many precious souls. Vacation Bible Schools and camps are a great deal of work. Results may not show for a number of years, but faithful work with children outside the church does bring results. The salvation of unchurched children often leads to the saving or reviving of parents.

Many churches concentrate their Vacation Bible School and youth camp efforts largely on the children of their own families. The concern prompting such an expenditure of money and labor is good and commendable; it looks toward holding the youngsters true to their home and church training. In some cases, no doubt, it is better to have a small school or camp than to put forth the extra effort to extend the enrollment to "outsiders" or to compromise the denominational emphasis by joining a community school. However, we believe that the greatest blessings are given and received by those churches which put forth that extra effort of attempting a large Vacation Bible School or of using the camping program as a means of evangelism as well as a training period for their own youth. Not every church is in a position to do this but with some it is a matter only of catching the vision of a greater outreach.

When we see what others are doing so well it may inspire the rest of us to do better. The Board of Christian Education will doubtless try to compile statistics from all the vacation efforts and draw some conclusions as to the strength and weaknesses of local efforts. We mention only a few.

Battle Creek appears to be a notable example of a church which goes out some distance to a rural area and conducts a branch Vacation Bible School for the children of that area. They have been doing it for a number of years with the satis-

faction of having rendered a real service. Their own school in the city has now reported its attendance statistics. Of the 134 enrolled 43 were from Seventh Day Baptist homes. Of the rest, 49 had a stated church preference and 42 recorded no church connection. It is interesting to see also a list of 28 drivers without whom such an outreach would not have been possible.

At Shiloh, N. J., the local church heads up what is probably the largest Seventh Day Baptist sponsored Bible School in this country. Full statistics are not yet available but an attendance of nearly 200 was expected. It taxed the capacity of the public school building and all other public buildings in the borough. An attempt was made to reach all of the farm children over a wide radius bordering on or including several other communities. The teaching staff required for a large school is not much greater than for a small one. The extra effort in organization brings its rewards. Evangelism is one of the goals of such a school.

Church-operated camps are now within reach geographically of most of the youth of our churches in the United States. Great advances have been made in recent years both in the building of camps and in the promotion of attendance at rented camps. Here again some have greater opportunities than others in making these camps centers of evangelistic outreach. Pacific Pines Camp, 25 miles from Riverside, Calif., is probably the most outstanding example of this emphasis. The boys and girls from Seventh Day Baptist homes are far outnumbered by those from other churches and those who have no church home. Such a situation keeps earnest Christian youth and faculty members constantly "on their toes" to keep the spiritual tone of the camp high and to lead toward the decisions which are prayed for.

Again we would say that vacation time for the children and youth provides an opportunity for the church to reach out and make its efforts really count in evangelism as well as training our own.

MEMORY TEXT

Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. Hebrews 3: 12, 13.

Daily Bible Studies on Prayer at Milton Conference

The morning sessions of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference will close each day with a 30-minute Bible study on prayer conducted by Rev. Paul B. Osborn, according to announcement by Charles F. Harris, president. The young pastor of the Marlboro, N. J., Church is planning topics and texts for use from Tuesday to Sunday as follows:

Tuesday — Praying Ground

"... boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus" (Hebrews 10: 19).

Wednesday — Praying Habits

"After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name (Matthew 6: 9).

Thursday — Praying in the Spirit

"... we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us..." (Romans 8: 26).

Friday — Praying for Others

"Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints" (Ephesians 6: 18).

Sunday — Praying Successfully

"Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months" (James 5: 17).

Be a Budget Booster!

Are you setting aside your dimes and dollars now for your contribution to the Conference collection? Be a budget booster and know the joy of giving generously to Our World Mission!

Executive Secretary

Commission to Meet at Dodge Center

The pre-Conference meeting of the Commission of General Conference will be held at Dodge Center, Minn., beginning Tuesday, August 6, 1957.

Board and Agencies at Milton

Other pre-Conference meetings of board and agency personnel will be held at Milton, Wis., as follows:

Sunday, August 11:

Co-ordinating Council at 1:30 p.m.

Planning Committee at 7:30 p.m.

Commission with Pre-Con Retreat 7:30 p.m.

Monday, August 12:

Commission at 8:00 a.m.

Board and agency treasurers and Commission at 1:30 p.m.

Commission at 7:30 p.m.

The prayers of every Seventh Day Baptist that the Holy Spirit may guide in these meetings and that the hearts and minds of the individuals attending may be attuned to this guidance will surely result in a program for our denomination that will more nearly be within the will of the Heavenly Father.

VOCATION WORKSHOP

Preceding General Conference

The Vocational Committee of Conference under the leadership of Clarence M. Rogers, Salem, W. Va., is now coming forward with plans. It has brought out a new quarterly publication called "VocatioNews," mimeographed on goldenrod stock under a bold letterhead. Its purpose is: "Promoting the expression of Christian faith in daily work." Volume 1, number 1 is of three pages with a registration blank for the pre-Conference workshop attached. It was sent to pastors and church leaders. We quote extensively from "VocatioNews" for reader information and action.

Pre-Conference Workshop

Often delegates to Conference arrive at the Conference city on Monday or even the Sunday before Conference begins. Your Vocational Committee would like to utilize the day before Conference to present to you a program centered about

the areas in which our churches and people may work to improve our Vocational Consciousness.

Our faith and our message will not survive our own time unless we learn to demonstrate and express them in our daily work. The gathering together on the Sabbath day is an inspiring and worshipful experience, but out of such an experience and from our study and devotion, we must also learn how to express and live daily the type of life which is a distinctive witness of the Christian influence in our life.

To help you find ways and means of expressing your faith in daily work, not only by word but by example, the Vocational Committee is asking you to reach Milton, Wisconsin, Monday morning, or before, in order to attend these special sessions.

The committee has planned a program which should be challenging to you, and which should also equip you to return to your job, your church, and your community, better able to interpret your faith by your work.

The Apostle James long ago admonished us to show our faith by our work:

"For as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead."

This is perhaps even more valid today than 2,000 years ago since we now have the time to think and study about our work and its relationship to others. We are not so bound to manual labor from sun-up to sun-down that there is no time for contemplation of life and its roots.

Guidance and Testing Encouraged

Another area of the work of the committee has been to encourage counseling and guidance of our young people. The committee feels that the Pre-Conference Retreat for young people can be effectively used to give increased guidance counseling and testing to those attending. We have asked Mrs. Joseph (Gladys) Vincent and Mrs. Fred (Venita) Zinn, mother and daughter, from the Salem Church, and on the staff of Pre-Conference Retreat, to also co-chairman a section of our workshop on guidance and counseling. To be convinced in some real way of the fact that you can make a Christian contribution to society, if you are happy in your work, is certainly a prime reason for increased

use of guidance materials. Today we are able to provide, from the experience and studies of many professional people in this field, many of the necessary answers which young people need to know in the selection of a career. Your attendance at this workshop will introduce you to many ideas in this area of work.

Workshop Registration

The committee has felt that a registration fee is desirable in order that the program may run smoother and be more effective. This will provide for two (2) meals and the materials which you will receive as a delegate to the workshop. The committee feels that \$2.50 will just cover these costs.

We would certainly like to see one or more persons from every church at the workshop; also some members of the Associational Vocational Committee, and members from former Conference Vocational Committees.

Please send your registration to the chairman of the Vocational Committee:

Clarence M. Rogers
R.F.D. 2
Salem, West Virginia

or to the chairman of the Workshop Program:

Rev. Duane Davis
Lost Creek
West Virginia

You may send your fee in advance. We would prefer it that way, or you may wait until you arrive. It would be fine if each church would agree to assume this cost for its delegates.

Jesus didn't come to help us forget ourselves, to overlook our faults, and cover our lives with a fine veneer of religiosity, or gloss over the ugly facts of our social life with a smooth coating of sweetness and light. He said He came "not to bring peace but a sword," a sword that would prick our consciences and never let us bask in complacency. — David S. Engel.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON for August 3, 1957

Ruth: The Foreigner in the Midst
Lesson Scripture: Ruth 2: 8-13; 4: 13, 17.

Pastors Receive Degrees

By Albert N. Rogers

Donald E. Richards of Berea, W. Va., and Delmer E. Van Horn of Little Genesee, N. Y., received the Bachelor of Divinity degree from Alfred University at the June 10 commencement upon completion of their courses in the School of Theology.

Both men are graduates of Salem College who enrolled at the seminary in the fall of 1953, taking four years for their work there and also carrying pastoral duties.

Mr. Richards grew up in southern California and was active in the Riverside Seventh Day Baptist Church before his entrance into the Armed Services. His Senior thesis dealt with the history of denominational work in California. During his college years he was married to Edna Ruth Randolph of Bristol, W. Va., and they are now the parents of two boys. For the past year and a half Mr. Richards has served in the pastorate of the Ritchie Seventh Day Baptist Church at Berea, also supplying part of the time for the Middle Island Church. While at Alfred he was assistant to the pastor of the First Alfred Church and active in the Board of Christian Education.

Mr. Van Horn was reared at North Loup, Neb., and spent several years in public school teaching and directing school bands. He studied in the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music and at the University of Nebraska as well as at Salem. His wife is the former Rowena Randolph of Salem, and they have five children. Upon his decision to prepare for the ministry he was called to the Little Genesee Seventh Day Baptist Church as pastor. He has also been active in the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education and wrote a series of Junior Quarterly lessons with teachers' manuals for his Senior thesis. Last year he was moderator of the Western Association. He is now under appointment by the Missionary Board for work in British Guiana.

The 1957 commencement at Alfred marked the centennial of the university charter and included the dedication of the new Herrick Memorial Library.

Milton College Ends Year "In the Black"

President Percy L. Dunn of Milton College announces in a letter to the Sabbath Recorder that no "bell-ringing appeal" was necessary this year. The Southern Wisconsin college founded by Seventh Day Baptists succeeded in closing the year without a deficit. The president is concerned, however, with the small percentage of donors, particularly among those who attended Milton but were not graduated. Statistics show that 38% of the graduates contributed to the Alumni Fund but only 8% of former students.

The letter goes on to show the improvement and special maintenance projects that have been carried out during the year. Many of these will be appreciated by Conference delegates in August, since the meetings will be held in the gymnasium and the other buildings on the campus will be used. Among the more noticeable things is the painting of four of the five main buildings. The men's dormitory was completely redecorated and refurnished. Improvements and modernization at Goodrich Hall were also accomplished. Former students will observe that after all these years the driveways to the gym and at the studio have been paved.

President Dunn was quoted in a news clipping as hinting that contributions would total well over \$70,000 for the year 1956-57. This, he added, represents \$36,000 for budget and \$14,500 for restricted purposes — an all-time high in annual gifts.

The total college revenues will exceed \$200,000, while the expenses are estimated at \$196,000, over 60% of which goes for salaries. The excess of income over expenditures will be used to repay monies borrowed from scholarship funds prior to 1953 and for faculty members' expenses at summer school.

Milton College can now address an alumni letter to some 2600 former students, a large number indeed for a small college. The student prospects for next year are reported to be good, substantially ahead of the July 1, 1956, figure.

In the Mountains of Jamaica



Sister E. Smikle

You would not think that this smiling woman is 75 years of age. Pictured here under one of her trees which bear big pods containing cocoa beans, you perhaps would not guess that she is a valuable church leader.

Sister Smikle lives on a little mountain farm which produces navel oranges, grapefruit, coconuts, and other fruits and vegetables. The fence, seen just behind her, we suppose, is for the "long donkey" contributed by the Marlboro, N. J., Church for her missionary use.

She lives very close to one of the oldest Seventh Day Baptist churches on the island (Post Road) but her principal work is as leader of the Lemon Hall Church, some 10 miles distant. On her "long donkey" she crosses a stream 27 times to get to this rather inaccessible church. Sister Smikle also does other Bible work as an employee of the Jamaican Conference.

The people of Jamaica are counting on new leaders to replace the older ones. They look to the students now in preparation and to those who will get some of their training at the new school.

Information about God is no substitute for obedience to God. — Howard Grevenitz.

PRAYER AND OUR WORLD MISSION

Charles F. Harris

President of General Conference

From the time of my acceptance of the presidency of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference for this year I felt that the theme should be about prayer. It was after two months of consideration that I felt that the Lord would be pleased with the Scripture verse "Pray Without Ceasing." It seemed to be incomplete, and as I knew that God wants our bodies as well as our minds the theme, "Pray Without Ceasing," seemed complete with the addition of "Abound to every good work." The promise from God is that He will cause us to abound to every good work.

It seems unusual that it would take so long to select a theme, for three months is quite a time to ponder over a phrase. These theme words mean that if we are right with God, in close contact with Him at all times, we will abound in our work for Him. It means, too, that if we are not able to carry forward our program for Him, we are not right in our relation with Him, or in our prayer life.

True prayer calls us to work with God in answering our own requests. Prayer is the key that unlocks God's blessings to us. All of us need to grow in our prayer life and we should understand why this is true. The Bible is full of promises that God has made to His people. Are we His people? Are we in the right relation to Him to receive His blessings? Do we understand the requirements which He asks?

Billy Graham has written a little booklet about prayer. In the introduction he writes that the early disciples made one supreme request of the Master. Of all the things for which they could ask they requested, "Lord, teach us to pray." In the May issue of *Reader's Digest* Dr. Graham has this to say: "Have a time to pray each day. Make it a habit — vital and necessary as your daily food. Learn to 'Pray Without Ceasing' — that is, live through the day breathing a prayer to God." In another article Dr. Graham wrote these words, "Sin short-circuits the communication system between earth and heaven and your prayers prayed through an evil heart will not even reach God."

Thus we see that our lives should be stable, and in good order, and that our hearts should be right with the Lord, and that prayer should be constant.

We live in prosperous days, and in a wonderful country. Yet the times are uncertain. The news continually is dominated by headlines on atomic warfare, radioactive fallout, clean and dirty bombs, drought, floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, disease, strikes, riots, filibuster, and in South Jersey we now have the Black Magic or Voodoo murder of a 13-year-old boy.

To offset the confusion and strain of living, many bring calm to their lives by the use of tranquilizing drugs, alcohol, and various narcotics. Some substitute sports, gardening, and various hobbies.

God tells us in His Holy Word to cast our cares on Him. When we rely constantly and completely on our Savior, know His saving grace, and have fellowship with Him, we will have the inner peace and joy that is necessary for present-day living. This is the peace that passeth understanding. We cannot explain it, but by faith we can have it.

When we have His abiding presence, then we will pray and we will pray without ceasing.

Prayer has always guided man through perilous times, and no doubt the people of each generation have felt that they were living in the most dangerous times on earth. Great leaders of each generation have lived humbly and unselfishly before God and their fellow men.

Some may ask what the personal prayer life of our people has to do with "Our World Mission." All will agree that a person who has never accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior is not interested in a strong program in the local church nor is he interested in extending the Gospel to others. Our program as a denomination rests firmly and securely on the prayer life of each member in the local church.

The theme of prayer was selected that all of us might realize more fully the power of prayer, and how inadequate we

are in this very important experience in our Christian life.

To properly know the importance of prayer we must study and believe the promises in the Bible. We must have faith to take the word of God and apply its truths to our hearts.

Christ said, "Whatsoever ye ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it." And again He said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you."

Do we give the proper glory to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ? He said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father but by me." Do we believe this? Does this not include our prayers?

In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. . . . And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Do we behold His glory? We know that He is the only begotten of the Father. Is our praying always to His glory? Do we give Him the praise and the glory if our prayers are answered?

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten. . . ." Is this the reason that our Heavenly Father answers our prayers? The many promises in the Bible often reveal this to be the reason. May we learn to give more glory to Christ in all that we do and say!

We need more assurance and confidence in our praying.

"Ye have not because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not because ye ask amiss." How can we ask aright? In the Book of Hebrews we find the position and earthly duty of Christ. In this book the words of Jesus, "I am the way, the truth and the life, no man cometh unto the Father but by me," take on more meaning. Here we find Christ the mediator between God and man. "For God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself."

This Book of Hebrews is the theme book for this year. Many of our churches

have made a new study of the book. The basic sermons at Conference will be taken from some of its truths.

Listen to this: "But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood." "For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us." "Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come to God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." Are all of us taking Christ as our intercessor? (Read Hebrews 4: 14-16.)

When we as a people pray fervently that we might be in the will of our Heavenly Father, that we might glorify our Savior, and when we pray in the power of the Holy Spirit, God will hear and bless us.

We must also learn to pray with humility.

God says in 2 Chronicles 7: 14: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." Notice the arrangement — humility, prayer, repentance. Then God hears, forgives, and heals. And the statement was made to God's people who were called godly.

Does God hear our prayers?

As a denomination we must humble ourselves and pray. We must pray for each other with love and understanding. Many misunderstandings exist within our churches and within our areas of influence. Samuel wrote, "God forbid that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you" (1 Samuel 12: 23). Are we failing in our relation with God and with each other?

Rev. Robert McCracken wrote in the October '56 issue of the *Reader's Digest*: "Prayer is the best arbitrator of all differences, the best promoter of true friendships, and the best cure for envy and jealousy. . . . Pray for your enemies. Pray for those that despitefully use you. . . . Prayer will break down every barrier and will win the lost."

Our reaction should be "Lord, teach us to pray." Dr. McCracken continues,

"Prayer for others not only transforms the disposition but it energizes the will. If your prayer is sincere, it constrains you to action."

Why do we not pray more earnestly? Are we ashamed of our actions? Does sin break the communication line, and are we like Adam who tried to hide from God?

Maybe we should be ashamed but usually we are not. We are not very sensitive in our prayer relations with God. Our ears are quite dull to hear, and we do not try to remove the barrier that is formed when we sin.

Three things cause us to fail in our relation with God, and not be very effective in praying. They are: self, things, and others.

Our hopes, our plans, our security, our every desire must come first. Things — money, clothes, furniture, taxes, food, sports, organizations, societies, clubs, and many other personal things must come first. To have concerns us more than to be. Others — what others think of us, social standing, keeping up with the modern pace, and satisfying the desires and whims of others must come before and above God. We must learn to put first things first. We must take time to be with the Lord in prayer.

Some requirements and attitudes that we must develop are silence, confidence, gratitude, humility, obedience to God's will, and a true spirit of forgiveness. These are sometimes hard to do and if we are too busy, we will not take time to develop these Christian traits.

Prayer is the most potent weapon that Jesus had and He used it very often. In almost any situation or time that we can learn of in Jesus' life on earth, He took the opportunity to pray.

We must learn to be more humble, to take time for prayer, to pray in Christ's name and to His glory, and to pray without ceasing.

Let us learn to rely more completely on God's ability to work out our problems, that He might unite us as a people, and constrain us to do a better work for Him.

Let us resolve to have a richer prayer life, and to know for sure that God hears and answers prayer. May we know Christ

Advance Information About Conference Registration

By Miss Marjorie Burdick, Chairman

The General Conference will be held on the campus of Milton College, Milton, Wis., Tuesday, August 13 — Sunday, August 18. Delegates and visitors will find the information and registration desk in Main Hall. It will be in full operation beginning at 2 p.m. Monday. Room assignments will be made and necessary information given about meals, etc. Mail should be addressed to delegates in care of the S.D.B. General Conference, Milton, Wis. Further announcement will be made about distribution.

Meals: Beginning with the noon meal Tuesday and ending with the evening meal the following Sunday, the last day of Conference, guests will be expected to make their own reservations and pay for their own meals. From Tuesday through Sunday, breakfasts will be served at the College Cafeteria. Lunches at 85c and dinners at \$1.25 will be served by the local churches — places to be announced. Special luncheons and Sabbath noon dinner tickets will be on sale during the week. Prices and places to be announced. (Meals may be obtained in local restaurants, also.)

Housing Facilities Available: Men's Dormitory (men only) 9 single beds; Goodrich Hall (accommodations for 35). Rates: \$3 - \$4 per person for week (bring own bedding if possible). Hotels and motels: several available within a radius of 10 to 12 miles. Write committee for further information. Rates: \$7 - \$12 per couple a day. Reservations requested. Trailers — may be parked at Camp Wakonda about 4 miles from Milton.

The people of the local churches will also entertain as many as possible in their homes.

as our Lord who ever liveth to make intercession for us, and may we find joy and peace in confiding in Him. If we are united in praying, we will be united in purpose and we will be united in our program as a denomination.

May God grant our prayers, in Christ's name, and for His glory, that "Our World Mission" may go forward.

MISSIONS — Sec. Everett T. Harris

Home Field Work

The Rev. Edgar F. Wheeler, missionary pastor at Salemville, Pa., reports having made 59 calls, two radio appearances, and having participated in local graduation exercises during the past quarter.

Pastor Wheeler writes: "Our building addition is virtually completed and was used during Southeastern Association meetings, June 28-30. Evangelistic meetings were held April 19-28 with Rev. Loyal F. Hurley preaching. These meetings were preceded by special emphasis on prayer. The evangelist and pastor spent most of the time between meetings in visitation. I believe results will endure."

The Rev. Marion C. Van Horn, shepherding pastor on the Southwest Field, reports many varied activities during the past quarter. A youth camp has been directed, Southwestern Association attended, a week of Bible School in Fouke and one in Texarkana conducted, a special pastor's class for youth in training for church membership held in Texarkana, besides the regular appointments. He reports having traveled 3,900 miles during the quarter including approximately 780 to the Southwestern Camp and Association. Pastor Van Horn visited Hammond and Metairie, La., in connection with attendance at the Southwestern Association which was held at a camp near Hammond, June 7-9.

Pastor Van Horn closes his report as follows: "We need consecrated men who have time and a burning desire to work their fields for their God. Let's keep the work on its feet by the grace of God."

Keep the Government Out of the Church

Senator Knowland of California said recently relative to federal aid to schools, "I have never seen the Federal Government contribute money without wanting to exercise control." This could be applied also to nearly every case where government aid is sought by churches. We cannot long have separation of church and state if the church sells its freedom from state control for "a mess of pottage" in the form of governmental support from public tax funds.

It Took a Miracle

By Ronnie Avalone, a well-known Bible Conference Soloist

It took a miracle to put the stars in place; It took a miracle to hang the world in space;

But when He saved my soul, cleansed and made me whole,

It took a miracle of love and grace.

The words of this song would have meant nothing to me before the fall of 1953. Little did I know that one day in the wisdom of God He would take me out of a world of secular music and place in my heart the tremendous burden to sing only the praises of God. Truly, nothing short of a miracle could have brought this to pass. What brought about this drastic change? The joy of telling the story of this miracle even transcends the joy of singing the Gospel.

The streets of New York were my playground. My impressions of God were much like the views held by many—a mysterious being, often confined to a building with stained-glass windows, unapproachable without a human mediator. As a youngster I sang in churches. Later, on Broadway and in the Metropolitan Opera Company I sang for the plaudits of men and waited for the day when I would be given proper recognition as a singer. I soaked up the applause and looked for more, but it was a miserable, unending, unsatisfactory search for peace and security.

At the close of World War II, after a hitch in the Army, I found myself back in the world of music, but this time with a partner. God gave me a sweet, understanding wife and we expected to "make beautiful music together," as the saying goes. It wasn't long before the music literally turned sour. We quit singing "for keeps," vowing never to go back. One job after another failed to bring peace or security.

I became a door-to-door salesman, with gadgets and appliances designed to make life easier for the home owner. In the wisdom of God I rang a door bell, and entered a home occupied by a Christian police captain, his wife and two children. On the wall in the living room were two plaques

which read, "Prayer Changes Things" and "Jesus Never Fails," and for two and a half hours I listened as the policeman and his wife quoted from the Bible.

I heard that Christ had paid for my sins on the cross of Calvary; that God loved me, and that by taking Him at His word I might have everlasting life. This certainly seemed strange to me, yet it seemed to ring true. One verse of Scripture impressed me: "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5: 17). Certainly this is what I needed; a fresh start. I went home and told my wife what had happened. The following day we attended the Sunday morning service in the policeman's church.

I returned to their home five days later, during which time this message of hope occupied by mind constantly. I was told that I must either reject Christ or receive Him as my own personal Savior. I was torn between two impulses. One was to condemn the whole thing as foolishness and the other was to believe. Finally I yielded to the voice of God and received the Lord Jesus Christ as my own personal Savior. Three days later my wife, Anita, gave her heart to the Lord. At last we had found peace, but it took a miracle, a real miracle, to bring it to us. Truly, we became "new creatures!"

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest," Jesus said (Matthew 11: 28). "There is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time" (1 Timothy 2: 5, 6).

Our voices are now dedicated to the Lord's service, and as we go about singing God's praises, my heart's desire is that others, like us, might experience the miracle of the new birth. "Jesus . . . said . . . Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3: 3).

Lucrative contracts in the field of secular music no longer hold an attraction for me. Once I sang to impress my audience, but now I sing the Gospel that it might reach the heart of some weary, sin-sick soul with the glorious message that,

"As many as received him [Jesus Christ], to them gave he power to become

the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1: 12).

[The above article may be had in leaflet form my writing to the American Tract Society, 513 West 166th Street, New York 32, N. Y.]

Western Association Story

The Western Association, most compact of the area subdivisions of the denomination, held its annual meeting at the Second Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church in Alfred Station, N. Y., June 15 and 16, using the General Conference theme, "Pray Without Ceasing — Abound to Every Good Work!"

Paul Green, host pastor, presided at the Sabbath morning service and the Rev. Delmer E. Van Horn of Little Genesee gave the sermon entitled "Let's Learn to Pray." The Second Alfred Church choir, under the direction of Fred Palmer, furnished music, and the morning offering was divided between the Association budget and Our World Mission. The following day, in the business session conducted by L. Maurice McCrea of Richburg, moderator of the Association, an added contribution of \$100 was voted to aid the lagging denominational benevolence program.

The previous evening two sessions were held at Little Genesee in the other side of the Association area, signaling the beginning of the Sabbath and offering special programs for youth and adults. The Association Layman's Fellowship had charge of the adult service, while the young people's activities, including a picnic at Little Rock City, were arranged by the Association Youth Committee of which Miss Andrea Reynolds is president. A number of other functions were set up by this committee during the year, including a New Year's weekend retreat at Camp Harley.

On Sabbath afternoon the emphasis was upon practical aspects of church work related to the second part of the theme. Dr. Melvin G. Nida spoke on "Denominational Concerns," and Dean Albert N. Rogers discussed current work of the Alfred University School of Theology. A filmstrip on Christian worship was presented by the Rev. Rex E. Zwiebel, secretary of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education. The male quartet of Second Alfred

Church consisting of Paul Green, Rex E. Zwiebel, Lyle Sutton, and Fred Palmer sang.

A Sunday morning session was included in the program after having been omitted for several years, and the sermon was brought by the Rev. Hurley S. Warren of Alfred. Pastor Doyle K. Zwiebel of Richburg led devotions.

Reports on various phases of the Association activities, including Camp Harley, were considered in the business session held Sunday afternoon. Letters from Conference officers and from the different member churches of the Association were read by Mrs. Fred Pierce, corresponding secretary. A special committee was set up to recommend changes desired in the Association by-laws. These will be considered at the semiannual meeting. The Finance Committee proposed a budget for the coming year which was adopted with a levy of thirty cents per member to be requested from the churches. Of special interest was the report of the Youth Committee read by Paul Green.

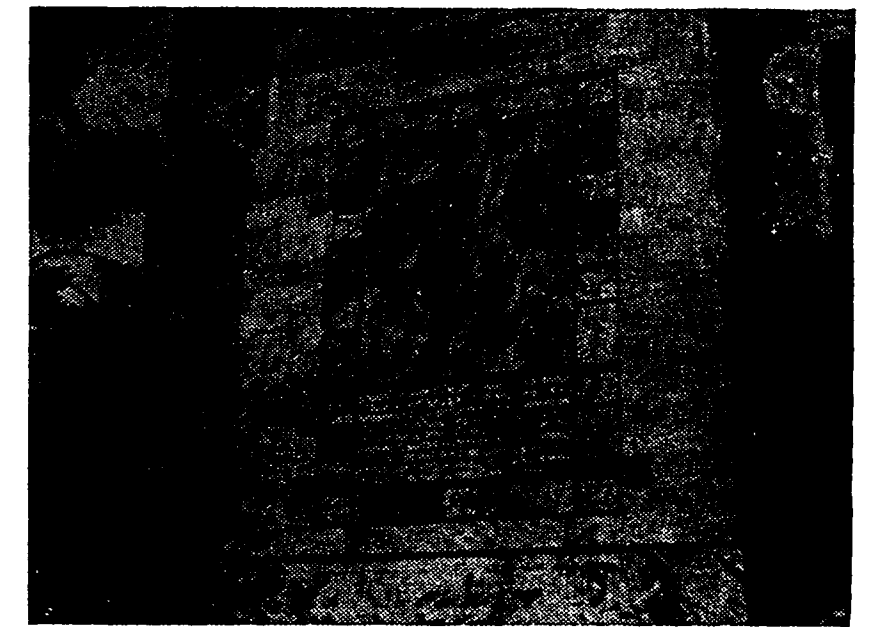
The Rev. Rex E. Zwiebel was elected moderator for the coming year, and in accepting the office asked for sacrificial service in the co-operative program of the Association and General Conference. Don V. Stearns of Hebron was named vice-moderator. Re-elected were Mrs. Fred J. Pierce, corresponding secretary, Mrs. Lynn Langworthy as recording secretary, Mrs. Elmer Cowles as treasurer, and H. O. Burdick, Mark Sanford, and Eugene Burdick as trustees. A vote of thanks was given Mr. McCrea for his efficient leadership, and to the hostesses of the Second Alfred Church who arranged for tureen dinners on Sabbath day and Sunday.

Millions of Bibles

The American Bible Society, in 1956, distributed in the U.S.A. and overseas 1,007,560 Bibles, 1,681,115 New Testaments, and 12,481,383 Gospels and other Portions, a total of 15,170,058 Scriptures. This circulation was in 193 languages and in more than 60 countries. In addition, it sent to the blind 64,832 embossed volumes and Talking Book records.

Teen Talk

Patience and the Sundial



At the base of the Bok Singing Tower in central Florida there is a sundial which is pictured above. When this picture was taken the sun stood almost at high noon. That is why you can't see much of any shadow on the dial. I wish I could tell you more about that tower rising from the highest spot in Florida (which isn't saying much to those who live where they can see or look down from mountains). Perhaps you have visited this tower and the beautiful gardens around it.

I like sundials. I like to read about them in the Bible. You might enjoy the story of the sundial of King Ahaz if you haven't read it recently (Isa. 38: 8). Why not look up the other references too. God was able to make the shadow go back a certain number of degrees — which means that God set back the clock by a miracle involving the sun.

Recently, we went to meet a plane that was traveling east across several time zones. They do it every day — nothing too strange about it. But going against the sun and delayed somewhere along the 3000-mile route it was more than three hours late. At such a time I am not sure that I would like to stand and watch the shadow of a sundial measure off its degrees from hour to hour. It would be a test of patience.

Isn't it true that we have more trouble learning patience than almost any other lesson we are asked to learn in the pro-

cess of education and of growing up? The Bible never said a truer word than when it said somewhere, "Ye have need of patience." We don't want to be patient; we rebel against it even when we know our Lord has a right to expect it of us. Maybe we forget that Jesus expects us to be patient when it is hard. We are painfully aware sometimes that our parents expect us to be. We wish somehow that we could teach our parents to be more patient with our impatience, though we might not express it that way.

I believe that it might be good for all of us to stand by a sundial long enough to see the shadow move. I would suggest that when you do it you have your Bible with you and look up the passages about patience while you are waiting for the shadow to change. Perhaps you would like to have pencil and paper with you to record your thoughts. Make it an alone hour with God.

I hear the motors of a plane. A full 3 hours have gone by while my thoughts have been flitting between Florida and the sundial to California and New York. I don't always learn the lesson of patience as well as this time, but I could, don't you think?

Redemption of Man

One day in the Federal Penitentiary at Atlanta, I asked an inmate to give me a good theological analysis for the redemption of man. He took the Bible from my desk and opened it. He said, "I am a Christian because I have accepted — 'Behold, now is the accepted time.'" He turned to another portion and said, "I am a Christian because I believe — 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. . . .'" Another turn, and he showed me the monumental Scripture, ". . . and as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God. . . ."

He added: "Chaplain, it's just plain A.B.C. — Accept, Believe, Confess."

No university or seminary has ever offered a better analysis. — From **Prison Is My Parish**, The Story of Park Tucker, as told to George Burnham (The Fleming H. Revell Company).

World Must Face Refugee Problem

From Geneva, Switzerland, in the weekly news release of the World Council of Churches comes an account of a meeting in that city in which the continuing refugee problem was laid before the churches of the world.

On Sunday evening, May 26, Protestants gathered in the historic Cathedral of St. Pierre and heard sermons by Dr. W. A. Visser 't Hooft, general secretary of the World Council of Churches, and Dr. Elfan Rees of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs.

Dr. Visser 't Hooft said that according to the Bible the care of the refugee is one of the elementary duties of man and a criterion of the reality of our faith in the living God.

"The question which our nations must face is therefore not can we afford to accept more refugees? Rather, it is can we afford not to accept them? For a denial of human solidarity at this point is a denial of the very basis of these Christian standards which we are called to defend."

There are not many nations which have understood this, Dr. Visser 't Hooft told the congregation. "At the time of a great crisis, such as the Hungarian crisis, our frontiers and our hearts are opened for a time. But we forget so soon. And the victims are those who are waiting for many years in their camps. It is not enough to blame the governments. They can only act if there is among their peoples a great and steady expression of deep concern for the refugees and a willingness to make sacrifices for their sakes."

There's Power in the Printed Page

One of the first acts of Jesus Christ after His ascension to glory was His commissioning of Paul the Apostle to enscripturate His Gospel. Thus, one of the primitive elements of original Christianity has become one of its most potent and permanent forces — the pen of Paul, the TRACT writer! His "Epistles" are incomparable contemporary documents, tracts of the first century that command the 20th century. — American Tract Society.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

RIVERSIDE, CALIF. — The first four Sabbaths of June were devoted to a preaching series from Paul's Letter to the Colossians, the first message being "Put Christ First in All Things." Other messages in the series were: "Sincerity Is Not a Test of Faith," "Set Your Affection on Things Above," and "Continuing in Prayer."

Intensified activity each Sunday by volunteers from our ranks, efficiently headed by camp trustees, Robert Babcock and William Lewis and Mrs. Elmer Maddox, chairman of the Housekeeping Committee, has brought the camp into shape for its opening, June 29. Pastor Francis D. Saunders, of the Los Angeles Church, directed this week-long High School and College Age Camp. We ask God's blessing.

The Good Neighbors sponsored a rummage sale June 3 and 4 to swell the Camp Building Fund and to acquire funds for recreational equipment for the young people.

There was an observance of Children's Day in the Sabbath School Hour on June 8 with Mrs. Elmer Maddox in charge. The regular Sabbath School program had been shortened and the adult classes consolidated under Ben Kolvoord for a mere review of the lesson to give more time for the children. All were benefited by the ringing testimony they gave in song. The youngest members, faces forward, joined each other with hands on shoulders to form a live representation as they marched singing "The Gospel Train." It brought to mind the importance of children in Christ's ministry and made us realize how much their shining faith is still needed in the church today!

Sunday evening, June 9, was devoted to a most enlightening program on Our World Mission, presented by Albyn Mackintosh, member of the Commission, who brought its realities before us quite vividly with slides and up-to-the-minute comments.

The Salem College Alumni Chapter held a picnic meeting in Fairmont Park, the afternoon of June 16.

Sunday morning, June 23, marked the close of our spring series of radio broad-

casts. The "Wayside Chapel Hour" has proved a blessing to many and despite increased "time" costs, we hope to resume broadcasts in the fall.

Pastor Wheeler took part in a meeting of members of the Riverside Ministerial Association, Church Federation, Council of Church Women and U.C.Y.L. on June 26, to lay plans for future co-ordinated witness.

On June 29, prior to participation in the Lord's Supper a special soloist, Miss Cecelia Foulkes, of Mecca, Calif., presented "Think on These Things" with words taken from Philippians 4: 8, to which Miss Foulkes had composed the music.

RICHBURG, N. Y. — From "The Inspirer," a mimeographed news bulletin prepared by the young people of the Richburg and Nile churches, comes word that the church building at Richburg has received one coat of paint and that the parsonage is also growing whiter. The following item about new pews is also an evidence of progress: "The Richburg Pew Committee reports that within the very near future an order for twenty new oak pews will be placed with the Ossil Company of Janesville, Wis. The pews will be finished in a cherry stain and will have low-cut modern ends. The backs and seats will be factory-assembled but the local churchmen plan to add the ends and install them. A pledge of nearly \$2,000 has been made to cover the cost of the new pews. It is hoped that they will be installed by the end of the year."

Church and State in Japan

"The Christian Liaison Committee," which was organized in Japan during World War II as a consultative agency between church and government, is expressing opposition to proposed new regulations which would strengthen the "control" of Japan's government over religious bodies. It would place within the Ministry of Education increased power to incorporate, investigate, and, if desired, dissolve churches and religious agencies. The committee is composed of representatives of the United Church of Christ (a Japan union of most major Protestant churches), the Catholic Church, the Episcopal Church, and the Orthodox Church. — W. W. Reid.

