

# The Sabbath Recorder



**MIGHTY OAK AND HISTORIC CHURCH**

The wonder of passers-by, the mighty oak of Basking Ridge, N. J., shades all the graves in the churchyard of a Presbyterian Church dating back to early colonial times. When the third pastor was buried here in 1749, the great oak with a present circumference of 17 feet and a spread of 126 feet was already more than 200 years old. Some of its great outstretched arms are now supported by iron staffs. People of every church generation rely on the rod and staff which comforts them.

**NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES**

**MARLBORO, N. J.** — At last our dreams are fulfilled — the parsonage has been completed! Paul Buckley landscaped the ground, planting a large number of shrubs and trees. On May 4 there was "open house" from 1 till 5. At 5 o'clock the keys to the new home were presented to our pastor, the Rev. Paul Osborn, and family. Mr. and Mrs. Edwark Cook have purchased the former parsonage.

Joint Communion with Shiloh was held at Marlboro on April 12 with the Rev. Elizabeth Randolph and Pastor Osborn in charge. It was a full house.

Family Day brought the dedication service of three babies, the parents of whom were Mr. and Mrs. Hartley Hiles, Deacon and Mrs. Fred Ayars, and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Cook, Jr.

Sabbath Rally Day was observed with Carlton Wilson of Philadelphia officiating. Pastor Osborn preached in Plainfield on that day.

On May 13, a mother and daughter banquet was held in the church basement with a large attendance. Mrs. David Sheppard was hostess and the men served. This was followed by slides of India shown by Lester Brown, of Cedarville, who had spent eight months in that land.

On Tuesday afternoon, May 20, the W.C.T.U. held a White Ribbon Recruit service led by Mrs. Paul Osborn. There were five babies dedicated, each one being given a rose. Several young people had previously written their signatures as "proud signers to abstain."

We had a Mission Week observance the 4th weekend of May with Miss Joan Clement giving the children's and adult messages Sabbath morning. It was touching to know that the people in foreign lands pray for us as we pray for them. Her address was certainly a challenge.

— Correspondent.

**MILTON JUNCTION, WIS.** — Our Ladies' Aid Society entertained the local "Council of Church Women" at its annual May breakfast on May 2. The theme of the meeting, "A Place to Live," was very interestingly portrayed by the table decorations. Tray arrangements were made illustrating the shacks and the better homes with a little church between. Lamp posts

on strips of green marked the streets with the slogan "Fellowship Lives Here." Seven women from the Milton-Milton Junction Protestant churches made comments on the life in ghettos, in slums, and in migrant camps and what is being done and can be done to improve conditions. A sextette of girls from the Milton Junction grade school provided music during the breakfast which was attended by about seventy local women. — Correspondent.

**BEREA, W. VA.,** — The work of the Lord is continuing here in the Ritchie Church. We are happy to share some of the experiences that have been ours during the past weeks.

On April 11-27 our church and community were richly blessed through the preaching of Evangelist Loyal F. Hurley. Mr. Hurley did not feel well but God continued to grant physical strength to continue the meetings. Attendance was fair most of the time, especially considering weather and road conditions. God knows just how much good was accomplished through decisions made. We are grateful to God for having permitted the Hurleys to come to Berea.

Another high-water mark within the life of the church was the ordination of Pastor Donald E. Richards. The Semi-Annual Meeting of the West Virginia Churches convened at the Ritchie Church on May 3. Delegates from other churches and denominational agencies were in attendance. Attendance Sabbath morning was around 250. This occasion was a time of rejoicing on the part of the local congregation, the Middle Island Church, and the pastor. The one regret lay in the fact that the time soon passed and there was so little opportunity for renewing acquaintances and forming new ones.

Plans are again being made for the annual Daily Vacation Bible School to be held in the church from June 16-26. Pastor Richards is director this year. Other special features of the summer's activities include the Southeastern Association meeting at Lost Creek, June 27-29, and Camp Joy from June 30 to July 6.

**Plan to attend General Conference  
COVINA, CALIFORNIA, August 11-16**

# The Sabbath Recorder

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

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## Christian Youth in a Church-Related College

Most of our colleges have now concluded another academic year and have sent forth members of a new graduating class to find their places of service. It is a good time to take stock of these graduates and to determine whether or not our own Seventh Day Baptist students measured up to what the college, the community, and the home church might reasonably expect of them. Did they maintain the deep Christian convictions which they apparently had when they determined to study in a denominationally sponsored college rather than a state university?

Where can we gather such information? To be absolutely accurate and fair to all concerned one would have to make a rather complete survey and check the depth of Christian experience before and after the college course. There are no facilities for that at our command. Neither is there space for numerous case histories. The other procedure open to us is to scan the hometown papers or consult the college records.

With no desire to give undue honor to any single college or individual we would like to quote a portion of a picture article in the *Westerly* (R. I.) *Sun* which tells of the teaching position at Hope Valley recently accepted by a Salem College (W. Va.) graduate, Marcia Madsen, a *Westerly* girl.

Before going to West Virginia to enroll in the church-related college, Miss Madsen studied at the state university. Some of our readers will recall that she also attended a session of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference, where she dedicated her life to Christian service. It was with that background of conviction that she approached her college life at Salem. Her hometown paper tells the story of some of her activities. We repeat it here as a challenge to the high school graduates who are thinking about service opportunities as well as other things in selecting the next institution of learning to attend:

"While at Salem College, Marcia was editor of the 'Green and White,' the bi-weekly school newspaper, active in the YMCA, Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship, band, and choir. She was also active

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in church affairs, representing Salem at other Seventh Day Baptist churches in Washington, D. C., Salemville, Pa., and Berea, W. Va.

"Miss Madsen was chosen to represent the college at a Student Christian Movement conference held in the southern part of the state in her junior year. She was also a leader of the Girl Scout troop in Salem, which was awarded first place as most distinguished unit out of the 17 troops of Harrison County Council on a week-end camping trip."

## Presbyterian Merger

Two more Protestant denominations have united, the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. and the United Presbyterian in North America. The merger between the "Northern" Presbyterians and the denomination known as United Presbyterians was completed at Pittsburgh, Pa., where the two bodies met at the end of May. Many had hoped that the "Southern" denomination would also join the new church but the obstacles were too great. The Presbyterian Church in the U. S. did not join the union. The name chosen for the merged churches is United Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.

Looking on from the outside we are tempted to ask why they did not get together long ago. If they are Presbyterians, could there be any reason for not getting together into one big denomination? Well, the great majority in both organizations have come to feel that way after many years of separate existence. There were some qualms on the part of the smaller United Presbyterian group — a feeling that they were giving up something even though they contributed the name to the union. Similar denominations over a long period are likely to commit themselves to doctrinal or social standards which would not be entirely endorsed by both. It is probable that doctrinal distinctions more than the segregation issue kept the Southern Presbyterians from coming into the merger.

If someone should ask if it is not time for the many Baptist divisions to be wiped out, many of us, being perhaps more familiar with the situation, would respond

that certainly some should be able to get together but that others are separated by beliefs, customs, and points of emphasis which would preclude organic union. We can point with some pride to the high-level cooperation of all the Baptists of the world but we are equally sure that it would be impossible for the Baptists who differ on the day of rest and worship to unite locally. There are principles at stake which our Baptist heritage of church government would impell us to respect and maintain.

Our conclusion ought to be a little more thoughtful than merely saying that church union is fine for the other fellows whose problems we do not know. It may be that some of the things we consider to be Baptist are not as distinctive as the other things which separate certain denominations. There are a good many groups which practice immersion but do not call themselves Baptists. We feel that there are also some sharp distinctions between some Sabbathkeeping groups, although others appear to have little of doctrinal importance to hold them apart.

## Mental Health Problem

The doorbell rang. A close neighbor was doing her bit in soliciting money to expand the mental health program in the state. Our hearts go out to those suffering ill health due to mental causes. We had supported the program in a small way in previous years, had given the matter some study, and had cooperated to some extent in providing services and entertainment for young folks in a nearby institution. This year we declined to contribute. Why?

It happened that an article had just come to our attention which was very disturbing. This article in a reputable magazine had pointed out the attitude of a number of national and international leaders in the field of mental hygiene toward the basic concepts of Christianity in relation to mental health. Dr. G. B. Chisholm has risen to the highest position and is now president of the World Federation for Mental Health. He maintains, and has long maintained according to reports, that peace, security, and opportunity can-



to extend the friendly hand all over the world, giving where there is need and asking nothing in return. Our government has given billions in foreign aid but most of it was military aid, and too much was demanded as a price for our aid. More than half of the world is hungry all the time and they cannot eat military weapons nor use them to raise crops. They do not appreciate American support of the dictators who oppress them.

The white man will not always be lord of the earth. The next century will see the colored races coming into power and they will far outnumber the white people. Will they rule the world by force and violence as we have done, or shall we teach them before it is too late the moral law of kindness, good will, and justice that stems from love for God and love for fellow men?

In the name of the millions of young men whose lives were sacrificed in war let us here, today, dedicate ourselves to the way of righteousness and peace, the way taught by Jesus Christ. And may God grant to our nation the privilege of leading the world in that way.

### Southeastern Association Plans

One of the best attended of the nine Associations is the Southeastern, meeting this year with the Lost Creek, W. Va., Seventh Day Baptist Church from June 27 to 29.

The moderator, Carroll Bond, and the Program Committee have arranged an interesting series of meetings around the theme, "Laborers with God." Visiting ministers from other Associations expected to be present are Neal D. Mills from the Eastern and Charles Swing from the Central New York. Mr. Swing will bring the opening message on Sabbath eve — a candlelight service to be followed by Communion.

Mrs. R. T. Fetherston, executive secretary of the denomination, is scheduled to challenge the delegates at the Sabbath morning worship hour.

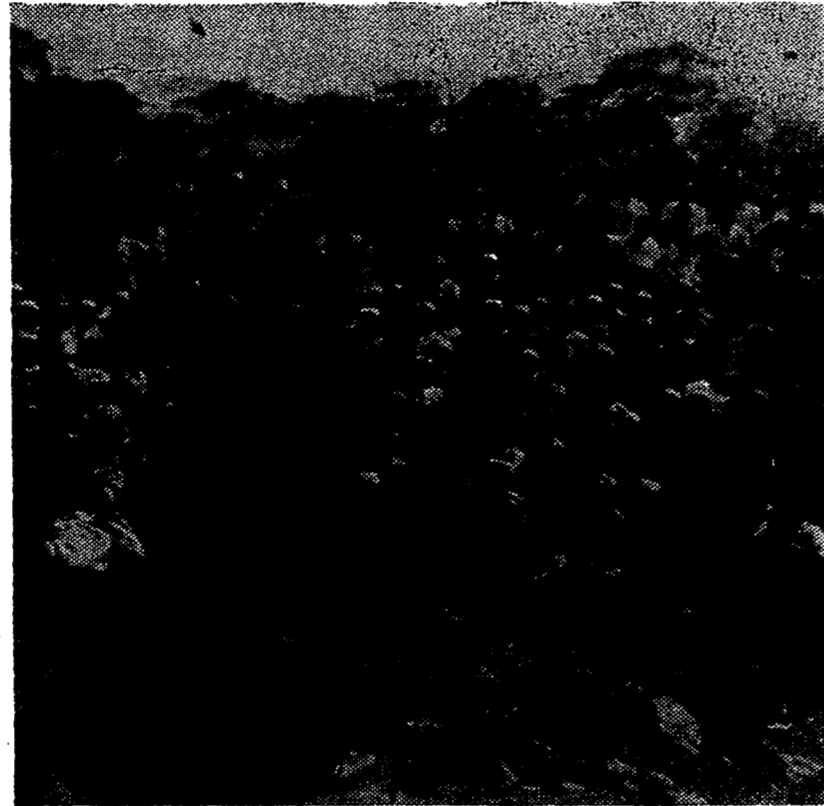
In the afternoon, deacons for the Lost Creek Church will be ordained, and the Rev. Neal D. Mills of Rockville, R. I., will later conduct a workshop on stewardship.

MISSIONS — Sec. Everett T. Harris

### Evangelistic Effort at Bali Hill, Nyasaland

(A unique description of a typical evangelistic effort, as prepared by Dr. Victor Burdick.)

Bali Hill, in Chief Mbiza's area, has our largest church and one of our village schools. By foot, over the hills, it is eight miles from our Seventh Day Baptist Mission at Makapwa, Nyasaland; by road, almost around a complete circle, it is thirty-five miles.



350 Attend Sabbath Service

Tuesday afternoon, April 8, Witness Mankhanamba (former Bali Hill pastor, now mission pastor), Foster (preacher, new wood-working teacher at Makapwa School), Damson (preacher, and recent Sabbath convert), my cook, and I drove to Bali Hill for a four-day evangelistic effort.

We arrived at Pastor Kanyenya's house later in the evening than expected and were told that most of the Christians had given up and gone home. But out of the darkness across the little valley between parsonage and church, came the ringing notes, "When the roll is called up yonder. . . ." When so much of what comes out of the night is the irregular beat of drums, the coarse laughter and shouts of the dance, or the wailing of mourners, this was refreshing.

Over at the church, a handful of patient

members and curious children greeted us warmly and went back to singing. To set the theme for the effort we talked briefly on the fruits of the spirit enclosing the seeds of the Word — emphasis on Joy.

A full moon just risen lit our path back to the pastor's house; darkness withdrew in the west; Big Dipper's stars pointed faithfully below the horizon where the North Star always is; the four-starred Southern Cross stood erect. "For ever since the creation of the world, His invisible characteristics — His eternal power and divine nature — have been made intelligible and clearly visible by His works."

Dawn, Wednesday, left a light fog. Out of the obliterated distance and the half-sleep of 6:00 a.m., the cocks' crowing sounded for all the world like fog-horns off the Waterford, Conn., coast on a misty morning. The mental fog was lifted abruptly with Daniel's cheery, "Moni, Sir."

"Moni, Fathers. How are you?"

"I have life; and you?"

"I have slept well, a bit, thank you."

"Hot water's ready."

Soon the outside fog had lifted, too, enough to reveal distant Mlanje Mountain beyond the maize fields "white unto harvest."

Our first village visit was to pay a courtesy call on Chief Mbiza. After exchanging greetings, we asked about his heart.

"Well, thank you, when sitting. But when walking, no, it runs too fast."

His new-found Christianity added radiance to his usual friendliness. We closed our visit with a short service.

"We'll be back again Sabbath morning to take you to church."

"Zikomo."

Although this is a busy season of the year with maize harvesting, the people responded well in coming to our village and church meetings. Even for the evening meetings, about which we had had misgivings, there were about 100 each night. It was impressive to see lanterns appearing one by one in the darkness of early evening, wending their way along footpaths, and gathering at the church. Generally, the people of Mbiza's area are above

average in ambition, income, and enthusiasm for spiritual things. Chief Mbiza, even before becoming a Christian, showed much interest in the church and mission school efforts in his area. Several of his sub-chiefs are Christians, some being members of our church.

We went out in two groups each afternoon for three days to the neighboring villages. Most village leaders knew before that we were coming. One, particularly, did not. We found only the sub-chief's mother. But within fifteen minutes she had rounded up about 50 villagers. Her two sons — both young and husky — are Christians. The older one would have been sub-chief (which carries a lot of honor), but because of much travel as a businessman, he had "abdicated" in favor of his younger, farmer brother.

At this village, Pastor Mankhanamba gave a short object lesson using a broken chair, showing the uselessness of self-reformation. One boy made a decision for Christ at that time. Another, a niece of this sub-chief, was present and came the next day, Sabbath, wanting to repent of backsliding. She had been baptized some time before, but since her fiance in South Africa objected to her joining our church, she left. But on his return from South Africa he had broken the engagement anyway. Now she wanted to repent and come back.

On Sabbath morning we kept our promise to Chief Mbiza and brought him to Sabbath School and church. About 350 people attended. Fifteen responded to an altar call — two backsliders, and thirteen new converts. Since then, Pastor Kanyenya has told us that seven more joined his Baptismal Class. After one village meeting Sabbath afternoon, and an evening service at the church, we drove back to Makapwa.

### Change of Address

Mention was made on the editorial page of the June 9 issue of Mrs. Rolland Maxson, the denominational press representative. The family has now moved from Edgerton to Milton, Wis. Mrs. Maxson edits the "Sabbath Candle" for the North Central Association.

## Second Alfred Centennial of Church Building

By Rex E. Zwiebel

The One Hundredth Anniversary of the present church building of the Second Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church, Alfred Station, N. Y., was gloriously celebrated May 30 and 31. The celebration began with a covenant meeting on the eve of the Sabbath under the leadership of Dean A. N. Rogers, chairman of the Centennial Committee. After the singing of many Gospel songs that grandpa and grandma used to sing and two numbers by a local Gospel quartet, the leader read the names of the pastors who had served the church during the past 75 years, and gave those who had come into the church during the pastorate of each an opportunity to testify.

Pastor Paul Green presided at the morning worship, and the message was brought by the Rev. Elmo F. Randolph, pastor of the Milton, Wis., Seventh Day Baptist Church, who is one of the two living ex-pastors of the Second Alfred Church; Dean Rogers being the other. Worship in music was presented by the Junior Choir and a 26-voice senior choir. About 330 worshippers participated.

Those who had been members of the church for 50 or more years were honored in a special ceremony by the Youth Fellowship during the morning service. A rosebud was presented to each. The names follow:

Melvin H. Green (71 years); Ella Pierce Clark (66 years); Edson F. Pierce, Gertrude Green Stillman, Maude Greene Turner (65 years); Charles Austin, Dessie Cooper Place (64 years); Fred J. Pierce, Arlene Vincent Shaw (60 years); Ivanna Ormsby Lewis (59 years); Nettie West Brague (58 years); William Witter (57 years); Bertha Pierce Palmiter, Earl L. Palmiter, William P. Woodruff, Hazel Palmiter Trim, Nina Palmiter Ells (54 years); Mae Sherman Whitford, Ellen Sherman Raish, Lelia Saunders Pierce, Mary Moland Palmer, Harry Austin, Ira L. Pierce, Bertha Austin Burdick, Mabel Ormsby Stuart (53 years); Milo Davis, Lois Clarke Hadsell, Edna Pierce Lewis (50 years).

The afternoon service consisted of a historical program beginning with a roll call of all members. Messages were sent by those who could not be in attendance to answer when their names were called.

"The Lord's Prayer" was sung by Eugene Van Horn, son of the Rev. Edgar D. Van Horn who had served two times as pastor of the church. Another son of Mr. Van Horn's, Donald, presided during the afternoon. A historical sketch concerning the erecting and remodeling of the church was presented by the church historian, Mrs. Bertha Burdick. A special recognition ceremony was conducted in honor of the choristers, organists, sextons, and trustees. An address, "A Forward Look," was given by Pastor Green, and the benediction was pronounced by the Rev. Hurley S. Warren.

### Favorable Comment

The May special issue of the *Sabbath Recorder* evoked a good deal of favorable comment which came back directly or indirectly to the Recorder office — even as the February issue did. One person spoke of it as being something like attending Conference, because there were so many good messages in the magazine from a number of the speakers one gets to know at our denominational gatherings.

There was general agreement that it was quite attractive in design and arrangement and that it was filled with good solid material that could well be distributed widely. Those who have learned the thrill of using literature as a means of personal evangelism were enthusiastic about this attractive additional piece which had variety enough to be suitable in almost any situation where people were facing problems or needing help.

The managing editor handed out most of his copies to young men in uniform who were interested in Protestant literature. He had hoped to have an extra supply to take to summer camp but, like others who awoke too late to the fact that this special issue might not continue to be available, he has had to give up that idea.

The subscription department informs us that only a few more small orders can be filled; the supply is almost exhausted. We now regret that we did not print more. Some who thought they had remembered to send in their orders for 100 or more copies did not receive them. When they saw

what value it could be in turning people to Christ and the Sabbath, they were quick to inquire. We fear that some may not have given the distribution of this issue the attention it deserved. If there are copies still available at your church, it is suggested that you use them wisely for the glory of God.

Another special issue is now in preparation and will be available early in August. The publishing house would like to have the orders early in July in order to determine how many to print. Why not tell your pastor right now how many you would like. Don't wait for church action but channel your order through the church in order to get the reduced rate of \$8.50 per hundred — unless you want to give the Recorder the extra revenue at ten copies for a dollar. The editor of the August issue is the Rev. Victor W. Skaggs. Consolidated or individual orders should be sent to the Sabbath Recorder, P.O. Box 868, Plainfield, N. J. — Managing editor.

### CONFERENCE PUBLICITY

#### It Is Time to Register

Have you registered yet for General Conference? Mrs. Albyn Mackintosh, 4376 York Blvd., Los Angeles 41, Calif., is the chairman of registration and would appreciate knowing if you are planning to come.

There is plenty of room for everyone, whether you would like a room, or would like to bring a tent or trailer for your family.

We would like to remind you that your lodging will cost \$5; your registration fee will be \$1.50; meals for six days will cost \$17.10. You may rent the space for a trailer or tent for \$5 per unit. Inquiry is being made by the Housing Committee concerning motels, if this would be your preference. Please let us know.

We wish to extend a cordial welcome to all of you. — Mrs. Elizabeth Bonham, for the Publicity Committee.

"The segregation of our schools must go, not just because the Supreme Court has said so; it must go because it is an ugly manifestation of the greatest evil in American life today." — Sen. Clifford P. Case (R.—N. J.).

WOMEN'S WORK — Arabeth DeLand

### Looking Ahead to Women's Activities at General Conference

Instead of the usual Women's Board program for the General Conference session this year, we are planning a workshop Wednesday afternoon for all the women. The theme will be "Forward in Growth Through Our Membership Responsibilities." Mrs. Alton Wheeler is planning the opening devotions and the workshop leader will be Mrs. LeRoy DeLand. This theme is of interest to everyone, as we will discuss how to be a better member of any group. Too often, we are merely nominal members and do not stop to realize that by accepting membership it should also mean accepting responsibilities in planning and promoting the goals of that society. One does not have to be an officer to do this, as a successful program is a combination of the ideas of all the members. We will discuss ways to be a good group member and how we can judge ourselves. It is hoped that this discussion will stimulate a new growth in our societies.

The annual meeting of the Women's Society will be held Thursday afternoon, probably in connection with the noon luncheon. There is some question as to the best time to schedule our meeting since we have to wait until after the regular meal hour in order to eat together in the dining room. We will hold the annual election of officers and discuss the report of the Conference Committee To Consider Women's Work. The awards for this year's reading contest will be made. Mrs. Francis Saunders will lead the devotions on the new theme of the Women's Society: "Pray Ye, Go Ye, Do This."

The Women's Board exhibit will feature the new mission study books on the timely foreign theme of the Middle East, as well as the home mission theme, "Christian Concerns of North American Neighbors." Extra copies of the new program packet and prayer cards will be available. The three history books, which proved to be so interesting last year, will again be on display — society histories, Women's

## Statement of Belief

By Rev. Donald E. Richards

(Given on May 3, 1958, before his ordination at Berea, W. Va. — somewhat condensed.)

(Continued from June 9 issue)

### Salvation

Jesus came to give light, love, and life to mankind with power to overcome darkness, hate, and death. The very heart of Jesus' mission was redemptive. Through His life He pointed the way to salvation; through His death He made the way possible.

God's nature, as expressed in the idea of righteous judgment, made it necessary that a penalty for sin be exacted. Yet God so loved the world that He sacrificially gave His Son Jesus to atone for sin. God placed upon His Son, as representative of the human race, the sin of the whole world as He hung upon the Cross. At the Cross we see the wonder of God's love and grace in reclaiming fallen mankind. At the Cross we see the awfulness of sin at reign within the hearts of man in the very rejection and crucifixion of Jesus, the King of kings and Lord of lords.

I believe salvation from sin or the redemption of man may be clearly divided into three stages — justification, sanctification, and glorification.

**Justification**, the forgiveness from the penalty of sin, is achieved through an

Board history, and an illustrated history of our China missions. A model and pictures of the Protestant Pavilion at the World's Fair in Brussels will be of interest to many. Each society has been asked to bring or send some article that represents a successful work project in their own group. Last year this sharing of ideas proved helpful to many of our societies.

We hope that each society will try to send at least one delegate to participate in these activities planned for all the women, and that she will find some worthwhile suggestions to take back to her society, so that we may go "Forward in Growth — One in Christ."

individual confession of sin and acceptance of Jesus Christ through faith. As sin is forgiven a new relationship of sonship, along with resultant peace and joy of fellowship, is established with God. Salvation is more than forgiveness of sin; it is a call to service.

**Sanctification** is the word employed to describe the Christian's re-creation under the guidance of the Spirit after conversion. When a Christian's sin breaks the fellowship with God, that fellowship is again restored through confession and faith. The Christian's life should be Christ-centered rather than self-centered.

**Glorification** refers to the time yet future when man will be completely freed from the very presence of sin.

### The Church

I believe the institution of the Church, as foretold by Jesus, had its birth at Pentecost. The **ECCLESIA** is a gathering of the "called-out ones." Those who have been born again through faith in Christ are members of God's invisible Church. The Church is the spiritual "body" of Christ. The Church is also the army of Christ going out to conquer darkness with the light of Christ. Moral authority is invoked upon the Church; Spiritual power is bestowed upon the Church; greatness is placed not on position or power, but service. The Church is the instrument of service under God through this dispensation of grace.

The visible church is the assembly of believers in a given locality "organized for fellowship and service, practicing and proclaiming common convictions." I believe the visible church is imperfect in love and service because of human frailties within the members who make up that church. It is still God's church and He uses the light of life as it shines forth to bring healing to the nations.

The ethical teachings laid down by

Jesus are to be inculcated into the life of the church. The Church should be the demonstration of heavenly laws at work within and through the governments of earth. There are differences within the members and differences of function. So, too, there are differences between churches or denominations. Amidst diversity we are all one in fellowship through the Spirit of Jesus Christ.

### The Sacraments

I believe that when Christ has been accepted as a personal Savior the believer should follow the example of Jesus in baptism. One is not saved through baptism, but declares his faith in Christ to the world and identifies himself with Christ and the Church. I believe that immersion is the method John used in baptizing Jesus and his disciples. Water baptism by immersion best expresses the symbolism of death to sin and life in Christ.

I believe that:

The Lord's Supper commemorates the suffering and death of the world's Redeemer, "Till he come," and is a symbol of Christian fellowship and a pledge of renewed allegiance to our risen Lord.

The believer is baptized once. The believer needs to often remember his covenant with God and does so in the partaking of the emblems of the body and blood of Jesus which symbolizes the Christian's union with Christ.

### Prayer

I believe prayer is an attitude of spirit used in mutual communication between God and man. Adequate and effective prayer is necessary for every Christian: Prayer at its highest is more than auto-suggestion; it is the tapping of eternal resources and power.

### The Sabbath

I believe that the seventh day of the week is the Sabbath of the Lord our God. The Sabbath, as sacred time, antedates Moses, who made it an integral part of the Ten Commandments. The prophets exalted the Sabbath, recounted its blessings, and showed proper use of the Sabbath in genuine worship of God. Jesus kept the Sabbath, rescuing it from

the "traditions of men" and used it in service to God and man. The apostles kept the Sabbath themselves and taught others to keep it aright. I believe it was by the ordinances and councils of man, not God, that Sunday became a substitute for Sabbath.

I believe the Sabbath is spiritual in nature, not legalistic. Sabbathkeeping has merit and blessing as it is used in loving worship and service of God and man. The Sabbath is a weekly reminder in time of the true rest which exists only through a right relationship with God.

I do not believe a child of God is lost because he keeps Sunday as Sabbath. Salvation comes through faith in Christ, not through works. I can join in fellowship and service with these brothers and sisters in Christ because we are members of the same body of Christ.

### Cosmology and Eschatology

I believe in the sovereignty of God through all time and space. He is the **alpha and omega** — the beginning and the ending. Throughout the ages of time God's activity and revelation are in keeping with His plan of the ages.

Genesis is the Biblical book which tells of the beginning of God's activity. I believe the account, realizing that it is, in part, to be accepted in faith as spiritual truth is expressed in the account. All of God's creation was declared "good" because it was as God planned. Even now we do not realize all that is expressed in Genesis.

I believe that God purposed to establish a Kingdom in which He is to be recognized and worshiped as sovereign. The eons of time may be considered as epochs in the establishing of that Kingdom. The Jewish theocracy in theory, but not pragmatically, recognized God as King. The Jewish nation prepared the way religiously for the coming of Jesus. The Cross made redemption possible not only in theory, but in reality. The Church is commissioned to teach the ways of God's Kingdom on earth. There is ample evidence Scripturally and currently concerning the continuing conflict between good and evil, truth and falsehood.

The Scriptures plainly tell of an approaching crisis of the universe centering in the Second Coming of Christ. I believe in the resurrection of the righteous dead and the rapture of the Christian Church. There is the overcoming of the Anti-Christ as Jesus comes to establish His millennial reign of peace on earth. I believe those who have been found faithful will share in the government of the earth. Satan will be loosed at the end of this period to further test God's children.

Then comes the resurrection of the unrighteous dead, the great-white-throne judgment, the punishment or purging of all sin, and an ultimate completion of redemption through Christ. The Kingdom of God will be fully established and delivered by Christ unto the heavenly Father.

#### Concluding Remarks

Much has been omitted from this statement because of the pressure of time. I have tried to express my beliefs, not to please my hearers, but to express truth as God has led me to understand it. At the conclusion of this statement I welcome the opportunity to clarify thoughts expressed therein or to answer other questions as able.

It is my hope and prayer that God may be able to use this statement unto His honor and glory.

[The statement printed above was condensed only slightly. Upon being questioned, Mr. Richards amplified somewhat his statement about the Second Coming and the Judgment. His beliefs about these subjects correspond quite closely with the teaching of some large seminaries and Bible Schools.]

#### ANOTHER NEW TRACT

Just off the press at the Seventh Day Baptist Publishing House at Plainfield, N. J., is a new tract in two colors, entitled "Change Your Mind." It is a salvation tract based to some extent on "Repentance," a tract which is no longer being published. The Tract Society will report a year of unprecedented tract distribution on the part of the churches, mission stations, and a relatively small number of enthusiastic workers.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION — Sec. Rex E. Zwiebel

#### INTERESTING ITEMS

##### Pre-Con Retreat

Plans are moving along for Pre-Con 1958 at Pacific Pines, California. The contacting of teachers has been placed in the hands of the board secretary. We are assured of a workshop in "missions," and are planning to have workshops on some phase of the Sabbath, vocations, and stewardship. The workers of the Riverside Church are rushing to completion many improvements on the camp site that will add to the comfort and convenience of the "Retreaters." Every young person (age 15 and up or through 9th grade) is urged to be in attendance August 6-10.

##### John Milton Society

The John Milton Society is a worldwide service (Christian) to the blind. This society was organized in 1928 by the International Council of Religious Education and the Home Missions Council with early help from the Foreign Missions Conference. It was created at the urging of Helen Keller to provide religious literature for the blind. For over a quarter of a century it has been supplying religious magazines in Braille; also Church School lessons, hymns, and other religious literature. Since 1951 material has been available on Talking Book records.

The publications are sent free to any blind person requesting them.

A program booklet, "Even the Night Shall Be Light," will be sent free upon request. Write to John Milton Society, 160 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Much of the support for the society comes from donations. Vacation and week-day schools will find the John Milton Society a natural object for project giving. In this way you will be performing a fine service for the blind of your community.

##### United Christian Youth Movement

Great opportunities are being offered to youth leaders and to the youth who are leaders in our Youth Fellowships to attend Training Conferences this year as sponsored by the United Christian Youth Movement. Conferences to study for a

vital experience in the larger Christian fellowship, to help you study the real problems of young people where you live, to prepare you for interchurch leadership in your church, community, and state now, and to help you make a stronger Christian witness in your church and community are being held in 17 areas of the United States. Anyone who is vitally interested in this valuable training can get more information from the Board of Christian Education.

#### THE PRAYER ROOM

By John Conrod

To some people who may be casually passing by, it is just another room; but to those who have a burden on their hearts, and are seeking the presence of the Lord, it is a sanctuary of peace and comfort.

A table like this one might easily have been found in any home, and used for the physical glory of the house, but it has a special meaning to those who have spent many a soul-rending time in prayer and supplication, pleading for God to show them His will. A close observation of the top of the table will reveal many a stain that was made by tears of confession and repentance.

The small bench is becoming worn through the repeated use of those whose burdened hearts have sent them to their knees to seek the guidance and understanding that they need.

The lamp on the side of the table seems to direct its rays of light to the open Bible at the center as if it were saying, "There is the Word of Truth. There are God's answers to your problems. Look there in the Bible, and God will guide you to the truth you seek."

The voices and sounds from the world outside are muffled to the degree that they seem to say, "We are still here. You may be able to shut out our presence from your life for a little while, but you are still here in the world to bring the Gospel to us."

O God, I pray:

Help me to appreciate the time of prayer I may have in this room. Instill in me a deeper peace and understanding than I have ever experienced. Help me, as I go from here, to bring the light of Thy salvation and Thy Sabbath to those that are lost. Amen.

#### North Central Association Plans

By Leila Maxson

Joan Clement and Beth Severe, our missionary nurses who have been home on furlough for nearly a year from the mission field in Nyasaland, will be the featured part of the program of the North Central Association of Churches of Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota which will meet in Milton, Wis., June 27, 28, and 29.

Ralph Green, Milton, president of the Association, has announced that workshops will be conducted by all committees of the Association on Sunday afternoon. He urges everyone to attend all the sessions. The Executive Committee is planning a varied and interesting program for the three-day session.

The Executive Committee, ministers, and committee members will meet at 2 p.m. Friday, June 27, to formulate the final plans for the meetings. Ivan FitzRandolph, field coordinator of the Association, will present a report to the meeting. Other officers of the Association are: Erlo Nelson, Milton, vice-president; Mrs. Lillian Campbell, Janesville, secretary; and Miss Ruth Ann Loofboro, New Auburn, treasurer. Pastors Elmo Randolph and Victor Skaggs and Mrs. Leila Maxson, editor of the Sabbath Candle, have also served on the Executive Committee in planning the meetings.

The Rev. Don Sanford, pastor of the New Auburn, Wis., Church, will give the message Sabbath eve, to open the sessions. The young people of the churches will have charge of the devotions.

The Rev. Victor Skaggs, pastor of the Milton Junction and Albion Churches, will give the message on Sabbath morning. Sabbath afternoon will be devoted to the messages from the missionary nurses.

The first business session of the Association will be held at 8 o'clock Sabbath night preceded by a vesper program. Reports of committees and preliminary business will be conducted at this time.

Sunday morning sessions will begin at 10 o'clock when another business session will be held. Noon luncheon will be served at Camp Wakonda and will be

## MY CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE

By Clara Loofboro

(Given on the day of her ordination as a deaconess in the Milton Junction, Wis., Church.)

I was born on a farm at New Auburn, Wisconsin. Both of my parents came from Seventh Day Baptist families. Looking back through the years I know that both my father and mother had their share of faults, yet they each gave me a rich heritage on which to build my life. My mother's unflinching faith in God, her appreciation for good books and poetry, her devotion to home duty, and my father's great love of the soil, his strict code of honesty, and appreciation for music have all influenced me to be what I am.

I was baptized at the age of 13 by the Rev. Herbert Cottrell who was then our pastor. He was at New Auburn only two years and I felt a great loss when he left.

The first few years of my Christian life had their ups and downs, partly due to the fact that I was very timid and lacked faith in my ability to do things. I was always wishing I could be like some one else, often became moody, and didn't know how to discuss my problems with anyone. In my late teens I refused to teach a Sabbath School class because I was actually afraid to try it. I'm sure my two years in college helped me to gain confidence in myself, and gave me a new outlook on life. Later I at least tried to teach a Sabbath School class, became

followed by the dedication of the new cottage. Workshops will be held in the afternoon.

The meetings of the Association will close with a message from the Rev. Kenneth Van Horn, pastor of the Dodge Center Church, at 8 o'clock Sunday evening.

The youth of the Association will have a very definite part in the three-day sessions, according to President Green. In addition to planning the devotions, they will have a program of their own. Sabbath night has been allocated to the young people, who will hold their own sessions and plan their own program.

superintendent of Sabbath School and later on was clerk of the church. I was finding myself in the church and community life. I decided it was a worthy cause to try being myself.

I have developed a Christian faith that I call my own. It has slowly been acquired through the influence of home training, teachers, pastors, friends, and the reading of religious books, including the Bible. I can think of no circumstance that could now weaken my faith or religious convictions.

To be happy and live our best we must have faith in something greater than ourselves. I believe God is Creator and Ruler of this Universe. He is also a personal God, a friend, and guide. God is Spirit. God is Love. God's love was an active force that resulted in the giving of His Son to the world. Christ's love was so great that it brought Him to the cross. The tomb could not hold Christ, for the love of God is boundless. Thus, through the cross the way to abundant and eternal life was revealed to mankind.

I believe the forces of good are greater than the forces of evil. Love can overcome hate. Christ's teachings were not simply an ideal, but a plan of attack on the sins of the world, and a way of life to those who believe.

Prayer is a part of our Christian experience, but it need not be either verbal or written. Our closest communion with God may often be wordless.

I believe the Sabbath is one of the plainest teachings in the Bible. We should accept our Sabbath heritage with a spirit of humility and joy and never use it to develop a "holier than thou" attitude.

It was hard for me to transfer my membership from the New Auburn church to this church, yet I felt that I should do it. Now I feel that I have two home churches.

I am very humble in accepting this call to become deaconess of this church. I have lived here seven and a half years so I know that you realize some of my shortcomings and lack of talent, but I considered the call a challenge, and with your prayers and faith in me, I hope to move forward in serving this church and my God.

## Teen Talk

### Junior High Teacher Wins Travel Award

School is now over for most of the students who have been working at their lessons during the past nine months. It is also over for the teachers who are not taking summer school work to get better prepared for their teaching profession. One pretty 22-year-old junior high teacher is going to have a long safari in Africa during the summer because she won a contest sponsored by the National Education Association.

Miss Billie-Marie Gannon of Seattle, Wash., did not win a beauty contest, though perhaps she could have. According to the judges she had something more attractive than beauty. There were 1,500 finalists in a contest open to all elementary, junior high, and high school teachers. She won the award of the African tour because of:

"Her ability to open a window on the world for her students."

That is quite an ability, isn't it? Did you ever sit in a geography class (or whatever they call it now) and feel a real thrill of discovery as you learned about how people live in faraway places? When a teacher can give you such a feeling from books it is wonderful. Miss Gannon exclaimed after hearing that she had been chosen for the award:

"Whoever said school teaching was dull?"

She uses teen-age language in describing the thrill of winning and the prospect of such a wonderful educational tour:

"I'm really orbiting over this — doing loop-the-loops through space."

One of the high points of her trip through several countries of Europe as well as Kenya, Tanganyika, Uganda, Sudan, and Egypt will be climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. There the explorers will search for the tomb of King Menelek, son of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, they say. (No such person is mentioned by name in the Bible.)

If you were going to win a contest wouldn't you want it to be something you

could be proud of all the rest of your life, rather than some of these silly radio and television contests? Perhaps you can become so enthusiastic and capable that you, too, can "open a window on the world" for someone else. God opened a window of love in heaven and sent to earth His only Son. In turn, Jesus opens a window through which we can see far more than the world; we can see the love of our heavenly Father. Through Christ we enter into the most thrilling adventure that anyone could ever have. All the mixed-up things are settled; we find a great purpose in life. Like the disciple Philip, we see the Father and we serve the Son. What lies before us may not be a tour of Africa but a life of missionary service.

### OTHER FOLDS AND FIELDS

The signature of more than 20,000 Methodists in the United States will head the list in a "World Friendship Book" to be presented to the Christian education workers of Japan on the opening night of the 14th World Convention on Christian Education, August 6-13, in Tokyo. The book will have signatures of tens of thousands of other church-school workers and church-school members of many denominations in about 50 countries of the world. "The book will be an expression of love and goodwill from Christians of the world to the Christians of Japan," said the Rev. Dr. Leon M. Adkins, of Methodism's General Board of Education, Nashville, Tenn. — W. W. Reid.

### Listens to Mother

John G. Diefenbaker, leader of his party in the greatest political landslide in Canadian history, celebrated his victory by coming home from the capital at Ottawa to see his 85-year-old Baptist mother.

"Be humble," she told him from her hospital bed.

"When one has so much power, he must use it with care."

Prime Minister Diefenbaker, an active Baptist in a land where Anglicans and



# The Sabbath Recorder

Catholics predominate, had just been handed the greatest political power ever known to a Canadian leader.

Mr. Diefenbaker is a plain man, tall and affable, the son of an Ontario school teacher, and an active lay leader in his church. He neither smokes nor drinks, and never makes political speeches on Sunday. Mrs. Diefenbaker is the daughter of a Baptist minister.

## Faith and Science

The relationship between faith and science will be explored by a group of physicists and theologians attending an international conference at the Ecumenical Institute, Bossey, Switzerland, May 30-June 5. This is one of nearly 20 short-term courses or meetings scheduled in 1958 for the international educational center maintained by the World Council of Churches.

## White Russian Refugees

Since 1952, approximately 8,000 White Russians from China have been resettled through the World Council of Churches' office in Hong Kong. Most of them went to South America or Australia. At the present time a total of 12,634 White Russian refugees remain, the Council reports. Of that group, 1,125 have received visas and are in Hong Kong awaiting transportation; 3,147 visa holders are still in China waiting to come to Hong Kong. The W C C is seeking visas for another 8,362 still in China. The China group is made up of Baptists, Seventh Day Adventists, Orthodox, and Pentecostals.

## Little Bible Interest in Israel

In a speech to more than a thousand people at the sixth Biblical Conference in Jerusalem, Professor Mosche Segal of the Hebrew University severely criticized the materialism of life in Israel today, which he said threatened to become a "spiritual revolution." He said he regretted that the Bible is regarded as a secular book and used only as a source of information for historians and archaeologists.

## SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for June 28, 1958

Called to Speak for God

Lesson Scripture: 1 Samuel 3: 10-20.

## NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

SHILOH, N. J. — The once-a-year meeting of the Female Mite Society was held in May with the missionaries, Beth Severe, Joan Clement, and Jacqueline Wells, as our speakers. A large number attended and the girls showed many slides. It was an interesting evening for all. A reception followed in the church dining room.

Children's Day was observed the first Sabbath in June. On that occasion we had with us for the first time our summer pastor, Eugene Fatato, and his family. The following babies were dedicated and each was presented with a red rose and a certificate: June Holly, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Harold Fogg, Jeffrey Mark, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Sheppard, and Carol Sue, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Everett Dickinson.

Open house was held at the parsonage on June 7 to greet the Fatato family. About 100 came to say, "hello."

— Correspondent.

## Marriages

Harris-Crofoot. — Lawrence Stanley Harris, son of Rev. and Mrs. Everett T. Harris of Westerly, R. I., and Leah Camille Crofoot, daughter of Mrs. Leah Clerke Crofoot and the late A. Burdet Crofoot of Alfred, N. Y., were united in marriage in the First Alfred Church, Alfred, N. Y., on May 31, 1958, with the Rev. Jay W. Crofoot, grandfather of the bride, and the Rev. Everett T. Harris officiating. The vows were spoken from memory. The young couple will reside in Cleveland, Ohio, where the groom will study for a medical degree at Western Reserve University.

## Obituaries

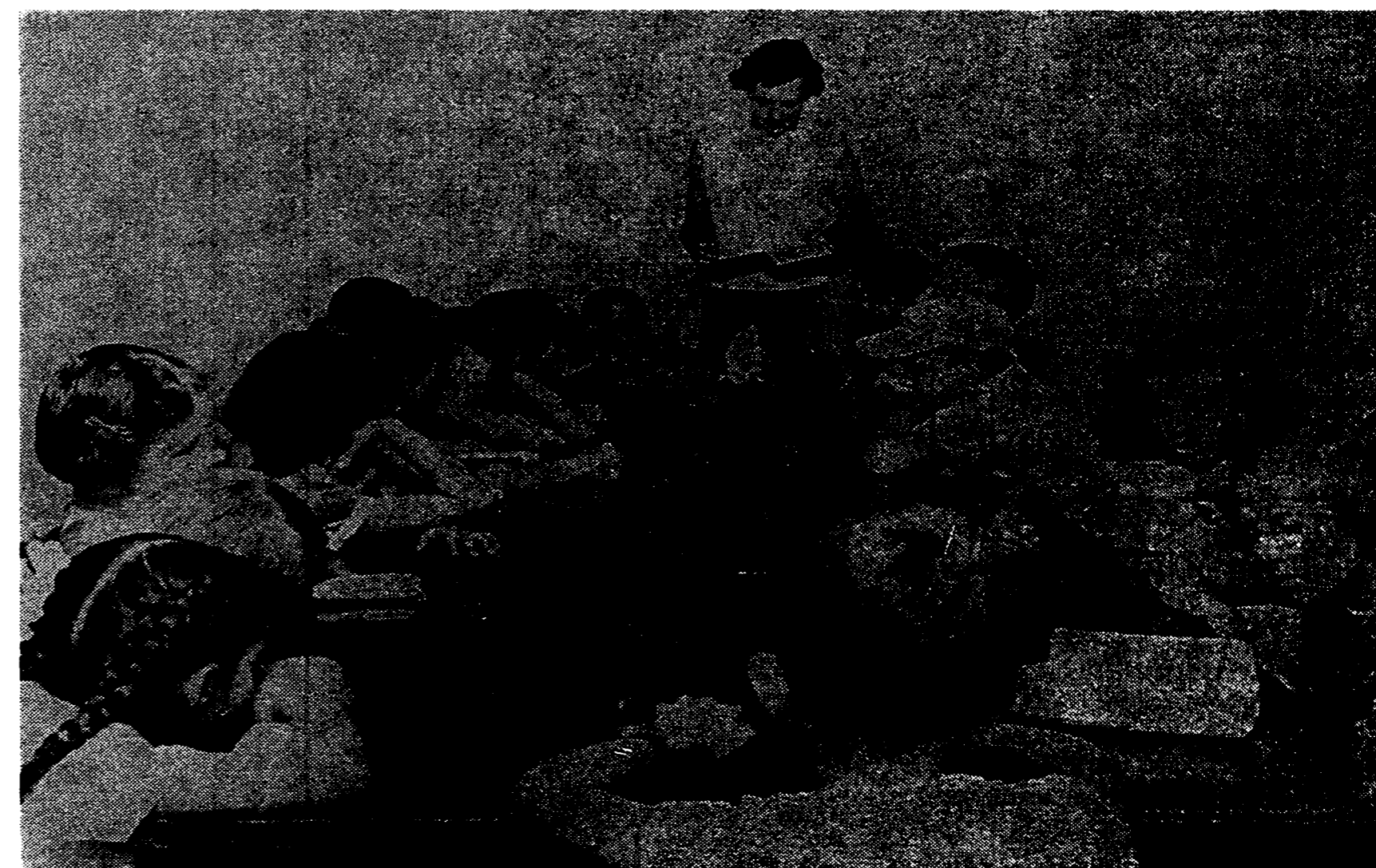
Davis. — Eber M. R., son of Dickinson and Cecelia Clawson Davis, was born at Dickinson's Corner near Shiloh, N. J., Dec. 4, 1857, and died Feb. 14, 1958.

His grandparents, the Rev. David and Jane Titsworth Clawson, had served Seventh Day Baptist churches called Third Genesee (N. Y.), Marlboro (N. J.), and Lost Creek and New Salem (Va. now W. Va.).

On August 19, 1880, he married Elizabeth Glaspey who preceded him in death on Oct. 25, 1939. He joined the Marlboro Church on March 15, 1889. He is survived by four children: Lewis C., of Shiloh; Mrs. Leslie (Julia) Tomlinson, D. Morton, and Frank G. Davis, all of R. D. #1, Bridgeton; six grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and 7 great-great-grandchildren.

Interment was in the Marlboro Cemetery.

— P. B. O.



## Vacation Bible Schools

Across our wide land it is vacation time. Schools have closed; children are at play or are pursuing hobbies started during the school year. Most of them, having become accustomed to planned activities during the day, experience a let-down when left upon their own day after day. The Vacation Bible School fills the void and challenges the young minds to learn the things not taught in the courses of public instruction. Teachers, too, are challenged to use all their love and whatever training and ability they may have to center the thoughts of the children on the things of God and to prepare them for or lead them to a vital experience with Christ. We salute the teachers of Bible Schools and camps.