

# The Sabbath Recorder

recently been painted, and other repairs voted. Our church building was erected in 1871, a year before the congregation was organized as the West Fork River Seventh Day Baptist Church (later changed to Roanoke). A highway sign reading "Roanoke Seventh Day Baptist Church" has been erected at the foot of the driveway leading up the hill to the church. This was given to the church by a local 4-H Club, and was placed on U.S. Highway 19 through the efforts of our youngest member, Eddie Bond.

Two outstanding gifts in November have been added to the church. Venetian blinds, a gift from our oldest member, Mrs. Ina Hevener Ford of West Union, W. Va., now cover the seven clear-glass windows, and give our one-room church an added touch of beauty and reverence. John and Willard Hevener, who own the Roanoke Nursery, have given a number of ornamental shrubs to the church, and have landscaped around the building.

Salem College Day was observed at Roanoke on Sabbath, November 22, when a group of Seventh Day Baptist students from the college conducted the worship service. We have come to look forward with a great deal of pleasure to this annual event.

## Temperance Thought

One legislator in New Jersey was heard to say, "In my area the church doesn't count." He did not mean that membership and attendance figures were low. The churches in his area seemed to be so conformed to the world that they had no transforming power in the community, especially in relation to temperance.

## Marriages

**Boehler - Whitlock.** — On the evening of November 1, 1958, Robert Marvin Boehler, son of Mrs. L. L. Van Horn of Edinburg, Texas, and Reba La Nell Whitlock, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin W. Whitlock of Houston, Texas, were united in marriage by the Rev. J. T. Burnett at the Woodsdale Baptist Church in Houston, Tex.

**Gilman - Williams.** — At the home of the bride's parents, 299 Main St., Brockport, N. Y., on September 27, 1958, Frederick Arthur Gilman, Clarkston, N. Y., son of George and Clara Seger Gilman, and Connie Williams, Brockport, N. Y., daughter of Leland and Marjorie Leach Williams, were united in marriage, the bride's pastor, the Rev. Hurley S. Warren, officiating.

**Harrison - Adams.** — Lewis Harrison of Climax, Mich., and Connie Adams of Battle Creek, Mich., were united in marriage November 1, 1958, in the Battle Creek Seventh Day Baptist Church by the Rev. Leland E. Davis.

**Johnson - Constable.** — Della Mae Constable, daughter of Okie and Helen Barnes Constable, and William Johnson were united in marriage at Akron, Ohio, September 13, 1958. Their present address: A/2C William T. Johnson, AF15561274, 358th B.S., Davis Mathar AFB, Tuscon, Ariz.

**Sisler - Barnes.** — Nina Barnes, daughter of Mrs. Georgia Barnes, and Carlton Sisler were united in marriage at Buckhannon, W. Va., October 4, 1958.

**Sperry - McClain.** — Clarence Edwin Sperry and Maxie Ann McClain were united in marriage at Salem, W. Va., August 30, 1958, the Rev. James L. Skaggs officiating.

## Births

**Grant.** — A son, William James, to William and Mary Lou (Fogg) Grant, Minneapolis, Minn., November 22, 1958.

### SABBATHKEEPERS' 1959 CALENDARS

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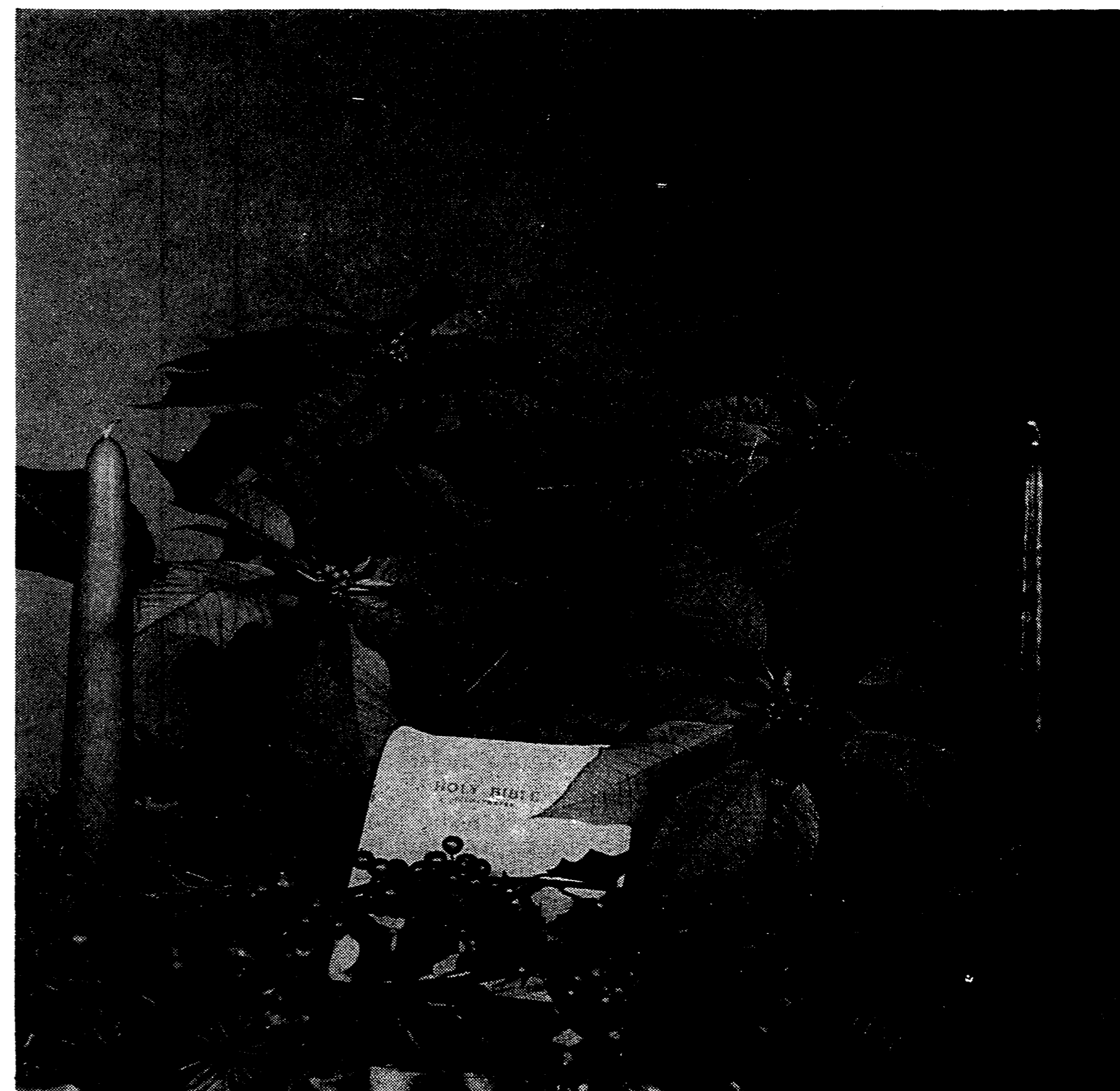
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First Issue June 13, 1844

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. A. Russell Maxson  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ..... Rex E. Zwiebel, B.A., B.D.

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without reference to the New Testament. We believe that God had a message for the world which did not end with the prophets. The Bible is one Book — a Christian, rather than a Jewish Book.

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Emmanuel now means to all Christians that in a most sublime sense God was with us — with mankind in the person of His only begotten Son — whom He gave to the world that we might have eternal life. The very heart of the Gospel is in this name. If John 3: 16 is "the Gospel in a nutshell" then Matthew 1: 23 is the Gospel in one Hebrew word that can never again be applied to a child of strictly human parentage. Mary "was found with child of the Holy Ghost."

The glory of "God with us" is more than the memory of the historical Jesus. Down through all the years, in a most real sense, God has dwelt in our hearts through faith. Though He who was with us as Savior, dying for our sins on the cross, has returned to His throne on high, He is in a very mysterious way still with us. We feel His presence. And we look forward to His promised return. He who was for a limited time both man and God (Emmanuel) is now what He was before His human birth, and will be through eternity, the One before whom we bow in worship — the One who comes to judge the world and to receive the redeemed unto Himself. What glory is in His name, Emmanuel!

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## Peace and Pacifism

Great respect should undoubtedly be paid to the relatively few pacifists who would, under all circumstances, be true to the convictions which they profess to find in the teaching of Jesus. Every consistent adherence to religious principles evokes admiration from the unbiased and unbigoted. That does not mean that all good Christians should become pacifists when they observe the noble life of one who holds that position any more than we should become Jehovah's Witnesses after talking with a sincere representative of that rapidly growing sect. We must maintain our right to study and apply the Scriptures according to the best light given to us. Not all of us are able to harmonize the teaching of the Bible in the same way in cases where two conclusions as to the principles involved seem to conflict.

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"Our task in Congress is to see that the time left before a possible Armageddon is not wasted. Our only real defense is to fight for a just and lasting peace. Our only choice in this atomic era is either to live together or die together."

That statement is characteristic of much of what is written in these days. It expresses fear somewhat more than Christian principles. Mr. Meyer took a more cautious attitude in relation to the conscientious objector issue saying that he was willing to talk over his religious views with any who were interested, but affirming that if elected he would demand an immediate end to U.S. atomic tests and immediate recognition of Red China.

It will be recalled that there was editorial comment on the recognition of Red China in the last issue of the **Sabbath Recorder**. Few of us would want to say categorically that world peace — a Christian ideal — would be fostered at the present time by urging our national leaders to take the position of individual conscientious objectors.

We respect the convictions of those who are consistent pacifists on the basis of their interpretation of the Bible, but for the whole nation to abandon its ability to deter aggression is another matter. Comment from Secretary of State Dulles that is more recent than what was quoted a week ago has now been printed. He holds that recognition of Red China would abandon all of Southeast Asia and the Islands of the Pacific to Communist aggression and would shake the faith of many small nations in the United States. If his view is correct, there could be some question as to whether or not the recognition of Red China is the Christian thing to do. Until such time as the United Nations or some such body has an effective international police force, it would seem to be wise not to allow all the force to be in the hands of those nations which are militantly antichristian. Their type of peace is not peace. Neither is it one which will condone the individual thinking which allows pacifism to be relatively unrestricted in our "Christian" nation.

### Stored-Up Appreciation

Is it not true that we have come to think of the Christmas season as the time to express in some way the stored-up appreciation which we feel all through the year for the gift of God to the world in the person of His Son and to our friends for all that they have meant to us?

If that is the case, as we believe it to be, then it is most fitting for the editorial staff of your denominational weekly to express appreciation for the thoughtful prayers, the helpful written contributions, and the words of encouragement that have lifted our spirits and made possible these printed pages during the year. We hope that some of our editorials may be recognized as voicing our appreciation of Christ throughout the year. Seldom, however, do we speak of or respond to the little messages that come to us with subscription renewals. We would like to do so now.

The **Sabbath Recorder**, the editor, the manager of the publishing house, the secretary, proofreaders, subscription secretary, and all those who help to speed the Recorder on its way to you every Friday, join together in a greeting of real warmth. We would remember the words of John's Epistle, "If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us."

May the Lord bless you, every one!

### Trusting in Christ a Sign

Suppose there is a person here who does not exactly know his age, and he wants to find the register of his birth, and he has tried and can not find it. Now, what is the inference that he draws from his not being able to tell the day of his birth? Well, I do not know what the inference may be, but I will tell you one inference he does not draw. He does not say, therefore, "I am not alive." If he did, he would be an idiot, for if the man is alive he is alive, whether he knows his birthday or not. And if the man really trusts in Jesus, and is alive from the dead, he is a saved soul, whether he knows exactly when and where he was saved or not. — C. H. Spurgeon.

## President's Column

### What Will My Child Learn at Christmas?

Professor Roy Olney, state supervisor in Rural Education, repeated this statement many times, "If the student has not learned, then the teacher has not taught." This is a most exacting standard for a young, frightened teacher — any teacher. Under Professor Olney's direction we soon began to distinguish between "covering material" and genuine teaching. As we enter another Advent season Christians everywhere should be asking themselves this question, What am I teaching about Christmas?

We are covering the material. The minister gives a Christmas sermon. We have a special program which portrays the birth of the Christ child. Santa Claus may come and distribute a gift to each child. At home a Christmas tree is set up and beautifully decorated, gifts are exchanged amidst a genuine holiday spirit. The material is being covered, yet what lessons are our children learning from Christmas? Do they associate it only with getting something? It is tragic to see a child's vision of Christmas as simple as that.

This fall while assisting my son Dale in delivering potatoes in the poorer sections of Hornell, I was impressed by the crying need of these people for Christ. In the commercialism which surrounds Christmas today have we lost sight of the real meaning of Christ?

If we can truly teach our youngsters the thrill of bringing joy, comfort, and hope to the "poor, wayward, and abandoned" we will have taught them the secret of Christ himself. In His own words He has assured us, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." May each of us truly put Christ back into Christmas this year by ministering to the needs of God's children everywhere. Merry Christmas and may God bless you, every one.

## What Child Is This?

W. C. Dix

What Child is this who laid to rest  
On Mary's lap is sleeping,  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing,  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian fear, for sinners here  
The silent word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,  
The cross He bore for me, for you.  
Hail, hail, the Lord made flesh,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh,  
Come peasant, king to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings,  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby,  
Joy, joy for Christ is born,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

— From Masterpieces of Religious Verse.

### Four-Way Merger

The proposed merger of four Lutheran churches in the United States has been overwhelmingly approved by the fourth group — the United Lutheran Church, at its twenty-first biennial convention in Dayton, Ohio. Plans for the merger have already been approved by the Augustana Lutheran Church, the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church (Suomi Synod), and the American Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The new church, as yet unnamed, will have about three million members, 80 per cent of them from the United Lutheran Church. The constitution for the new denomination is expected to be ready by the middle of 1960.

— EPS, Geneva.

# God's Entrance into History

By C. Harmon Dickinson\*

V Day 1944 is remembered because the allied forces established a beachhead in Europe. There was another very important beachhead established many centuries before that — not in Rome or Alexandria or Jerusalem but in Bethlehem of Judea where God made His beachhead on earth through the birth of Jesus Christ. Only a few recognized that birth, the shepherds with wonder, the Wise Men who came from the East with honor, and Herod with fear.

In 1809 Napoleon was having his way on the continent of Europe. The fate of civilization was to be decided by whether he succeeded in his conquest, or whether he met his defeat. That same year there were other insignificant births that were noticed by only a few. Alfred Tennyson, a great English poet, was born that year. And in Cambridge, Mass., a Calvinist minister added these words to his lengthy entry in his diary, "Son born. His name, Oliver Wendell Homes." In 1809, in Shrewsbury, England, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Darwin announced the birth of their son, Charles. And on that very same day, in a log cabin in Kentucky, a baby boy was born to Tom and Nancy Lincoln. They named him Abraham. The music world is indebted to Frederic Chopin and also to Felix Mendelssohn, both of whom were born that same year. Very few recognized their births at that time but look what an influence upon the world they later had. God made His beachhead into the life-stream of man by giving His only Son to be one of us.

## God Entered History Through the Incarnation

This truth is best summarized by John 1: 14: "The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us." The Word — this is understood to refer to Jesus, meaning His divine, eternal spirit. In the first verse of this chapter it says that "the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

\*Sermon delivered at the Plainfield, N. J., Church, December 6, 1958.

Deity became flesh, a bodily incarnation, God taking on a human body and divine nature. This Incarnation is adequately described by Dr. Herbert H. Farmer of Cambridge who tells us how important the Incarnation has been in the tradition of Christianity. He describes the Incarnation as "the central, distinctive, all-controlling belief of the Christian movement all down through the ages: It is the heart and center of what may be called 'historic' Christianity." "There can hardly be division of opinion," he says, "as to what this central, and controlling 'essence' of Christian faith and life is. It is belief in the Incarnation — the conviction that God Himself came, and comes, into human history in the person of Jesus Christ." In 2 Corinthians 5: 19, we read: "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself."

Notice the term "only begotten" in John 1: 14 and 18 and again in John 3: 16 and 18. The Greek word means "only one of its kind" — one birth. There are many children of God but only one Son, only one with the unique relationship to God that Jesus had. John 1: 14 speaks of the only one born of the Father. Future revisions of the Bible may indicate a change in verse 18 where it speaks of the only begotten Son, a change to "the only begotten God" as indicated by considerable evidence from ancient texts. This refers to Jesus as the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father.

God came "into" history through Christ and continued "in and through" history through Christ's ministry. Paul refers to Jesus in Philippians 2: 6-8 as the one who, "being in the form of God," "emptied himself" (as some translators render it), and "took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men." Colossians 2: 9 says of Christ, "For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily."

Wendell Phillips was one of the leading abolitionists in the period before the Civil War. He was outspoken on the issue of

slavery. One day when he was going to the railroad station with the ex-slave Frederick Douglas in New Bedford, Mass., and found that the Negro must ride on the dirty Jim Crow car, Phillips insisted on sitting in the same car saying, "If you cannot ride with me, I can ride with you." It has always been difficult for man to "ride" with God. He finds it difficult to get into personal fellowship with the heavenly Father. But where we could not get into His fellowship, God came to earth in the form of Jesus and rode with us so that we could understand God better and become a part of His fellowship.

## God's Entrance into History Was by Means of a Supernatural Birth

Matthew describes the birth of Jesus in the first chapter of the Gospel as occurring under unusual circumstances. It was announced that Jesus was to be born of the Virgin Mary without a human father but would have the Holy Spirit from God as His father. This was the means of God's special entrance into history. Though Jesus' birth was unusual yet it is in keeping with the very idea of the Incarnation. When I speak of God's entrance into history in this way I do not mean that God had been absent in history previously, but I do look upon Christ as God's special entrance into human history.

Many in our day decry the supernatural and yet if we admit that God is working at all in the world around us, we will agree that His activity is outside of nature, working in nature. Nature is not God but is the result of His creative activity. If we believe in the Incarnation — and most Christians of the past and of the present have believed and do believe in some form of the Incarnation — at least we will admit that it is only possible through the supernatural working of God in Jesus Christ. Can we deny the supernatural birth of Jesus when we see so many evidences of God's supernatural activities through nature and in the life of man? Christmas affirms the Incarnation by means of the virgin birth.

## God Continues His Activity in Man Through the Living Spirit of Christ

One of the names applying to Jesus was Emmanuel, meaning "God is with us." God was with the people through Jesus. His activity among the people indicated that God's presence was with them. And as the victorious Christ continues to live in the hearts of men we have that same reassuring message from generation to generation that God is with us.

This Christmas we recognize the birth of Jesus Christ and the fact that His coming means that God is with us. In the hymn "O Little Town of Bethlehem," we sing:

"O holy Child of Bethlehem!  
Descend to us we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in;  
Be born in us today."

It is not enough that Christ was born centuries ago. He must continue to be reborn into the lives of men. We know the meaning of Jesus' birth, but more important, what does that birth mean to us? Has He been born in my heart? Let each of us be sure that Jesus Christ has been born in our hearts as we pay homage to Him this Christmas.

## The Prince of Peace

Philip Doddridge

Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes,  
The Savior promised long:  
Let every heart prepare a throne,  
And every voice a song.  
He comes, the prisoners to release  
In Satan's bondage held;  
The gates of brass before Him burst,  
The iron fetters yield.  
He comes, from the thick films of vice  
To clear the mental ray,  
And on the eyeballs of the blind  
To pour celestial day.  
He comes, the broken heart to bind,  
The bleeding soul to cure,  
And with the treasures of His grace  
To enrich the humble poor.  
Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
Thy welcome shall proclaim,  
And Heaven's eternal arches ring  
With Thy beloved name.

### Preparing For Service In British Guiana

The Rev. Rene Mauch, Seventh Day Baptist missionary candidate to British Guiana, S. A., met with a special committee of the Missionary Board at Westerly, R. I., on Sunday, November 23, 1958. Mrs. Mauch attended the meeting also as consideration was given to possible plans for their preparation to go to British Guiana as Seventh Day Baptist missionaries in the fall of 1959.

It was agreed that Mr. Mauch would find it most helpful to enroll in the "Study and Refresher Course for Missionaries" to be held at Cornell University February 10-27, 1959. This course of studies is sponsored by the Rural Missions Cooperating Committee of the Division of Foreign Missions of NCCC and is presented particularly "for missionaries on furlough and those under appointment."

The Cornell studies will be followed by a "Seminar on Extension Education" at Washington, D. C., held March 3-10, 1959. It is expected that Mr. Mauch will also accept this "opportunity for study and fellowship with some of the most able extension education leaders in the nation."

A transcript of courses in missionary training as already taken by Mr. Mauch at the University of Basel, Switzerland, was studied by the committee. Courses included such studies as "Nature and Goal of the Work of the Evangelical Churches and of the Catholic Mission"; "Basic Facts about Colonial History and Religion of Tropical Peoples"; "Tropical Zoology and Tropical Plants" as relates to their culture; "Tropical Diseases (causes and carriers) and Tropical Hygiene"; "Red Cross" (first aid course). It was recalled that Mr. Mauch had served in the Swiss Army as a medical attendant.

Mr. Mauch reported that he has already begun correspondence courses in Seventh Day Baptist History and Polity under the direction of the faculty of the

Alfred School of Theology. It is expected that a course in Sabbath Philosophy will also be included in this preparation. He hopes to move nearer to Alfred around April 1, 1959, at which time he will give full time to his studies at Alfred and to visiting in the churches.

Tentative plans during the summer of 1959 call for a more extended tour of the churches including attendance at General Conference at Salem, W. Va.

An examination council looking toward possible recognition of the ordination of the Rev. Mr. Mauch will probably be called by a church of our faith early in the fall. Mr. and Mrs. Mauch and daughter, Esther, will probably leave for their field of missionary service during October, 1959.

### A House-Boat In British Guiana

In a recent publication by Dr. Ralph A. Felton, entitled, "Church Bells in Many Tongues," there is the story of a missionary pastor who carries on his ministry in British Guiana by using a river boat called "The White Swan."

Dr. Felton writes:

"There is not a foot of road in his 150-mile parish, so his friends and brethren in America supplied him with a house-boat which was painted white. It is 36 feet long and 10 feet wide and powered with a 42 horsepower diesel engine.

"This beautiful 'White Swan' has become a symbol of Christian service. Week after week she plies back and forth (on the Berbice River). She carries Christian literature of all description. She carries bandages, ointments, drugs and vitamins, insecticides, and agricultural implements. As she goes back and forth at eight knots an hour she is repeatedly stopped as canoes come out from left and right — a child with convulsions, a man with an ugly bleeding wound, or an expectant mother to be rushed to the maternity home miles away."

Many readers know that the Seventh Day Baptist missionary-elect to British

Guiana, the Rev. Rene Mauch, is building a boat somewhat similar to the "White Swan" for use in his ministry among our brethren of British Guiana. Progress on the boat is rather slow because Mr. Mauch is doing most of the work himself in whatever spare time he can find.

At a recent meeting of the Missionary Board's special committee on arrangements for service attended by Mr. Mauch, it was agreed that the Missionary Board would undertake to assist on the expense of freighting the boat to British Guiana when it is completed.

Mr. Mauch is presently working on the cabin for the boat. The electrically welded steel hull is made of 3/16" steel plate and is already completed. The boat is 24 feet long by 8 feet 8 inches wide, with 2-foot draft. It is expected that the boat will be powered by two outboard motors.

There is no question but that this cabin boat will greatly enhance and enlarge the ministry of our British Guiana missionary. We will follow the progress of this project with our interest and prayers.

### Observe the Week of Prayer

It is time now to order material and to plan for the annual observance of the "Universal Week of Prayer" in the churches during the first full week of January. The Meditations for the 1959 observance have been written by Dr. Georgia Harkness, a member of the faculty of the Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, Calif.

The first meditation prepared for use on Sunday, January 4, 1959, begins on the theme, "Praise the Lord." Other themes are: "Now Thank We All Our God," "Create in Me a Clean Heart," "He Gives Power," "O Lord, Save Thy People," "If You Will Walk in My Ways," and "Trust in The Lord."

The devotional leaflets may be secured from: Department of Evangelism, NCCC Office of Publication and Distribution, 120 East 23rd St., New York 10, N. Y. The price is 10¢ per copy. Shipment will be sent postage paid if remittance accompanies order. It is requested that payment be made by check or money order.

### SOME THOUGHTS ON CHRISTMAS

By Mrs. Dora Siems  
White Cloud, Mich.

Again the Christmas season is here. Children look forward to this time because they expect to receive gifts. Merchants reap a harvest as sales are multiplied. To many it means vacation from school and reunited families. But Christmas should hold a deeper meaning for the Christian.

With all the activities of the season we are apt to forget the real purpose of Christ's coming into the world. Paul says, "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." For those of us who have accepted Christ as our Savior, Christmas might well become a time for taking a spiritual inventory of our hearts.

Jesus came to be our personal Savior, to show us our deepest need, and to fill that need. Our problems are not material but spiritual, and we can only experience spiritual renewal as we surrender wholly to Him. Unless we delve into this deeper meaning of Christmas our celebration of it will have its usual shallow meaning. On that memorable night Jesus Christ came. He came to a stable and was laid in a manger because there was no room in the inn. How much our hearts are like the inn! They are cluttered and filled with trivial things leaving no room for Jesus. Let us open the door of our hearts and invite Him in. He has never refused such an invitation.

We can know the riches of forgiveness, fellowship, and hope of future glory by accepting this gift from God. He was wonderful then, and is still wonderful. We, too, like the Wise Men, can bow down and worship. If we truly feel at this time that the coming of Jesus has brought us personal blessing, then Christmas will not have lost its radiance for us.

### Commission To Meet

The Commission of the General Conference will meet in Battle Creek, Michigan, December 27 through 31.

## Executive Secretary

### Dear Fellow Seventh Day Baptists:

Elsewhere in this issue of the Recorder you will find an announcement concerning the soon-to-be-held meeting of the Commission. Many things of vital importance to us as a people will be discussed at this meeting. Everyone of us needs to pray that the Holy Spirit will give understanding and direction to these whom we have chosen to represent us in this task.

Proposed 1959-60 budgets of the boards and agencies will be considered. In order to look so far ahead there must be faith that the present year's budget will be raised in full and that more and more of us will find added spiritual and financial resources to undergird the program. Certainly we must have faith that as we grow in grace and show forth the fruits of the spirit, that others will be led to find Christ as Savior and friend and that our churches will grow in membership.

One of the considerations of the Commission is to be the matter of the advisability of establishing a Department of Extension and Growth for our General Conference. The chairman of the Commission, the Rev. Earl Cruzan, asked for concrete ideas concerning this matter from any who would submit them to him. To date, I believe, responses have been few in number. If you have constructive suggestions your thinking is needed in this matter. Send a letter either to Mr. Cruzan in Adams Center, N. Y., or direct to Commission at 476 N. Washington Avenue, Battle Creek, Mich., by December 27.

As we approach the day on which we celebrate the birth of Jesus we should be reminded again that it is because of God's great love to us that we want to carry forward a growing Our World Mission program and, also, more vital local church programs. I believe this can be done only as we each receive Him more fully into our lives and hearts.

A friend expressed the thought beautifully in a poem she wrote at Christmas time in 1957. I feel sure she would not object to my sharing it with you:

### Christmas Dream

By Alice Linsenmayer

I dreamed God walked the face of earth today  
Seeking a place where He might lay His Son —  
His precious infant Son — His only One.  
Across the years, the smiles and tears He walked,  
Bearing His Son. Across the lands and seas —  
Through every time, through every town, He  
walked  
And sought in vain a place — a waiting place;  
A warm sweet place to lay His infant Son.  
And in my dreams He paused so near to me  
I heard the baby cry; and I cried out  
And prayed, "O make my heart a resting place;  
By Thy good grace, a quiet cradling place  
Apart — a humble, cleansed, and waiting heart!"

— Doris H. Fetherston.

### For a Happier Holiday

In a stepped-up campaign against Christmas holiday drinking and driving, the National Safety Council is enlisting the support of churches of every faith and creed to keep the threat of drinking drivers to a minimum over the Christmas season.

"We have no desire to dampen the Christmas spirit," the council said. "We only want to eliminate a definite source of death and destruction on the highway."

Council surveys show that a drinking driver was involved in 55 per cent of the Christmas holiday accidents last year.

Social drinkers — not the obvious drunk — are the big menace on the highway, the council said. Car weavings of the obvious drunk usually can be detected or avoided, but the social drunk, whose critical judgment is impaired even with a small amount of alcohol, appears normal until his wits fail him in an emergency.

Three hours are needed to work off the effect of two cocktails, the council warns the social drinker. And coffee doesn't help. Only time will eliminate alcohol from the blood stream.

[Do Christians have a right to be silent when parties are being planned involving the serving of alcohol? We do not admire Cain either for his crime or for his defensive question: "Am I my brother's keeper?"]

### Field Trip Experience

On the way to Paint Rock, Ala., from Metairie, La., a couple of days were spent with Mr. and Mrs. E. K. Bee at Reform, Ala. In the Paint Rock Church the entertainment was very hospitable — from that offered in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Butler, Sr., to that of their grandson, Rodney Butler, who guided me on two hikes across the broad acres of Glendale Farm.

A service was led, and a sermon delivered on Sabbath morning, November 22. After a fellowship dinner in the church yard the secretary conducted a workshop. Much interest was shown in the work of the Board of Christian Education.

The last stop was in Nashville, Tennessee, for a two-day meeting of the National Denominational Executives in Christian Education. The meeting was held in the new Methodist Christian Education Building. Significant reports were made concerning the World Convention of Christian Education held in Tokyo last August, and problems of communication that plagued so many were discussed. It was felt by all that the common basis of Christian love overcame all barriers but that much more must be done in student exchange and similar programs. (I remembered, during the discussions, our own Dr. Wayne Rood laboring at Silliman University, Dumaguete, Philippine Islands, as he inaugurates new procedures and ideals in their College of Theology.) How challenging it is to leave a quiet, normal American existence and attempt to "communicate" with other Christians as we all work toward the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. To my mind, all ecumenical work has some of that flavor.

Among our guests at the meeting were two leaders of the Southern Baptist denomination who told us of the working of the Baptist Training Union. Their story is thrilling. One of the five publishing houses which we visited was that of the Southern Baptists. Our visit there was

climaxed by all being treated to a fine dinner in their cafeteria. The other publishing house visits were paid to those of the African Methodist Episcopal Church; the National Baptist Convention of America; the National Baptist Convention, United States; and the Methodist Church. Also a tour was made of the Southern Baptist Convention Offices.

Other items that formed our program were "The Basic Philosophy of Camping in Christian Education," a presentation and discussion of "Christian Education Concerns to Foundations, Possible Givers and the General Public," a general sharing of "Exciting New Developments in Denominational Programs," and "Cooperative Youth Work."

These meetings were a fitting climax to a month's work among the Seventh Day Baptists of our Southwestern Association. To have had these experiences in workshops, worship services, visitations, in church and home and giant buildings, fills this secretary with humility, yet with a certain pride in those who are laboring, often against great odds, to establish Christian brotherhood wherever they dwell.

We arrived home in time for Thanksgiving. We have much, very much for which to be thankful.

### WORLDWIDE BIBLE READING

From Thanksgiving to Christmas the American Bible Society invites you to read from your Bible the following passages with your heart open to receive the love of God:

- Dec. 21 .... Philipians 4: 1-23
- Dec. 22 .... James 1: 1-27
- Dec. 23 .... 1 John 3: 1-24
- Dec. 24 .... John 1: 1-18
- Dec. 25 .... Luke 2: 1-52

### Tax Deductions

Act now if you want to take advantage of income tax deductions for contributions to denominational and local church work. Make sure your contributions are greater than one tenth of your income. You cannot deduct pledges.

## Twenty Missionaries For New Guinea

The great island of New Guinea in the South Pacific, known only by a few missionaries, was really "discovered" by the western world during World War II when its coastal areas had to be wrested from the Japanese. It became a symbol of the rigors of jungle warfare to thousands of American military men.

The natives were primitive beyond imagination. There were rumors of head-hunters farther inland. To connect the military camps and airstrips with such harbors as Hollandia, roads had to be hacked out of the steaming forests. Military vehicles rolled up clouds of red, choking dust or spattered mud over clothing and boots.

Well do we remember the first sight of men and women who had been stationed for a time at Hollandia. Our transport stood in the harbor for a brief time before proceeding north to empty its thousands on the mud flats of Leyte in the Philippines. There came on board a few of these strange specimens of manhood stationed at that seaport. Their skin and eyes were yellow with the daily diet of malaria-preventing atabrine. Their clothes were red with dust. A week later your writer was flown back to the same area and found himself beginning to look just like the rest. There was then some opportunity to observe the dwarfed, black-skinned, "fuzzy-wuzzie" natives and their living conditions. It could better be called a condition than living. Houses were only thatched rain shelters and the sleeping accommodations were two or three small poles placed close together and slightly raised above the ground.

In such an area General Douglas MacArthur then had his fairly elegant headquarters. There, too, jungle growth was cleared away for a clean military hospital and relatively comfortable living quarters for the military. On the great lake nearby, beautiful beyond compare, there was a strange mixture of untouched tropical quiet and the noise of western civilization. Enterprising soldiers in off-duty time had converted pontoon bridge boats into motor boats and had made themselves water

skis to skim the previously untroubled waters.

Chapels could be found and religiously inclined personnel found their way in the evening to services conducted by evangelistic chaplains or earnest men of the ranks. But contacts with the natives in the few days of your editor's stay there were almost nonexistent. At that time there seemed to be too great a gulf fixed between the western newcomer and the primitive native who was scarcely seen.

With such a background of personal experience (matched perhaps by similar experience of many of our readers), we read with greater interest a simple little item about twenty missionaries who will be sent out to this same area of New Guinea early in 1959 by the Netherlands Reformed Missionary Council. The residence of the five star general on the high hill is forgotten; camps, chapels, and speed boats have disappeared. The jungle long since has reclaimed its domain. The natives are still there and the port of Hollandia is thriving. Among the primitive people there is a desire for more knowledge of Christ.

A fund has been opened to strengthen the program of training for native pastors and church workers in West New Guinea. The Evangelical Christian Church in the area has requested help from its mother church in the Netherlands. A theological college will be built at Hollandia. To provide money for the project a drive will be launched in the Netherlands in January, 1959. Unconquered areas await Gospel conquest. — Editor.

Paint Rock, Ala. — In a letter of appreciation for the strong Sabbath emphasis in the July special issue of the Sabbath Recorder there was a very substantial gift for future special issues (the only such gift we can recall). It will probably be used to further improve the February, 1959, and subsequent issues.

### SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for December 27, 1958

Jesus Is Christ the Lord

Lesson Scripture: Mark 8: 27-35.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

## Teen Talk

### The Oldest Christmas Tree

Did you know that there is a tree, more often viewed in the summer than in December, which is known as the nation's Christmas tree? And did you know that the idea came from a girl who stood under the foot of that tree about 35 years ago? The name of the girl is not known but the name of the tree is well known. It is the great General Grant Tree, a 265-foot Sequoia standing in the national park 55 miles east of Fresno, Calif.

In 1924 a girl became separated from the rest of her party and was standing beneath the shimmering branches of this massive tree. She clasped the hand of the late Charles E. Lee who was standing beside her and exclaimed, "My! What a wonderful Christmas tree it would be."

The next year, after Mr. Lee had thought much about the idea, he started holding undenominational Christmas services in the snow at the foot of that 3500-year-old tree which grows at an elevation of 6500 feet in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The attendance has increased from 100 to over 2000.

In addition to being a national Christmas tree, this ancient Sequoia was made the subject of an Act of Congress in 1955. It is a national shrine dedicated to American servicemen, living and dead.

The trees which we buy each year, or select from among the evergreens that may be growing on the farm, are young and shapely trees that can be brought into the house in midwinter. They are soon forgotten and they have little relation to the birth of Christ which we celebrate at this season. But a celebration of the birth of Christ does bring special joys to Christian families. Before it takes on its highest meaning, some of us have to be older than the girl who suggested that the General Grant Tree would make a wonderful Christmas tree.

We wonder at the star that led the Wise Men to the place where the young

child lay and at the revelations from God, the song of the angels, and all the rest. On the other side of the world God had planted trees in the California mountains which were perhaps 1500 years old when Jesus was born. It reminds us that the past is as living as the present. Under this giant evergreen tree 2,500 people or more, will bow their heads on December 25 to worship the Christ who came so long ago and is still with us in a real sense. Let's put Christ first in everything. Nowhere in the Bible are we told to celebrate the birth of Christ, but if we love Him we will want to, in some fitting way.

### Baptist World Alliance Message

To our Baptist people in all parts of the world, greeting in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The members of the Executive of the Baptist World Alliance, assembled in August, 1958, in Ruschlikon-Zurich, Switzerland, meet in a mood of thanksgiving that so many have been able to come together from such widely-scattered areas. The world of our day is in a state of tension; on every hand there are fears and misgiving; yet in our fellowship we represent a vital and growing community of 23 millions in which the ties that bind are strong and enduring.

We desire to affirm once again our conviction that our Savior, crucified, risen, and exalted, is our only hope both for the present and the future; that the fellowship of His Church is a voluntary association of those who acknowledge Him as Savior and Lord, and in their obedience in baptism have pledged themselves to His way of life both as individuals and communities; that our belief in the Fatherhood of God commits us not only to human brotherhood but also to those principles of liberty in which alone are recognized the rights and duties of men as children of God.

In our deliberations we have surveyed our Baptist life and witness bearing in mind not only our great heritage but also the challenge of youth movements and new areas of opportunity. We have re-



joined in reports of progress both in home churches and on the mission field. We have been moved to admiration and gratitude as we have learned of our brethren who, in situations of difficulty and even persecution, have shown their loyalty to Christ, often at great cost.

To all ministers of the Gospel and members of our churches of every race and color we send affectionate greetings. Assuring them of our constant remembrance and prayers we ask of all our people throughout the world continuing prayer for our work. We believe that the greatest contribution we can make to the peace and happiness of our world is by exalting Christ our Lord and Master.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Theodore F. Adams,  
President.

### 1958 - 1959 OWM Slides Now Available

Slides illustrating Our World Mission program as carried forward by the various boards and agencies of our General Conference are now available. There are 74 slides and the accompanying script takes about 30 minutes to read.

Each member of the Commission has a set of the slides and whenever possible will be glad to present the program personally. However, the slides and script will be loaned on request to any church, Sabbath School, Youth Fellowship, women's organization, or other auxiliary group of the church. Beside the Commission members, those having sets available are Mrs. R. T. Fetherston, executive secretary, and Rev. Leon M. Maltby, corresponding secretary of the Tract Board. A tape recording, if it is desired instead of the script, may be had from the last two mentioned.

This program affords an excellent opportunity to obtain a comprehensive knowledge of the work made possible by gifts to Our World Mission. Every one who has a part in the giving should be interested in the program.

### New Chief of Chaplains Assumes Duties

Chaplain Frank A. Tobey assumed the duties of Chief of Army Chaplains November 1. In a ceremony held in the Army Chief of Staff's office, Chaplain Tobey was sworn in and received the rank of Major General. He succeeds Chaplain (Major General) Patrick J. Ryan, who has completed four and one-half years as Chief of Chaplains.

Serving throughout World War II in the Pacific, Chaplain Tobey developed and pioneered the work of the Army Chaplain in New Guinea and other southwest Pacific areas. He was also Chaplain of X Corps in Korea during the invasion of Inchon and North Korea and on January 15, 1951, he was made Eighth Army Chaplain, thus becoming the first United Nations' Chaplain in Korea. His most recent position was Deputy Chief of Army Chaplains. He is a minister of the American Baptist denomination.

For a brief time before the retirement of Chaplain Ryan all three Chiefs of Chaplains (Army, Navy, and Air Force) were Roman Catholic. The Deputy Chiefs are always of a different faith from the Chiefs of Chaplains.

A portion of the citation given Chaplain Ryan reads as follows:

"His many accomplishments include the formation and implementation of the Character Guidance and the Chapel Beautification Programs. He was further instrumental in the establishment of the Unified Religious Education Program, the Second Lieutenant Seminary Program, the Retreat and Mission Program, the Chaplain Assistant Program, and for many other innovations which have substantially increased the effectiveness of the Army Chaplaincy."

Christmas Eve will be observed in many Dutch towns this year by communal carol singing. Started five years ago by a shopkeeper in Utrecht, the idea has spread, and last year many towns had to use the largest halls available. Both Protestants and Roman Catholics cooperate in making arrangements. — EPS.

### Where Is Christ In "Season's Greetings"?

A good portion of all Christmas cards carries only the words: "Season's Greetings."

To us, irrespective of who sends such greetings, it would indicate a disrespect for Christian beliefs in that the name of Christ is omitted entirely. What kind of season's greetings do such cards offer? The Christmas season is also the season of basketball, the ice skating season, the hockey season, the football season, the skiing season, and the hunting season. When one would offer season's greetings, what season is meant? If it is the Christmas season, then at least the word Christmas should be added to the Christmas cards and gifts. Anything else can be construed only that we contribute to the idea of taking Christ out of Christmas.

— Patrick E. Gorman.

### NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

SCHENECTADY, N. Y. — The new parsonage is finished, and Pastor and Mrs. Osborn have moved in and are settled very comfortably. The house is a three-bedroom, living room, kitchen and dining area, bath, commodious closets, a full basement and garage attached, with unfinished room above garage for expansion. We are justly proud of our parsonage, which is at 130 Clement Avenue, directly back of the church which faces Colonial Avenue. We invite you to visit us. Neither Clement nor Colonial goes through to State Street (Highway 5) but are off Albany Street, just west of the city limits. Albany Street is the first street north of State.

We had our first church wedding Thanksgiving night when our moderator, Gordon Kilts, took Miss Beverly Cook as his bride. They will reside in Glens Falls where he teaches.

Eugene Fatato preached for us Sabbath morning after Thanksgiving. He and Freda and son, Paul, were home for the holiday.

S.Sgt. Don Ritz, his wife, Alice, and

their four children are in England where he is on tour of duty. Their address is 7505 Hospital, APO 232, New York, N. Y.

Miss Brenda Moore, who is a student at the State Teachers College in Potsdam, was home for Thanksgiving. It was good to have her play and sing for us.

Thanks to an interested friend, we have an electric organ, given as a memorial to his father. It is much appreciated, and a great addition to our services. — L.G.O.

SHILOH, N. J. — After the closing weekend of November (Church Attendance Month) this church was able to publish the following averages (5 Sabbaths) for the three principal services: Friday evening 43, Sabbath School 151, morning worship 182. The attendance on Sabbath morning, November 29, was 192.

The annual every member canvass for the church and the denomination is traditionally scheduled for the second Sunday of December. The calling teams meet for prayer at the parsonage at 9 o'clock and then spend the day talking to widely scattered members about their pledges.

PLAINFIELD, N. J. — This church did not experience any considerable increase in attendance during November. The average on Sabbath morning was about the same as other months, 72. Prayer meeting attendance is not large but large enough to be profitable for all who come. Plainfield, being the headquarters of the Tract Board and other denominational interests, has many things to pray about coming from world-wide correspondence. The large percentage of children in the congregation is also a source of encouragement to pastor and people. Visitors are quite frequent. People coming to New York would do well to remember that buses leave the city every half hour for Plainfield from the Port Authority Terminal, and Jersey Central trains every hour on the hour from the ferry at the foot of Liberty Street. The bus will stop at Seventh and Central, less than two blocks from the church.

DENVER, COLO. — A look at the November church bulletins shows that the church was striving for an attendance of 100. People were discussing camp prob-

# The Sabbath Recorder

lems and were called upon to do some physical work at Rocky Mountain Camp. They were urged to "take and use the special issues of the Sabbath Recorder that we have available." "It is a good idea," the notice reads, "to keep the Recorder and Advance on your table or in a conspicuous place in your home. Take some of each."

The Building Fund was mentioned in the bulletin every week. The November 29 item reads as follows:

Building Fund Cards are nearly all in, and we are delighted to be able to announce that we have met our goal. The only thing that could thwart our building plans would be a lack of "follow through" in our intentions. November giving for the Building Fund is well above the monthly quota. It is well to remember that the giving will determine what we can build.

## Marriages

Kilts - Cook. — Gordon Kilts, of Ballston Lake, N. Y., and Beverly Cook, of Dolgeville, N. Y., were united in marriage November 27, 1958, at the Schenectady Seventh Day Baptist Church by Pastor Lester G. Osborn.

## Obituaries

Jacox. — Edith E., daughter of Elmer E. and Delilah Euphemia Jones Cornelius, was born in the Town of Alfred, N. Y., June 2, 1885, and died November 4, 1958.

She was baptized January 12, 1901, and united with the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Alfred of which she has been a lifelong faithful member.

She was united in marriage with Clarence Jacox in December, 1901. To this union were born four daughters: Eva (Mrs. Thomas Spaine), Addie (Mrs. Ernest Snyder) of Alfred, Bernice (Mrs. Richard Pierce) of Alfred Station, and Neva (Mrs. LeRoy Darling) of St. Marys, W. Va.

Upon the death of their daughter Eva, Mr. and Mrs. Jacox assumed the guardianship of her four children in 1946, two of whom, Mary and Linda Spaine, were still living with them.

There survive besides her husband and three daughters, two brothers: Alvin Cornelius of Wellsville and Elmer Cornelius of Alfred Station; fifteen grandchildren; thirteen great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial services were conducted from her church by her pastor, the Rev. Hurley S. Warren. Interment was in Alfred Rural Cemetery. — H.S.W.

Maxson. — Miss Mabel, daughter of Dr. Albert Sylvanus and Dollie Babcock Maxson, was born March 25, 1886, in Milton Junction, Wis., and died at home in Milton Junction November 4, 1958.

For most of her life she was a member of the Milton Junction Seventh Day Baptist Church. Her friends remember her as librarian and professor in Milton College.

Surviving are a sister, Mrs. Chester D. Newman, of Milwaukee, Wis.; a nephew, James E. Newman, of Washington, D. C.; and four cousins.

The memorial service, conducted by her pastor, the Rev. Victor W. Skaggs, was held in the Milton Junction Seventh Day Baptist Church, and burial was in the Milton Junction Cemetery. — V.W.S.

Soper. — Ruth Rowley, was born in Pender, Neb., in February, 1898, and died at Paint Rock, Ala., Nov. 7, 1958.

She was the wife of the Rev. Ralph M. Soper, to whom she was married May 12, 1913, at North Platte, Neb. Her husband, now of Okolona, Ark., survives her as do all of their nine children: Adeline, Little Rock, Ark.; Mrs. Glenn Davis, Fouke, Ark.; Mrs. Stanley Ruprecht, Central Square, N. Y.; Dr. Herbert, Little Rock, Ark.; Mynor, North Loup, Neb.; John, Los Angeles, Calif.; Harley, Beaumont, Tex.; Keith and Ira, both of Arthur, Neb. Other surviving relatives are her mother Mrs. Emma V. Rowley, of Idaho, four brothers and four sisters, 17 grandchildren, besides nieces and nephews.

After holding membership in the Church of the Brethren and the Seventh-day Adventist Church she, with her husband, united with the North Loup Seventh Day Baptist Church in 1928. In recent years when her husband was serving as an evangelist and pastor she gave ample evidence of deep love for her Lord and His Church and faithfulness to the service of her husband's ministry.

A short memorial service was conducted on Sabbath afternoon, November 8, in the Paint Rock Church by the Rev. A. T. Bottoms. Later at Texarkana, Ark., another service conducted by the Rev. Marion Van Horn, assisted by the Rev. Rex Zwiebel, with all of the children and grandchildren present was held. Burial was in the Texarkana Memorial Gardens.

— Mrs. Robert Butler.

Snay. — Luella M., daughter of Calvin and Naomi Hurley Snay, was born Dec. 17, 1893, near Nortonville, Kan., and died Oct. 24, 1958, in Memorial Hospital, Winchester, Kan.

She grew up at Nortonville, taught in a country school, and later received a business education. For several years she was office secretary at Central Congregational Church, Topeka, Kan.

In her youth she was baptized by the Rev. G. W. Hills and was a member of the Nortonville Seventh Day Baptist Church. She is survived by her aunt, Mrs. Maude Stillman, Nortonville. Burial services were at Nortonville, Oct. 26, 1958, the Rev. Robert Smith (Baptist) of Valley Falls, Kan., officiating.

— Maude Stillman.



### BEGINNING OF CHRISTIAN HISTORY DEPICTED

Across the busy city street from the Seventh Day Baptist Building a stable is erected with five sheep and silent figures depicting a New Testament scene, the beginning of Christian history:

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. . . . And the angel said unto them, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. . . . Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger."