

OUR WORLD MISSION

Statement of the Treasurer, November 30, 1959

BUDGET RECEIPTS					
Treasurer's		Boards'	Treasurer's		Boards'
Nov.	2 Mos.	2 Mos.	Nov.	2 Mos.	2 Mos.
Balance, Nov. 1 ...\$	2.77		Marlboro	275.46	598.24
Adams Center ...	151.75	151.75	Middle Island	13.00	31.00
Albion	39.63	39.63	Milton	393.26	850.61
Alfred, 1st	237.75	687.05	Milton Junction		107.65
Alfred, 2nd	173.65	382.25	New Auburn		18.75
Associations			North Loup		25.00
and Groups	50.42	131.26	80.00	Nortonville	52.50
Battle Creek	451.71	1,687.09	Old Stone Fort	20.00	40.00
Berlin	36.35	82.78	Paint Rock	50.00	50.00
Boulder	52.70	136.35	Pawcatuck	525.00	700.00
Brookfield, 1st	50.00	90.00	Plainfield	316.10	503.95
Buffalo	50.00	50.00	Richburg	112.00	127.50
Chicago	78.00	169.00	Ritchie	14.00	14.00
Daytona Beach	81.75	172.50	Riverside		283.85
Denver		98.79	Roanoke	12.00	44.00
Dodge Center	68.71	68.71	Rockville	45.15	158.94
Farina	56.75	56.75	Salem	27.00	54.00
Hammond	20.00	20.00	Salemville	25.00	25.00
Hebron, 1st	45.33	45.33	Shiloh	710.00	710.00
Hopkinton, 1st	125.20	213.20	Tract Society		76.50
Hopkinton, 2nd	7.00	10.50	Verona	187.35	187.35
Independence	100.00	146.00	Walworth	28.00	55.00
Individuals	15.00	2,040.00	2.00	Washington	25.00
Irvington	300.00	300.00	Wash., People's	5.00	10.00
Los Angeles	240.00	480.00	Waterford	88.28	217.10
L. A., Christ's		100.00	White Cloud	98.29	98.29
Lost Creek		178.36			
				\$5,431.86	\$12,657.53
					\$158.50

TREASURER'S DISBURSEMENTS

	Budget	Designated & Undesignated
Missionary Society	\$2,301.38	
Board of Christian Education	487.60	
Ministerial Training	620.20	
Ministerial Retirement	412.35	
Historical Society	102.35	
Women's Society	162.10	
General Conference	547.35	
Tract Society	635.55	
Trustees of General Conference	40.05	
World Fellowship and Service	31.15	
American Bible Society	83.48	
	\$5,423.56	
Balance on hand November 30	8.30	

Non-Budget Gifts

November Receipts	\$26.61
November Disbursements:	
Salem College	\$19.00
UNICEF	7.61
	\$26.61

SUMMARY

Current annual budget	\$108,022.00
Treasurer's budget receipts 2 mos. ...	\$12,657.53
Boards' budget receipts 2 mos.	158.50
	\$12,816.03
Remainder required in 10 mos.	\$95,205.97
Percentage of budget year elapsed ...	16.67%
Percentage of budget raised	11.86%

Eldred H. Batson,
Treasurer.
1612 Lawrence St.,
Parkersburg, W. Va.

Communism is challenging us to outlive it with Christianity. It is a matter of the power of the Cross against the propaganda of the sickle.

— Hyman Appelman.

In making great scientific advances we must avoid acquiring an air raid shelter mentality. Conceivably we could save the shell of the nation and lose its heart.

— William J. Villaume.

The Sabbath Recorder



The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

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

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Terms of Subscription

Per Year \$3.00 Single Copies 10 cents

Special rates for students, retired Seventh Day Baptist ministers, and servicemen.

Postage to Canada and foreign countries 50 cents per year additional. Gift and newlywed subscriptions will be discontinued at date of expiration unless renewed. All subscriptions will be discontinued six months after date to which payment is made unless renewed. The Sabbath Recorder cannot pay for contributed articles but will send the writer, upon request, up to 10 free copies of the issue in which an article appears.

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

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

PLAINFIELD, N. J., DECEMBER 28, 1959
Vol 163, No. 24 Whole No. 5,874

IN THIS ISSUE

Editorials:	
Rear View and Front View	2
Sitting by the Treasury	3
Editorial Notes	4
Features:	
President's Column	5
Christian Citizenship	
^o Exemplified by the W.C.T.U.	5
Are You Plagued with Heart Trouble?	8
The Wonder of His Love	10
People Want to Know	12
Deacon Edmund Crosley	12
A Deaconess States Her Faith	13
Youth News	14
Studying Our Beliefs	15
Tract Distribution Ministry	15
Missions:	
Missions Assembly Attended	6
Jamaica Women's Board	6
December Dates	7
Christian Education:	
Methodists Take Steps to Aid School of Theology	10
Women's Work:	
This I Believe — Judge Not	11
News from the Churches	Back Cover
Marriages. — Obituaries	Back Cover

Rear View And Front View

The people of America are people on wheels and a people with their hands on the steering wheel to such an extent that it can almost be said that our view of life is from the front seat of an automobile. Perhaps this differentiates the American way of life from life in other countries more than anything else. Whether this outlook is good or bad may be a matter of opinion. But that is the way it is. It gives us a remarkable opportunity to test our inner strength and to overcome, if we possess the grace to do so, many of the tensions that come from splitting our attention constantly between the rear-view mirror and the windshield. The writer was almost startled to realize that the principal use of a mirror was once to look at one's self rather than to keep his eye on what is behind him.

A modern automobile usually has two rear-view mirrors, one inside and one outside. It takes two in proper arrangement to make visible all that one needs to see. We are reminded that this look behind is to enable us to make safe progress in a forward direction. The mirrors, however, are small in comparison with the full-view windshield and the lateral view from the side windows. We are content to have merely a glimpse or a postcard-size picture of what is behind us. Important as it is for safety, the forward view is what claims the major portion of our attention, and we insist that our cars have enough glass in front to give us panoramic vision.

The application of all this to our lives in the last week of the old year cannot be missed. The fact that we are here is cause for giving thanks. It also implies either that we have employed the principles of good driving through the year or that those accompanying us or meeting us on life's roadway have made allowances for our mistakes and lack of alertness. We would hope that it is the former — that we have done more than our share and have helped others to come to this point in life with safety.

What do we see this week in our rear-view mirrors? We see some failures. Our car probably was kept well tired but when

it came to doing things for our Lord we may have pleaded that we were "just plain tired." Again, though our driving has been fast enough on the highways our spiritual progress has not been rapid or steady, now that we look back at it. There have even been times when we were on the wrong side of the center line — the safety line. How about the stops we have made? Some were necessary, to be sure, but now we wish that more of them had been for the purpose of helping those in need whom we "passed by on the other side." If one of our mirrors has magnifying qualities we may be able to see behind us a pastor poorly supported, a missionary left stranded in a faraway place, or the Christian training of youth neglected. Whatever it is, we cannot plot our future course without thought of what shows up just now in that rear-view glass.

But here we are at year's end with a windshield that has just been wiped clean. There is a mountain range ahead of us which we have been called to negotiate for the Lord. He asks much of us but not too much. We can't see around all the corners from where we are now, and if we stay where we are in fear and trembling our Lord will never have the opportunity to progressively open to us the road that lies ahead. We must move out in faith — even financial faith.

Perhaps we ought to get our attention off the vehicle in which we are moving. The experts tell us that car manufacturers have gone about as far as they can go in improving the machinery. Road builders have done the same. The big problem on highways is no longer defective machines but defective people. Our churches and our denomination have been in the hands of the best experts we could employ, and there are no patent rights on church machinery. We copy what others have found successful. To fail to plan our future with less than the best available machinery would be a sin. But to try to make progress in the new year without self-discipline and without Spirit-guided self-improvement would be as foolish as to venture forth on the highway with impaired vision.

Our superhighways are free from the

MEMORY TEXT

So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me.

— Ezekiel 33: 7.

old-time warnings of hidden dangers. What we see today at regular intervals, and especially at the entrance points of our throughways, are those luminous, nerve-jarring signs, "Keep Awake!" Is there anything more appropriate for us easy-going Christians as we start a new year of experiences and service? Those signs never glisten in a rear-view mirror. Let's now take the front view and "Keep Awake" to spiritual things.

Sitting by the Treasury

The account of the widow's mite in Mark 12: 41-44 is introduced by the statement, "And he (Jesus) sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the multitude putting money into the treasury" (RSV). The implication of the story is that the giving was typical of every week or of every year, for probably some of those were annual contributions for the upkeep of the temple and the support of its priesthood. The point of the story is not the good which could be done with a widow's mite but rather that those with greater ability were unwilling to increase their giving to the point at which it would cost them something by way of self-denial.

When the people of a modern-day church substantially increase their per capita giving we can be sure it costs them something and that He who sits "opposite the treasury" will note it with approval. The results of the annual canvass of the Shiloh, N. J., Church were tabulated in the Sabbath bulletin of December 12. The number of pledges in the \$1-\$25 range dropped from 58 to 45 and the number in the \$25-\$50 range dropped from 18 to 14 as compared with the year just ending. From that point on the numbers increased. We see 14 instead of 8 in the \$50-\$75

category. Skipping to the last category, we observe 15 instead of 5 people pledging to contribute to the local church \$300 or more. This financial canvass also resulted in three-year pledges and cash gifts for a camp building program of over \$11,000. Our World Mission pledges were also solicited. This is a success story in a church whose congregation is steadily growing although the population increase of the one-church village has not been spectacular.

EDITORIAL NOTES

News from New Orleans

"Nothing succeeds like success," is an adage often proved true and apparently substantiated again in the Seventh Day Baptist Fellowship of Metairie in the New Orleans area. Without a regular pastor, this little group started to grow recently by the conversion of young people and adults. Reports speak of men in the clutches of alcohol remarkably delivered and now willing to devote their energy to the building of a more adequate house of worship.

The lay leader reporting the unprecedented success tells of a total of 24 baptized in three weeks. He adds, "I've been to church all my life and have seen more working of God and more tears of joy in the last month than in the last 40 years."

If God can work like this in New Orleans where only a short time ago there was almost complete discouragement, His Spirit can also touch hearts in many other places. We might say that where the Spirit is given free rein there He will be able to reign. Let us pray earnestly for the continuation of rapid growth in this southern community and the wise consolidation of that growth. At the same time let us pray for a surge of evangelism wherever there is a nucleus of believers — such an evangelism as is more than the white cresting of a single wave, rather a mighty surging of the limitless deep, controlled by an influence from above — heaven itself.

Week of Prayer

There are many days of prayer and several weeks of prayer urged upon Christian people by various groups, some denominational and some world-wide. This multiplicity of special seasons for prayer is sometimes confusing but we do well to remember as many as possible, for spending too much time in prayer is not likely to be an accusation that fits the modern Christian.

Of all the appointed times for prayer none is more fitting or more easy to remember than the first full week in January, which has been observed for so long and so universally. Many of our churches have experienced great blessing from putting much effort into well-organized local participation. Wise pastors and enthusiastic prayer leaders have doubtless laid plans for starting the new year with extra meetings for the purpose of prayer. This can be a time of heart searching, a time of waiting upon the Lord without undue programming and without following a prescribed pattern of thought.

Effective group praying is that which bears in mind the worthy causes common to all people but puts the emphasis on the things that can be accomplished by prayer in and through the organization of which the group is a part. May we join willingly and expectantly in whatever group praying has been or can be arranged at the beginning of the new year.

Look Next Week

For Special New Year's Message

Due to the Christmas holiday which shortened the work week in the publishing house the Sabbath Recorder had to go to press one day early and could not process the special New Year's message prepared by the Rev. Ralph H. Coon of Salem, W. Va. Mr. Coon's appropriate and challenging sermon will be featured in the issue of January 4.

The way to defeat an idea is to have a better idea. We have a better idea. The American idea is freedom and justice. — Robert M. Hutchins, speaking about Communism.

President's Message

"My Spiritual Inventory"

I am convinced that our greatest need as Seventh Day Baptists and as twentieth century American Christians is to take a long and honest look at ourselves in relation to the perfection of Jesus Christ. If we are truly honest it will be a humbling experience for all of us. It will reveal faults in us of which we have accused others. We will discover in ourselves pride, stubborn and willful ignorance, bigotry, inconsistency, jealousy, deep-seated selfishness, lethargy, untrained abilities, indifference to the things of faith, and failure to grow in knowledge and wisdom and spirit.

"My Spiritual Inventory" is a tool in our hands to help each one to discover himself. As each of us sits down to consider his own life and its basic foundations in the light of God's truth, he has an opportunity to discover the completeness or the inadequacy of his beliefs, the validity or the bankruptcy of his Sabbath-keeping, the power for good or evil of his life's influence on others, the value and strength of those decisions which shape life, and the specific weaknesses and lacks and sins which beset him and weaken the impact of his faith and life and break the continuity of his witness for Christ. Such a study will reveal to us the possibilities both within us and in God's world. It will stimulate our awareness of the love and power of God. It will remind us of the unpredictable power of influence vested in a single act or a single phrase. We will catch a glimpse of both the tragedy and the glory of human life within ourselves. It will open before us an opportunity for a realistic rededication of life.

"My Spiritual Inventory" provides the opportunity for each of us to receive all this and more. But it is only a tool! The diligence and honesty and prayerfulness with which we use it will demonstrate how sincerely we desire to grow in the things of the Spirit and to serve our world for Jesus' sake.

Be sure to get your copy of "My Spiritual Inventory" from your home church.

Christian Citizenship Exemplified by the W.C.T.U.

By Mae Whitford
Alfred Station, N. Y.

What is citizenship? Most of us regard it as a privilege which is peculiarly and inalienably ours by virtue of doing nothing at all but being born. What are our responsibilities, our duties as W.C.T.U. members? We believe the organization was born of God. We know it was born of prayer on the altars of the church. It is made up of Christian women banded together for the protection of home, the doing away with the liquor traffic, and putting forth the golden rule of Christ in custom and law. It has been blessed all these years with a leadership such as would indicate divine direction.

We believe that the W.C.T.U., more than any other society, is the exponent of what is best in these latter days of civilization. Its scope is the broadest, its aims are the kindest, its history the most heroic.

This organization calls on busy people, people who are used to doing things, to do something more in the way of citizenship. It gives expression to the individual longings, prayers, hopes, and labors of more than half a million members in this country.

The liquor traffic today is preying on our homes and is threatening the peace of mind of those who are dear to us. When we make up our minds to become Christian citizens in the full sense of the term we will get rid of liquor and its traffic, for we will realize that to do so is one of the most important things in the world. Citizenship is more than voting on taxes, electing Republican or Democratic representatives; it is daring to stand for temperance and right. The future of America, yes, of the world is up to spiritually minded people who are willing to be jeered at for the cause of righteousness and good government.

Let us hearken to the call of duty. Let us become true Christian citizens and make this nation a better place in which to live and to rear our children.

Missions Assembly Attended

A joint assembly of the Divisions of Home and Foreign Missions of the National Council of Churches was held at Atlantic City, N. J., December 8-11, 1959. Representing Seventh Day Baptists at the division meetings were Missionary Society President George V. Crandall and Secretary Everett T. Harris.

Dr. Willard Wickizer, chairman of the Division of Home Missions, presided at the opening session and the Rev. R. H. Edwin Espy addressed the group on the subject, "The Indivisible Mission." Consideration was given to interests and responsibilities held in common by the two divisions and how they might work more closely together.

Many leaders of the younger churches of Africa, Asia, and Latin America were among the 600 delegates and visitors attending the meetings. Those who addressed the group warned of the desperate urgency in our time to carry the Gospel message to all the world. Population growth, poverty, and ignorance do not stand still while the churches set up committees to study them. The spread of hunger is coming at a time when increasing numbers in the world believe that hunger is unnecessary. Poverty is becoming intolerable to the poor. Millions watch angrily as the rich nations get richer and the poor get poorer. There is a social revolution going on in our time which the churches must understand so that the Gospel of our Lord may be relevant to the need.

In this country the expanding population combined with the mass movement of people to the cities has changed the social structure of our land. People have been misplacing their faith in technological advance, in producing transferable goods rather than developing character, integrity, and the worth of the individual soul. Will the churches understand and adapt their program of advance accordingly, providing spiritual leadership where the need is greatest? This is the challenge of the home field and it is just as pressing as the need of foreign fields.

Jamaica Women's Board

**Thanksgiving Service
and
Rally of the Churches**

Held at Maiden Hall Vocational Secondary School Sunday, Nov. 22, 1959

Though the two previous days had seen heavy showers, Sunday, November 22, proved to be a fair and bright day at Maiden Hall allowing for a good time of fellowship, rejoicing, and thanksgiving to God for His mercies. In previous years the Women's Board of the Jamaica Seventh Day Baptist Conference has held exhibitions and concerts at Crandall High School and the Kingston Church to raise monies for the Maiden Hall project. This year, with Maiden Hall School an actuality and the mortgage paid off, the event was changed to a time of thanksgiving and a rally programme to raise money for the support of the school.

There were truckloads of brethren from Bowensville, Higgentown, Charles Town, Kingston, Whitfield Town, Luna, and Blue Mountain churches. Others traveling by regular bus came from Albion Mountain, Wakefield, and Waterford. The chapel was packed for the Thanksgiving service at 11:00 a.m. and the message was brought by the Rev. S. A. Thompson with the Conference president, the Rev. N. H. Grant, acting as the chairman for the service. For many this was their first visit to Maiden Hall. Dinner was prepared by the brethren of the Maiden Hall fellowship group and sold at a nominal sum. Ice cream, soda pop, and other refreshments were also available.

Woodworking items and sewing were also on sale along with the hats sent by women in the American churches, with all proceeds going to aid the school. The newly purchased public address system with record player offered a background of music and allowed the many unable to crowd into the chapel for the afternoon rally the opportunity to hear the programme.

For some months the women have been keeping cans in their homes and collecting monies for this event. Each church was

urged to take a number of cans (much like the "Church Banks" used in the American Conference a year ago) and save money for the rally. During the service representatives from each church came forward and announced how much had been raised by those members in their church. This varied from ten shillings three pence (\$1.44) to over forty-one pounds (\$115). In all, over £131 (about \$367) was announced as raised by the twelve churches reporting. It was noted that other churches should also have something to report and some reporting said there was more to come. In the sale of items and the programmes for the rally the total amount raised looks toward £175 for the day — for which we thank God sincerely.

December Dates

(Taken from Jamaica Conference and church bulletins)

December 8 — Crandall High School Commencement at 7 p.m.

December 20 — White Gift Service. You are asked to bring your gifts of food and money to help the needy.

December 27 — Sabbath School outing at Hope Gardens, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

December 28 - 31 — Fourth Annual Spiritual Retreat at Maiden Hall. Theme, "Forward with Power," sponsored by Conference and under the direction of the Field Supervisor.

December 30 — Day of Fasting and Prayer. Individuals are invited to join those in retreat at Maiden Hall in a day of prayer and fasting. Pray, fast for revival and infilling of the Holy Spirit in power.

Food for 11 Million People a Month

Beset by wars, political crisis, disasters, primitive farming and industry, two thirds of the world's people do not have enough to eat, according to official surveys. Through the Food Crusade and related CARE programs in 25 countries, Americans will help feed an average of 11 million people a month over the coming year.

ECUMENICAL NEWS

"The reunion of the churches will not come as a result of a minimum doctrinal agreement," says Archbishop Iakovos, primate of the Greek Orthodox Church in North and South America, and a president of the World Council of Churches. He continues: "Nor will it come by concessions or compromises of a sacramental or ritualistic nature. The union of churches is in a sense already in existence. If all the Christian churches believe in Christ, it is Christ who unifies us. Any other union would be superfluous. . . ."

A five-member delegation from the World Council of Churches left Geneva, Switzerland, December 1 for a three-and-a-half-week visit in Russia as guests of the Moscow Patriarchate of the Russian Orthodox Church.

Dr. O. Frederick Nolde, New York and Philadelphia, director of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, was the only American in the group. The delegation will be the first "fully international, ecumenical" group of church leaders ever to visit the USSR. The group expected to have at least two formal meetings with Russian Orthodox Church leaders in Moscow. In addition, the delegation planned to talk with leaders of the Lutheran, Baptist, and Armenian churches in the Soviet Union during the visit.

Riga's Lutheran Cathedral

Taken Over by State

The Lutheran Cathedral of St. Mary in Riga, Latvia, has been taken over by the Soviet authorities and turned into a "historical monument" under the National Trust.

The cathedral houses one of the world's largest organs. It is contended that the taking over of the church was to enable lovers of music who would not normally enter a church to hear the organ.

Under the National Trust church services are permitted only in connection with national occasions. Reports say that an organ recital by an atheist musician was the only event on Pentecost Sunday, May 17.

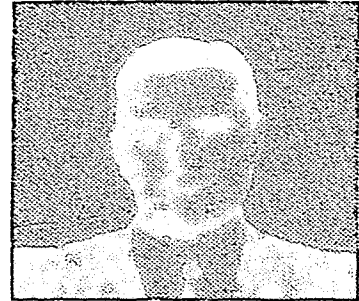
— EPS.

Are You Plagued with

HEART TROUBLE?

A sermon preached at the Kingston, Jamaica, mission church and published in the Kingston paper.

By Leon R. Lawton



"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."

St. Matthew 5: 8.

Heart trouble is one of the physical ailments that plagues mankind today. It is a number one health problem in the world. Men can live if they lose other organs of the body — but not the heart. It is the center of life.

Spiritually, also, the heart is the vital organ — the center of Christian life. By "heart" we do not mean the affections, but rather the whole inner man. We read: "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he" (Prov. 23: 7). Christ said: ". . . for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh" (Matt. 12:34b). What befalls the heart befalls the individual, spiritually. What is the health of our heart today? Is it right or wrong with God?

Common Heart

Let us think for a moment on three basic conditions of the heart as shown by God's Word:

The common heart is possessed by all men born into the world. It is untouched by the things of God. ". . . the heart of the sons of men is full of evil" (Eccl. 9: 3). "The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked" (Jer. 17: 9). Sin reigns in the hearts of mankind universally and is known by the teachings of Scripture, the truth of history, and the testimony of one's personal experience. Man is naturally self-centered, looking after his own pleasures and wishes. Even as Simon, the sorcerer, of Samaria, man seeks righteousness in his own way. The condemnation of Peter against such, rings down through the centuries: ". . . thy heart is

not right in the sight of God" (Acts 8: 21b). The common heart is one without God, full of sin and its own ways.

Pious Heart

The second condition may be called the pious heart. Many possess a heart of this type. It has an outward appearance of holiness for those round about, but inwardly it is as wicked and black as the common heart. Such was the condition of the scribes and Pharisees of Christ's day — those whom Christ denounced as "hypocrites." Note His words: "This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men" (Matt. 15: 8-9). Such a heart condition led to condemnation of those not in agreement with it and ended in the mock trial and crucifixion of the Lord. The pious heart is a religious heart without God.

Do you think any man or woman will enter heaven without a right heart? In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus said: "Blessed are the pure in heart; for they shall see God."

And no heart is pure unless it is the new heart given us by God. This is a heart that has been cleansed by the blood of Christ; a heart that has put its faith in Jesus as personal Savior, a heart that has found forgiveness of sin. The new heart knows the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit to remake and lead. "If any man be in Christ he is a new creature (creation), old things have passed away, behold all things have become new" (2 Cor. 5: 17). Yes, all things! And that includes our wicked, sinful, self-honoring heart. When Christ enters, it is changed in that instant. And it matters not what a person's race, background, or lot in life may be. When

Paul was called to Jerusalem and questioned about the Gentiles becoming Christians, he testified: "And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Spirit, even as he did unto us; and put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith" (Acts 15: 8-9).

New Heart

A new heart is one where Christ is enthroned and in complete control. And yet, writes M. Ray McKay, "Every man's heart is a battlefield. If self has possession, Jesus is lovingly striving to get possession. If possession has been yielded to Jesus, there is constant besieging by the forces of self, and self is a skilled strategist. In every heart there is a cross and a throne, and each is occupied. If Jesus is on the throne, ruling, self is on the cross, dying. But if self is being obeyed, and so is ruling, then it is on the throne; and self on the throne means that Jesus has been put on the cross."

A new heart is one where the love of God is known in its fullest and is being made known to others. Following God is not a duty but rather a willing path of obedience, for "we love him because he first loved us." The Love of God is then truly shed abroad in our hearts.

Friend, is your heart right or wrong with God today? If the new heart is lacking it can be yours just now!

With the Psalmist cry out: "Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." Turn to Christ in faith, believing He died for your sins. By faith accept Him today. He alone can give you a new heart. He alone can make your life one that will count for God.

Christ can create — He made the worlds. Christ can quicken — for the dead were raised by His word. He can change sickness to health, storms to calm, sorrow into joy, famine into plenty. He has wrought miracles in countless hearts already. Simon, the fisherman, became Peter, the rock; Matthew, the publican and tax collector, a disciple and writer of

the Gospel story. Saul, the self-righteous Pharisee, became Paul the proclaimer of God's power in His life — the world's greatest missionary.

Never Rest

There is nothing in your heart that the Lord Jesus cannot make right. Only come to Christ! Never rest until you are a new creature in Christ Jesus, and have a heart right in the sight of God! Heart trouble is the plague of mankind today, but it can be met and is being met daily through the power of Christ! Has Christ met your need?

"Give Me thy heart," says
the Savior of men,
Calling in mercy again and again:
"Turn now from sin, and from
evil depart,
Have I not died for thee?
Give Me thy heart.
Give Me thy heart,
Give Me thy heart"
Hear the soft whisper,
wherever thou art:
From this dark world
He would draw thee apart:
Speaking so tenderly,
"Give Me thy heart."

New Bible Film

A vivid new film, "Breath of Freedom," has just been released by the Pocket Testament League of New York.

"Breath of Freedom," in 15 minutes of dramatic full-color action, takes the audience from Johannesburg and the Kimberly diamond mines northward to the Belgian Congo, Ghana, and Nigeria, revealing the intense battle for souls in which the forces of Communism and Mohammedanism outnumber those of Christianity. Every church should see "Breath of Freedom" as a means of arousing Christians of America to the urgency of the African task and the need for expanding every Christian missionary and educational program. Address: 49 Honeck St., Englewood, N. J.

Religion is not worth much unless it can be seen as well as heard.

Methodists Take Steps
To Aid School of Theology

A grant of \$5,000 to aid in the support of the Alfred University School of Theology has been proposed by the Board of Ministerial Training and Qualifications of the Genesee Conference of Methodist Churches, according to the Rev. Cecil F. Wilson, chairman of a special committee named to study the matter.

The proposed grant will be extended yearly through the next four years, and has grown out of the invitation of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education for the Methodists to consider increased support of the school.

Under a directive from the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference, the Board of Christian Education set up a meeting November 12 at the School of Theology for discussion with Methodist leaders of the possibility of their supporting the school. The special committee named by the board to deal with the directive consists of George E. Potter, L. Eugene Reynolds, Wayne N. Crandall, Mrs. Madge Sutton, S. Kenneth Davis, J. Paul Green, and Dean Albert N. Rogers and Dr. Melvin G. Nida, ex officio.

Mr. Wilson explained that the proposal will be voted upon at the next annual session of the Genesee Conference to meet at Bradford, Pa., in June, 1960. He added that the proposal carries the recommendation that they participate in a capital fund drive for the School of Theology at some future date, and accept increased representation on the School of Theology Advisory Council as suggested by the Board of Christian Education.

A five thousand dollar increase in the school's income will be of material help, although this is only one third of the amount Seventh Day Baptists have been giving from Our World Mission and from endowment in recent years, Dean Rogers pointed out. The Advisory Council will determine how the Methodist support is to be used.

It is planned that two Methodists will be nominated by our Board of Christian

Education to the Advisory Council next June. In 1961 three Methodists will be named, and in 1962 four, with a majority of five council memberships being retained for Seventh Day Baptists. One Methodist representative has served on the council for the past four years. The council is elected annually by the Alfred University Board of Trustees.

Dr. Alfred J. Gross, Methodist faculty member at the School of Theology, attended a meeting of the Board of Ministerial Training and Qualifications recently when the school's program was discussed. He presented maps at the joint meeting of the Board of Christian Education's committee and Genesee Conference representatives showing the area being served by the school which no other institution is equipped to meet. Thirteen Methodist pastors are studying at Alfred this year, driving as many as 80 miles from their charges.

The Wonder of His Love

By Charles L. Price*

"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." He left His Father's home of light and love and joy and came down into this dark, cold, cruel world "to give his life a ransom for many." "All we, like sheep, have gone astray . . . and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree." "He hath made him to be sin (or sin-offering) for us (who knew no sin) that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." Knowing that God hates sin and dreading to be "sin for us," in the Garden of Gethsemane He prayed longingly: "Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt. . . . If this cup may not pass away from me except I drink it, thy will be done."

*Mr. Price, now 87 years of age, lives in Riley, Alberta, Canada. He spent parts of several winters with the late Rev. E. S. Ballenger of Riverside, Calif., and imparted to prayer meetings and Bible studies much more of his love and tenderness than can be grasped from this article in its printed form.

"And his sweat was, as it were, great drops of blood, falling down to the ground."

Why this awful agony of our Savior? Oh, it was His dread of being made "sin for us," that awful thing which His Father hated. He feared that He would never see His Father any more. And as He hung, dying, on the cruel cross, His Father did turn away His eyes from His dying Son, and so, that saddest cry: "My God, my God! Why hast thou forsaken me?" Why did His Father forsake His Son in His dying agony? "Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity" (Hab. 1: 13). His Father, "of purer eyes than to behold evil," did turn away His eyes from His dying Son, and so, that bitter cry. But just before He died, as He said: "It is finished," His Father looked with love upon Him again, and He said: "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit." He went home to His Father's glory where "in thy presence is fulness of joy, at thy right hand, there are pleasures for evermore" (Psalm 16: 11).

Oh, the Love! I could weep for it, and yet glory in it. How can anyone refuse, or neglect "so great salvation," such love, such an atonement? For: "He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world" (1 John 2: 2).

I am a sinner. Therefore death, eternal death, was due to me. But One died in my stead, so I do not have to die that eternal death. God will not ask payment for sin twice. And as Jesus, that One, died in my stead, God will not ask me to die eternally to pay for my sins too. So I am free! Thank God for Him who died for me, and for all mankind. "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift" (2 Cor. 9: 15).

Trying to Be Consistent

The Baptist General Convention of Texas voted not to enter into agreements for federal grants for any Baptist institutions in the state. The convention resolution resulted from controversy over whether the convention should lease, for a nominal sum, a Texarkana hospital built partly with federal funds.

THIS I BELIEVE — JUDGE NOT

A New Year Devotion

By Mrs. Ellis Williams*

Battle Creek, Mich.

Judge not that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged; and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again (Matt. 7: 1, 2).

Meditation:

After we have spoken unkind and thoughtless words, we have often thought, "I wish I had not said that." Of course we are sorry, but we can not erase the words. Once spoken, their effect may go on and on.

Unkind words grow out of jealousy, envy, self-pity, or resentment. They are the seeds of hatred, anger, or prejudice. Kind and loving words are the "pearls" of speech. They never blister the speaker's tongue, or the ears of the one who hears. They are not expensive gifts but they can save a character and make the Kingdom of God real to men.

It is ridiculous for any man to criticize the works of another, if he has not distinguished himself by his own performance.

In men whom men condemn as ill
I find so much of goodness still.
In men whom men pronounce divine
I find so much of sin and blot,
I do not dare to draw a line
Between the two where God has not.

— Miller, quoted in
Leaves of Gold.

Read again these words from Romans 14: 10 - 13: "But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at naught thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."

*Mrs. Williams, besides being a homemaker and member of the Women's Board, is one of the counselors of the Battle Creek Youth group and gives generously of her time and talents in the work of the church.

Let us not therefore judge one another any more; but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way."

How could I tell what I would do
If I were you?
A thousand things I never knew
Have come to you.
A thousand things have come to me
That passed you by.
I only know one common test:
To love, and leave to God the rest.
— Selected.

Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, may we remember that Thou art the Judge of us all. May all that we say and do be a blessing to others and bring honor to Thee. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

People want to know about

Seventh Day Baptists

The president of Salem College, K. Duane Hurley, who has moved in wide circles in promoting the cause of the small colleges of America, was one of the speakers on the program of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference meeting on the Salem campus last August.

The following is a portion of his personal testimony in connection with ecumenical contacts. He believes that many people want to know about Seventh Day Baptists and their work. We quote his recorded words:

"As president of this college, year by year I have learned the relation of Seventh Day Baptists with students from many other denominations on this campus. The Seventh Day Baptists are a minority group, but they are a large group influentially. By what they do as students on this campus individually, as a group in what they say, how they act, where they go, how they do things, and how they fit into the total pattern of the campus life with people of other denominations prove their ecumenical relationships and also witness for the validity of the Seventh Day Baptist position in the larger church body.

"A very personal comment from my own everyday activity. I will have to con-

fess to you that there was once a time when I was reluctant as I moved among people of other denominations to let it be known what my denominational affiliation was because I felt we were small, we were sometimes ridiculed, we were peculiar, we were different. I have found that I was wrong, that other people were interested in us and our church work. Just within the last month I have had opportunities come to me spontaneously to speak of Seventh Day Baptists and their work in the ecumenical world — at the Harvard Club in New York City, at the Synod for the Advance Study of Sciences at Palo Alto, California, and many way points in traveling. If you are willing to make it known who you are and what you stand for, you will find that people are interested in hearing about your beliefs and your work. You can learn from them and they can learn from you. I bring this as a personal testimony. . . .

"So in everyday relations, in every way, it is wonderful for us on this two-way street to make a witness for Christ and the church as Seventh Day Baptists that is valid and important."

Deacon Edmund Crosley

Edmund Grant Crosley of Farina, Ill., passed away Nov. 18, 1959. With the exception of a year or two in West Hallock in his early childhood he had lived his entire life in this vicinity.

He was converted and baptized in 1882 and was ordained a deacon in 1899. He served in that capacity for a number of years and had been on the retired list for some time before his death. He was a farmer and strawberry grower as long as he was able.

On March 2, 1896, he was married to Amelia Whitford, who passed away in 1953. Three children were born to this union: Mrs. Edith Maxson of Whittier, Calif., Harry of Farina, and Walter who died in 1949. He leaves six grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, and a sister, Miss Stella Crosley.

Funeral services were held in a funeral home with interment in the Farina Cemetery. S.C.

Upon the Occasion of Her Ordination

A Deaconess States Her Faith

By Leah Clerke Crofoot*

There is only One who knows and understands why I stand here before you today. I bow in deep reverence before Him, our heavenly Father, and in humbleness of heart before you who have chosen me as one of your deaconesses.

As some of you know I have not always been a Seventh Day Baptist. As a child I regularly attended Sunday School and church — usually both morning and evening services. My father and mother were devout Christians — praying Christians — infusing me with great faith in our heavenly Father. I feel that this faith has sustained me in times of joy and sorrow and given me courage to carry on a more helpful life and to hope for a brighter future for us all.

When I was 14 years old I joined the Dutch Reformed Church of Spring Valley, N. Y. We had not heard of the Seventh Day Baptist denomination until Harry Langworthy, with his good wife, Emily, went there to be our high school principal. They influenced me to come to Alfred University to study ceramics.

In Isaiah 64: 8, we read:

"But now, O Jehovah, thou art our Father, we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand" (ASV).

As a ceramist in studying the properties of clay, I observed how our human characteristics often possess the same qualities as clay and I should like to share these thoughts with you.

The first characteristic is plasticity. We must first of all be obedient to God, our Creator, so that He may shape our lives in accordance with His will.

The second characteristic is porosity. Even so, if we live entirely to ourselves, giving out nothing of ourselves to society,

*Mrs. Crofoot gave this statement at the Sabbath morning service of the First Alfred, N. Y., Church on June 27, 1959, when she and two others were consecrated to the diaconate.

we are in danger of becoming self-centered, warped, and contributing nothing to our fellow men. If, on the other hand, we approach society with our "pores" of heart, mind, and sensibilities open, we become more readily responsive to the needs of mankind, and we can become real pieces of valuable pottery in our Master ceramist's collection.

The third characteristic is densification. This can be compared to the qualities which tend to create strength of character. If our contacts with the vicissitudes of this world are likely to develop in us a desirable uprightness, nobility, and righteous determination, we possess, as clay, the requisite quality of vitrification. If, on the other hand, the trials and tribulations of this world weaken us and push us this way and that, we are lacking in this quality.

Have Thine own way, Lord!
Have Thine own way!
Thou art the Potter; I am the clay.
Hold o'er my being absolute sway!
Fill with Thy Spirit till all shall see
Christ only, always, living in me!

In college I grew to love the peace and quiet of Sabbath eve — coming at the close of a busy week. Great inspiration was gained from the sermons of President B. C. Davis. It was a privilege to "sit at the feet," so to speak, of Dean A. E. Main in a class held in this church.

Just before I came to Alfred, a friend told me not to neglect the social life of college. As you know I heeded her advice and later married one of your finest young men with whom I shared many blessed years. We were indeed thankful that our heavenly Father entrusted to our care three precious daughters. For them we endeavored to provide a happy home in which the spirit of Christ prevailed and I pray that the "faith of our fathers" is in their hearts! I am sure that the best years of Burdet's life, and mine, too, were those in which he served as your executive secretary in the work of our Lord and Savior.

In 1931 I joined the Plainfield Seventh Day Baptist Church as an associate member. At the close of a covenant meeting in Plainfield July 5, 1935, from my heart came these words: "I have enjoyed the

privilege of being a member of this church for a little over four years. I have always deeply appreciated the fact that you accepted me in the spirit in which I came to you. At that time I believed in baptism by sprinkling, having been baptized in that manner when an infant. Since worshipping with you and studying Seventh Day Baptist beliefs and fundamentals, I have grown to believe in baptism by immersion. Therefore, not only in token of my previous acceptance of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ for my salvation but to confirm this belief in my own heart, I desire to be baptized by immersion as Jesus Christ was baptized."

I was baptized with our eldest daughter, Patricia, then nine years old, by our beloved pastor, the late Dean A. J. C. Bond. When we came back to Alfred the following year it meant a great deal to me to be admitted to this church as an active member.

Christianity to me is personal influence. I believe that true religion is the forth-putting of a person dominated by the highest virtues, love, mercy, truth, and courage. It tends to make us human.

I pray for forgiveness in wrong-doing and for strength — not to just sit by the side of the road and be a friend to man but to be active in lending a helping hand. We all need each other in this life and as a deaconess of this church I shall need your prayers as I endeavor to be of assistance to our pastor, to this church, and in the religious life of our community.

Sabbath Personal

"Yes, man needs a Sabbath. Yes, we deplore the changing pattern of contemporary life. But let us remember that the commandment is to remember the Sabbath and keep it holy; it does not say that we are to remember the Sabbath and pass laws. The thrust of the commandment is personal: YOU keep the Sabbath day holy. No one can legislate loving obedience."

— Gilbert S. Fell, a Methodist minister in Atlantic City, in the November 25 Christian Century.

Youth News

Capital Teen Convention

Ten thousand Christian teenagers were expected to flood our nation's capital from December 28 - 30 for a convention such as sophisticated Washington had never before seen. These young folks are not like some of the society-minded Washingtonians with a post-Christmas hang-over. Neither are they like those youthful thrill-seekers who are so frequently mentioned in the papers as juvenile delinquents. No, these are Christian young people planning to have a good time, to be sure, but a really Christian good time.

Think of it! Ten thousand enthusiastic teenagers brought together from all over the world by Youth For Christ International for the Capital Teen Convention. Nothing like it has ever before been attempted. The idea came from the converted opera singer, Bill Carle, whose personal appearances and recorded Gospel songs have thrilled many Bible conferences across the country.

Christian Action, in announcing the convention, gave the following information:

The dimensions of the convention were staggering. Special permission had to be secured to double the ordinary seating capacity of the National Armory to 10,000. Arrangements had to be made for the serving of 80,000 meals (the same caterer who serves the \$100-per-plate Washington affairs). Rooms had to be reserved in 32 hotels; a "funspiration" planned for all 10,000 conventioners; and an intra-city transportation had to be arranged from the hotels to the armory.

Assisting in the preparations and serving as local headquarters was the Washington office of the National Association of Evangelicals.

Speakers included Dr. Ted W. Engstrom, president of YFCI, Billy Graham, and Dr. Bob Pierce, president of World Vision.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for January 9, 1960

Strengthening New Churches

Lesson Scripture: Acts 14: 19-28.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

Studying Our Beliefs

One of the things urged upon our people this year in order to equip them for more effective witnessing in their communities is a restudy of our denominational Statement of Belief. To aid in that study there is available from the Tract Society at Plainfield a 76-page manual for study entitled **Seventh Day Baptist Beliefs** (30 cents).

It is not required of any church or group of churches that they make their own articles of faith and covenant agree with the denominational statement in verbal detail. Many newer churches do, as a matter of course, use this statement rather than work one out for themselves.

The churches in the Jamaica, W. I., Conference have been laboring over a proposed "Church Manual" to fit their particular needs. As a manual of procedure it goes into much greater detail than anything known to be in use in our American churches of like faith. It is something they have worked out themselves to maintain proper order and purity.

Their "Articles of Faith" are almost the same as contained in our American manual for study but the general statement is somewhat different. It shows dependence on our statement but also an originality and strength of its own. It is reproduced here for the thoughtful consideration of our readers as they endeavor to think through what they believe and why they state their beliefs as they do.

Our Common Belief

As Seventh Day Baptists we cherish liberty of thought as an essential condition for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Therefore these ARTICLES OF FAITH are a statement of essential Christian truths which are held in common. They are set down to crystallize our thought but not to dictate it. They have been drawn up by men who have taken the Holy Scriptures as their light, but are keenly aware of the finiteness of men. They are presented in this form for study by the local church and by those who come among us asking what we believe. Our prayer is that they may enable men to

see more clearly the wonderful teaching of God's Word, and offer a common ground of fellowship as Christ seeks to do His work through us.

Tract Distribution Ministry

God entrusted His changeless Word, the Bible, to all believers to carry to the world. Not all can preach; not all can expound or distribute the whole Bible. Some have done exceptionally well in gathering together and applying to modern life certain teachings of the Word which others can use to the glory of God.

Thus, in the providence of God, tract societies, such as the American Sabbath Tract Society, have been brought into being. What is their purpose? A new president of one tract society, in accepting the office, spoke of the effectiveness of God's Word to change hearts. "Our job," he pointed out, "is to facilitate the entrance of this changeless and powerful Word into the hearts of needy individuals. We offer it as the answer to the basic need of every man . . . and we offer it without apology in ever-increasing quantities."

Armed with tracts that help to center attention on the important truths of the Word of God, anyone can perform a ministry by distributing these printed messages. Should we not thank God that our denomination has an agency with enough funds allocated so that it can put into the hands of our people the tracts that call attention to the challenging and edifying truths that we believe need emphasis? With this literature available to us, let us grasp anew our distinctive mission and take full advantage of the help in ministering to the needs of those whom we can contact.

— Tract Secretary.

"The difference in the Bethlehem of today and the Bethlehem of the Nativity is that there is no room in the stable," Dr. Elfan Rees said in a plea for Christian responsibility for the one million Arab refugees.

OTHER FOLDS AND FIELDS

The pastor of the Duke Street Baptist Church in London, England, has accepted a call to the pulpit of the famous Calvary Baptist Church, West 57th Street, New York City. He is the Rev. Stephen F. Olford, for many years an associate of the Rev. Dr. Billy Graham. Mr. Olford played an active role in planning the Graham evangelistic crusades in London in 1954 and 1955. He also participated in the evangelist's New York campaign in 1957.

Some 25 Jewish congregations throughout the U.S. will conduct research this year to determine the extent of co-existence of successful business methods and the ethical principles of religion. Each congregation will hold a day-long seminar of 20-30 local businessmen to discuss the application of Jewish ethics to their business. The project is sponsored by Rabbi Roland B. Gittelsohn of Temple Israel in Boston, a member of the Commission on Social Action of Reformed Judaism.

Leonardsville is a familiar name to Seventh Day Baptists. The village, not many miles south of Utica, N. Y., has an active church of our faith, pastored now by Addison Appel. The village also has a Methodist Church. The Brookfield Courier announces that the church again has a resident pastor. The interesting thing in the story is that the new man has been for the year just ended assistant pastor of a parish including five localities. It is called the On-Wego United Parish. What's in a name? There is something to live up to in that one.

A record \$119,618,515 was spent on Methodist church construction projects during 1958, it is reported by the Rev. Dr. B. P. Murphy, of Philadelphia, executive of the Church's Division of National Missions. Dr. Murphy notes that this is more than \$10,000,000 over the 1957 total.

The Central Committee of the World Council of Churches meeting on the island of Rhodes, Greece, issued a statement which reaffirmed its stand that abolition of war should be the real goal of all moves to limit nuclear tests.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

MILTON, WIS. — The Meal of Sharing continues to be a regular institution in this church on the second Sabbath of each month. A very simple meal is provided by some small group and those who attend voluntarily contribute the cost of a full meal eaten at home or in a restaurant. A decision is made in advance as to where the gifts thus received will be used. In November the sum of \$76.48 was sent to the American Bible Society. The offering of \$148.80 at the December 12 Meal of Sharing went for "Twin City" (Minneapolis - St. Paul) work through the Rev. Kenneth Van Horn. Thus this church tries to help various worthy causes.

— from Church Bulletins.

Marriages

Davis - Dickinson. — Gerald Rollo Davis, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. Rollo Davis, R.D. 1, Bridgeton, N. J., and Ruth Ann Dickinson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Everett Dickinson, Shiloh, N. J., were married in the home of the bride, December 12, 1959, with the pastor of the bride, the Rev. Charles H. Bond, officiating.

Bartlett - Looftoro. — Raymond Jerold Bartlett, of Wilsonburg, W. Va., and Miss Carolyn Jean Looftoro, daughter of John Deane and Jean Looftoro of Lost Creek, W. Va., were united in marriage at the Lost Creek Seventh Day Baptist Church on December 12, 1959, by their pastor, the Rev. Duane L. Davis.

Obituaries

Crosley. — Edmund Grant, son of Barzillai and Emma Glaspey Crosley, was born near Farina, Ill., April 25, 1872, and died Nov. 18, 1959.

(A more extended obituary of Deacon Crosley appears elsewhere in this issue.)

Perry. — Carrie Jones, daughter of John W. and Mary Johnson Jones, was born at Raleigh, Ill., May 25, 1880, and died at her home at Hawthorne, Fla., Sept. 9, 1959.

Baptized by the Rev. Robert Lewis, she united with the Stonefort, Ill., Seventh Day Baptist Church Feb. 16, 1901. She taught in the public schools of Illinois for many years and also in Florida after her marriage to Will Perry. Her husband preceded her in death.

Burial was at Melrose Cemetery Sept. 12, 1959, the Revs. Robert Carr and Ray Stedham officiating.

— Florence Hancock.