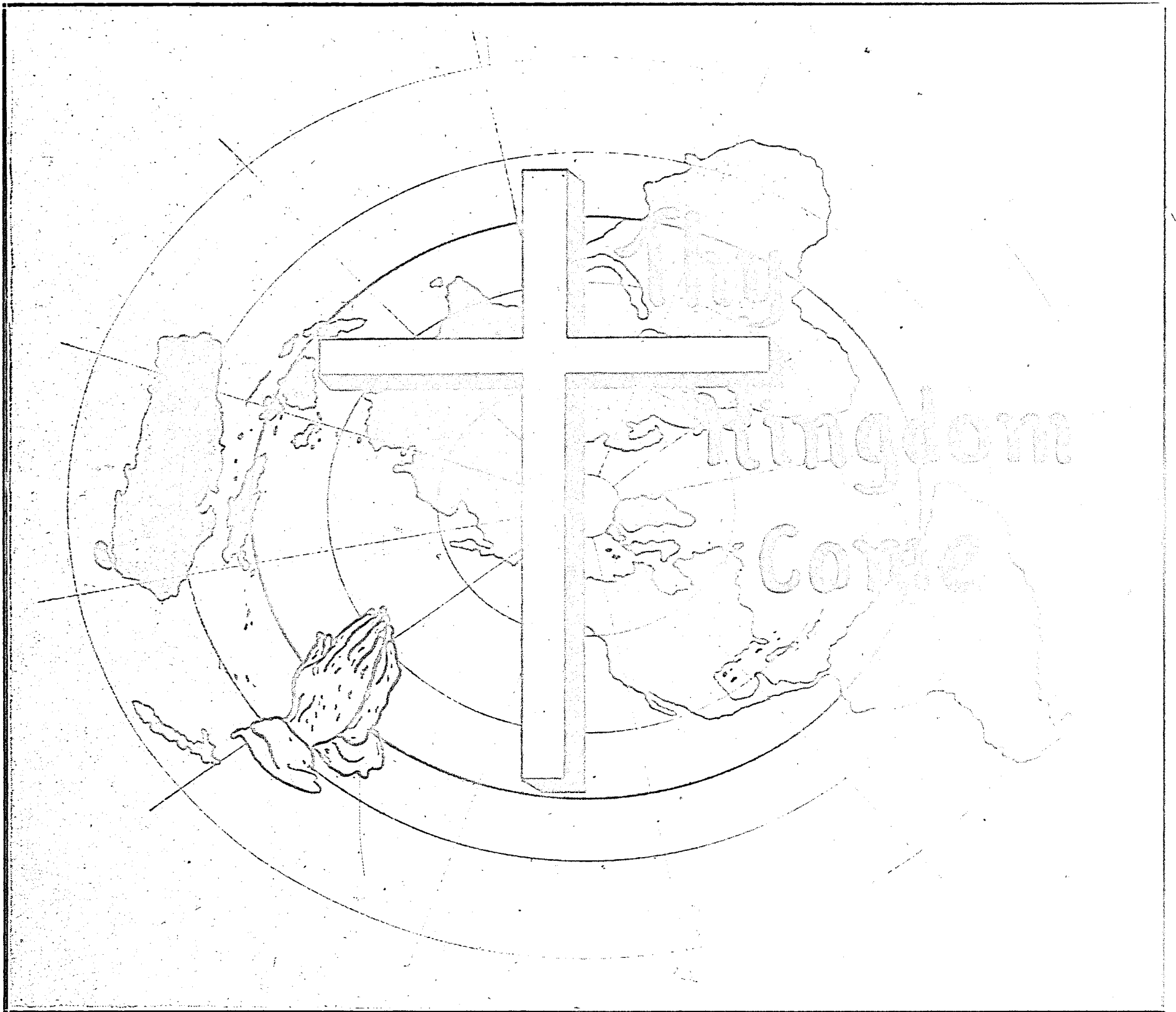


JANUARY 5, 1959

The Sabbath Recorder



"Lord, Teach Us to Pray."

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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JEWISH EVANGELISM

It has been your editor's privilege to observe a number of agencies and individuals dedicated primarily to Jewish evangelism. In almost every case the contacts have been unusually heart-warming. If one looks back in history there can be found many glaring examples of ill-advised and loveless attempts to win the Jews to Christianity. The Christian Church (taken in its broadest sense) should be ashamed of some of this history and of the modern attitudes which have put the Jews in such a defensive position that they have been hard to reach. Fascist intolerance has not been lacking in our country.

A new day may be dawning for bringing to the Hebrew people the one thing that they lack, salvation through Christ Jesus. The World Council of Churches has asked the Central Department of Evangelism of the National Council to engage in a thorough Biblical and theological study of the proper Christian approach to Judaism. It will take time and, in the providence of God and under the dedicated leadership of key men, it may reach out into the denominations in such a way that many that now have no effective program of Jewish evangelism will be stirred to undertake one.

It seems to take a special type of love and understanding to reach the Jewish people in our large cities, about 70 per cent of whom take no interest in their traditional religion. This love is evident both in the hearts of the converted Jews who work with their own people and the Gentile Christians of this day who feel a burden for "the lost sheep of the House of Israel." In our observation, those who labor among them most effectively present the Gospel in all its fulness and do not minimize the deity of Christ. The number of converts is far larger than many think.

William Culbertson, chairman of the Advisory Council of the American Association for Jewish Evangelism, in his Christmas letter tells a little of the reason why he is devoting his time to this cause.

"I believe that deep in my heart, if I were to give you the reason for this willingness on my part to identify myself with this work, it would be largely because from earliest years I had been taught that as a Christian I had a debt to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. And

that in some limited measure I would be discharging that responsibility in part in assuming this position with regard to Jewish Evangelism. . . .

"I have that burden and I am, under God, trying to meet my responsibility. Oh, I owe so much to the Jewish people. My Savior was born of the seed of David. The Book that I love, that is my meat day and night, was given to me by the Holy Ghost using men that were Jews for the most part. How wonderful it is that we have such blessings from God, and we have a responsibility. That's one of the reasons the Bible speaks as it does, and puts into the lips of the Apostle Paul a word that is true of all of us 'I am debtor.'"

Rocket Reflections

When the United States succeeded in putting its giant Atlas rocket into orbit the newspapers gave it a great deal of space — far more than other successful firings of similar missiles. How much space would have been given in the great New York dailies is unknown, for they were strikebound. The secrecy surrounding the purpose of the launching doubtlessly enhanced the newsworthiness of the story. It was hardly believed possible that such a thing could be kept secret in this country. The question might well be raised as to whether the methods used to keep the purpose of the launching secret can be justified. (Those at Cape Canaveral who knew say they had to lie about it.) We suppose that those in charge wanted to avoid the adverse world comment that would come if another highly publicized effort should fail.

It has already been mentioned that aside from the tremendous size and weight of this rocket the greatest achievement is the voice contact to and from the satellite. From outer space President Eisenhower's voice was heard in a pre-recorded Christmas message. Later he sent a message out into space and it came back again. Scientists were justly proud of their ability to accomplish this feat. Some were saying that it was the first time that a voice had come from outer space. Dr. Billy Graham and probably many others were quick to

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MEMORY TEXT

All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the Lord: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee. Psalm 22: 27.

see the spiritual application and to challenge the statement.

All through human history God has been speaking to this earth from far beyond the orbit of the Atlas. Nearly two thousand years ago God spoke the supreme words of love from heaven in the person of His Son, Jesus Christ. The birth was attended by an audible voice and time and time again during the ministry of Jesus the voice was heard, "This is my beloved Son, hear him."

Indeed we have heard Heaven speak and we are not swept off our feet by these recent and great achievements of man in harnessing and utilizing the forces that God had built into the universe. We believe that the Christian can more truly appreciate these scientific advances than those who know not God. He finds in them a strengthening of faith and rejoices that faith is becoming more and more reasonable. We recall the words, "The fool hath said in his heart, 'There is no God.'" Long have the skeptics reversed that saying and made it stick with their disciples. Now the schoolboy and the man in the street without religious training are aware that to deny the existence of God or the possibility of His revealing Himself to men is to play the part of a fool. The problem before the Christian is not to convince God-deniers but to convince "Godfearers" that they should accept Him who came from heaven and conform their lives to His precepts and example.

Let us press on to victory after victory in the program of proclaiming the love of God and the justice of God as they meet in the person of Christ. Esther was told to ponder the question of having come to the kingdom "for such a time as this." We are here. Opportunities are before us "to make the heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament to show his handiwork."

President's Message

Let Us Greet '59
with Confidence!

In my first year of teaching I was greeted at the schoolhouse door, on the day immediately following the Christmas vacation, by a very stern State Supervisor, W. J. Wavver. After introducing himself he said, "If you are doing as you should, your boys are taking their inventories today." This seemed like a horrible way to wind up a vacation. I believe, however, this same admonition applies to each Seventh Day Baptist. If we are doing as we should we are appraising our accomplishments of 1958 so that 1959 may be a better year. Let us quickly look at some of the things we might note down on a denominational inventory.

Since thousands of our people, from Coast to Coast, had an opportunity to meet Joan Clement and Beth Severe last year, they now have a new meaning of missions in their hearts. Never again can these people ask, "Does Christ make any difference?" They have seen the fruits of Christ-centered lives on the faces and in the lives of these dedicated girls.

Under the able leadership of President Earl Cruzan, there has developed among our people a oneness in spirit. This was certainly in evidence at the General Conference sessions. Our denomination has been described by some as being constituted in such a way that it splinters rather than kindles. May each of us continue to cultivate a "oneness in Christ" which will kindle such a heart-warming concern for others that they will be drawn to Christ through us.

The renewed interest in and devotion to the Sabbath truth by many of our people is certainly an asset to be placed high on any list. No less encouraging is the new interest on the part of leaders in Sunday-keeping denominations in re-studying the Biblical basis for their day of worship.

Our well-educated, dedicated, self-sacrificing team of local ministers and leaders at the associational and denominational

level would certainly be the envy of any denomination.

The fact that "Our World Mission" budget was oversubscribed for the first time in the memory of many of us is something in which every Seventh Day Baptist can justly be proud.

As a denomination we have many things for which we are humbly grateful to our Heavenly Father.

Lest we become complacent, we also have several liabilities which should cause us great concern.

The other part of President Cruzan's Conference theme, "Forward in Growth," is still to be realized, numerically speaking. The final net loss in membership reported last year was very small, yet it was a loss. Joan and Beth expressed genuine concern over this trend. We must not permit our strength to wane in this country while we continue to expand abroad, lest the entire venture fail for lack of financial support. This, I agree, is our first matter of business. Every member must take this burden upon his conscience and work towards a solution.

Closely related to the first is the inadequate salaries paid most of our pastors. We must not permit ourselves to subscribe to the two-price plan — one salary for ourselves and one at an entirely different level for the minister. In this day when businesses of all sorts are finding it necessary to expand the sizes of their business to compete successfully, we must more energetically expand the membership in each local church.

As a people our greatest liability appears to be the reluctance of our individual laymen to speak to other individuals about Christ. Whenever a person's life has been changed from the downward trend to the upward way, it has been done by an individual telling him of Christ. I think it is something like public speaking — we must start training our people at a younger age to witness for Christ. It must be learned as a natural thing.

What about 1959? It can be the most significant year in our history. How? By having each Seventh Day Baptist show the same concern for the lost sinner in his home, next door, in his classroom, and

A Businessman's Stake in a Peaceful World

By Morris Abrams

Pres., Curtis Industries, Cleveland, Ohio

As if we do not have enough problems right here on earth, we now find ourselves already in Space Age Year 2. Satellites are whirling around our globe. We will probably have a satellite in orbit around the moon soon. Yet it is a fact that all of the space exploration programs are military programs, not peace programs. How does a businessman react to this? Certainly not as a businessman, but like everyone else, as a citizen suddenly made aware that peace is no longer "peanuts" but a matter of the survival of the human race. If none of us, regardless of our occupations, is immune from the total devastation that another war will bring, certainly neither is any one of us immune from our responsibility to help secure the peace and avoid the consequences.

But even if annihilation does not come — and we might as well call it "annihilation" rather than war, since the military experts tell us that is what it will be — a schizophrenic world does not mean a peaceful world. We can't say we have peace just because we don't hear the missiles screaming overhead or see the "toadstool" clouds (why call them mushroom clouds? toadstools, after all, are the poisonous fungi) off in the distance.

Peace is not just an absence of war, but an absence of all threats of war and the machinery of war. Who can say whether it is the arms race which causes threats of war or threats of war which cause the arms race? We can surmise safely, however, that if the arms race were halted, international tensions would be eased considerably. Another thing is certain, no matter how you look at it, the arms race

across the seas as a shepherd has for his lost sheep we will grow. "I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance" (Luke 15: 7).

is economically unsound. As a businessman, I recognize that the inflationary spiral is caused in good part by the expenditures we are making in the arms race. The monies we spend are nonproductive and wasteful. If these funds could be released for capital investment in schools, hospitals, research, highways, and loans to the underdeveloped countries of the world, an unheralded era of prosperity could be ushered into the world.

My own formula for peace is a simple one. Strengthen the United Nations so that it has the power to make law, to interpret law through its own courts, to enforce world law with its own police force. I believe that the United Nations should be given complete control in the field of prevention of war and adjudication of international disputes. Certainly, because of lack of mutual trust and confidence among the nations of the world, this isn't going to happen tomorrow morning or next year. But it must happen sometime soon.

Note: The above is a much abbreviated article from the December monthly bulletin of the Committee for World Development and Disarmament.

The Monk Who Lived Again

Dr. Walter M. Montano, executive director of Christ's Mission, Inc., and the editor of Christian Heritage magazine, has recently been appointed Honorary Consul of Bolivia. He has distinguished himself throughout Latin America and the United States by his outstanding career as journalist, statesman, missionary, and speaker. He has twice been asked to be Secretary of State of Bolivia, but declined both offers for what he believes is "the greatest cause of his life, presenting Christ as the only answer to the spiritual needs of the people." Dr. Montano's contribution to the struggle for reformation within the Roman Catholic Church in Latin America and for the enlightenment of the lay masses in the simple truths of the Gospel prompted the title, "the Martin Luther of Latin America." His dramatic story is told in his biography, "The Monk Who Lived Again," now in its tenth edition.

SIGNIFICANT ARTICLE

With this issue we begin a significant article, "All Things Are Become New," by Dr. Willis E. Garrett. It will be continued in two or three subsequent issues. Although designed as a help to those who newly entered the Christian life we believe it will be equally valuable for those who are older in the faith. In well-chosen words the writer makes the Christian life rich by outlining what happened when we came to Christ.

A New Year's Greeting Baptist World Alliance

To Our Baptist World Fellowship:

Greetings and best wishes for the New Year in the name of our living and loving Lord. May the grace, mercy, and peace of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit bless and sustain us all every day of the coming year.

In many lands 1959 will be a year of special evangelistic endeavor. Members of our churches in North America will gather on New Year's Eve for special services of prayer and dedication to inaugurate the Baptist Jubilee Advance — a five-year program of evangelism and missions. Similar movements in other lands promise an outstanding year of witness and soul-winning. Let us hope and pray that as a result of our efforts and by the power of the Holy Spirit we may report at the next World Congress in Rio de Janeiro in 1960 an inspiring increase in our world fellowship.

To some the New Year will bring new hours of tension and testing, to others challenging new opportunities for sacrifice and service. May the year be for us all a time of faithful witness for Christ our Lord.

In His Name we greet you as we serve together by His power and for His glory.

— Theodore F. Adams, President.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for January 17, 1959

Greatness in the Kingdom

Lesson Scripture: Mark 10: 35-45.

MISSIONS — Sec. Everett T. Harris

Division of Foreign Missions Assembly Meeting

The ninth annual assembly of the Division of Foreign Missions of NCCC was held December 7-10, 1958, in the Penn-Sheraton Hotel at Pittsburgh, Pa. Seventh Day Baptists were represented by Mr. George V. Crandall, president of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society, and by Secretary Everett T. Harris.

The Rev. J. Clinton Hoggard, Secretary of Foreign Missions of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church and chairman of the Division of Foreign Missions, presided at the assembly meetings. There were approximately 300 missionary board leaders, missionaries, and nationals present.

One item of discussion concerned the plan for integration of the International Missionary Council and the World Council of Churches. The plan to integrate had already been accepted in principle. In favor of integration the following statement was made:

In the life of the World Council of Churches the fact that there is a growing and vital concern for the mission of the church, so that on the one hand there is now providential opportunity for the International Missionary Council to make effective witness in a newly integrated organization, and on the other hand, there is the likelihood without integration that the World Council of Churches will go ahead in missionary activity and thus we will have two world-wide missionary organizations.

Against integration there is a fear of "bigness" and of the intricate interrelations of the World Council of Churches making it more difficult to make a missionary witness with freedom and flexibility.

The study of the integration plan continues for another year.

Another major item of business before the assembly was the establishment of the Theological Education Fund made possible by a gift of \$2,000,000 to the International Missionary Council from the Sealantic Fund (by John D. Rockerfeller, Jr.); matched by pledges of \$2,000,000 from mission boards in the United States. Dr. Charles Ranson, who resigned from his position of executive of the International Missionary Council, has assumed the directorship of the fund as of July,

1958. A sound program for the training of Christian ministers around the world, in which member boards have long been interested, is now "no longer an idea — it is a fact."

It was noted that nine mission boards had pledged to meet the offer of the Sealantic Fund with matching funds. Two main phases of the project will be "making grants to a few key seminaries and carrying out a Text Program."

One of the outstanding contributions of these meetings is the opportunity to hear messages from National Christian leaders of other lands. These pastors, product of missionary work through the years, do not hesitate to tell the old established missionary boards how they can improve their witness for Christ.

It was reported at the assembly by Dr. Frank Price, director of the Missionary Research Library, that "the number of Protestant missionaries from North American countries has increased 50% in the past 22 years." Dr. Virgil A. Sly, divisional vice-president, stated that foremost among the basic issues facing missionary work is the world's unrest, the rising tide of nationalism, the political changes, the deep resentment against the West.

Jamaica News

Plans are working out for the Rev. and Mrs. Loyal F. Hurley to accept the invitation of the Rev. and Mrs. Leon Lawton to come to Jamaica for a few weeks of "vacation." They are going at their own expense. Many of us will follow this visit with our prayers.

Although Mrs. Hurley's health has not been good, it is hoped that she may accompany Pastor Hurley. A "Spiritual Life Retreat" is being planned to be held at Maiden Hall January 5-8, and Pastor Hurley writes, "We would both like to share in it if possible."

Many will recall the report in the October 13 issue of the Sabbath Recorder of a special Sabbath School attendance contest being sponsored by the Kingston Church. Detailed plans for publicity and for training visitors were set up. It was called the

S.S.S.S. program (Seeking Souls for Sabbath School). We have followed the success of these plans hopefully. And now Pastor Leon Lawton has written concerning the contest, "The average attendance for the year Oct. 1957 - Sept. 1958 was 99. During the 6 weeks of contest this rose to 164 — or an increase of just over 60%. Though they did not ask it I also checked the four weeks since the contest ended and found the average to be 131 — about 30% over the previous year."

Pastor Lawton has written also regarding a recent baptismal service at Maiden Hall, "We had a good day in the country yesterday with Missionary Meeting at Albion Mountain Church and dedication of electric lights at Waterford. Those baptized at Maiden Hall have become members of Waterford with Maiden Hall a branch fellowship until such time as it becomes strong enough to organize into a separate church. A truckload from Maiden Hall came for the dedication service. Continue to pray for the work there. Edna Harrison is continuing to do Bible work and lead out in the meetings."

TV Drama "The Silent Guest" Views Family Unity Problems

Control of teen-age children, and the problem of keeping the family together in time of strain, will be subjects of the dramatic television series "This Is the Answer," on Sunday, January 11. The drama, "The Silent Guest," will be seen on key stations throughout the country that day, and is a feature in the new series of half-hour TV films dealing with problems of serious national concern.

In the drama, a man out of work is faced with depriving his teen-age children of further schooling and is further worried by their uncooperative behavior. Hopefully he invites a possible new boss and his family to dinner but finds a new problem when his own mother and father arrive unexpectedly. To carry out their old family dinner custom might prejudice the forceful business executive, yet to avoid the tradition could deeply hurt his own family. A quick decision has surprising results on both families.



*Hopeless-
Yet
There Is Hope*

By
Robert P. Lippincott

How tangled the affairs of this world are! Never before, it seems, was it so full of suspicion and greed, of violence and crime. Peace parleys, pacifist propaganda, disarmament conferences, the United Nations, and all other human agencies failed to prevent war. Right now we cannot get the nations in agreement on problems of the Far East, or the situation in Germany, or a number of other things in the international picture. There is talk of World War III — not idle talk either.

What with our long-distance bombing planes, our atom bombs, our hydrogen bombs, our inter-continental ballistic missiles, gas, poison, flame throwers, disease germs, and "secret weapons" civilization seems on the verge of destroying itself. "Men's hearts are failing them for fear" indeed. Reformers are despondent and statesmen are despairing. Clocks are pictured with hands only minutes from midnight. "It is later than you think," is a phrase on many lips. A pall of hopelessness hangs over the earth.

Yet there is hope! The world needs to know that "this same Jesus" is coming again to set up a kingdom of righteousness on this earth, a kingdom of peace and joy. "The Lord himself shall descend" — in His own majestic presence. When He ascends the throne and takes up the reins of the government, all of the problems of mankind will be solved: social injustice, race prejudice, poverty, crime, and all the rest. Then "nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." Then we will not fear to go anywhere we please in the darkness, and will not need to lock our doors, nor put our valuables in vaults for safekeeping.

It is hard to understand the dread and terror some Christians seem to have when they contemplate the Second Coming, or why they have a distaste for it, and shrink from the discussion of it. It is the only hope of the world.

Oh yes, it will be a time of judgment — but not for believers! Friend, if you tremble at the thought of His return, perhaps you had better check up. Could it be that you have not received Him as your crucified Savior and your risen Lord? It will be a time of terror for unbelievers, for those who have rejected Him, those who have more or less politely bowed Him out of the picture. But to Christians it is a blessed hope. In 1 Thessalonians 4: 13ff. Paul writes about the Lord's coming, and His receiving His own unto Himself. After telling of the events he says, "Wherefore, comfort one another with these words."

We are living in troublous times, and darker and more perilous times may be ahead. But back of all this is the figure of the coming King, whose victory is as certain as the Word of God. This hope steadies, encourages, comforts us.

Yes, Jesus is coming to earth again. The royal Son of God, who came the first time to die on Calvary to make atonement for our sins, who lives and dwells within the hearts of Christians as the dynamic for living, is one day coming to reign in glorious majesty. Handel caught the vision when he used Revelation 11: 15 in closing the "Messiah." "The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever." King of kings and Lord of lords! Hallelujah!

When Jesus was here on earth talking about His return, He said to His followers, "Watch therefore; for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh" (Matt. 25: 13). True watching is an attitude of mind and heart which would joyfully turn from any occupation to meet our beloved Savior exclaiming, "This is the Lord; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation" (Isaiah 25: 9b). There is a beautiful phrase in 2 Timothy

4: 8 which speaks of them "that love his appearing."

When Jesus comes to reward His servants,
Whether it be noon or night,
Faithful to Him will He find us watching
With our lamps all trimmed and bright?

Our question to each other and to those outside of Christ may well be this:

O can you say you are ready, brother,
Ready for the soul's bright Home?
Say, will He find you and me still watching,
Waiting, waiting, when the Lord shall come?

The outlook does, indeed, seem hopeless. But, praise the Lord for the hope of His sure return — that blessed hope!

Free Bulletin Covers

The Seventh Day Baptist Women's Board is printing bulletin covers which carry on the back page something of the story of the Women's Board activities. These are being mailed free of charge to the churches by the publishing house in Plainfield, N. J., in quantities estimated to be sufficient for the need. It is hoped that they will reach most of the pastors in time for use on the third Sabbath of January.

Each of the other boards will supply covers in a similar manner later during 1959. This service to the churches should be fully utilized. If the number received is not sufficient, please notify the publishing house before the next printing. The Missionary Board will furnish bulletins for the third Sabbath of March.

Look for Commission Report

The Commission of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference completed its important midyear meeting at Battle Creek, Mich., at the home of the executive secretary on December 31, the day this issue was printed. It is expected that the actions taken and the progress made will be reported in the January 12 issue. The chosen representatives of our people have been wrestling with the problems of how we can best develop and use our resources to fulfill what we believe to be our God-given mission in the days ahead. Be looking for their report.

An Ecumenical Trip

During the summer of 1958, Dr. Gerald E. Knoff, executive secretary of the Division of Christian Education, NCCC, made a round-the-world tour in conjunction with his participating in the 14th World Convention of the World Council of Christian Education which was held in Tokyo, Japan. We bring you, in part, a few paragraphs from his report.

This (the Convention) was the first world Christian gathering held in Tokyo since the war. It was a great experience to see more than 4,000 assembled there for the Convention and to see that number augmented to 11,000 crowded into the great Tokyo sports arena on two occasions.

I came away from the eventful two weeks in Japan feeling that the Japanese Church is making an effective witness in that country for Christ and His Gospel. The words of Prime Minister Kishi greatly impressed us all as he welcomed us on the opening night.

"Japan is not a Christian country, in that those professing Christianity constitute a rather small minority of its vast population. But the fact is beyond dispute that Japanese Christians — humble followers as well as outstanding leaders of the faith — have made signal contributions to the social progress and spiritual uplift of the nation, wielding a powerful moral influence all out of proportion to their numbers through their exemplary conduct, their piety, their spirit of service and helpfulness."

The Bible Society of Japan is proud of its recently translated Bible. The evangelistic and agricultural work seems flourishing. The congregational vitality in the two churches I visited seemed evident and I had many reasons to be thankful for what I saw.

We were all happy that Toyohiko Kagawa could give the opening address of the Assembly. What a wonderful man he is, even though enfeebled now by illness and the accumulated effects of his sacrificial life!

It is difficult for a visitor to know how great an impact the Convention and related meetings made upon Japan. Certainly it is clear that the sessions brought a tremendous encouragement to the Japan-

ese Christian Church. . . . It is safe to say that thousands of young children saw foreign Christians in this kind of a meeting for the very first time in their lives. This was one of the truly significant results of the meeting as I see it. Lay people were there; ministers of small churches of Japan were there; young people were there. It was large and representative enough to be a good cross section of the Church of Japan. The Convention truly got down to the roots.

What quiet joy one takes in being a Christian after one sees the heroic work carried on in Hong Kong, as well as in many other places, which is made possible by the faithfulness of Christians from all over the world. I wish you could have stood with me inside a milk station in Kowloon, Hong Kong, looking out into the bright sunlight and seeing the little refugee boys and girls come by the open door holding up their small bowls. Each one received a great ladle full of milk, fortified with vitamins, and over the pasteurizing kettles was this sign written in Chinese and later translated for me: "These foodstuffs are donated by the people of the United States of America and Church World Service, assigned to give it to you, to show their love and friendship. Please, do not sell it or exchange it. But eat it and keep yourself healthy."

Another vivid experience came to me on the front porch of an Indian minister's home just outside Suva. Two young Christian Indian men of one of the Indian congregations had driven me over a bumpy, dusty road which nevertheless did afford some panoramic views of the island. On the minister's front porch he showed me the river valley road along which only about 75 years ago the first missionaries to the Fiji people traveled away from Suva into the back country. They went up the road and never came back. The Fijis were cannibals then. Today of the native Fiji population more than 80% are Christian and neither in Nandi where I spent two nights nor in Suva where I spent one are there any keys for their rooms. The simple answer of the desk clerk was, "We don't have any use for keys here at this hotel." What a contrast in eighty years!

Youth Week

National Youth Week as sponsored by the United Christian Youth Movement will be January 25 to February 1, 1959. The suggested topic for this year is, "Dare We Live in the Household of God?" A guide for worship services built on the theme has been sent to all our churches. We hope that each one of our churches will give the youth a full chance to exercise their abilities during Youth Week. Let us show our youth that we love them and really appreciate their endeavor for Christ.

Lesson Annual

We still have on hand for sale a few copies of the "International Lesson Annual for 1959." Just send \$2.35 to the Board of Christian Education, Box 15, Alfred Station, N. Y., if you desire a copy. It contains a full discussion of all the Sabbath School lessons for 1959, and will give each student and teacher material that will enhance the value of Bible study.

WOMEN'S WORK — Mrs. A. Russell Maxson

DO I GROW?

For many years I have enjoyed the following meditation on "Growth" by Joseph C. Robbins and I now pass it on hoping that others may enjoy it and perhaps find it a measuring rod for their growth.

GROWTH

The fundamental resources of the Church and the Kingdom of God are personal and spiritual. People are all-important. And one of the most hopeful things about people is the possibility of growth. We are all interested in seeing that we and our children grow physically and mentally. But how about our growth spiritually? Have we a deeper understanding of God this year than last? Does prayer mean more to us? Have we a clearer vision of God's purpose for the world and of our part in accomplishing that purpose? Are we becoming more appreciative of people, or more critical? Are we jealous of our prerogatives? Are we more honest with ourselves — about what we do and why we do it? Is the

quality of our life such that we are revealing God to others more adequately and clearly today than we did yesterday? Are we really growing?

Luke says of Jesus, "And Jesus advanced in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man." A modern poet tells of a mother who is measuring the height of a small daughter, when suddenly the child asks:

"Mother, do you still grow?"
I let the measuring-rod drop —
Do I still grow?
This afternoon I suffered
From unkind words
And yet I smiled:
Last year I would have been proud
To make a sharp reply.
This morning I set aside
My own desires
To help someone else:
Last year I would have cried,
"I'll have my way!
Let others yield to me!"
Do I still grow?
Yes, child, I think so —
But how slow and hard
My growing is!

Does this meditation lead you to join me in praying that we may grow in grace and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ our blessed Lord and Savior during this coming year? — Flora W. Hurley.

Salary Increase for Pastors

This is a progress report to the laymen of the denomination relative to your ministerial support. Several churches report that they have appointed the local committee recommended by General Conference. (See Year Book, 1957, pp. 30-32.) We have received reports of several churches having raised their pastor's salary, in some cases very substantially, this year.

We commend those who are supporting their pastor financially, as well as spiritually, and would urge all churches and fellowships to give continuing thought to the living standards of their pastor and his family.

The Ministerial Support Committee,
E. Keith Davis, Chairman.

New Year's Greeting from Evangelist Hurley

Our field evangelist, the Rev. Loyal F. Hurley, writes from Daytona Beach, Fla., asking the Sabbath Recorder to express to friends everywhere the love and best wishes of Mrs. Hurley and himself and their prayer for God's blessing on the lives of those to whom they usually send greetings.

Mr. Hurley has throughout his ministry remembered many with an appropriate year-end message. This year due to his travels the materials ordered did not reach him in time to be sent out. Since he is now to spend two or three weeks in Jamaica he regrets that he is unable to reply to those who have remembered them.

We are glad to bring this word from the evangelist of the Missionary Board. Surely the friends who did not hear from the Hurleys will be happy that he is to extend his ministry to the people of Jamaica. Secretary Harris says that it is a vacation trip, but Christian leaders do not visit Jamaica without being given many opportunities to speak in the many churches of our faith.

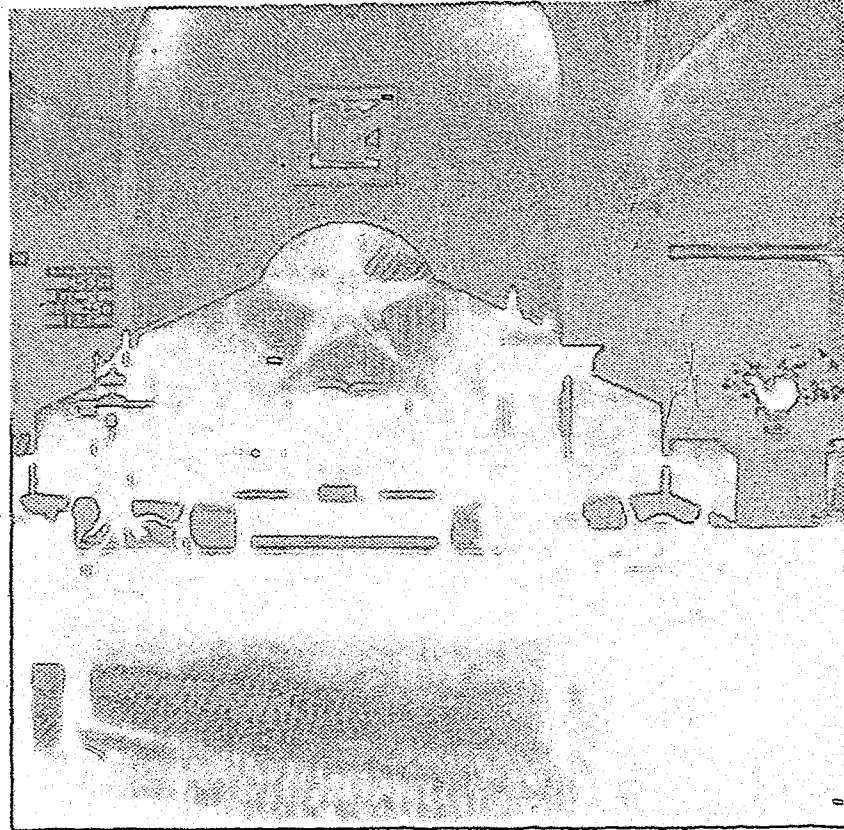
Philadelphia College of Bible

Philadelphia Bible Institute, a training school for Christian workers that is well known in the East, is expanding its program and changing its name. Finding that last year over 60 per cent of its graduating class was going on for further training in colleges and seminaries the school decided to expand its curriculum this year to include a degree program on the collegiate level. It was decided that the school could offer the same Bible content to its students as before and add enough other studies to award a college degree in four years. For this reason it has changed its name to Philadelphia College of Bible. The cost of the new program is estimated at \$95,000.

If we do not evangelize America, we will soon cease to evangelize Asia. . . . We must save America to save the world. — Dr. Jared F. Gerig in a Portland, Ore., address.

Berlin, N. Y., Church

The Seventh Day Baptist Church of Berlin, N. Y., is mentioned from time to time in these pages and well deserves to be. It is an old church (constituted in 1780), located off the beaten path of national and state travel. In colonial days the location in a narrow, fertile valley,



The interior of the Berlin Church is unusual; the wood paneling is not duplicated in any other church as far as is known.

which runs north and south almost on the border between Massachusetts and New York, doubtless seemed a logical place for bottom-land farmers to establish a village. Water power was available to run the necessary mills.

Into such a community came the ancestors of the present members of the Sabbathkeeping church. Viewed objectively, there is not much in the village or its location to promote growth. It might be expected to be one of the places where a Seventh Day Baptist church would die out, as has happened in other rural locations in New York State. Not so. The church is flourishing. It has survived the years of diminishing population and relatively limited opportunities for young people. Its members come from distances that would have been prohibitive in earlier days. Families have continued to live in the long valley and new families

have come into the church by conversion and by transfer. Business opportunities are not too far away for modern means of travel. Loyalties have been consistently built up over the years. The present pastor and his talented wife have labored long on the field. The Rev. Paul L. Maxson has enjoyed there one of the longest pastorates of this generation. He came to the church in 1940 after the retirement of the Rev. Luther A. Wing, whose widow still lives there.

The two young ladies pictured outside the church represent a larger number of about the same age who are now in schools of higher education preparing for whatever Christian service and lifework the Lord has in store for them. The age diversification in the congregation would seem to speak well for the future of the church.



Laura Cushman of Pittsfield, Mass., and Ruth Ellis of Stephentown, N. Y.

From the membership of this relatively inaccessible church there goes forth one of the largest tract distribution efforts. A man of untiring zeal visits numerous cities and reaches a traveling public with large quantities of Christian literature. One of his latest projects, into which he and his wife have put much of their

Teen Talk

A Million-to-One Chance

If you had been sailing on a 30-foot cruiser just off the New England Coast last August and had lost your billfold over the side, you would have been very unhappy, especially if it contained \$100 besides your personal papers. How much chance would there be of ever getting that pocketbook back? Safe to say, not one chance in a million! That happened to Mr. Mee last summer. He didn't even try to mark the spot and to send down a diver; there wasn't a chance. He could only try to forget his loss.

On November 16 Mr. Mee got a telephone call from George H. Des Sureault, a crippled father of three children, who lived 60 miles away. It was Sunday and he had gone to Barn Island near Westerly, R. I., with a clam rake, hoping to get a mess of clams to take home to his family. His rake brought up from the mud of the ocean bottom something that did not look like a clam, but he was not surprised, for there are many things in the muddy bottom. He examined it more closely and that is how Mr. Mee happened to get a long-distance phone call that evening. The clam digger wanted to return the \$100 and the papers.

If it was a million-to-one chance that the pocketbook would be found, it was perhaps a hundred-to-one chance that a person finding a billfold under such circumstances would try to return it to its owner. What would you have done? Not many people would advise you to do what he did. But as a Christian it should be most normal to do it. Knowing the name and address of the person who lost the money makes it a little different from picking up a dime or a dollar on the street. True enough, the loser couldn't

limited income as well as labor, is the distribution of 1,000 copies of the November special issue of the *Sabbath Recorder*. The pastor of the church states that this type of evangelism has brought results in the form of new members who are anxious to extend the Gospel to others.

expect to ever get it back and if he were rich enough to sail a 30-foot launch, probably he could forget \$100 rather easily. But Christ puts a desire in our hearts to be absolutely honest. He takes the question and the temptation out of our thoughts. We do the thing which would please Him. In this case the crippled father who returned the money was handsomely rewarded by Mr. Mee. We believe that at the judgment God will reward the "good and faithful servants."

Things like this make us realize that more people than we think are honest. Perhaps you know some stories that are equally strange.

Why Teen-Agers Join Gangs

The Rev. C. Kilmer Myers, vicar of St. Augustine's Chapel of Trinity Protestant Episcopal Parish, New York City, believes that a youngster joins a gang for a multiplicity of reasons, some of which are: (1) to belong to a group of one's peers; (2) for protection; (3) because of pressure put on him; (4) to escape being the victim of a shakedown racket centering around his school; (5) just for the "kick"; (6) to acquire a sense of inner security not received at home; (7) in order to be somebody in the sub-culture; and (8) because of a lack of recreational facilities and social opportunities.

— W. W. Reid.

Sobering Thought

A legislator was questioned as to the attitude of the church toward some proposed legislation. The temperance leader who told the story in a Sabbath morning service reports the lawmaker's answer: "In my area the church doesn't count." Why didn't it count? Not because there were few churches or that they were weak in numbers. Rather, that they were weak in voice. They stood for nothing higher than the world about them on the social and moral questions of the day. The minister representing the temperance cause had in this a sobering illustration of his theme "Be not conformed to this world." How do you and your church measure up to Romans 12: 1, 2?

ALL THINGS ARE BECOME NEW

By Dr. Willis E. Garrett

You have just taken the most important step in your life.

You have accepted into your heart the Lord Jesus Christ and thus you have become a Christian — a "Christ-one." It may be that this decision was made after a stormy struggle within your heart, as the life-and-death struggle of a ship plowing its uncertain way through angry and obstinate waves into the safety of the sheltered harbor; or it may be that you have arrived at this point as a logical result of many years of acquaintance with the Word of God and with the saving power of the Lord, as the silent gliding of a canoe upon the surface of a mirrored and placid lake. It may be that your experience of salvation was convulsive and soul-shaking in its majesty, or it may be that in answer to a simple and reasoned faith the Lord entered your heart in calm serenity, bringing with Him His joy, His peace, and His assurance of the forgiveness of your sins. It is possible that you have come into the Christian fold out of the murky depths of sin, out of the night of wickedness, having drunk the dregs of iniquity; or it may be that salvation has become a reality in your life as the almost inevitable consequence of a splendid Christian environment and training.

Whatever has been your motive in coming, whatever the manner or attendant experiences of your coming, the point is — the marvelous and important point is — you have come. You have arrived! You have come, by the Grace of God, to that supreme moment for which you were created. In answering the call of Christ, in receiving Him as your personal Savior from sin, "all things" for you have "become new." Whether you actually "felt" this transformation taking place or not, on the authority of God's Word you are now "in Christ" and thus you are a different person, for "if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Cor. 5: 17).

So now you are a Christian and you are to be congratulated on this wise and wonderful step of faith. The Lord has

many gracious surprises for you in His boundless storehouse of love and will reveal and present them to you as you grow in grace and are prepared to receive them.

What Happened?

You probably did not fully understand all of the implications of conversion, all of the divine involvements of this thing you have so recently done, nor were you expected to, nor was it necessary to your salvation.

The all-important thing was that you should come to the Lord in simple faith and, acknowledging your lost condition in sin, embrace Him as your Savior from sin and its awful results; and that is what you did, though at the time you might not have been aware of the vast workings of God, the far-reaching transactions that were being brought to pass in the innermost recesses of your soul. But now that you have been "born again" it is well for you to know what actually took place.

In enumerating these various blessings, these changes of eternal significance that became real to you at the moment of your salvation, we do not intend to imply that there is a time element involved or a chronological order in which they happened, for, as infinite and extensive as they are in their meaning and results, they occupy but the twinkling of an eye in being accomplished. Nor do we claim to be treating this subject at all exhaustively, for only eternity will unfold the complete picture of salvation.

The New Birth

YOUR SPIRITUAL BIRTHDAY

When you made your decision to accept Christ and so received Him into your heart, you were born again.

Our Lord Jesus told Nicodemus, and through him told all humanity, "Ye must be born again . . . Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3: 7, 3). And just what did He mean by such a statement? Briefly, He was referring to the awful truth that, due to the death-inflicting sin of Adam, the natural head of the human race, all human beings are born spiritually dead in trespasses and sins and therefore, quite

logically, there is the necessity of the rebirth of the soul. Christ was saying in essence, "You have been born physically, now you must be born again, this time spiritually." Using other words our Lord expressed the same truth when He said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life" (John 5: 24). And it was the Apostle Paul who wrote the words, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature [new creation]: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Cor. 5: 17).

By means of this rebirth you have gained entrance into the family of God and now are His child. You became a member of your earthly family by virtue of your birth into that particular family, and thus you entered the family of God, not as the result of any self-effort or attainment but due solely to the fact that you were born into it through the working of the Holy Spirit in response to your faith in Christ.

Prior to this change you were a child of the devil and subject to him (John 8: 44 and Eph. 2: 1-3); now you are a child of the Lord God and possess all the privileges and responsibilities connected with your new relationship. "He [Christ] came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God" (John 1: 11-13). "For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus" (Gal. 3: 26). "Beloved, now are we the sons of God" (1 John 3: 2).

And this new birth has placed you not only in a new family but also in a new race — the Christian race, of which Christ Himself is the head. Adam was the original head of the human race; in falling he carried the entire race with him. Christ, the last Adam, is the head of the spiritual race — the Christian race; He, like the first Adam, was tempted but He did not fall, and His triumph assures

His race of victory and security in Him.

As a member of this new race you receive your life from Him who said, "I am the resurrection, and the life" (John 11: 25). You are led through this wilderness world with its confusing darkness and entanglements by Him who said, "I am the way . . . I am the light of the world" (John 14: 6; 8: 12). You feed upon Him who said, "I am the bread of life" (John 6: 35), and you are refreshed by partaking of Him who said, "Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst" (John 4: 14). Your strength is drawn from Him who said, "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength . . . without me ye can do nothing" (Isaiah 40: 31; John 15: 5), and your joy comes from Him who said, "These things have I spoken unto you . . . that your joy might be full" (John 15: 11). In short, everything the Christian needs can be found in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Note: In the next issue Dr. Garrett will describe "A New Condition," "A New Life," and "A New Power."

World Council of Churches To Investigate Religious Liberty

The Rev. Dr. Alford Carleton of Boston, internationally known Protestant missions leader, has been named chairman of the newly created "Commission on Religious Liberty of the World Council of Churches." Formerly president of Aleppo College, Syria, and since 1954 executive vice-president of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, Dr. Carleton is one of three North Americans named to the commission. The others are Professor M. Searle Bates, of Union Theological Seminary, New York City; and C. Emanuel Carlson, of Philadelphia, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. The thirteen-member commission is authorized to "investigate the place of religious liberty in relation to non-Christian religions, political systems, including Communism, and within and between the Christian churches, including the Roman Catholic Church." — W. W. Reid.

The Sabbath Recorder

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

BATTLE CREEK, MICH. — At its December meeting the diaconate voted to have midweek cottage prayer meetings throughout the month of January, in keeping with the Universal Week of Prayer emphasis of the first week.

Wayne N. Crandall, president of General Conference, was the guest speaker on Sabbath morning December 27. The Commission began its midyear meetings that evening after a church vesper service in which Commission members spoke on various phases of "Extension and Growth." After the vesper service there was a Family-Night supper in honor of the guests. — From church bulletin.

Marriages

Hevener - Lowman. — Willard Hevener, of Roanoke, W. Va., and Barbara Lowman of Jane Lew, W. Va., were united in marriage at Weston, W. Va., on December 14, 1958, by the Rev. U. E. Wills of Weston and the Rev. Duane L. Davis of Lost Creek.

MacIntyre - Fitz Randolph. — Hugh D. MacIntyre and Virginia Fitz Randolph, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Esle Fitz Randolph, were united in marriage December 24, 1958, in the First Presbyterian Church, Mount Vernon, New York.

Obituaries

Fowler. — Mrs. Florence M., daughter of Joseph and Mary Blair Bowen, was born August 27, 1874, at Eau Galle, Wis., and died December 14, 1958, at Bonnie Vista Nursing Home, Whitewater, Wis.

On May 26, 1897, she was married to Gordon H. Fowler who died September 15, 1949. She had been a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church at Exeland, Wis. Survivors are: a daughter, Mrs. Charles C. Burdick of Milton, Wis.; a son, Kenton O. Fowler of Whitewater, Wis.; 2 sisters, Mrs. Fannie Stokes of Chetek, Wis., Miss Cora Bowen of La Crosse, Wis.; and a brother William Bowen of Marble Falls, Texas; 5 grandchildren and 1 great-grandson.

Funeral services were held at Whitewater, Wis., conducted by the Rev. Francis Foulke of the Methodist Church. Graveside services were Wednesday, December 17, at Exeland, Wis.

— Mrs. Charles C. Burdick.

Armstrong. — Reuben A., son of Andrew J. and Elnora Crandall Armstrong, was born in Portville, N. Y., January 24, 1871, and died at his home in Alfred, N. Y., November 10, 1958.

He was baptized May 26, 1893, and joined the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Alfred of which he continued a faithful member.

He was married to Miss Grace Hood in 1897. To this union were born three children: two sons, Robert H. (who died in 1938) and Leland R., of Washington, Pa.; and a daughter, Maxine (Mrs. Glenn E. Bucher) of Rochester, N. Y. In 1947 Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary. Mrs. Armstrong passed away in 1950.

In 1956 Mr. Armstrong married Mrs. Mamie R. V. Thomas.

Besides his son and daughter and widow, eight grandchildren survive.

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

Kenyon. — Gertrude, daughter of the Rev. Earl P. and Carrie Briggs Saunders, was born in Ashaway, R. I., May 2, 1891, and died at St. James Mercy Hospital in Hornell, N. Y., November 25, 1958.

After special preparation Gertrude Saunders became secretary of the International Institute of Providence, R. I., sponsored by the YWCA. She devoted sixteen years to the work there as well as four years to similar work in Lawrence, Mass.

She was united in marriage with M. Elwood Kenyon, Alfred, N. Y., November 27, 1937, after which time Alfred became her home.

She joined the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Alfred on February 23, 1946, by letter from the First Hopkinton Church, Ashaway, R. I. She always had time for service in the church and was deeply interested in the welfare of her immediate neighborhood as well as that of the larger community.

There survive her besides her husband: two brothers, Harold B. Saunders of Pittsford, N. Y., and Capt. E. E. Saunders (USN Ret.) of Asheville, N. C.; one sister, Mrs. Ethel Henley of Biloxi, Miss., and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial services were conducted from the First Alfred Church by her pastor, the Rev. Hurley S. Warren. Interment in Alfred Rural Cemetery will be at the convenience of the family. — H.S.W.

Tape Library at Christian Radio City

National Christians and missionaries from every major country outside the Bamboo Curtain prepare programs in their languages on tape recordings. To keep the steady flow of programs, Far East Broadcasting Co.'s tape library at Manila numbers more than 9,000 individual tapes.

The 50,000-watt station gets reports from listeners on every continent. A new 1,000-watt station is under construction at Okuma in Northern Okinawa. The director of the work on that island using a snorkel, personally explored the sea floor of the inlet at Okuma to make sure that the barges carrying the heavy transmitter could land the costly equipment.

Contending Steeples

