

The Sabbath Recorder

Pastor Soper plans to be in Walker, Louisiana, for special evangelistic meetings December 2-12. We are praying that God may richly bless these services.

A baptismal service was held on Sabbath, November 14, when seven young men and two young women, all members of Elery King's Sabbath School Class and of a class for baptism conducted by Pastor Soper, were baptized. The following Sabbath, they with three others were received into the church. Both services were very impressive. The entire congregation was invited to go forward and individually extend the right hand of fellowship to each new member.

The Lord's Acre project was completed Sabbath afternoon, November 21, following a fellowship luncheon with a dedicatory service for the \$1,000 raised through the project. The general committee, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Monk, Mr. and Mrs. Bud Williams, and Mr. and Mrs. George Maxson, had sponsored a supper and sale of donated articles. The Woman's Missionary Society used the penny-a-meal plan for August and October and a "Guess What" table at the sale. The Dr. Grace Society served dinners to the Inter-County Club meeting held in North Loup in October. Dr. Wayne Babcock sponsored a drive for scrap iron, and the Youth Fellowship hauled trash for their project. Mrs. Mynor Soper gave a concert of classical and religious music. A free-will offering was received for the Lord's Acre Fund, and there were some other individual gifts. We ask God's blessing on all who helped to make the project a success.

— Correspondent.

Accessions

North Loup, Neb.

By Baptism:

Vivian Swanson
Kathleen Swanson
Leonard Williams
Ronnie Williams
Rollie Davis
Phillip Van Horn
Brice Severance
Darrell Cox
Allen Cox
Janice Scott
Phyllis Fuller

By Testimony:

Mrs. H. A. (Annabelle) Schoning

Obituaries

Brewer. — Deacon R. C., son of Israel Putname and Helen Hoppin Brewer, was born Feb. 26, 1878, at Mantorville, Minn., and died at Riverside, Calif., Nov. 16, 1959. See extended obituary by the pastor on another page.

Chester. — Lena Smith, was born Jan. 26, 1890, at Richmond, R. I., and died at the Rhode Island State Hospital, Cranston, R. I., Sept. 23, 1959.

A daughter of Wilbur and Bertha Smith, she was married to Ray Chester June 17, 1911. He preceded her in death. She was a member of the First Hopkinton Seventh Day Baptist Church, Ashaway, R. I.

Surviving are: a daughter, Mrs. Carol C. Whitford, of Hope, R. I.; five sons: Edmund T., Theodore S., Ray A., William C., and Roderick D., all of the Ashaway and Westerly, R. I., area; 12 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; two sisters: Mrs. Edith Lamb of Avondale, R. I., and Mrs. Amelia Murphy of Florida; and a brother, Edmund T. Smith, of Ashaway.

Funeral services were conducted from the Harvey Buckler Funeral Home by her pastor, the Rev. Edgar F. Wheeler. Burial was in River Bend Cemetery, Westerly.

— E.F.W.

Scriven. — Emily M., daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. I. J. Scriven, was born in Philadelphia, Pa., in 1876, and spent much of her life in Los Angeles, where she died June 30, 1959.

Miss Scriven was baptized by the Rev. A. H. Lewis at Plainfield, N. J., and united with the Seventh Day Baptist Church of that city, where she kept her membership until her death. She was a charter member of the Christian Endeavor.

She leaves two brothers, Walter and Elmer Scriven; two sisters, Mrs. Clara S. Loftis and Mrs. Florence S. Munro; a niece and nephew who lived in the family home and nine other nieces and nephews; thirty grandnieces and grandnephews and six great-grandnieces and great-grandnephews.

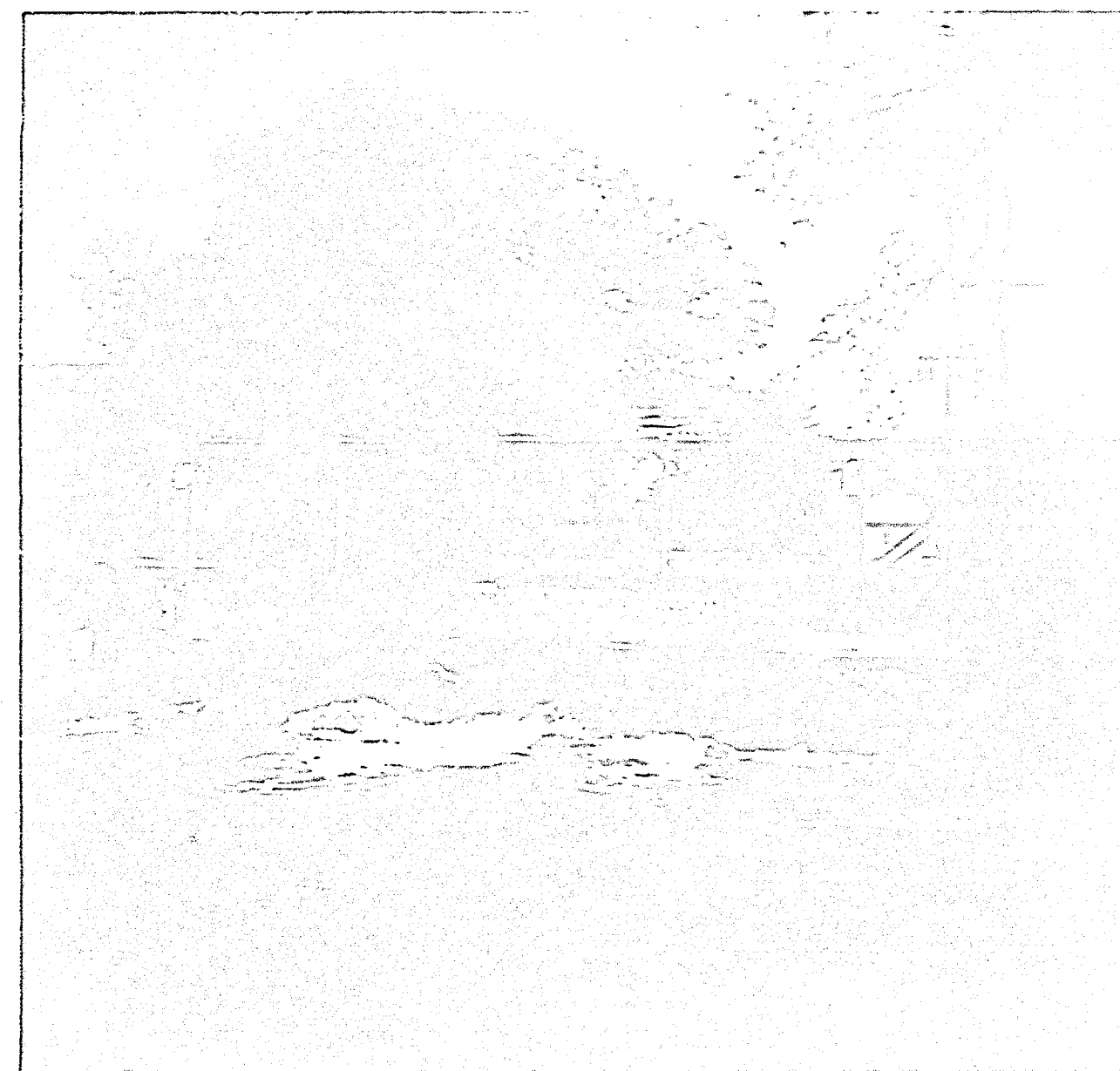
Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Francis D. Saunders, pastor of the Los Angeles Seventh Day Baptist Church. —F.D.S.

Van Sickel. — Grace, daughter of I. Newton and Eva Jane Hubbard Van Sickel, was born in Plainfield, N. J., and died September 25, 1959, at New Rochelle, N. Y.

She is survived by a niece, Miss Margaret Schmidt, of New York City.

A graveside service was conducted by the Rev. C. Harmon Dickinson, September 29, in Hillside Cemetery, Plainfield, N. J.

— C.H.D.



THE GLORY THAT ENDURES

In a moment of vision the prophet Isaiah heard a song of both heavenly and earthly glory in these words of the seraphim: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory." We try to catch and preserve on paper the brilliant but changing glory of tumbling streams, resplendent foliage and lacy boughs. We fail to convey to others in black and white what we have seen in color. What matters more is that we try more earnestly to get others to see the glory that endures, "the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."

The Sabbath Recorder

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Member of the Associated Church Press

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Don't Celebrate

The Birth of a Savior

With the Death of the Saved

It would be interesting to discover, in this era of motivation research, what the word "holiday" means to most people. What is the first thing that flashes to mind when the word is mentioned?

Time off from work? A trip? An excuse to celebrate? A tragic accident toll?

Unfortunately, truthful answers probably would place all of those higher on the list than the true meaning of the holiday. And it's especially unfortunate that holidays must have an association with high accident tolls.

Christmas, with the deepest spiritual significance, is the deadliest holiday of all, according to the National Safety Council. Ironically, it achieves this terrible distinction precisely because we want it to be such a wonderful occasion.

It is a sentimental holiday. People will drive long distances for the traditional family reunion, undaunted by the worst weather. More travel — especially winter travel at highway speeds — means more accidents.

It is a convivial holiday. The joyous spirit of the occasion is too often sought in liquid form.

This deadly conjunction of the throttle and bottle has dimmed the true radiance from the star of Bethlehem.

The National Safety Council has asked for church leadership during this Christmas season to point out that accident prevention is practical religion, and that good will toward men can find no finer expression than behind the wheel of a car.

The new safety regulations proposed by the Governor of New York State, Nelson Rockefeller, will be too late to reduce the holiday traffic toll in that populous state because they will not be submitted to the Legislature until its January meeting. A portion of that program could well be urged upon every state by its citizens. It includes a new motor vehicle violation: "Driving while the ability to operate is impaired by alcohol." It is aimed at the two-drink driver and would require for conviction only two thirds as much alcohol as is now required to substantiate a drunk-driving charge.

We do not want to die or to have our

loved ones die on the highway in holiday accidents that could be avoided. Christ, whose birth we celebrate, came to earth to be our Savior. There are two classes of people that ought not to die in automobile accidents, those who have not yet found their Savior and those who have not yet filled out their years of serving Him who is their Savior.

Evaluating Financial Appeals

The man with the little skiff had put out through the foaming breakers to rescue passengers from a shipwrecked vessel who were bobbing in the angry waves. When he had pulled on board all he could possibly carry to safety, he cried out, "O God, for a bigger boat!"

Those who are on the mailing lists of many worthy causes are deluged at this time of year with countless appeals for support to enlarge their ministry or balance their budgets before the end of the month. Perhaps our reaction is like that of the man with the little skiff who happened to be where he could be of help, "O God, for a bigger boat!"

Manifestly we cannot respond to every appeal; we must evaluate not only the cause represented but also the calls that might be more worthy but may reach us just after we have given substantially to something that pulled at our heartstrings. We like to give to the unusual, to the thing that is new and perhaps far away. It sometimes happens that the constant needs and the more prosaic appeals are overlooked by many of us at a time when they ought to be remembered.

Among the many calls are those from religious or semireligious magazines. We are persuaded that it would be nice to give to our friends subscriptions to these interdenominational periodicals. All well and good. But how about giving your own denominational paper to some who have not quite enough interest to order it for themselves? It is not too late to let someone know that you are starting a subscription as a gift. It is just a regular visitor in the home, but testimonies of blessings received from it seem to be abundant.

DECEMBER 14, 1959

Evolution and Planned Parenthood

There is no connection between evolution and planned parenthood except as some biologists make evolution the reference point for any discussion of the social problems of the world. Sir Julian Huxley, grandson of the Thomas Huxley who was associated with Charles Darwin, the man who wrote Origin of Species, recently participated in the five-day centennial celebration of the publication of the above-mentioned book at the University of Chicago.

As chairman of a panel on "The Evolution of Life" this biologist from England stated, "The evolution of life is no longer a theory; it is a fact." He went on to say, according to the New York Times, that it is an irreversible process that generates novelty, difference, diversity, and the higher levels of organization. He modifies Darwin's theory somewhat by stressing natural selection of groups rather than individuals. We quote: "This process results in success and replacement of large dominant groups, each embodying some important new improvement."

Perhaps some of us are not qualified to understand or evaluate the implications of these and other statements by Julian Huxley and the others who maintain (against mounting evidence, according to some trained scientists,) that evolution, in the Darwinian sense, is now fact rather than theory. That is a bold statement.

What, then, is the relation between evolution and planned parenthood? It is interesting to note that Sir Julian Huxley has used his visit to the United States to expound his views on this other subject. He is urging American clergymen and others in the Planned Parenthood Federation of America to work for this end through the United Nations. "Unless we do something, human evolution will regress, man will become less civilized, and will achieve less fulfillment," he declared. Whether or not this is in harmony with the Chicago statements about the "irreversible" process of evolution, let the reader judge. The point is that his approach to the problem of the over-popula-

tion of the world appears to be from the reference point of human evolution, not from the point of view of Christian faith or conscience.

Your editor has previously commented on the over-population problem in India. It is something serious, and it has already been discussed in the United Nations Assembly. The well-known Roman Catholic position on planned parenthood is not the answer. Neither is the desire of biologists to vindicate the theory of evolution. The real answer must come from evangelical Christianity. Perhaps the Christian solution has not yet been formulated, but when it is, it will be based on a love patterned after the love of Christ. The motivation will not be the defense of an outworn creed or a doubtful theory of certain biologists.

Bible in Brazil

Bigger by far than the United States, Brazil presents one of the greatest challenges to Protestant missionary work to follow in the wake of one of the most extensive Bible distribution programs of all time. It is estimated that enough Scripture portions have been distributed in that vast territory to provide one portion for every three people. As that work goes on Protestant churches spring into being and grow rapidly.

Not only is Brazil a land of great opportunity but also one of great need. Illiteracy is higher than the world average, 54% as compared with 44%. There is industrial expansion but with it has come considerable Communist infiltration of trade unions. The poor people are an easy prey to the Communists who contrast the future joys promised by the Evangelicals with the present blessings promised by their party.

Brazil and all its faithful colporteurs and missionaries need our prayers. Perhaps, in the providence of God we may lend encouragement to the Sabbathkeepers who always make their appearance where men study their Bibles and have the courage to break away from traditional forms and days of worship.

MEMORY TEXT

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins.

Matthew 1: 21.

No Disappointment In Heaven

Merle Hudson and David Appel have collaborated in writing a little book called *Raphael, the Herald Angel* which provides an hour's rather delightful pastime reading. The promoters of its sale (Minister's Dollar Book Club) perhaps have some basis for saying that not since van Dyke's *The Other Wise Man* has there been a more charming or original Christmas story. It is more fanciful and imaginative and probably will not live as long, but it does take one's mind off the temporary but acute disappointments that may beset us in our Christian work.

The book deals with heaven but tries to carry a lesson for earth. Raphael, the Herald Angel, was the angelic choir director who was told to rehearse all the angelic and cherubic choirs for the great event to take place at Bethlehem when the great Gift was to be given. His plans were perfect when he came to earth to direct the singing of the glory song at the advent of Christ. He had anticipated a wonderful response from the people on earth. When he saw that none but a few shepherds even listened, and they without real appreciation, he returned to heaven with such a sense of failure that he resigned as choir director and sat in silent meditation for over 1900 years. Then he was summoned to visit earth again invisibly. He was made to see that all over the world people were singing his song, "Glory to God in the highest." His first announcement of the birth of Christ had not been a failure.

This whimsical tale on the children's level may remind us that on earth as well as in heaven God has His ways of overruling our disappointments. If we are faithful to the responsibilities laid upon us we can be sure that our Heavenly Father in His wise providence will not allow His cause to fail. He sees farther than we, for which we can be thankful.

Conquest With Christ

Follow me and I will make you
become fishers among men.

Dr. Guy B. Funderburk*

In the providence of God the world had been made ready for the coming of Christ. All the world was at peace under the Roman Empire, ruled then by Caesar Augustus. Alexander the Great, through the spread of Greek culture, had made the Greek language the vernacular of the day. It was the superior language of all time in which to write the New Testament, while English, I believe (in the providence of God), is the superlative language for the propagation of the Gospel.

Another preparation for Christ's coming was by the Hebrew race in the person of John the Baptist, the rugged Elijah of New Testament times. With clarion tones he called people to repentance, and announced the coming of Christ.

Then suddenly Christ appeared and immediately launched His great conquest for the souls of men. Mark, in his first chapter, tells it this way: "And passing along by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you become fishers of men.'" A little farther on he called two other fishermen, James and John.

I. Civilization or Culture

Jesus may be understood as saying to us today: "Leave your possessions and lend Me your persons; leave your trade and lend Me your talents; leave what you have and I'll take what you are and make you far greater than you are. Leave your fish-

*The Rev. Guy B. Funderburk, with a doctor's degree in archaeology, is a newcomer to the staff of Salem College, teaching Bible and Christian Education. A former Army Chaplain of the Southern Baptist Convention, he was invited to preach this sermon in the local Seventh Day Baptist Church in the absence of Pastor Hansen, shortly after his arrival in Salem. By request of one of the audience he later made it available for our readers.

ing for meat and I will make you fishers of men; leave the minuteness of man for the magnitude of God."

Friends, I am afraid that in our day, as in other days, men are losing their sense of values. We are losing the sterling character of manhood for the sterling silver of the markets. "At the devil's booth are all things sold; each ounce of dross costs its pound of gold."

When the threats of World War II were rumbling on the horizon, that theological giant, Harry Emerson Fosdick, also sounded this warning note in his sermon "On Being Civilized to Death." Borrowing sociological terms, he said that man's life can be divided into two distinguishable areas, civilization and culture. Under civilization he listed the things we possess and under culture the things we are. He warned of the rapid progress of civilization while culture lags alarmingly behind.

Indeed we have grounds for boasting of our flourishing Western civilization. Our inventions and ingenuity have put us far out ahead of our world neighbors. Somebody said that Americans are the only people on earth looking for a place to park their cars and a way to reduce. We are drunk on luxury and don't know it. Bigger, better, and faster automobiles is the cry of the day. We live in a rock and roll and racing age.

With all our speed we still can't go fast enough. Slaughter on the highways is commonplace. The early news this morning told of the death of a young woman and her husband and mother-in-law in an auto collision here in West Virginia. And always, when it is not me or mine, but someone across the way, how little do we care?

We live in a switch and push-button age, with multiple gadgets and machines for our convenience. Actually one almost has to have a blueprint to know which

button to push for what. Recently down home a young fellow told of driving a new car with a push-button system with which he was unfamiliar. On reaching a high speed, which still wasn't fast enough for him, he just pushed the button "R," which he thought was racing gear, and of course stripped the gears.

Everywhere we are in a mad race, keeping up with the Joneses — new models of cars, washing machines, cook stoves, heating systems, houses, clothes, and all that makes for comfort and better living. Shouldn't we give more time to building better lives?

When confronted with the contrast with American and African civilizations, a native of Africa challenged the missionary, Dan Crawford, with the searching question, "Is to be better off to be better?" The answer to that question was given nearly two thousand years ago by the Son of man who had "nowhere to lay his head." In practice and preaching He taught the virtues of "lowly living and lofty thinking." He declared, "A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth." And again, "What shall it profit a man, if he gain the whole world, and lose his soul?"

III. Conquest of Christian Culture

You and I are heirs of a sturdy stock of pioneers. They had more in their hearts than they had in their hands when they invaded this wild country. They had the qualities of culture in their stout hearts and strong wills, but they had to carve their civilization out of the wilderness with their broadaxes. They came to these shores with so much love of God in their souls that they were willing to pay the price of privation and hardship for the freedom to worship God as they chose. You and I feast on the fruits of their labors, but do we follow in their train of sacrificial devotion?

We are the proud children of the covered-wagon migrants. My mother came from the coastal plans of South Carolina to the foothills in a covered wagon, while caravans of covered wagons streamed on

across the plains to the Far West. Somebody said that the covered wagon carried three kinds of cargo, the family, the blue-back speller, and the Bible. From the family they built homes, from the blue-back speller they built schools, and from the Bible they built churches.

These hardy ancestors bequeathed to us true riches, if we only knew rubies from rubbish. They gave us a place in which to live and a pattern to live by. On which are we putting the emphasis? Shall we in turn give to the world a better way of living or a better way of life? our Western civilization or our Western culture? our love for things or our love for people?

Jesus said to the fishermen, in effect, "Come with Me and I will make you fishers of men; and I will go with you as you go into all the world, and unto the end of the ages, to make disciples of all men." Shall we go with Him in a quest for souls? Shall we, with Him, make conquest of all peoples with eternal qualities: truth that will make men free; love that never faileth; and a brotherhood of all mankind under one Father and God?

III. Commitment to Christ

If so, our commitment to Christ should be prompt and complete. The Gospel records that Simon and Andrew "immediately left their nets and followed him." Also, James and John and the other disciples responded in like manner. They committed themselves immediately and completely to Him. The urgency of the Gospel is ever imperative. Full devotion is mandatory. Listen to His words, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

The worldly man never has until this day understood a man who denies himself, and yet it is a prerequisite for following Christ. The worldly man gets while the Christ man gives. The worldly man grasps life to lose it in the end while the Christian loses his life to find it in the end.

Christian friends, the hope of the world is in Christ and Him alone. We can bequeath to our children our civilization, our possessions, but how shall we give

them Christ, whom they must know through personal experience? Surely we shall teach them by precept and example, as we hope to teach the students in Salem College. We teach our children to pray, to read the Bible, to attend worship services, and to live by the golden rule. To love God and to love one's fellow man is the fulfillment of the law.

And to whom shall our children and our students go if not to you and me? My fifteen-year-old son recently brought to me a problem I knew he would inevitably face. I tried so much to help him. All around our Christian service is urgently needed. The old as well as the young have their problems. Hearts are aching while souls are crying out in desperation. "The fields are white already unto harvest." And, anyone in need is our neighbor, whether student, soldier, or stranger.

While I was a transport chaplain during World War II, a young lieutenant came to me as we sailed on the mid-Pacific one night. He listened at the door of the cabin while I taught a Bible class. Seeing the deep burden on his soul I suggested we go to the open deck above where the tropical air was cooler. There he declared his unbelief in God and his faith in science and philosophy. He had gotten his college education, but it had not saved him from two weeks of sordid night life in San Francisco before we sailed. But now we were far from the gaiety and glamor of the big city, and facing we knew not what. I asked him if he had gotten the answer to his most important question from science and philosophy, and he said, "No." I replied, "Of course not, or you wouldn't have come to me." Then I tried to show him that back of the myriad stars shining overhead, all in their prescribed courses, there was God, the Creator and Controller, and the One who cared for him and me.

Again, just before leaving my home in South Carolina two of my neighbors shared their burdens with me. A middle-aged widow, who had lost her husband some six months ago, told me she thought she would lose her mind. She wept unrestrained tears as she sobbed out her grief in being unable to sustain his loss. I tried

to show her that it was the common lot of man, and that Christ could help her conquer her grief.

That same night a cousin of mine, some years my senior, poured out to me the burden he had through a misunderstanding with a fellow churchman.

Oh, if Jesus of Nazareth were here, people could take all their burdens to Him. But has He not commissioned you and me to do this work? And has He not promised us the companionship and aid of the Holy Spirit, who would be our guide and comforter? Then we should wholly commit ourselves to the task of delivering humanity from the chaos of civilization and to the culture of Christ.

Are My Principles Showing?

Marjorie J. Burdick

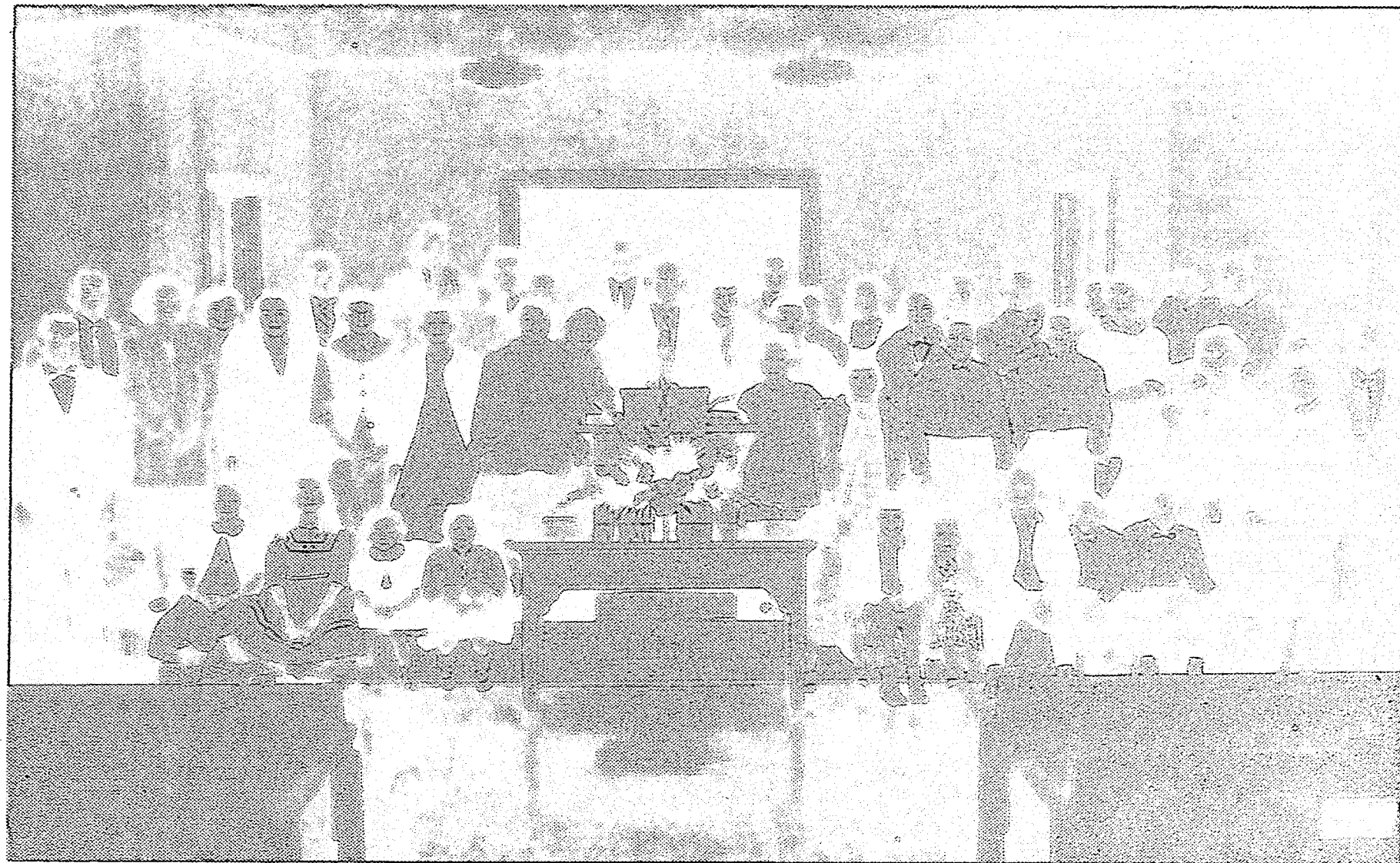
As we move into this Program for Advance, I hear the Master speak to me in searching questions about my own principles.

What are they? Are they Christian? Is Jesus pleased with my religious life? Am I? What do I have that shows that I truly believe in the Christian way of life as expressed in and through my church? Am I consecrated to the extent that my following the Jesus-way is the supreme principle of my life? Am I in danger of letting my religion fall into the pattern of convenience?

Then the question comes of my concern for others. Do I assume a self-righteous attitude of complaining? Or through my prayers, can I help others and influence them through love? It brings me to this point — do I care enough to really put my religion into action in my life?

My answer to all these questions is between my God and me. I hope and pray that I will advance with Him through study, prayer, and service. If I truly mean what I say, then my principles must show.

God's Ten Commandments contain only 297 words. Lincoln's Gettysburg Address only 266 words. A recent government order relating to the price of cabbage uses 26,911 words.



Dedication of New Church at Texarkana

The Texarkana Seventh Day Baptist Church dedicated its new church building on Sabbath day, November 14. Services were held both in the morning and afternoon. In spite of a very cold, windy day friends came from Little Rock and Fouke to share in the activities. A carload of people did start from Metairie, La., on Friday, but the car broke down and they telephoned their plight and had to return home.

Services in the morning included the Sabbath School and Sabbath worship. One of the features of the worship was the Junior Choir, which sang two pieces, in charge of Mrs. Lura Crow. A special litany of dedication had been prepared by the pastor. Prayers were given by the oldest member of the church, Mrs. Hortense Shelton, and her great-granddaughter, Miss Charla Relthford.

The pastor's message was titled "A Building Priority." The Scripture was from Ezra 3: 1-6, where we find that before they laid the foundation of the temple

in the process of rebuilding they first built an altar and worshiped the Lord. They gave first priority to worship. Our challenge even now is that first of all we worship, and then that whatever we do is conditioned and guided by the spirit of worship.

We were disappointed that at the last minute the heating arrangement for the baptistry could not be completed. There were people both from Little Rock and Texarkana expecting to be baptized. This service for them will be arranged later.

The service in the afternoon completed the dedication. There was special music again by the Junior Choir, messages from friends, including one from the president of General Conference. The pastor's message was "Standing on Holy Ground." Deacon Glen Davis of the Fouke Church assisted in the communion service, which was the climax of the day's programs.

The people of the Texarkana group began holding regular services more than 4 years ago in the home of Bill and Jennie

FitzRandolph, and a Seventh Day Baptist Fellowship was organized. Almost exactly three years ago lots were purchased and a small dwelling was moved on and remodeled for a worship center.

The Seventh Day Baptist Church of Texarkana was organized March 31, 1957. The new church building was begun last May. Some funds were borrowed from the Memorial Fund and a bond issue was floated using the Broadway Plan of Church Finance. Bonds were purchased by members of the congregation, by some friends near at hand, and by several friends among Seventh Day Baptist churches over the country. We have had also some very generous donations from good friends.

We praise God that His blessing has come to us so bounteously. We pray that our service to Him may be as faithful.

MISSIONS — Sec. Everett T. Harris

Nurses Welcomed in Holland

Secretary G. Zijlstra, clerk of the Holland Seventh Day Baptist Conference, has written concerning the welcome extended to Nurses Sarah Becker and Barbara Bivins by our Dutch brethren. Several paragraphs from his letter follow:

"On the Sabbath evening the nurses were welcomed in the church, when we had a prayer meeting. On the Sabbath Brother H. Visser preached a sermon, using as his text Matthew 9: 37-38. It was quite the same as in the States, one of the sisters told me. After the morning service we took lunch at the church. During the pause one of the brethren offered the nurses a tour in the surroundings and along the seaside. In the afternoon meeting both of the sisters told us how they came to offer themselves to the missionary work, and answered several questions.

"We think it a great privilege that the Missionary Board made it possible to make the acquaintance of these missionaries, notwithstanding the fact that their presence is so urgently wanted at Makapwa. By their visit the ties that bind us to Makapwa have become stronger.

"Our best wishes for a fruitful labour at the mission in Nyasaland and the greetings for our friends there accompanied them. God bless them."

New Missionaries

Arrive Safely at Makapwa

A letter received November 25 carried the good news that our newest mission workers have arrived safely at Makapwa Mission in Nyasaland. Miss Sarah Becker writes that she and Miss Barbara Bivins had a pleasant trip from Hamburg, Germany, to Blantyre, Nyasaland, where they were met by "the whole European staff of the Mission."

One unexpected change in the flight plans occurred, making it necessary for the nurses to spend two days at Nairobi, Kenya, arriving in Blantyre on November 12 instead of the 10th as expected. Miss Becker writes as to the reason for this change, "In relaying our booking via BOAC from Nairobi to Blantyre some poor clerk had put us down for the 8th instead of the 10th. On our ticket it said the 10th. So when we were landing in Nairobi the plane on which we were supposed to be was just leaving the ground. Yes, we were all very sad and disappointed but it all worked out for the best. The airlines gave us first class hospitality for the two days in their newest and finest hotel. We were very much in need of rest by then and made good use of our time."

The letter concludes, "Everyone here is very busy and we are so glad to be here to help out. We started language study and had our first lesson yesterday. Surely the Lord was gracious and loving in His care for us on the long journey, and we praise Him."

Personal Growth Covenant Sign the Card

As a part of the Lay Development Program we are all encouraged to check and sign a personal growth covenant card. This is an individual matter, a promise made to God that we will try with His help to grow in grace, knowledge, and usefulness in His Kingdom work.

There are eight suggested items for growth which we may check. They begin with deepening and enriching our own spiritual lives through Bible study and

prayer. This we need and must have or we can go no further.

Perhaps the most difficult one to sign and carry out is number 6, in which the promise is to "seek to win at least one person to Christ and my church." But this is the very heart of the whole matter. Can we fail to sign this one and still be witnesses for Christ?

And what about those three blank spaces numbering 9, 10, and 11? Is this just a waste of space? We hope and pray that these three blank spaces will be the greatest challenge of all to each of us. At this point we must look deeply into our own hearts and ask God to help us grow in those things that He knows are our greatest needs.

Is it our greatest personal need to be rid of some compromising habit? Is it to be more loving and thoughtful of others? Is it to curb a nasty temper? What stands in the way of complete commitment on our part? We know in our inner hearts what it is and God knows, too. Have you the courage and faith to believe that God can and will help you grow? Then sign the personal growth covenant card and give Him a chance to help you keep your promise.

Daily Strength

Elizabeth Fisher Davis

From the noise and tumult of the world
We need a safe retreat;
O Praise the Lord, He made it —
The blood-bought mercy seat.

We pray and read the precious Book —
Its promises are sure;
Our souls are lifted, hearts are eased;
We find strength to endure.

"In quietness and confidence"
Thy strength shall ever be.
Help us, O Lord, to realize
Our strength must come from Thee.

"Be still and know that I am God."
Yes — Lord, we need to pray
That nothing keep us from the tryst
We have with Thee each day.

(Written Dec. 1, 1959, in the night.)

The Pastor in Relationship To the Church and Its People

The Program for Advance of the Independence and the Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Churches included four workshops on consecutive Sabbaths. It was definitely felt that each of the workshops was significantly successful. The topics were "Communications," led by Dean Albert Rogers; "Community Witness," by L. Reid Mattison; "Music in the Church," by Miss Helena Knox; and "The Pastor in Relationship to the Church and Its People," by Dr. Melvin Nida. Because Dr. Nida and the members of his workshop felt the results of their discussions were of such vital importance, a request was made to send the following report to the Sabbath Recorder.

(Report prepared by
Mrs. L. Reid Mattison.)

Each and every one has a responsibility to God, not only the pastor, but his congregation and the church's entire membership. The government of a Baptist church is unique in its freedom of form for each individual church. Therefore the responsibilities may vary in each church for the pastor and his people. However, the following is in keeping with the opening statement of this paragraph.

What is a pastor? A pastor is a layman set aside for teaching and helping to develop the church program. He has the specific task of leadership in a church. The pastor serves to direct, guide, and lead the people to God. His purpose is to tell the people what he considers to be the truth. The laymen must be aware of what the pastor is endeavoring to accomplish, and help him.

What is the laymen's responsibility in pastoral leadership? The layman has the same responsibilities as the pastor except that he may not have time to perform the specific duties. Communication can be developed between the people and their pastor through an Advisory Committee. This would include both the program of the church and the personal relationship of the pastor and the people. Most pastors welcome such a committee. Such an organization can keep a pastor from becoming an authoritarian. The committee's con-

cern should be not to safeguard the people or the pastor, but to advance the Kingdom of God. Other areas of responsibility would be recommending a pastor to the church when one is to be called; recommending a working program or a change in the program such as morning worship, prayer meeting, Bible Study, and other functions. By reporting on areas of friction between the pastor and his people a harmonious relationship could always be maintained. Individuals would feel free to take personal concerns to the committee. It must be remembered that a pastor cannot be a specialist in all fields and must have help from his people.

What does "License to Preach" mean? A person who is "licensed to preach" is encouraged by the church, as well as the individual members, to seriously consider the ministry as a profession. This is not done in an obligatory manner, but as a suggestion and as a vote of confidence. This "Call to the Ministry" is a statement that a given church recognizes the capabilities and qualities of a young person and "licenses him to preach."

What should a church do about special giving or special financial drives? It was generally agreed that people feel a personal obligation in a special project, thus they favor special drives. We need to take advantage of spiritual feelings, sincerely, not emotionally. When a need is known it should be taken care of. Non-resident members should feel a responsibility, as well as resident members. In another opinion the denomination has an over-all view of the church program, hence, they know where the special needs are, so special drives are not necessary.

Is it a good idea to have the denomination appoint ministers or not? No, we are too independent as individual churches to have our ministers appointed by the denomination. The individual church must extend the call. The call should be extended annually, the pastor retiring when the vote is made. If the vote is not unanimous, it should be recorded so that the pastor may know. It is only just and fair to him.

What is the difference between the

Advisory Committee, the Pastoral Committee, and the Ministerial Committee? They are pretty much the same thing; their functions are the same, the name being the only difference.

Who are the members of the Advisory Committee? It should have as its hub the deacons and deaconesses. Other members should be the chairmen of the various church organizations, such as the youth group, the Ladies' Aid, the trustees, the church moderator and all other organizations. This committee might well meet privately, without the pastor for part of its meeting time and with him for the latter part. These meetings should be at regular dates.

How does a church call a pastor? The Advisory Committee may suggest names of available ministers to the church members. The church indicates its choices and the committee invites the ministers chosen to conduct a service and to preach. Then the church voices its choice. The committee may extend the call to the desired minister but the usual way is for the clerk to write a letter of formal call to the desired pastor. The Advisory Committee may canvass the feelings of the congregation and examine the background of the prospective minister.

Special recommendations were made in this workshop in line with the points covered for the two churches cooperating.

THOU SHALT NOT

They were going to build the biggest sand castles ever! With towers . . . and tunnels . . . and arches . . .

But now she's just a statistic . . . her dream and her life ended by death on the highway!

No one wanted to kill her. But someone did! Just as surely as someone killed the 40,000 men, women, and children who died on our roads last year.

That someone could be anyone . . . it could even be you. So when you drive this season, take extra care. No one wants to be a killer . . . or a corpse. — Public Service Advertising Council.

NEW EVANGELISM CHART AVAILABLE

A new evangelism turnover chart is available for loan to the churches. It is entitled "You and Christian Witnessing," and is designed to train church members to do one-by-one evangelistic work. It explains in graphic terms the "why" and "how" of personal witnessing in everyday life. We encourage the churches to make use of this chart as a part of the Lay Development Program.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION — Soc. Rox E. Zwiobol

Youth Work Encouraged

Report of the Committee on Young People's Work at General Conference, Salem, 1959.

1. We recommend that letters be sent to the pastor and one young person in each church urging them to publicize the work of the SDBYF and informing them of the printed breakdown of the Youth Committee budget which will appear in the Beacon. We further recommend that the young person if possible be one who has attended Pre-Con and worked with the Committee on Young People's Work this year.

2. We recommend that each youth group appoint a Beacon correspondent if it has not already done so and send the name of that individual to the chairman of the Youth Committee.

3. We urge every youth fellowship and young person to join the SDBYF, sending the name of each individual with the dues to the chairman of the Youth Committee.

4. We recommend that the funds allocated to the Youth Committee in the Board of Christian Education budget be listed as national SDBYF budget.

5. We commend the Youth Committee for setting up the Young Adult Retreat and recommend that it be continued.

6. We wish to express our appreciation to the directors (Rex Zwiebel and Elmo Randolph) and the staffs of both Pre-Cons.

7. We recommend that a study of the Statement of Beliefs of Seventh Day Baptists be carried on in a discussion group at the Pre-Cons next year.

8. We commend the Youth Committee for arranging for the summer field worker, and Miss Helena Knox for her dedicated service in behalf of this program. We recommend that this program be continued until such time as a full-time worker can be secured.

9. We recommend that each Association clear its dates for camp with the Youth Committee if the Association wishes the services of the summer field worker.

10. We commend the Youth Committee for promoting the Camper Exchange Program and recommend its continuance.

11. We recommend that the Youth Committee develop a program for youth in connection with the five-year Program for Advance.

12. We wish to thank the local young people's activities committee for its outstanding work in planning youth activities during Conference.

Christian Endeavor

The 46th International Christian Endeavor Convention will be held in Chicago, July 5-8, 1961. The fee is \$4.00, and the leaders are anxious that those planning to go send in their registration now. The address is 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio.

"The inspiration of the convention will change lives, give spiritual enrichment, and provide wonderful Christian fellowship."

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for December 26, 1959

God Is Our Help

Lesson Scripture: Acts 12: 1-12.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

**Hannah May Dixon Trainer,
A Respected Deaconess**

"Miss May" as she was affectionately called even after her marriage late in life with George H. Trainer, was born in Rosenhayn, N. J. Much of her life centered around Shiloh, N. J., where her parents moved when she was three years of age. Her father, John Tuft Dixon, embraced the seventh-day Sabbath and took his place as a worker in the church until his decease.

Hannah May, the eldest of five girls, was graduated from Shiloh Union Academy (a church school) and from Trenton Normal. After years of teaching in New Jersey, Alfred, N. Y., and the Teachers' Training School at Salem, W. Va., she retired in 1932 and returned to Shiloh.

Early in life she accepted Christ as her Savior, was baptized by the Rev. Theodore L. Gardiner, and developed a great longing to be a foreign missionary. Through the years she kept in touch with several missionaries on the various fields, and her files have preserved wonderful letters from them, even to the present time. She did become a consecrated home missionary — connected with the Shiloh Seventh Day Baptist Church, Sabbath School, Christian Endeavor, Loyal Temperance Legion, and WCTU. She practiced and advocated tithing. She felt strongly that one should hold membership in the nearest church of her faith and, although a deaconess in the Shiloh Church, she transferred her membership to Alfred and Salem when living in those communities. There, too, she served as a deaconess.

In the summer of 1927 she accompanied Mr. and Mrs. George H. Trainer of Salem, W. Va., on a two months' cruise abroad. They were very congenial and became life-long friends. On November 8, 1947, some time after the death of Mrs. Trainer, Miss Dixon was married to Mr. Trainer. After his death in 1954 she spent several winters in Florida with her sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. George A. Main. Mrs. Trainer and Mr. Main found mutual enjoyment in discussing a wide variety of subjects, secular and religious, until his decease January 31, 1958.

She suffered a severe stroke January 31,

1958, from which she never recovered. Fortunately, as was her desire, she stayed at home and had very capable and loving nurses to the end.

She is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Anabel D. Austin of Westerly, R. I., and Mrs. George A. Main (Mabel) of Pomona Park, Fla., several nieces, nephews, and greatnieces and greatnephews. — L.M.M.

Vocational Interests

O. B. Bond

125 Gardenia Drive
Holly Hill, Florida

From 50 to 75 new teachers are employed in the public schools of Plainfield, N. J., each year to fill vacancies caused by resignations and retirements. Both beginning and experienced teachers are hired at annual salaries for the bachelor's degree ranging from \$4,300 for beginners to \$5,900 for teachers of ten or more years of experience. Salaries are somewhat higher for holders of the master's degree. Applications should be directed to Dr. Clayton A. Brower, assistant superintendent, School Administration Building, Madison Avenue at 5th Street, Plainfield, N. J., not later than February 15.

Any young Seventh Day Baptists wishing to get located in a well-established Seventh Day Baptist community and in a progressive school system, should give prompt attention to the possibility of employment in Plainfield, N. J.

WORLDWIDE BIBLE READING

THANKSGIVING to CHRISTMAS

Daily readings suggested by
The American Bible Society

December	13.....	Acts.....	10:30-48
	14.....	Isaiah.....	9:2-7
	15.....	Isaiah.....	11:1-9
	16.....	Isaiah.....	35:1-10
	17.....	Isaiah.....	40:1-11
	18.....	Isaiah.....	42:1-13
	19.....	Acts.....	11:19-30
	20.....	Luke.....	2:1-20
	21.....	Isaiah.....	53:1-12
	22.....	Isaiah.....	55:1-13
	23.....	Isaiah.....	61:1-11
	24.....	Jeremiah.....	31:31-37
	25.....	Matthew.....	2:1-12

An Unusual Opportunity

(Related by the Rev. Trevah R. Sutton of El Paso, Texas, one of our ministers who is not at present employed as a pastor.)

On our return trip following summer school at East Texas State College, Commerce, Texas, we spent a weekend at Hagerman, New Mexico, with friends (the former Methodist pastor's family at Fabens, Texas). After being asked to preach at the Sunday evening service I was surprised and honored at being asked to tell about Seventh Day Baptists before beginning the sermon. A brief outline was given of our history, beliefs, polity, and interdenominational activity.

The people were interested and pleased to learn about Baptists, and likewise Sabbath observers, who were cooperative in common Christian experiences and service. It is a frequent occasion to give a personal witness to friends, but it is more unusual to do so before a congregation of another denomination by invitation.

Sabbath Testimonies

God leads in mysterious ways to convince people of His will in regard to the Sabbath of the Bible. Two consecutive testimonies were heard in a meeting of Seventh Day Baptists recently.

A young lady was reared in a deeply religious Sundaykeeping home. Later she came to live in a community where the number of Sabbathkeepers brough the question forcibly to her attention. She went to the Bible, she says, to study it carefully and bolster her faith that Sunday was the day a Christian should keep. Her unaided Bible study made verses like Leviticus 26: 2 stand out with new meaning. God led her to greater faith and to observance of His holy day.

A young man reared in a Sabbathkeeping home where the large family was always at church grew to young manhood and went away from home to serve in the Navy in far-off places. There he had a new and personal experience with Christ. He began to study his Bible in earnest on board ship. He approached the Sabbath-Sunday question from the opposite angle.

As a former Sabbathkeeper he wanted to find in the Bible an excuse for not keeping it. He wanted to keep Sunday like those who had led him into his deeper Christian experience. What did he find? According to his testimony, the more he studied with this aim in view the more the seventh-day Sabbath kept cropping up. Bible study brought him back to the Sabbath.

Mid-Continent Camp Development

The Rocky Mountain Camp which has provided unusual facilities for deep Christian experiences is one of the older camps of the denomination. Its buildings and equipment are being improved each year. There is now, however, a new camp site being developed in the North Loup, Neb., area of the Association which will make it possible for more children to have the advantages of a summer Bible camp program.

The newsletter of the North Loup Church tells the following story of the development of their permanent camp:

"Our camping program has made considerable progress this year. The site on the North Loup River on Elery King's farm that was used last year has been leased for a period of years for the purpose. Madge Fuller donated her barn and the Brotherhood tore it down and moved the material out to the site. From this material plus more purchased with some of the accumulated camp fund, a kitchen with extended roof large enough to protect the dining area was constructed. A number of folks worked several nights by car lights until midnight to have it completed for camp.

"Many loads of cobs were hauled out to make the road passable and several concrete culverts, donated by a concrete company in Grand Island, were laid in the low places. So our camp is taking on an air of permanency. It is already being used for group and family picnics as well as for regular camp."

Modern living: Where everything in the home is controlled by switches except the children.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

BATTLE CREEK, MICH. — A retreat, in accordance with the Lay Development Program adopted by the General Conference, was planned for Camp Holston late in September. Because of unseasonably cold weather the group "retreated" to the church for the meetings. Friday evening, representatives of the many groups that go to make our church a working body spoke on "What I As a Layman Can Do." Following this, questions were handed out and the group divided into "buzz-sessions" and their discussions were summarized for the entire group. The Sabbath morning worship service followed the theme, and a fellowship meal was served at noon by the committee to about 70. The afternoon service was concerned with the plans for the coming year and a temporary calendar of future events made up. After another fellowship meal in the evening the sessions continued in the sanctuary with a very inspiring film. Sunday morning found a smaller group, but still the enthusiasm ran high as all the loose ends were caught up and more definite plans made for the year. At the final meal at noon Sunday the feeling of real accomplishment seemed to prevail among those who had helped to plan the program for their church for the coming year.

One of the suggestions made at the retreat was carried out October 31 when Laymen's Sabbath was observed. The entire morning worship was carried on by the laymen of the church and Pastor Davis had the rare privilege of sitting with his family and enjoying the service. Much was to be gained from the messages by Ward Maxson and Mrs. Charles Parrott as they brought to light our responsibility for church work as laymen.

Our second follow-up of our retreat was observed the weekend of November 14 when the Stewardship Committee of the church took over the services. The Sabbath morning messages were brought to us by two young adults, Miss Ruth Johansen and Owen Davis, both senior students at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. A "Meal of Sharing" was served by the Stewardship Committee at noon to all who cared to stay and the offering was

given to Church World Service. Our first workshop, one of several, we hope, was held in the afternoon, entitled "Christian Stewardship." This was led by George Parrish. All aspects of stewardship as related to our total work were discussed.

As we go forward with our year each group remains busy with their plans. Members of the Young People's Fellowship are eagerly trying to sell Christmas cards and wrappings as well as holding a bake sale to raise the \$75 they have pledged for the new lodge for Camp Holston. The Ladies' Aid has been holding a series of chicken pie suppers and bazaar sales, and the choir is deep in preparation of the Christmas cantata "This Is Noel." Each of us has his place in God's plan and we pray that we will each find it and carry forward His program for His glory. — Correspondent.

METAIRIE, LA. — "A little child shall lead them," is a statement from the Word that has recently taken on more meaning for us than ever before. The Lord has been making His presence known here to the complete amazement of everyone.

Last Sabbath (Nov. 28) Pastor Hibbard baptized 13. There were two families, both brought into the church by their children, and four other teenagers. It is expected that before this report gets into print there will be six or eight more. These conversions and baptisms are not the result of a high-pressure evangelistic campaign, for we do not even have a minister. God is moving to bring His Word before men.

The young people volunteered to take charge of the Sabbath morning services every other week and the Sunday evening services. Pastor Hibbard has been coming from Walker every other Sunday to preach after the young people have presented a program to which anyone should be proud to invite his friends.

The writer feels chills running up and down his back to hear those young people singing at the top of their voices, "We Young Folks Are Seventh Day Baptists" — youth who three years ago had never even heard of Seventh Day Baptists. Crowded into a laundry truck equipped

The Sabbath Recorder

with seats, 25 of them sing all the way from the housing project to the church eight miles away.

The attendance on Sunday nights has averaged 50 to 60, and we expect it to increase each week. Our attitude is humbleness before God for the work He is doing. We as individuals have about run the gamut of doing things wrong, but God makes no mistake. — Correspondent.

LOST CREEK, W. VA. — Our church has been unusually active this year. We deemed it a real privilege to be able to entertain the Commission and to extend the hospitality of our homes to Conference guests. Many of our young people participated in the Pre-Con Retreats for young people and young adults. Conference was well attended by members of our church group.

Our pastor, the Rev. Duane L. Davis, and the Rev. Clifford W. P. Hansen of the Salem Church cooperate in broadcasting a very inspirational Sabbath Vespers program each evening after the Sabbath over Station WPDV Clarksburg, West Virginia.

On October 24 and 25 forty of our members representing fifteen families received a real challenge and inspiration in our first Lay Development Planning Conference Retreat. It was conducted at Camp Selby on the Buckhannon River in the heart of a hardwood timber area. Those who have seen Appalachian foothills in the autumn know that nothing was left to be desired in the setting for the planning of down-to-earth spiritual and physical church growth. We came back home with eight definite goals to recommend to the church for 1960 and some workable plans for attaining them.

We served our annual oyster supper October 29. It is our only public effort at money raising and every one works, not just the Ladies' Aid. The Lost Creek Church served the first oyster supper seventy-five years ago, the same year that the Woman's Board was organized at the Lost Creek Conference. The supper has not been served every year, but it is one of the traditions of the church. It pays well both in fellowship and finance.

The Semi-Annual Meeting of the West Virginia Churches convened with the Lost Creek Church in October as usual.

On November 14 the church observed the annual Homecoming service which was well attended. Seventeen persons were honored with a red rosebud for having been members of the church fifty years or more. Mrs. Arden Bond and Mrs. Charles A. F. Randolph have been members for eighty years. Both of them were present.

Following a covered-dish dinner in the social rooms of the church the annual Lord's Acre program was presented. Families and individuals spoke briefly of their projects and presented their gifts. The money had previously been dedicated to new doors for the front entrance of the church.

For some years there has been a growing need for more room for Sabbath School classes and other church activities. Tentative plans for an addition to the church are now being studied. A building committee has been empowered to work out details. We hope and pray that actual construction is in the near future.

Correspondent.

Births

Cupp. — A daughter, Cheryl Renee, to Pat and Gaye Mitchell Cupp, 1336 Woodrow St., Shreveport, La., Sept. 16, 1959.

Spencer. — A daughter, Kristianna DeWitt, to Fred and Mary Jo Spencer, 104 Jefferson Dr., Little Rock, Ark., August 16, 1959.

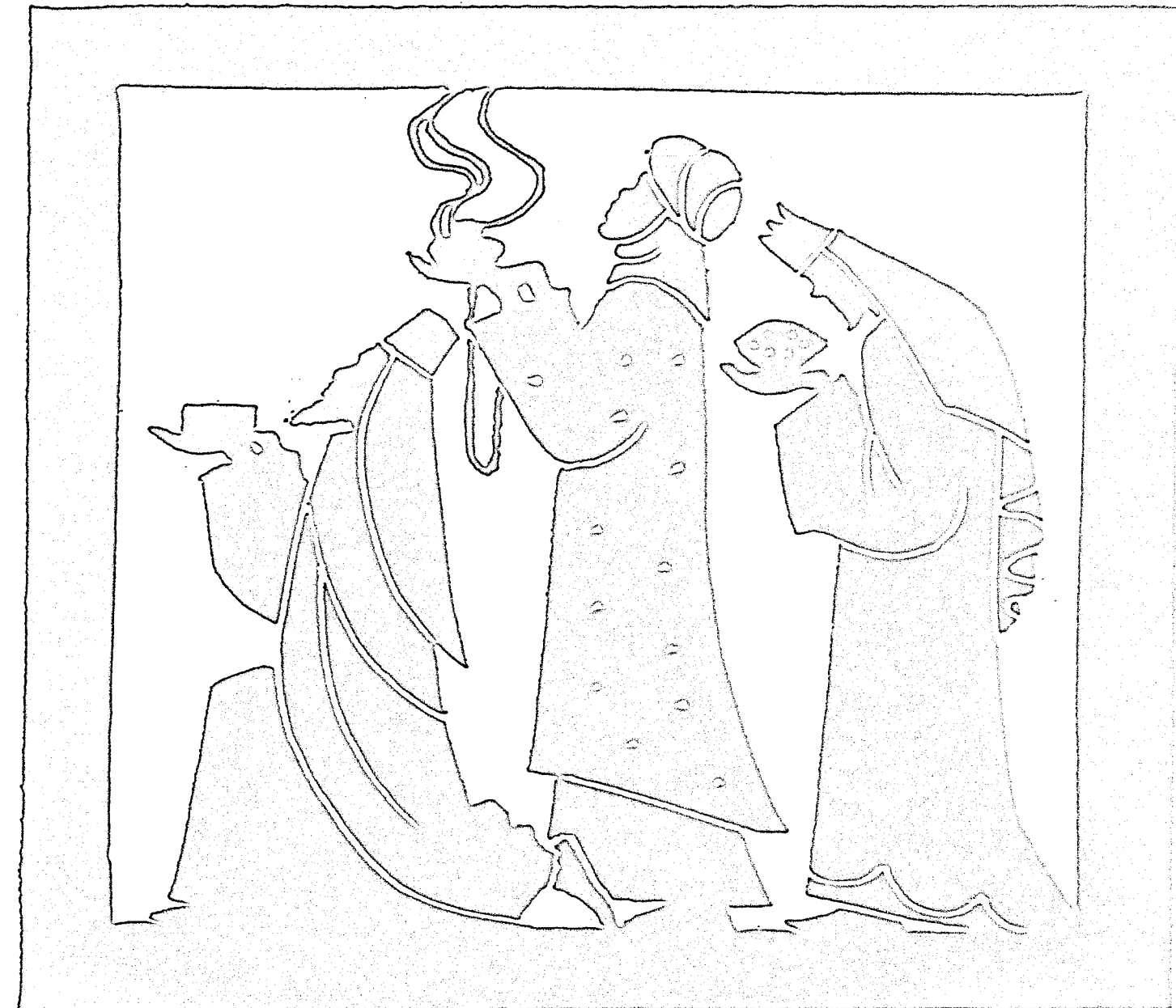
Monroe. — A son, Noah Thomas, to Mr. and Mrs. Glathan Monroe of Fouke, Ark., Oct. 17, 1959.

Hansen. — A son, Kerry Scott, to Mr. and Mrs. Ted Hansen, Denver, Colo., August 21, 1959. (The maternal great-grandfathers are the Rev. John Fitz Randolph, Milton, Wis., and the Rev. Erlo E. Sutton, Boulder, Colo.)

Obituaries

Trainer. — Hannah May Dixon, eldest daughter of John and Mary Loper Davis Dixon, was born in Rosenhayn, N. J., Aug. 29, 1869, and died at the home of her sister, Mabel Main, at Pomona Park, Fla., Nov. 20, 1959.

The only public memorial service for Mrs. Trainer was held at the Shiloh, N. J., Church on Sabbath afternoon, December 5, with Pastor Charles H. Bond in charge (assisted by a former pastor, Leon M. Maltby). Burial was in the family plot in the church cemetery. A more extended obituary of this deaconess appears elsewhere. — L.M.M.



For Christ the King

Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great desire of nations;
Ye have seen His natal star:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King.