

The Sabbath Recorder

to present the "John James Story." The Blanche Sutton Class meets monthly for fellowship, food, and fun. The Ladies Aid recently held a baked food sale. A smorgasbord and rummage sale are in the offing. We are anticipating the Mid-Continent Association meetings at Boulder October 5-7. Fellowship dinners the last Sabbath of each month fill a vital need in our fast growing city with members so widely separated.

Leading and yet serving is our pastor, Rev. Kenneth Smith, an inspiration to us as individuals and as a group. It is becoming unpopular in the Denver church to make excuses when asked to perform a service. Let us take to heart those words of a great religious leader, "It is not the amount we give that He notices; it is the amount we keep back."

WHITE CLOUD, MICH. — The annual church business meeting of the White Cloud Seventh Day Baptist Church was held Saturday night, Oct. 7, at the church with the moderator, the Rev. Orville Babcock, presiding.

The Rev. Don A. Sanford received a unanimous call to serve another year as pastor. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: moderator, Rev. Orville W. Babcock; clerk, Mrs. Donald Rudert; treasurer, Donald Cruzan; trustee for three years, Marion Cruzan; organist, Mrs. Kenneth Vanden Berg; assistants, Mrs. Elma Matson, Miss Betty Babcock; chorister, Rev. Orville Babcock; assistant, Mrs. Leon Mosher. — White Cloud Eagle.

Ordains Bus Drivers

A Baptist church in Miami has set apart two men thought to be the first ever ordained specifically as "bus pastors."

Clyde A. Koscheski and Claude F. Wilson will have a steering wheel for a pulpit as they pick up churchgoers in two church-owned buses. Both are deacons and Sunday school teachers in Northwest Baptist Church.

Pastor Homer G. Lindsay, Jr., decided the only thing to do was to ordain the pair, according to the story written for the *Miami Herald*. Koscheski, a bottled gas installer, and Wilson, an aluminum plant superintendent, found an area without churches of any denomination.

Going from door to door offering to

take residents to church, they now have more than 100 persons riding their buses. They visited the homes of the regular riders and offered spiritual counsel. A dozen of the riders have been converted as a result.

During the Billy Graham Crusade in Miami Beach, the buses transported worshippers to hear the evangelist.

Each of the two is training another worker. Lindsay said he hopes to have 18 buses in service in the future whose drivers carry out a similar ministry.

National Circus — We need a new balancing act; the performers haven't done so well — with the budget.

Marriages

McWilliams-Mitchell.—In the Fouke Seventh Day Baptist Church on September 2, 1961, Mrs. Esther I. Mitchell became the bride of J. W. McWilliams. Both the bride and groom are from Texarkana, Ark., and will make their home in that city. The bride's former pastor, the Rev. Ralph Soper of Okolona, Ark., officiated.

Births

Green.—A son, Steven Jeffrey, to Rev. and Mrs. J. Paul Green Jr., of Alfred Station, N. Y., on September 24, 1961.

Roberts.—A daughter, Christina Elizabeth, to Jesse and Lela Roberts of Shiloh, N. J., on August 31, 1961.

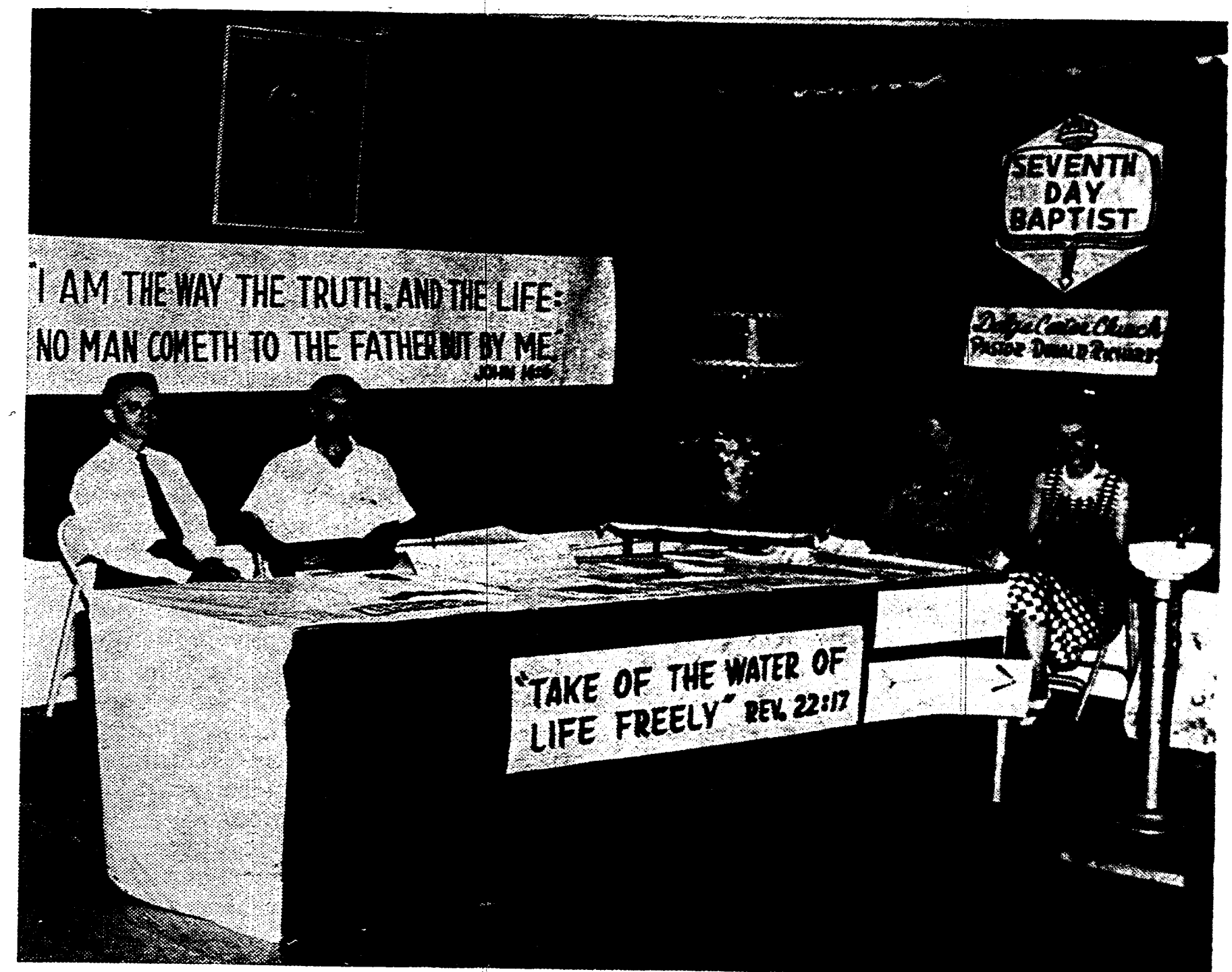
Obituaries

Shaw.—George Bly, son of John Leland Shaw and Catharine Amanda Burdick Shaw, was born in Freeborn, Minn., January 25, 1865, and died at his home in Alfred, N. Y., September 21, 1961.

Shaw.—Nellie Evangel Burdick, daughter of Silas Greenman Burdick and Hannah Hull Burdick, was born March 1, 1868, on a farm at Lima, near Milton, Wis., which her grandfather and grandmother had taken as a claim from the United States Government. She died at Bethesda Hospital, North Hornell, N. Y., September 30, 1961.

(Extended obituaries elsewhere in this issue.)

Wanted — A Burdick Genealogy book. To rent or buy. Florence V. Burdick, 2620 East 7th St., National City, Calif.



CHRISTIAN WITNESS AT COUNTY FAIR

A worshipful atmosphere, tables spread with Gospel and Sabbath literature, a flowing fountain, and a well-manned, unusually spacious booth enhanced the witness of our Dodge Center church at the County Fair at Kasson, Minn., July 27-30, where 11,000 pieces of literature were handed out. Pictured in the booth are the pastor, Donald Richards, Wallace Greene, Jean White of Milton, Wis., and Mary Thorngate of Eau Claire, Wis., chairman of the Association Tract Committee which sponsored the project. See story inside.

The Sabbath Recorder

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Rural Scenes Bring Happy Memories

Many of us have been drawn away by our occupations and callings from the rural scenes that were so commonplace in our earlier years. Only occasionally do we have opportunity to recapture with a bit of nostalgia the simple beauty of cattle and hills, fields and trees which suggest to memory the things that we had almost forgotten.



What is in the rural picture reproduced here? It was a country road in Northern New York, lightly traveled. There were some good farms, some poor. The editor had wound through a small forest too dark for good photography. He had accelerated to the top of a hill and paused to look out over long lanes and fertile fields marked off with stone walls laid nearly three generations ago and had visited with the old farmer who had just turned the farm over to younger hands. The road led on to what is pictured here, a herd of dairy cattle standing under wind-swept hemlocks and pines and silhouetted against a summer sky. The cows had foraged over wide, green pastures and, characteristically were waiting at the fence by the road for the call of man.

We are reminded in our excursions into the country areas distant from city and village life that way back in the Garden of Eden the Creator encouraged man to make all nature subservient to his physical needs. It is poetically expressed in Psalm 8: 6, 7: "Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet: all sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field." Along with this dominion over plant and animal life and the devel-

opment of the abundant natural resources placed at man's disposal was the clarifying revelation that all these things are held in trust. "The cattle on a thousand hills" are mine, says the Lord, and all the gold and silver (Psa. 50: 10). It does us good from time to time to get away from confining man-made walls, high buildings obscuring the sky, and thundering tunnels below rivers and streets. Cities all too easily give us the false feeling of the self-sufficiency of man. Country scenes restore the proper perspective, helping us to sense our dependence upon and responsibility to our Maker and Redeemer. Then, too, when we see people in fewer numbers we find it easier to see their spiritual needs individually and to recognize our responsibility in pointing out the satisfactions of the Christ-centered life.

What Happened to Our Giving?

The final figures for the fiscal year of Our World Mission are published on the back page of this issue. We cannot hide the disappointment that must be felt by every loyal supporter of our total work. Many will try to analyze the situation, as well they may. It would appear that a great many people reasoned that their circumstances did not allow them to give quite as much as the year before. They probably hoped that enough others were in circumstances that would make it possible for them to give more and thus raise the budget. It is now apparent that such hopes did not quite materialize. Why?

There was a mild business recession in 1960-61, from which the nation seems to be emerging. Unemployment naturally affects giving, but past experience shows that loyalty to the cause of Christ is not directly geared to changing economic situations. Usually we sustain our giving at a high level during minor depressions.

Other denominations have also experienced a drop in giving. Your editor was in conference recently with top leaders in three other Baptist Conventions. All three men stated that giving to denominational work had increased only about 1% during the year, when the normal increase in previous years had been about 10%.

Some of those denominations have shown a considerable numerical net gain in members year after year. That is probably how they can report even a 1% gain in giving this year. Unfortunately, our gains did not exceed our losses this past year, and our OWM receipts were actually lower than last year by \$5,886.51. This is serious. To come to the end of the year \$19,500 short of our adopted budget (see back page) means a serious cut-back in our Program for Advance and a depletion of reserve funds that will curtail the work ahead.

It is true that most of our advance has to be the responsibility of local churches. Advance is possible without entering new fields at home and abroad — which can only come through organized, united effort. The question remains as to whether the average local church will advance if it diminishes its missionary giving. Local evangelism and missionary outreach go hand in hand. Let's move forward every month this year. We can do it. We cannot afford the attitude of "Let George do it" either in tithing or in evangelism.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Honorable Discharge Deadline

Veterans and their representatives were given the deadline of October 25, 1961, to apply for honorable discharges to replace "other than honorable" discharges. The notice, which came too late for prior inclusion in our publication, would not, we believe, be applicable to Seventh Day Baptist veterans (all of whom should have received honorable discharges). It should be pointed out that it was not an offer to wipe out all dishonorable discharges — only those where mistakes had been made by military authorities, mistakes which could be reviewed by the Correction Boards that have been set up.

A deadline which could have been very important to the future of some men has now passed. Are there other deadlines for action that careless people allow to slip by? Invitations extended to sinners to come to Christ are often recognized as deadlines at a later date. The inclination and desire to make something worth

while of one's life sometimes disappear when the time for decision has been missed. Such a moment may never return. Who knows?

Military authorities may have erred in saying that a given man was not worthy of an honorable discharge. That is why there are Correction Boards. After being duly publicized a deadline can be announced to prod the man or his family into making application for an improvement in his status. How happy we can be that in spiritual matters we have an unerring Judge, Jesus Christ, by whose standards we are now judged and before whom all men "must appear in the judgment to answer for the things done in the body." He has made no mistakes and will make none. We are pretty well aware of what He expects of us. He has thrown open the door of repentance and faith. While it is open let us enter and try to bring all our friends with us.

Fall-out Fever

Countless editors turned doctors, have diagnosed the latest national epidemic as fall-out fever. As might be expected, they have not agreed on how to prescribe for it. Mrs. N. Khrushchev recently expressed what may be the Russian propaganda line when she remarked that the people of her country were not digging fall-out shelters because they did not expect to be involved in war. All over our land we can see our neighbors digging in their back yards or co-operating in mass shelter projects. The *Bulletin* of the Committee for World Development and *World Disarmament* notes, "In Kingston, N. Y., limestone caves currently used to grow mushrooms will be converted into giant fall-out shelters to save the populace from mushroom clouds."

There have been numerous cases where the epidemic of fall-out fever has reached the panic stage. When self-preservation gets to the panic stage it ceases to be a God-given, manly thing and reduces men and women to clawing animals. Let's be men, neither savages nor stoics, but Christians.

President's Message

Christian Fellowship

We said last week in this column: "It is the privilege of Conference president to attend a variety of meetings . . . not the least important are ecumenical meetings." Let's change this just a little to say: "It is the privilege of Conference president to attend a variety of meetings, not the least important of which are our own associational meetings."

Recently, Conference president was in Plainfield, N. J., attending the Yearly Meeting of the Eastern New York and New Jersey Seventh Day Baptist Churches. As he looked out over the congregation on Sabbath morning that nearly filled the Plainfield Seventh Day Baptist Church he could not refrain from observing what a tremendous amount of devotion to Christ's cause, as expressed through Seventh Day Baptists, was represented there.

We are not a "successful" denomination with large numbers of people flocking to our churches, but God does still have a message to tell to the world through us, and He is still working through us. One could not help but recognize that this is so as he listened to the concerns of earnest Christian people as they sought to find God's will. It is a challenge and an encouragement to know that this is so.

On the other hand, it is something of a disappointment when it becomes evident that suspicion, mistrust, and criticism is too much a part of our fellowship. More recently, Conference president read a letter addressed to one of our workers that was filled with dogmatic assertions and criticisms that were better left unsaid. Not one helpful suggestion was made throughout. Here was one Seventh Day Baptist telling another conscientious Seventh Day Baptist what he should believe and how he should express it. This is neither Baptist nor Christian and certainly we will not claim God's blessing when we either inadvertently or deliberately indulge in this type of criticism.

We are a small denomination and it

is easy for us to grow weary in well doing. We have a "hard" message that will not be quickly heeded, but God does not require of us that we be "successful" in the sense of drawing great crowds. It should be clear, however, that He requires that we be faithful witnesses. This means that our lives as well as our message should be Christian.

If we "Draw Near to God," both our lives and our message will be Christian; and our fellowship will be wonderful, for "He will draw near to us."

Melvin G. Nida.

Memorial Fund

The Board of Trustees of the Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund met in regular quarterly meeting in the offices of the Fund in the Seventh Day Baptist Building, Plainfield, N. J., on Sunday morning October 8.

The Auditing Committee report showed a substantial unrealized appreciation in the stock portfolio. The average dividend yield for the year was 6.2% on book value and 3.8% on market value.

One of the items taken care of at the fall meeting is the voting of scholarship aid to theological students. Upon recommendation of the committee, payments were authorized to Wayne C. Maxson and Ernest K. Bee, seniors at Alfred University School of Theology.

Scholarship assistance to Seventh Day Baptist students at Salem and Milton Colleges is now provided by the Memorial Fund since these schools no longer qualify for direct aid under the terms of some of their bequests. Funds were available to grant \$75 each to three Salem students for the first semester, Edward Sutton, Robert Sutton, and Herbert Saunders.

The committee also presented a letter from Rev. Elmo Fitz Randolph, chairman of the Milton College Scholarship Committee, recommending that grants-in-aid of \$250 each for the first semester be made to Keith Burdick, Frank Green, Dwayne Hanon, Leila Maxson, all of Milton; Mary Miars, Jackson Center, Ohio; Donna Ochs, Milton, Daniel Randolph, Milton, John Randolph, Milton, Melvin Stephan, Denver, Colo.,

Jerry Van Horn, Pawcatuck, R. I., and Jean White, Denver, Colo.

Mr. Fitz Randolph stated that in accord with the procedure of last year, the committee will bring these candidates together when the checks are received for distribution and will brief the group on the source of the grants and the responsibilities that they have in receiving them. The Memorial Fund trustees understand, too, that the candidates will be interviewed at the end of the first semester before qualifying for grants-in-aid for the second semester.

The board made decisions as to the amount of ministerial retirement help that could be granted to Mrs. A. T. Bottoms and the Rev. Henry C. Lewis, who has recently retired.

Based on the action of the 1961 General Conference, widows of deceased ministers beginning in October, 1961, will receive three-fourths instead of one-half the rate ministers now receive.

The secretary of the Memorial Board calls attention to the fact that a man who lost his sight has left a sum of money, the income of which is to be used to help the blind. The intention of the donor seems to have been to provide tools to the sightless which would help them lead more useful lives. Information about Seventh Day Baptists who are without sight would be appreciated by L. H. North, Secretary, 510 Watchung Ave., Plainfield, N. J.

NCC Statement

We share deeply in the shock and sympathy which beset the world in the death of the Secretary-General of the United Nations (Sept. 18, 1961). We cherish remembrance of Dag Hammarskjold as a rare spirit among men and a symbol of human striving toward world community.

The purposes of the United Nations Charter for which his life was poured out impose added responsibility upon each of us now. His selfless devotion, his fearless dedication, and his sacrifices in life and in death lay renewed claims upon us in the work for a world which we believe God wills — a world of more justice, freedom, and peace. — J. Irwin Miller, President, NCC.

Executive Secretary

Opportunities We Must Grasp

Statistics from the 1961 Yearbook will show increased expenditures over 1960 as reported by churches in amounts paid to pastors for local church expenses, and for benevolences. These reports, of course, represent a period ending June 30. The report from the treasurer of Our World Mission, however, shows that the amount given to our unified budget was less than the preceding year. 82.5% of our total giving budget was raised in 1961. All this has accounted for the fact that boards and agencies, with the exception of commitments already made, are compelled to operate in 1962 under a "hold the line" policy.

The projection of the Seventh Day Baptist Program for Advance into third and fourth years suggests that we analyze our opportunities. Requests coming in would easily justify a full-time missionary worker in the home field. There is increased interest and effort in Jamaica where native workers are ready for full-time service. Means of transportation in the mission fields will soon need replacements. A tract is ready for translation into the Chinyanja language and there is need for tracts in Spanish. Other tracts in preparation need to be published in greater numbers than is now financially possible. The work of the young people should have the services of a full-time field person, and some lesson publications are in need of revision and reprinting. These are some of the opportunities facing us.

As we face up to our responsibilities as Seventh Day Baptists each of us can help to make possible the incorporation of these opportunities into realizable goals. A united budget, fully subscribed and raised in 1962, would not only make possible the completion of the programs already in progress, but would set the stage for the realization of plans in keeping with opportunities and responsibilities of Seventh Day Baptists.

Dodge Center Fair Tract Booth

By Mary Thorngate

PLANNING

This is our first venture at having a religious booth at a county fair. Encouraged and inspired by associational field co-ordinator Don Gray of Milton, Wisconsin, and sponsored by the North Central Association of Seventh Day Baptist Churches, planning was carried out by the Association Tract Committee located in Dodge Center, Minn. Preferred tracts on salvation, the Sabbath, and the Seventh Day Baptist Denomination, along with special issues of the **Sabbath Recorder**, the **Helping Hand**, and other informational material, were received from the American Sabbath Tract Society. This material was stamped with the name of the local church and pastor with the hope that further inquiries might be made.

THE BOOTH

A large and suitable booth area in the Dodge County Fair's Exhibit Building was rented at a cost of \$30. It was 12 x 18 feet and located in a corner of the building. Neighboring exhibits included an organ and sewing machine display. The walls of the booth were covered with dark green drapes. A Sallman's picture of Christ, lighted from above the booth, was hung on the long wall to give it the effect of a chapel or place of worship. Under this picture, on a white background and in large, beautiful letters, were the words from John 14: 6, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: No man cometh unto the Father but by me." On the short wall an enlarged drawing of our Seventh Day Baptist emblem was hung, with the pastor's name and address on a smaller placard placed below it. In the corner was a small table with flowers and a record player giving soft sacred music. A dimly lighted floor lamp suggested rest, and several chairs were provided for that purpose.

The tract exhibit was arranged on a long table facing oncoming "traffic," and at one end a cold water fountain with the invitation, "Take the water of life freely," and the caption, "Salvation is

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free; so is this water." The tracts and other literature were arranged on the table with a little invitation sign, "Take some." The hand-out material consisted mainly of two groups of assembled tracts. The tracts entitled "Salvation by Faith," "Would You . . . If?" and "Pro and Con" were placed inside the tract, "Growth in the Spiritual Life"; the tracts entitled "Change Your Mind," "What Do You Find?" and "Statement of Belief," or "What Church Membership Implies" were placed inside the tract, "Lovest Thou Me?"

At least two workers staffed the booth at all times, except during the Sabbath, when it was left open but unoccupied, as a silent witness to our belief. Besides the members of the Tract Committee and several others from the Dodge Center church, help was given by Miss Helen Ruth Green and Miss Jean White of Milton, Wisconsin.

Approximately 11,000 pieces of literature were distributed during the four-day fair. For the most part the workers stood near the booth passing out the especially prepared "hand-out pieces" to all who would accept them as they passed by. Often people would stop and examine the booth and other materials taking with them other literature that especially appealed to them. Literature was also distributed among workers manning the concession stands traveling with the carnival.

EVALUATION

This project, started and carried out by faith and much prayer, was an enlightening experience for all who shared in it. Workers and materials were well received; few refused to take our literature. Many stopped to look at the Lord's picture. Most people were very friendly and many said our booth was beautiful. On some occasions an opportunity for a more prolonged visit with persons who were confused and perplexed proved helpful to both workers and others.

At this writing only one written communication has been received, traceable to the distribution of literature or interviews at the fair. As the seeds of the gospel

MEMORY TEXT

The soul that sinneth, it shall die. . . . But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die. Ezekiel 18: 20a, 21.

and truth are sown in faith, benefits not seen at first may still be forthcoming.

The committee learned a great many things through the carrying out of this project and would pass on to others who may desire a similar project the following information and suggestions:

1. The American Sabbath Tract Society will furnish all the literature needed, which is published by that society, and will also help in financial support when sponsored by a large area group of churches.

2. The North Central Association of Seventh Day Baptist Churches supported the project with special budgeted funds for this purpose.

3. Booth rent was \$30. It needs to be in a rather quiet location with congenial neighbors. It should be set up with a worshipful atmosphere, and have no ballyhoo. A rest area and cold running water provide added attraction. Professionally painted, clearly lettered signs are necessary to help carry out our mission. Attendants must be friendly and expect friendliness from all passers-by.

4. Special attractive literature should be provided which is especially designed to catch the eye and heart of the children and young people. The committee felt that this was a great weakness in the current year's project.

CONCLUSION

The Association Tract Committee members along with all helpers, feel that each received many special blessings in the carrying out of this project, and expressed willingness to try it again at some other nearby fair in the future. Experience gained, it is hoped, will encourage others to go all out for a religious fair booth.

Meet the Planning Committee

The term "Planning Committee" is not very descriptive. It could mean many things, depending on the group for which the planning was to be done. As far as the Seventh Day Baptist Denomination is concerned there has been for several years a small committee composed of the



Left to right: Leon M. Maltby, Mrs. Charles Whitford, Rex E. Zwiebel, Everett T. Harris, Melvin G. Nida, Harley D. Bond.

executive secretary (chairman), the paid secretaries of three major boards, and a representative (president) of the Women's Board. Now for the first time the president of Conference is also a member. Thus there were two new members this time, Dr. Melvin G. Nida, and Mrs. Charles Whitford (Women's Board).

This group has recently held its important fall meeting (Oct. 16, 17, 18) at the Seventh Day Baptist Building in Plainfield, N. J. The chairman, Harley D. Bond, had worked out an agenda and had briefed all members as to the more important items growing out of Commission and Conference action.

After the usual sharing of information about present work and future plans of each board a large block of time in the well-filled sessions was devoted to implementation of our third-year Program for Advance, which is just getting under way in the churches, and the development of goals, procedures, and material for the fourth-year emphasis which must be publicized before our next General Conference. In order to accomplish as much as possible in the time available the committee was divided into subcommittees for the major part of one day. It was felt that considerable progress was made. If the churches take seriously the helpful

procedures outlined for the "Mission to the Unchurched" during the next six months those who have caught the vision of evangelistic advance should be ready at the proper time to take up enthusiastically the fourth-year program, which is an extension of the mission of the church to the people in any neglected area that can be reached — in other words, "Mission to the Social Frontiers."

The Planning Committee members accepted assignments for working out plans for study groups to be held a year from now and decided to meet again in February rather than later in the spring.

One item on the agenda was a co-ordinated effort to raise Our World Mission budget in full during this year so that the forward-looking programs of the boards can be carried out as soon as possible. It was felt that there could well be a greater emphasis in the churches and Sabbath Schools at Christmas on "white gifts" that are projects within the united budget rather than outside it. The board secretaries are being asked to name a few such projects that ought to be appealing to the groups that are anxious to make gifts to worthy causes. The executive secretary will send this list to the churches in the very near future. This is considered a minor way of forwarding our work. There will be two major efforts, one before Easter and the other beginning on Sabbath Rally Day. Publicity on these will be released at the appropriate times.

A decision was made in regard to the OWM News, the extra sheets that are inserted in church bulletins from time to time. From now on these will be sent out each month, and even more frequently if there is important news. Under the new plan a different board will provide a page of material each month in rotation. The order will be Missionary, Christian Education, Women's, and Tract Board. It is hoped that by giving details of projects our people will be led to support faithfully the total work through OWM giving.

**November is
Religion-in-American-Life Month**

THE SABBATH RECORDER

MISSIONS — Sec. Everett T. Harris

SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST INTERESTS IN CHINA

A question is sometimes raised as to just why Seventh Day Baptists continue to carry a small appropriation for China in the budget of the Missionary Board, and why a portion of the payment to the Division of Foreign Missions is marked for their Far Eastern Office. The reason for the question seems to be that sometimes we wonder if the Seventh Day Baptists of China, along with other Christians, have been able to withstand the tremendous pressures brought to bear by the Communists of that country.

The answer is that many of us do believe and have great confidence that there are yet many faithful ones in China who have never yielded the inner citadel of their heart's devotion to the state. A former Seventh Day Baptist missionary has written, "I doubt if even yet they have bludgeoned all of our people into their mold."

For over a century our early missionaries sought to build a strong church of devout Christian believers in the city of Shanghai. They established large and successful schools in Shanghai and a strong hospital at nearby Liuho. We do believe that the consecrated services of loving and faithful witnesses for Christ are never lost either in the sight of God or man. Such missionaries as the Solomon Carpenters, Nathan Wardners, the Randolphs, Davises, Thorngates, the Wests, Miss Susie Burdick, Miss Miriam Shaw, Dr. Rosa Palmberg, the Crofoots, Miss Sarah Becker, and Dr. Grace Crandall, could not have failed to establish a work for Christ which will withstand the test of these trying years.

Dr. Wallace C. Merwin of the Far Eastern Office of the Division of Foreign Missions has written an article in the October issue of a monthly magazine *Eternity* which carries a discouraging picture in some instances, yet challenging in others. Dr. Merwin writes, "It is impossible to know how many professing and practicing Christians there are in China today. The last count, by the National Christian Council in its 1950

Directory indicated approximately one million communicants. There is evidence that this shrank considerably in the early years of Communist control but that there continued to be accessions and even growth for some years. Most rural churches were closed during the period of land reform after Communists first took over and few of them reopened. Now it is certain under the commune system that has engulfed the entire population that the organized church in rural areas has disappeared."

Dr. Merwin comments further that in the city of Shanghai "of some 200 Protestant churches, reportedly only 21 or 23 continued. A Christian who left there recently claimed only 3 or 4 churches remain open in Shanghai, with the spread of the communes to the cities. Unless this has been seriously slowed down by recent food problems and policy revisions on the part of the government, it is likely that the number of churches will further decrease." This is discouraging.

Dr. Merwin concludes, "This is a dark picture but it is not without light. It has been in periods of opposition and difficulty that Christian faith has shone most clearly. Only God knows how many there are in China who have not bowed the knee. . . . Let us pray that Christian faith and Christian witness may stay alive in the hearts and lives of the (Chinese) Christian people." He adds that we should be equally concerned about our own faithfulness to God and the constancy of His purpose and power.

Rev. Marion Van Horn Now Located at Texarkana, Ark.

Rev. Marion Van Horn, shepherding pastor on the Southwest Field, is now located at Texarkana, Ark., as resident pastor of that church. He continues to serve as shepherding pastor to other Seventh Day Baptist churches in the Association. He and his family moved from Fouke, Ark., to Texarkana the latter part of September.

Pastor Van Horn writes: "We have been very busy and some upset. It will be some time before we are through living out of boxes and hunting for what we need." Telling of the valuable assistance given by the Texarkana church people in helping him to move, he says: "There were 15 who helped during parts of the day (Sunday, September 24). . . . We got the last load in the 29th."

Regarding the work at Texarkana Pastor Van Horn reports: "We had an attendance of over thirty last Sabbath, (September 30), the first time we had

gone over 30 for several months. There has been a great deal of sickness. We also had 23 out for Prayer Meeting Friday night, which was a high for a long time. Plans are developing for a much more extended program."

Rev. Paul Osborn's family of Little Rock, Ark., spent Sabbath night and Sunday, October 16 and 17, with the Van Horn family in Texarkana. Pastor Van Horn writes: "We had a really grand time. It was the first of what we hope will be more or less regular meetings of the Seventh Day Baptist Arkansas Ministerial Association."

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION — Sec. Rex E. Zwiebel

The Educational Task of the Church

By Rachel Henderlite

(Outline of an address that was used as the basis for discussion in Cincinnati, at a joint study of members of the Commission on Missionary Education and the Commission on General Christian Education of the Division of Christian Education, National Council of Churches.)

- I. Introduction: The Need to Re-examine the Educational Task of the Church
 - A. Developments within the church which make necessary such a re-examination
 - A deepening of American theology
 - An interest in the biblical message rather than merely in the form of the Bible
 - A new insight into the nature of the church
 - A concern with the place of the laity in the church
 - B. Developments in education which make necessary such a re-examination
 - A recognition in psychology of the uniqueness of personality
 - An increasing interest in adult education
- II. The Nature of the Educational Task of the Church
 - A. The characteristics and difficulties of Christian education
 - The effort of a particular community, the church, to acquaint the individual with the heritage and culture of the community
 - The tension caused by the fact that the church is a community within a larger community which has a different heritage and culture
 - B. The purpose of Christian education — to communicate the Christian faith by making known God's revelation of Himself in such a way that persons may respond to Him freely
- III. The Effect of the Doctrine of Revelation on the Educational Task of the Church
 - A. The importance of the doctrine of revelation for Christian education
 - Our understanding of revelation determines both the content and the method of education.
 - B. The meaning of revelation in the Reformed tradition — God making Himself known to man in a series of revelation events recorded in Scripture for the purpose of establishing a people with whom he can live
 - C. Instruments for communicating the revelation
 - The Bible contains our only record of the events through which God revealed Himself and His purpose to man. It is therefore an essential instrument in the educational process.
 - The Church in its heritage and life bears witness to God's revelation. Its history and its whole life and work are therefore essential instruments in the educational process.

IV. The Means of Accomplishing the Educational Task of the Church

- A. Study of the data of the faith
 - Because the Christian faith is rooted in history there is a heritage of fact without which we cannot understand the Christian faith or enter into it fully.
- B. Living in the Christian family
 - Because the Christian faith must be woven into the structure of daily living, it can best be communicated in a family which is rooted in the Christian faith.
- C. Participation in the worship and work of the congregation
 - Because the worship and work of the congregation are the response of the people of God to His Word, participation in the congregation's worship and work may be the means of bringing persons into encounter with the living God.
- V. Co-operative Development of Resources for the Educational Task of the Church
 - Because of the comprehensive nature of the life and work of the congregation, the resources of materials and leadership may require co-operative development by the denominational and regional agencies of the church.

WOMEN'S WORK — Mrs. Lawrence W. Marsden

Highlights of UCW Assembly

Reported by Mrs. L. H. North,
Seventh Day Baptist delegate

It was a real privilege to represent Seventh Day Baptist women at the Ninth National Assembly of United Church Women at Miami Beach, Florida, October 9-12.

The theme of the Assembly, "The Church Ecumenical, Its Oneness, Its Mission, Its Ministries," was forcefully presented in the keynote address by Dr. Henry P. Van Dusen, president of Union Theological Seminary, who said that world problems must be met by Christians working together in their local communities — many members but one body.

Recognition of the 75th Anniversary of the World Day of Prayer was given in two special programs. Five representatives from prayer fellowships around the world — from West Germany, Burma, Peru, Northern Rhodesia, and India discussed their most crucial concerns and their answers. The final program was a service of dedication when presidents of state councils each presented the book in which is bound the record of the 75th World Day of Prayer observances in her state.

A new project, "Assignment: Race

1961-1964," was launched to combat racial discrimination in churches, housing, schools, and employment. Nine denominations, including Seventh Day Baptists, had already agreed to participate.

One of the outstanding features of the Assembly was the series of Bible studies conducted by the Right Reverend Chandu Ray, bishop of the Church of India, Pakistan, Burma, and Ceylon (Anglican). Bishop Ray, who radiates the Christian way of life, is filled with the Holy Spirit and deeply convinced of the power of prayer.

Another highlight was the early morning Communion service on the closing day of the Assembly, when 2,000 women of many denominations and nationalities gathered around the Lord's table to partake of the bread individually, symbolic of our personal relationship to God through Christ, and to partake of the cup in unison, symbolic of the Church around the world that is seeking unity at His table.

A touching close to the Assembly experience was the simple service in the special railroad coach carrying more than thirty delegates to their homes in the North Atlantic states. We united in hymn singing, Scripture reading, and the Lord's prayer, closing with the clasped hands of fellowship as we sang "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love."

"WHY A SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH?"

By Paul Osborn

(Preached at Little Rock on the occasion of the 2nd Anniversary, October 7, 1961.)

When we think of "church" we must think first of the Church universal, the body of Christ, composed of all those who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and accept Him as their Savior and Lord. But many times we become confused because we are more familiar with local churches. Now, the local church is a part of the body of Christ, a group of Christians organized for worship, study, fellowship, and work to promote the Christian growth of the individual. The work of the local church is not to "save souls." That is the work of the individual Christian and the Holy Spirit. What the local church is to do is to aid in the development of the Christian testimony of each individual. It is so easy to assign problems to committees where they are many times not solved, but forgotten. It appears that the Christian has too often assigned the problem of evangelizing the world to the church, where it is not being solved, but often forgotten in the machinery of organization. Christian, you are the evangelist, the witness. It is your job, not the job of your church.

So much for churches in general. Baptist churches, perhaps more than some others, attempt to teach their members to recognize their God-given responsibility to be witnesses for Christ. Basing their beliefs on the Bible as the final authority in matters of faith and conduct, practicing baptism of believers only, teaching the priesthood of every believer, making each Christian responsible to God through a Holy Spirit-enlivened conscience, and the independence of the local church, the Baptists have more opportunity to emphasize individual response to God.

But why Seventh Day Baptists? There are many different groups of Baptists: Southern, American, Regular, Particular, General, Independent, United, Separate, Missionary, Free Will, Primitive, Two-Seed-in-the-Spirit, and many others. Surely with all these varied groups it is not necessary to add another. But all of them

turn aside or fall short at one particular point — the observance of God's Sabbath, the seventh day of the week. Thus, we find the main answer to "Why Seventh Day Baptists?" in one fact — Sabbath observance.

Are We Following Tradition?

In *A Manual of Church History* (Albert Henry Newman, Vol. 2, p. 703), Seventh Day Baptists are listed, and distinguished thus, "Their type of thought is distinctly Judaizing." Are we? I remember as a child hearing a Sundaykeeping pastor engaged in "discussion" with my father over the Sabbath question say, "But, man, read your epistles!" For reply my father showed him his Bible, which showed the most wear in the area from Acts to Revelation. A student pastor friend of mine once told me he had given up ever converting me to Sunday since I was so steeped in family tradition and prejudice that I would not keep Sunday even if I did see the truth of it. I might point out that I have heard of many so-called "Sundaykeepers" who claim to know the seventh day as the Sabbath of the Lord, but who are held back from embracing this truth because of family ties and tradition. Many Sabbathkeeping ministers have honestly tried to study their way out of keeping the Sabbath, but study only brings more conviction that the seventh-day Sabbath is still to be observed today and is included in God's will for His people. I attended a Methodist College and a Presbyterian Seminary, and although their "reasons" for not keeping the Sabbath may satisfy them, they only intensified my Sabbath convictions.

We could spend time answering the "Sunday-proofs," but we must remember that they are the ones who changed, and so the burden of proof rests on them — and the proof isn't in the Bible. When it came my turn to preach my senior sermon at college I asked for and received permission to preach a Sabbath sermon. I used three points to prove the

basis of Sabbath observance: Old Testament, New Testament, and Church History. Of all the comment, question, and criticism concerning the basis of the Sabbath, there was no question about the Old or New Testament propositions. It was only in the realm of church history, which I admit I did not know too well, that they could find fault. A Pentecostal pastor friend of mine once told me, "The Spirit has revealed Sunday since the New Testament." A Wesleyan pastor also told me, "Sunday is not in the New Testament." And yet these same pastors week after week claim the Bible as their final authority. Martin Luther, when asked to recant certain of his writings, said he would only if they were proven false from Scripture. Given twenty-four hours to consider, in the face of the death penalty, he came back to say, "Here I stand." And on the same basis of the Bible as authority, here we Seventh Day Baptists must stand.

The Sabbath of Creation

Let's look at the positive Sabbath teaching in the Bible. First we see its institution at creation (Gen. 2: 2-3; Ex. 20: 8-11). Dr. R. Laird Harris, teaching Old Testament History, said when we came to the Ten Commandments that a literal interpretation of the Fourth Commandment left no escape from observance of the seventh day of the week as the Sabbath. This commandment, of course, ties the Sabbath Command with its origin at creation.

Note that it is not of human origin, but divine. Christ Himself said in Mark 2: 27 that the Sabbath was made "for man" not "by him." We see here the inconsistency of certain Sabbathkeepers who find the origin of the Sabbath only in the evolutionary-historical basis — that the Sabbath is made sacred only because millenniums of human history have made it so. This, of course, cannot be valid when Sunday for over a millennium has proven on this basis that it has replaced the seventh day by producing giants of the Faith. No, our basis for Sabbath observance lies in its God-given origin at creation. We note also that it is a specific day, not "a" seventh day but

"the" seventh day which was blessed by God.

We must also point out that the Sabbath is creation's birthday. There is no heavenly body that marks the week. The sun guards the year; the month is marked by the moon; but only God's marker, the Sabbath, keeps the week. In Romans, chapter one, Paul points out that the heathen "worship and serve the creature more than the creator." The Sabbath was given and preserved by God to show His power of creation and also His presence among men. Had He not cared what men did or what they worshiped, there would be no Sabbath.

The Ten Commandments, of course, are only a reiteration of God's already existing moral code for man. So the Sabbath, a part of the Ten, far from being Judaistic, is part of the eternal moral law and is universal.

The Prophetic Teaching

The prophets have much to say about the Sabbath. In Isaiah 58: 13 God calls the Sabbath "my holy day." In Jeremiah 17: 22 instructions are given to "hallow the sabbath day." Ezekiel 20: 20 repeats this instruction with the additional words of God, "They shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the Lord your God." Some are not interested, saying that these were addressed to the Jews, and make the Sabbath a distinctly Jewish institution. But God calls the Sabbath His holy day. The Jews did not start it, nor did they set it aside as a special day. It was for them to observe, since it was already God's day. All serious Bible students agree that the Jews are God's chosen people. How much more should we, the spiritual sons and daughters of God, claim the Sabbath as a sign of His presence among us. Besides, in John 4: 24 we read that Jesus told the woman of Samaria, "Salvation is of the Jews." Are we to turn down the Cross, Christ our Savior, merely because He was a Jew? No! Then why should we refuse His Sabbath day, the seventh day, because the Jews used it?

(To be continued)

Second Representative At New Delhi WCC Assembly

After publishing the story in the issue of October 23 of how it has become possible for the Rev. Clifford W. P. Hansen to go to the Third Assembly of the World Council of Churches at New Delhi, India, as the official Seventh Day Baptist representative, word has come that another representative will be able to attend.

Miss Rua Van Horn of Washington, D. C., who has for several years been in Pakistan in a top-level educational assignment, has sent word that she has finished that assignment and that she will stop off at New Delhi for the World Council meetings on her way back to this country. Miss Van Horn is a highly respected and capable individual, one who has consistently worked in our Washington church when her far-ranging duties have allowed her to be at home. It is understood that she is attending the November 18-December 6 assembly at her own expense. About 625 official delegates are accredited, with about 400 more in a semi-official capacity.

—Editor.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION — Sec. Rex E. Zwiebel

Christian Education Officers

The officers elected to serve the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education for the year 1961-1962 are as follows:

President, Wayne N. Crandall, 26 S. Elm St., Canisteo, N. Y.

Vice-President, Don Stearns, Coudersport, Pa.

Recording Secretary, Mrs. Marie H. Bee, Richburg, N. Y.

Executive and Corresponding Secretary, Rev. Rex E. Zwiebel, Alfred Station, N. Y.

Treasurer, Maurice McCrea, Richburg, N. Y.

Those chosen to be chairmen of standing committees are Dr. Warren Brannon (Evangelism and Publicity); Dean Albert N. Rogers (Finance); Dr. Melvin G. Nida (Higher Education); John M. Reynolds (Nominations); Pastor Ernest K. Bee (Publications); and Rev. Victor W. Skaggs (Youth Work).

Minnesota and Wisconsin Churches Hold Semiannual Meeting

The Dodge Center, Minn., Seventh Day Baptist Church was host to the semi-annual meeting of the Minnesota and Northern Wisconsin Seventh Day Baptist churches on the weekend of October 14. The theme of the meetings was "To Will To Do" with the theme verse taken from Philippians 2: 13.

The youth group of the host church led the worship service on Sabbath eve. Pastor Donald E. Richards brought the opening message with the topic "To Will To Do as Individuals."

On Sabbath morning special music was furnished by the combined senior and junior choirs with special numbers brought by the group from New Auburn, Wis. The pastor at New Auburn, the Rev. Kenneth Van Horn, spoke on "To Will To Do as Churches."

The afternoon meeting featured junior Christian Endeavor for the children and a workshop on Visitation Evangelism for the adults conducted by the Lay Development Planning Committee of the local church. This workshop took the form of a series of skits illustrating simulated visits, followed by a discussion by sub groups as to the procedures used in the visits.

Mr. Don Gray, co-ordinator of the North Central Association of the Seventh Day Baptist Churches of which this semi-annual meeting is a part, conducted the evening service on the theme "To Will To Do as an Association."

On Sunday morning there was a business meeting conducted by moderator Clare Greene. Mrs. Don Gray, representing the denominational Women's Board, conducted the Sunday morning worship hour. The meetings closed with a luncheon at noon provided by the Ladies' Aid Society. — From Dodge Center Star-Record.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for November 11, 1961

Growth Through Stewardship

Lesson Scripture: Matthew 25: 14-29.

West Virginia Churches Report Profitable Meeting

The Seventh Day Baptist Churches in W. Va. and the Ohio Valley Fellowship held their semiannual meeting in the Lost Creek Seventh Day Baptist Church, Sabbath, October 14. It was well attended and all six churches were represented. Pastor Duane Davis welcomed the guests and gave all present a cordial invitation to stay for the noon meal.

An inspiring message for boys and girls was given by Pastor Leslie Welch of Berea. He used the topic "A Spiritual Sword" and illustrated his talk as he proceeded. It was really a message for the adults as well as the boys and girls. Following this was an anthem by the Lost Creek choir.

Pastor Doyle Zwiebel of Salem College and the Middle Island church brought the morning message. His text was "Finding the Christ," and this sermon should inspire his listeners to strive for a closer walk with God.

At the noon hour a fellowship dinner was served in the church basement. Old acquaintances were renewed and new ones made.

The afternoon services were in charge of Youth Fellowship of the Salem church. They presented an excellent musical program which consisted of songs by the choir, numbers by two male quartets, a ladies' quartet, a mixed quartet, and a solo.

—Lost Creek Correspondent.

News of Ministers

The Rev. Alton L. Wheeler, who developed complications from the auto accident when en route to Conference last summer, has been carrying on some of his pastoral duties while confined to a wheel chair. A recent church bulletin carried the information that he expected to be able to resume his preaching ministry on November 4.

Ernest K. Bee, student pastor at Richburg, N. Y., announced in his annual report on October 8 that he was taking eight hours of work at Alfred, hoping to finish his seminary work and be graduated June 10, 1962. He further stated that as of July 1 he hoped to be devoting

full time to the ministry and was currently considering a call from the Albion and Milton Junction, Wis., churches.

Glen Warner, who assisted Pastor Francis D. Saunders at Los Angeles last summer is now listed as student pastor. He enrolled at Whittier College, a Friends school at Whittier.

The Rev. Eugene Fatato, according to the Battle Creek bulletin of October 21, has announced his acceptance of a call to that church. The letter states that he will begin his pastorate in Battle Creek January 29, 1962. It is reported that the Little Genesee, N. Y., church is very reluctant to release him.

Heartening Special Issue Response

The orders for the November special issue of the Sabbath Recorder coming daily to the subscription department have, for the most part, been heartening. A number of churches have increased their orders. Several are looking forward to using this issue for distribution at county fairs next summer. One pastor writes that he cannot find any of the previous hand-out copies around his church and therefore wants to be sure to have a good supply of this one. A layman ordered 100 extra copies to use next summer at a county fair in a locality where no booth was maintained last year. There is a growing tendency for Associations to look ahead in ordering the supplies that will be useful in evangelism and Sabbath promotion.

Until the moment that the presses complete their first run the print order can be increased. Some may yet be able to get their orders in before that deadline. It would be unfortunate to have a large number of church members ready to work for the Lord and not to have the tools to put in their hands. — Managing Editor.

Accessions

Farina, Ill.

By Baptism:

Miss Darla Crandall

Paint Rock, Ala.

By Letter:

Paul Beebe

OUR WORLD MISSION

Statement of the Treasurer, September 30, 1961

Budget Receipts

	Treasurer's			Boards'		Treasurer's			Boards'
	Sept.	12 Mos.	12 Mos.			Sept.	12 Mos.	12 Mos.	
Adams Center	\$ 31.35	821.95	1.00		Los Angeles				
Albion	172.52	697.98	10.00		Christ's		75.00		
Alfred 1st	1,370.86	5,840.90	11.50		Lost Creek	277.10	1,950.50		
Alfred 2nd	298.50	2,272.72			Marlboro	303.89	4,216.04	55.00	
Alfred School of Theology			400.00		Memorial Fund		1,193.03		
Associations and Groups	24.50	2,667.37	3,131.42		Metairie	8.85	8.85		
Battle Creek	1,026.76	6,842.99	122.00		Middle Island	11.00	238.50		
Bay Area Fellow.		34.50	50.00		Milton	844.19	7,534.61	165.00	
Berlin	62.07	694.11	67.50		Milton Junction	216.50	1,747.63		
Boulder	30.70	445.20	60.00		New Auburn	42.00	372.84		
Brookfield 1st	74.80	470.10			North Loup	194.98	1,199.46	32.50	
Brookfield 2nd		240.05			Nortonville	198.50	1,797.74	95.00	
Buckeye Fellow...		50.00			Ohio Valley	10.00	30.00		
Buffalo Fellow.		250.00			Old Stone Fort		125.00		
Carraway		7.75			Paint Rock	23.00	404.50		
Chicago	49.00	861.00	470.00		Pawcatuck	375.00	5,004.49	105.00	
Daytona Beach		937.29	47.10		Plainfield	179.40	4,282.49	600.00	
Denver	95.00	420.71	75.00		Richburg	249.50	1,221.00		
DeRuyter	75.50	701.63			Ritchie	75.00	372.00	20.00	
Dodge Center	142.98	956.10			Riverside	382.67	3,176.67		
Edinburg	1.40	34.74			Roanoke	5.00	30.00		
Farina		218.65			Rockville	28.10	324.23		
Fouke		137.79			Salem		1,090.94		
Hammond		91.00			Salemville		296.06	12.00	
Hebron 1st	21.00	358.78			Schenectady	17.00	206.00		
Hopkinton 1st	141.50	2,113.15	90.00		Shiloh		5,051.36	339.00	
Hopkinton 2nd	23.00	123.40			Texarkana		87.72		
Houston		100.54			Tract Society			606.00	
Independence	57.00	1,366.85			Verona	172.00	1,970.68		
Individuals	145.00	2,942.62	202.41		Walworth	50.00	530.10	5.00	
Irvington		1,440.00	500.00		Washington		449.85		
Jackson Center		200.00			Washington, People's	6.00	97.00		
Little Genesee	153.00	817.43	10.00		Waterford	105.02	1,081.25		
Little Rock		174.92			White Cloud	54.12	767.64		
Los Angeles	500.00	2,192.68	30.00		Yonah Mountain..		18.75		
					Totals	\$8,250.46	\$84,476.83	\$7,312.43	

TREASURER'S DISBURSEMENTS

Board of Christian Education	\$ 798.67
General Conference	1,210.98
Ministerial Training	1,314.24
World Fellowship	79.86
Historical Society	231.62
Ministerial Retirement	894.07
Missionary Society	3,815.68
Tract Society	983.41
Trustees of General Conference	64.89
Women's Society	175.77

\$9,569.19*

*Includes redistribution of special fund

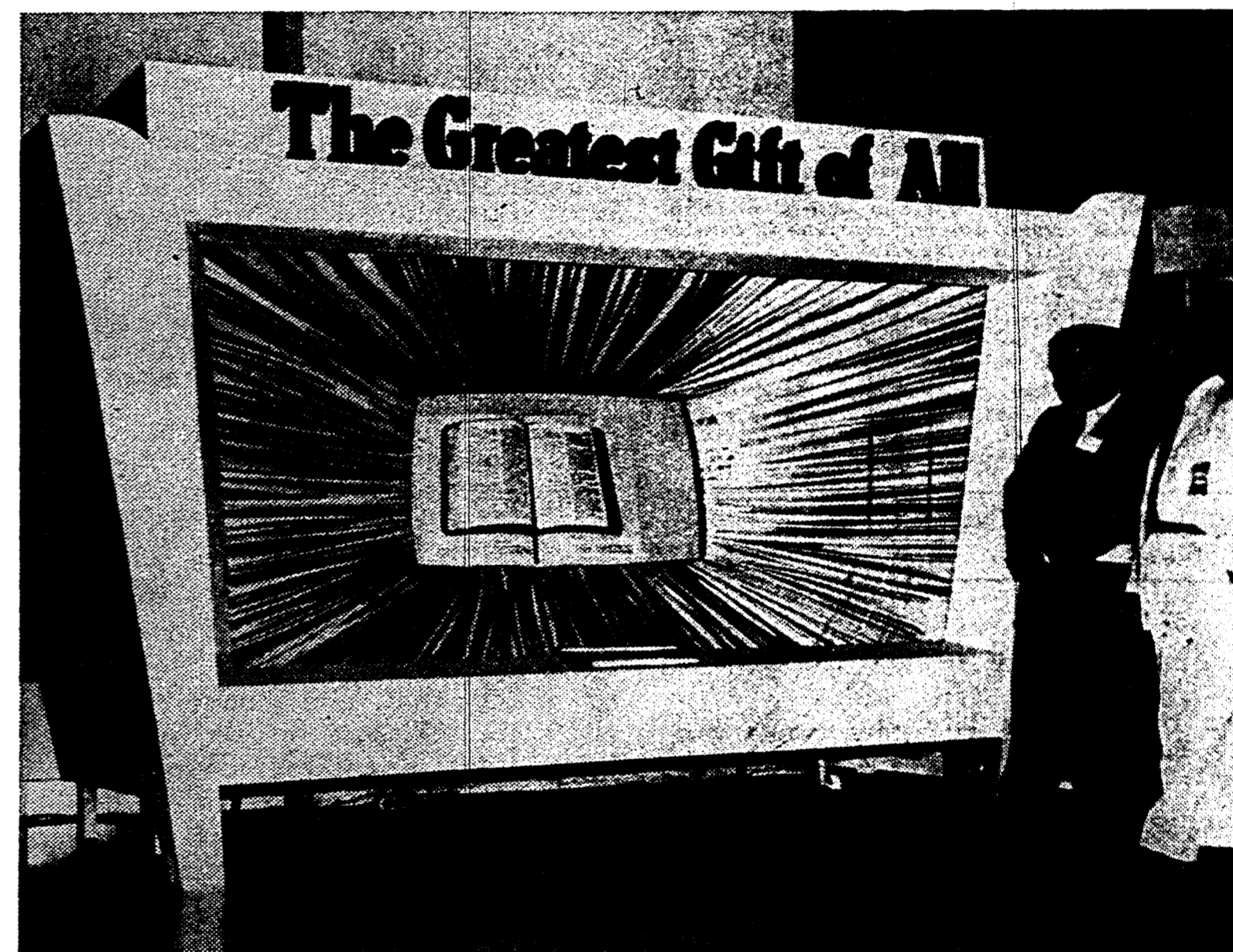
SUMMARY

Current annual budget	\$111,295.00
Amount raised in 12 months	91,789.26
Short at year's end	\$ 19,505.74

G. E. Parrish,
Treasurer.

205 Dogwood Trail,
Battle Creek, Mich.

The Sabbath Recorder



Advertising the Best Seller

The Christian Booksellers Association is playing an important role in helping make Americans Bible-conscious during the last quarter of 1961 according to William F. Moore, Chicago, executive secretary. The year 1961 marks the 350th Anniversary of the King James Bible and the publication of the New English Bible. The Association has mailed to some 3500 bookstores in the United States and Canada suggestions for tying in their local publicity featuring the Bible as "the best gift for Christmas" with the \$300,000 national advertising program, on the same theme, being conducted by the Ecusta Paper Division of the Olin Mathieson Chemical Corporation. In the photo William F. Moore (left), discusses the Bible Promotion Program with George W. McCreary, an executive of the firm in front of exhibit at 12th Annual CBA Convention, Miami Beach, Fla.