

The Sabbath Recorder

Severe sickness in both the Little Rock and Texarkana churches limited the number attending, but the 28 able to attend were much enriched by the fellowship and took home rather glowing reports of the exchange, expressing the hope another such meeting may be planned for more to enjoy.

PLAINFIELD, N. J. — Our church adapted the Third-Year Program for Advance suggestions and materials to its local situation. We began with an all-day retreat last fall with some of the speakers drawn from the South Jersey churches. Plans were developed for five workshops — one on stewardship in the fall, and four on evangelism after the first of the year. One in January, two in February, and the last one on March 3 were held on alternate Sabbath afternoons from 1:30 to 3 o'clock following a co-operative hot lunch arranged by the Fellowship Committee. The program began with a half-hour Bible study on Jeremiah presented by the pastor. This supplemented the Sabbath eve studies on the same book.

The Evangelism Committee in planning the workshops decided to put the emphasis on preparing the laymen for witnessing in their daily contacts rather than for assigned two-by-two evangelistic visitation. The people were divided into three groups: young people, women, and men. All groups had one project in common, the assignment and memorizing of selected Scripture verses that had been mimeographed on small cards — a total of nearly fifty verses. The discussions usually included suggestions on how to find opportunities for witnessing and how to use the verses already memorized. The young people, with Mrs. Lloyd Coon as leader, used the Tract Board's four new filmstrips on teen-age witnessing as the basis for their discussion. In the third and fourth workshops all the adults spent the first part of their hour pondering the lessons to be learned from two filmstrips, "Winning Friends" and "Winning Strangers."

The Bible verse memorization in class and at home generated unexpected enthusiasm on the part of young and old. At the final meeting the twenty or more women present were given individual opportunity to state how they had witnessed or how they thought they might witness

in the future. Congregational response to the workshops was considered remarkably good. On March 3, with a church attendance of just under sixty, there were about 50 in the afternoon groups. The number at the other three workshops was only slightly less. — Chairman of Evangelism Committee.

DAYTONA BEACH, FLA. — Youth Week was observed on the Sabbath of February 3 when our SDBYF was in charge of the morning worship service. Linda Leonard led the service. Others taking part were Rex Kenyon, Nancy Morgan, Kathy Cushing, and Susie Davis. Our young people are actively engaged in money-making projects such as car washes, selling greeting cards, etc., to pay their way to Camp Joy in West Virginia this summer.

Pastor Davis was privileged to attend the Missionary Ministers' Conference in Metairie, La., February 5-10. In his absence, the Rev. Rhodes Thompson, our former interim pastor, was back in the pulpit again. On the afternoon of February 24, Pastor Davis brought us his impressions of the conference, which proved to be highly interesting.

The third phase of meetings for the Program for Advance have been completed. There was a good attendance throughout and several recommendations were brought to a special business meeting as a result of these meetings. Among those for immediate action is a neighborhood canvass to contact unchurched children in preparation for Vacation Bible School this summer. Tentative plans for fall include a series of evangelistic services.

The banquet for the Daytona chapter of the Alfred University alumni was served in the church Social Hall on February 26 by the ladies of the church. Attractive table decorations in the school colors of purple and gold made a beautiful setting for the banquet, served to thirty-five members and guests. Mrs. Alice Hyde was general chairman for the dinner. A half hour of organ music before dinner proved to be enjoyable for the guests as they arrived.

The average attendance since the beginning of 1962 is up 15 over last year during the same period, another new high in the history of our church.

— Correspondent.



CHURCH AND WORLD RELATIONSHIPS

Christians are to consider themselves as being in the world but not of the world, according to the Scriptures. This is true of believers corporately as well as individually. The church and its members are called upon to have world vision and a sense of world mission. To this vision and mission of salvation every church member should be wholeheartedly committed.

The Sabbath Recorder

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Not Enough Love

Love finds a way, we are told — a way to demonstrate its concern by word and deed. Is the converse of that true also? If we as members of the body of Christ, His Church, have few deeds and few words of love for those for whom Christ died, is it because we do not have enough love? It has been said that love that cannot fly across an ocean is love with a broken wing.

Certainly we can find enough objects for Christian love close at hand to tax what seems to be our capacity for love, but we probably have underestimated that God-given capacity, failing to enlarge our hearts as the Scripture exhorts. The mother's expressive kiss for the first child has equal intensity of meaning for each new infant in the home, and that same sort of love can go out to the motherless at home and abroad. The providing care of a father can extend beyond the walls of his house if his heart is touched by Christ's mystic wand of compassion.

There are certain limits beyond which family budgets cannot stretch, to be sure, but what we give to the poor and to the spiritually starving is determined far more by the elasticity of our love than by the amount of our income or the productivity of our land. Giving to the cause of Christ should be systematic and proportional rather than spasmodic and emotional, but still that steady, throbbing, love that fills our being is what makes some people's giving different from others. The one who loves adequately needs no urging to loyally support his local church, the community charities or the co-operative missionary outreach of all the churches of like faith. Rather, his heart strains to include as many others as possible — and love finds a way.

A letter came to the editor's desk the other day with a contribution to start a fund of regular giving for a worthy missionary in a far-off land. The giver, a man of some 80 years and quite limited resources, had felt a stirring in his heart that needed tangible expression. Such a fund as he contemplated might bring untold blessing to givers and to the materially and spiritually needy. It might well be encouraged. It could be if we had enough love. Alas, too many of us have set bounds upon our love and would

merely shift contributions from the objects of giving to which we have committed ourselves to the new object. The problem constantly with us is how to increase our missionary zeal. The question of how to distribute our larger giving, important as it is, is clearly secondary and can be joyfully settled through private prayer and group discussion of local and distant needs. Missionary articles, missionary conferences — these help to keep our love aglow.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A Hospital Ministry

At the present time Seventh Day Baptists carry on an extensive medical ministry only in Nyasaland, where it seems to be contributing much to the success of the mission. Other denominations have found that a combination of hospitals and schools both on the mission fields have been a valuable aid to growth and doctrinal stability. The following statement clearly outlines the purposes of a hospital ministry as conceived by one large body.

"The hospital ministry of Southern Baptists, in order to support the convention in its task of propagating the Gospel, should be conducted in accordance with the following statement of Baptist hospital function: 'A Baptist hospital exists to bring men into a saving relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ by means of direct personal witness as occasion presents, and by a positive Christian interpretation of the experiences of disease, disability, and death. . . . Functions as an instrument of God's grace in enriching and prolonging human life within the scope of divine providence. . . .'"

Well Done

A communication from a church officer in the Southwest gives one highly interesting answer to the question of what a small, struggling church might do about using special issues of the *Sabbath Recorder*. Should such a church take the attitude that it cannot afford to order very many? This leader takes the view that smallness of numbers is a challenge to try to build up the membership by distributing quantities of Seventh Day Baptist literature in periodical and tract form.

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The letter contained a check for \$8.50 to pay for 100 copies of the special issue.

Notice this: There are only three active resident members of this church at the present time, according to the letter. It would seem that this woman's faith and good works deserve a hearty, "Well done." Have the rest of us done as well in trying to witness in behalf of Christ and our church?

Invasion of Fort Lauderdale

Last year the annual invasion of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, by college students during Easter vacation reached such proportions in numbers and in bad conduct that it was a scandal to the state and the nation. The idea of congregating and carousing on the beaches of this vacation spot seemed to spread like wildfire on hundreds of campuses. It became the thing that irresponsible college students felt they had to do as part of college life. The local attempts to maintain order resulted in some unpleasant clashes.

Authorities undoubtedly view with some apprehension what may happen this spring if there is another "invasion" of 35,000 to 40,000 students bent on excessive beer drinking when an attempt is made to curb their excesses.

Christians are concerned about helping in a deeper way than law enforcement. Here is a challenging opportunity for earnest Christian students to go to Fort Lauderdale and make an effort to reach their fellow students for Christ. The organization best qualified for this type of personal work is probably Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF). Under the leadership of Paul Little, an IVCF staff member, a substantial number of staff and student members will be at Fort Lauderdale to meet the thousands of other students expected. The secretary says:

"We have laid some tentative plans, but we realize that we must be flexible enough to improvise to meet the mood and actions of these students. The important thing is that we will be there to present the Gospel to them. We know we shall not be able to do it in our own strength or wisdom for it is the first time we have entered into something like this. But if you will pray that God will give us wisdom and understanding and a measure of His power, then I am sure we will see results that will bring glory to our Lord.

President's Message

Wednesday at General Conference

In this column last week we outlined the worship services for Sabbath day, the "high day" of General Conference, 1962. Sabbath days at General Conference are always days of spiritual uplift and high attendance. But the leaders of the North Central Association of Seventh Day Baptist Churches, who are host to Conference this year, are looking for high attendance all during the week of August 13-18, 1962, and not just on Sabbath day.

What is hoped will be a day of promise for the local church will be Wednesday, August 15. In keeping with the theme for that day, "Draw Near to God in Study," Wednesday afternoon will be devoted to "Study Sessions." Following the devotional period, "Draw Near to God in Devotions at Noon," those in attendance at Conference will turn their attention to workshop study groups.

As each person registers for Conference, he will indicate his preference for one of eleven study groups, and on Wednesday afternoon attend the study group he has chosen. Leaders for each group will outline local church action and ways in which the local church may be more effective or ways in which local church leaders may more effectively carry on their work. Outlines and material for further study will be made available so that the value of the study may not be lost. It is also hoped that those in attendance will take notes and contribute of their knowledge to the discussion. Discussion and learning periods will be a part of the afternoon study workshops.

The study session groups that are planned are as follows:

1. Church Moderators (Presidents)
2. Church Treasurers
3. Co-operative Efforts in Christian Work
4. Evangelism and Missions in the Local Church
5. Sabbath School Superintendents
6. Social Concerns in the Local Church
7. Stewardship
8. Youth Work in the Local Church

9. Youth Group Leaders
10. Women's Work
11. The Pastor and His Records

In order that those who have responsibilities in several areas of local church work might not be deprived of the results of the study of other groups, an evening sharing period is planned. Reports of the study groups will be made at a plenary session on Wednesday evening. Following a worship period and sermon, reporters from the various groups will briefly present points of outstanding merit to the whole group.

Wednesday afternoon will be a time of study and sharing.

See you at General Conference!
Melvin G. Nida.

Analysis and Appeal

By O W M Treasurer

It is encouraging to observe that denominational giving for the first five months of the current fiscal year exceeds by \$2,789.80 the amount received and reported by the treasurer for the corresponding five months' period last year, and receipts in this last five months were only \$2,853.07 less than the preceding five months from May through September 1961, which period included the heavy Conference month. We are doing well by previously acceptable standards, but our budget for this year simply demands more from each of us. Can we each apply the 47.7% improvement factor to our own giving? As impossible as this objective may seem, it will be easy if it is actually our sincere prayerful desire.

For verily I say unto you, that whosoever shall say unto this mountain, be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, what things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them" (Mark 11: 23-24).

How faithfully the workers in our behalf in foreign missionary fields as well as here at home must daily pray for support; how comparatively simple is the little "mountain" we must move — to simply increase our monetary giving. We can — we will. — R. A. Maxson.



IS THE DECALOGUE REPEALED?

If it is Repealed,
Who Repealed it and Why?

By J. Antonio Barrera*

(Translated from the Spanish by Miss Mary Vicinus.)

Christ Didn't Annul the Law

In Matthew 5: 17 we read: "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets; I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill."

Would destroy and fulfill mean the same? No law is destroyed by the mere act of fulfilling it. Our divine Master, Jesus Christ, has fulfilled the law. Can't we Christians fulfill it in Him?

Where then do we get the words of the New Pact: "I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts"? (Heb. 8: 10)

Since Christ is the ultimate in intelligence, the ultimate in wisdom, inasmuch as He is God, why did He recommend to the rich young ruler that he guard the commandments, if they were going to be destroyed? Would the divine Master be capable of recommending a thing that a little later was going to be useless?

Aren't Christ's previously spoken words, "I came not to destroy the law" confirmed by His saying, "Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and mother"? (Mark 10: 19) Possibly

*J. Antonio Barrera (37) who sent this article from Bogota, Colombia, is a former Roman Catholic priest with a doctor's degree who has recently "become a Christian" and, through personal Bible study, a Sabbathkeeper. He and another former priest, Serafin Rojas Plazos (45), have been in touch with Seventh Day Baptist leaders for some months. The churches of Brazil of like faith invited them to come to that country to preach the Gospel. According to a conference leader in Curitiba, Brazil, they arrived there March 3 and will support themselves for the time being in secular employment. Late word from the author states that they were baptized on Sabbath, March 10. He suggests that this article be published without introduction "as an article from a new baptized Christian in Curitiba."

it will be said that the enumeration made before by our divine Master isn't complete and that He only referred to definite commandments. But whoever reads the Decalogue with an open mind can clearly see that the ten laws given in Sinai, engraved in stone, form a harmonious, compact whole, of consistent firmness and moral finality that cannot be disunited. It carries a responsibility. Thus the words of James 2: 10, "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." If the very lawmaker, Jesus Christ, God, didn't do away with the law, neither changed the law, the Decalogue, who could do this?

Saint Paul tells us: "Though it be but a man's covenant, yet if it be confirmed, no man disannulleth, or addeth thereto" (Gal. 3: 15).

According to this, should we believe that the commandments of the Decalogue have been cancelled, added to, or changed by anyone? By no means. Whoever thinks or says that will never be in accord with the very Word of truth.

There Hasn't Been a Motive for Abolishing the Decalogue

Aside from the will of legislator, a law is abolished: because it is bad, because it is impossible, because it is useless, for termination of time of being in force.

For a true Christian it is impossible to suppose that a legislator who is intelligence itself, wisdom itself, goodness itself, can in a field so morally established give laws that are so defective that they have to be abolished. Psalm 19: 7 tells us: "The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul."

If the commandments had been bad, what value would the words have had

from the beginning? "O that there were such a heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever!" (Deut. 5: 29). The desire, the desired, the method to reach the desired — all are good. Could the laws of the Decalogue be bad? Saint Paul tells us: "Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good" (Rom. 7: 12).

The same apostle in his first epistle to Timothy 1: 8 speaks to us clearly on this, saying, "But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully."

Romans 7: 13 concludes: "Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good."

Very many other texts can be found in the Old and in the New Testament which confirm the undeniable truth that the law is good. The texts referred to are perhaps not the most exact and conclusive, but they leave one thing confirmed; that the law of God cannot be abolished because of being bad.

Who would believe or suppose that God has made and imposed laws that can not be fulfilled? Don't you know who God is, that He is a legislator of intelligence and infinite wisdom?

Saint Paul in his epistle to the Romans 2: 13 tells us: ". . . but the doers of the law shall be justified." Could we believe that the apostle here wished to teach that only those who do the impossible will be justified? No one does the impossible, nor is he obliged to do so. The impossible is to believe that the impossible is legislated.

Saint John in his first epistle 5: 3, clearly tells us that the commandments are not heavy. "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments; and his commandments are not grievous." If the same Truth declares to us that the commandments are light, easy to carry, can we Christians say that the ten laws of the Decalogue are impossible to complete? Only non-Christians can affirm this.

To my shame, but for the glory of God, I declare: Until recent years I was ungovernably surrendered to carnal passions. Many times I committed adultery.

I even used all the methods indicated by Romanism, I could never correct not even in part such grave and disastrous wrongs. But now when I'm completely surrendered to Christ, I sincerely confess that I have not again sinned against the Seventh Commandment; I have abandoned the sins of the flesh. I feel the strength to not commit them any more.

The New Life

What shall I say then of my new state in life? That the Seventh Commandment may be kept in Christ.

The major part of our adversaries do not admit the possibility of the Decalogue because they say that being sinners, we always sin.

In the first place I ask: If that is the way it is, where is the regenerating work of Christ? What is the difference between a regenerated person and one who is not? Where do we get then the words of 1 John 3: 9, "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God"?

In the second place it is necessary to know that it is one thing to have a sinful nature, and another to be in sin or to have to sin. To change our sinful nature is certainly impossible now. We can only do this when we are "caught up . . . in the clouds to meet the Lord" (1 Thess. 4: 17). But to govern our human nature, avoid sin and not commit it, we can do. The only condition that is required for this attainment is to have accepted Christ as our only and personal Savior, that is to say, that we live in Christ and He lives in us — or what is the same, we live the true Life.

Perhaps you will say to me: Then why do Christians sin? The answer is simple: they sin because they let go of Christ. But the Christian who always remains united to Christ has no reason to sin. And in this is the grace of our Savior — whoever wants to be with Him may always be.

The affirmation that Paul in Romans 7: 11 alludes to as the law being an occasion to sin and that the law cannot be observed without sin, is not worth notic-

(Continued on page 12)

A New View of Brazil

Nearly every tourist in the teeming, enchanted coastal city of Rio de Janeiro does not feel that he has seen the city until he has made the almost vertical ascent by cable car to the island-like pinnacle called Sugar Loaf that rises from the bay near the famous Coco Cabana Beach hotels. Suspended between earth



and sky, one's view is framed by struts and cables as he looks down on a small segment of the city of over 3 million people crowded between mountains and sea.

There is an autonomous Seventh Day Baptist conference in Brazil with churches in some of the "frontier" areas and several of the larger cities. As yet there is no church of this faith in Rio but it is expected that the distribution of tracts and the new vision of the total field that may result from the eventual employment of two new ministers now in a neighboring state will lead to the establishment of an organized group in this great city. We may well pray for our brethren in Brazil, that they may be guided by the Holy Spirit in making contact with those who, like the Bereans of Paul's day, are willing to "search the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so."

Seventh Day Baptist leaders in Brazil are in touch with BWA president, Joa Soren of Rio.

Executive Secretary Explains Thirty Pieces of Silver

In keeping with the plan which originated with the Planning Committee and was approved by Commission, little plastic bags, string and tags were mailed out on March 7 to all Seventh Day Baptists whose names are on the master mailing list. These bags are to be filled with silver coins and returned to the church treasurer on or before April 21. The proceeds from this "Thirty Pieces of Silver" offering, an amount above the accepted goal of the churches to Our World Mission, will be credited to the churches making this offering and will be used to help bring up to date the giving to the items included in OWM.

Because of incorrect address some may not have received these bags. In this case you may contact the Women's Board for additional bags or make your contribution direct to your church treasurer, marking it "Thirty Pieces of Silver."

Any who find it inconvenient to contact their church treasurer may mail the bags with their content (or an amount of equal value) to Mrs. Harold Baum, Women's Board Treasurer, Route 1, Edgerton, Wisconsin. Any who make their offering in this way should indicate to what church credit should be given.

College Basketball Game Changed to Avoid Sabbath

From the president of Salem College comes a clipping from the Charleston, W. Va., Gazette telling how the college requested that a tournament game scheduled for Friday night be put at an earlier hour so as not to conflict with the religious principles of the founders of the college.

President K. Duane Hurley explains that when Salem got as far as the semi-finals this problem arose and that friendly co-operation was apparent from all concerned, including the newspaper reporters and columnists. He adds that the mention of Seventh-day Adventists in the Gazette was corrected, making additional publicity in regard to the matter. A local Jewish rabbi in Charleston is reported to have used the Sabbath stand of the college team as part of his Sabbath sermon on the very evening of the tournament.

Furlough Plans for Nyasaland Missionaries

Tentative plans are being made for Miss Barbara Bivins to return to this country on furlough during 1962, perhaps in the fall or early winter.

It had been expected that Miss Joan Clement would be taking her furlough during the current year but she has stated that in view of teachers in training (at Malamulo) she would like to wait until they finish their course of study and get established in their new work before she comes away. This would require her presence at Makapwa until sometime in 1963.

This plan (of Miss Clement returning in 1963) raised the question of just how to "space" furloughs of Miss Sarah Becker and Miss Barbara Bivins, who are also due for furloughs in 1963, in such a way as to best maintain the work. It has now been agreed that Miss Bivins will take her furlough in 1962 and Miss Becker in 1964. It is expected that Dr. and Mrs. Burdick will arrive back at Makapwa in mid-July, 1962. Miss Bivins will not expect to leave the mission until such time as Dr. Burdick has again established his practice.

Resolution of Appreciation from British Guiana Brethren

A resolution of appreciation to the Seventh Day Baptists of America has been received through the Rev. Alexander B. Trotman, president of the British Guiana Conference of Seventh Day Baptist Churches. Pastor Trotman has written, "It was resolved at the meeting of the Executive Council (held Sunday, March 4, at Parika) that our sincere and hearty appreciation with thanks be recorded and forwarded through you, with respect to the ultimate fulfillment of the long outstanding promise of an American missionary family to this field."

Pastor Trotman adds, "We are not just grateful but esteem very highly this family of your choice and do very much desire it to be known how great is our appreciation and delight."

Concerning the Executive Council meeting he writes, "We had together an inspiring and happy time. From the very first message of the supervisor, Pastor Leland Davis, it was happily obvious that our churches are to maintain their autonomy. We shall none the less go forward together in evangelism, planning God's work, seeking to understand guidance, praying and worshiping, organizing the youth work. . . . We are glad that we are going to be Baptists both in name and government still."

Cheap Grace

"By grace are ye saved through faith and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God," wrote Paul to the Ephesians. And how wonderful this is! Salvation is the gift of God.

But in emphasizing the doctrine of justification by grace there is a danger of overlooking its cost both to God and to us. The cost to God was that He gave His only begotten Son to die for us. The cost to us should be self-discipline, a voluntary giving back to God of the life we owe.

To emphasize that salvation is free, without emphasizing the price God paid and the obligation such love places upon us, is to cheapen the grace of God. "Cheap grace is the deadly enemy of the church," wrote Bonhoeffer.

"Cheap grace means forgiveness of sins proclaimed as a general truth, the love of God taught as a Christian conception of God, an intellectual assent to this idea as held of itself to be sufficient to secure remission of sins. . . ."

"Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline, communion without confession (or the covenant meeting preceding communion.) Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ, living and incarnate."

We preach correctly that it is only necessary to believe and then our salvation is sure. But we need to put content into the word "believe." It goes far deeper than mental assent. Active belief

Tract Board Reviews Work, Makes Plans for Future

Nearly all of the trustees of the American Sabbath Tract Society (23 plus two consultant members) took part in the regular quarterly meeting of the board held at Shiloh, N. J., Sunday afternoon, March 11. Before the president, Charles F. Harris, called the group to order at two o'clock, four committees had held final meetings, and members and friends had been served a bountiful dinner at nominal cost by ladies of the Shiloh church.

Early in the meeting the president called upon Miss Mary Vicinus, a Baptist missionary long associated with Seventh Day Baptists, to tell the board of her recent contacts in Bogota, Colombia, with two Roman Catholic priests who had become Protestants and Sabbathkeepers and were looking toward baptism and work as Seventh Day Baptists. Her information and careful evaluation were much appreciated. The board, through its secretary, had arranged the contact with Miss Vicinus and had put the ex-priests in touch with Seventh Day Baptist leaders in Brazil, a country in which they thought they could be of service. (The day following the board meeting a letter from a Brazilian leader announced that they had arrived at Curitiba, the conference headquarters city where they would support themselves until able to do work in the Portuguese language.) The board has an item in its budget to help the churches in Brazil print some of our tracts in their native tongue.

is a way of life. It is costly, it requires self-discipline and sacrifice.

Costly grace is the call of Jesus Christ to leave all and follow Him. "Costly grace is the Gospel which must be sought again and again, the gift which must be asked for, the door at which a man must knock."

Forgive us, Lord, if we have been proclaiming the free gift of Thy love without ourselves being willing to pay the cost of discipleship. Amen.

Another foreign language report was called for a little later in the meeting. It had been arranged for the Rev. C. W. P. Hansen in connection with his World Council trip last December to visit the Rev. K. K. Samson at Poona, India, a new Sabbathkeeper whom the board had helped to print two Sabbath tracts. C. Harmon Dickinson reported that Mr. Hansen has found much in the educational and church work of Mr. Samson to encourage the board to continue to give help in the publication of tracts in the native languages of that area. It was pointed out that it is required by the government that the children be taught six days a week. On the Sabbath the children in Mr. Samson's school are taught only Bible subjects — a Sabbath School.

Carefully prepared reports were even more in evidence at this board meeting than usual. Due to a special assignment that the Advisory Committee had been working on in relation to Sabbath Recorder circulation, Chairman L. H. North presented a two-page mimeographed report. Other reports distributed at the time of presentation to all members included those of the editor, treasurer, corresponding secretary, manager of the publishing house, Investment Committee, and Budget Committee. Written reports of Publications, Distribution, Sabbath Promotion, Audio-Visual Aids, and Radio and Television Committees were presented. All reports were accepted and recommendations adopted. Copies will be sent with the minutes to all members at a later date.

Fred Ayars, of Philadelphia, recommended in his committee's report some financial assistance for Sabbath morning radio programs in Palatka, Fla.

The Audio-Visual Aids Committee reported on meeting a need for hymn slides in British Guiana and proposed to send out soon a catalog supplement and an illustrated audio-visual book.

No new tracts were published during the quarter, but progress was made on some and orders were placed for reprints of nine, totalling 50,000. Churches and individuals were sent 17,000 tracts, some groups ordering two or three times.

One of the items of new business was

MEMORY TEXT

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. John 13: 34.



The culmination of the One Great Hour of Sharing appeal is the weekend of March 31-April 1. Compassion for the needy overseas transcends all denominational barriers, as in the story of the good Samaritan told by our Lord. We can ill afford to let our denominational representatives in foreign lands (who are not recipients of CWS gifts) go hungry. Neither can we turn a deaf ear to the cries of those in other lands where we as a people have no program of relief and evangelism. May the guidance of the Holy Spirit be sought in all our giving.

Secretary H. D. Bond Attends RIAL Banquet

The thirteenth anniversary of Religion In American Life was observed by a dinner on the evening of March 13 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City. Some 1200 guests representing many religious denominations (including Seventh Day Baptists), industry, and business helped to celebrate this occasion and to honor Robert T. Stevens for his four years as national chairman of the organization. A birthday cake (unexpectedly provided by the hotel management) added color to an already colorful evening.

The climax of the affair was an address by the Hon. Walter H. Judd, M. C., on the subject, "The Spiritual Dimensions of the Cold War." He pointed out the dedicated missionary spirit which motivates communism and the apparent lack of dedication to democracy. If we are to combat this ideology we must challenge America to a new dedication to our religious heritage and to a new zeal for its continued furtherance.

Did you know that of 57,000,000 families in America 17,000,000 are without a religion?

Youth Work

The Youth Work Committee of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education in its monthly meeting, March 13, received the news concerning the procuring of our field worker with much enthusiasm. Consideration of plans for Miss Bingham was immediately the order of the day. Mrs. Helena Aldrich and Miss Luan Sutton, ex field workers, were appointed to work with the chairman on areas of endeavor in which the field worker should serve. We are all aware of the complexity of orienting, training, and scheduling. It was agreed that we ask our field worker to come to Alfred during the spring vacation to start the program planning. The concern was voiced that our churches understand that it is impossible for Miss Bingham to visit all of them in one year. Opportunity is open, however, for each church to ask for her services, and all will be served that can be scheduled. As plans are now, she will travel by car.

A report showed that only 102 youth are members of the National Seventh Day Baptist Youth Fellowship for 1962. Fellowships and lone Sabbathkeepers who have not joined for the current year should send in their \$1.00 each to Chairman Victor Skaggs, Alfred Station, N. Y. As membership includes a subscription to the Beacon, many now on the mailing list will be dropped soon if the names are not forthcoming.

Mr. James Palmer was appointed Pre-Con publicity chairman.

Miss Sutton and Secretary Rex Zwiebel were appointed to review and revise the rules for youth attending General Conference.

REV. HENRY N. JORDAN

News of the death of the Rev. Henry N. Jordan on March 14, 1962, has just been received by the Sabbath Recorder. Mr. Jordan has lived in retirement at Grove City, Pa., for several years. Many cherish happy memories of the service of this beloved minister of the Gospel. A brief story of his life will appear in a later issue.

Final confirmation for the use of Mission Farms, Minnesota, has come and the Pre-Con fee will be set as soon as rental agreement has been concluded.

Pictures were taken of the committee to appear in the April issue of the Beacon.

How to Study

It is apparent that a large number of people do not know how to study. Regardless of the subject to be studied, there are ways that bring better results more quickly, if we only knew what they are. In the area of Bible study and in perusal of materials relating to Bible and religious study, we believe that we have found a book that will help every student who has real interest. The book has a method that will help anyone study anything if used. It is entitled How to Study, and it was written by Thomas F. Staton. You may secure your copy for 75 cents by writing to the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education, Box 15, Alfred Station, N. Y.

Ministers' Social Security Coverage

Ministers have an important decision to make by April 15, 1962, if they want social security coverage, the Social Security Office announces. That is the final date for filing a waiver certificate to elect coverage if they have not already done so.

If a minister files a waiver certificate by April 15, 1962, he will receive coverage for 1960 and 1961, provided he had at least \$400 yearly in net earnings from his profession. There is no coverage for those who had less than \$400 net earnings.

For further information, ministers should contact the nearest Social Security District Office.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for April 7, 1962

Toward a Mature Faith

Lesson Scripture: 2 Tim. 1: 3-7; 3: 10-17.



naming a special Executive Committee to attempt a self-evaluation of the work of the board. Another motion gave further responsibility to the Advisory Committee to work on defining Sabbath Recorder editorial policy. The matter of how to trim \$3,000 from next year's projected budget, which Commission thinks may be necessary, could not be acted upon until the widely separated Budget Committee can get together for a restudy of the work ahead. Committees and the board have previously stated the conviction that we cannot move forward as a people if we cut down on our literature distribution. Bearing this out is a recently prepared statement by a missionary organization showing that 90 percent of the converts in Latin America have come by way of literature.

Evangelist Available

The following letter from the Rev. Kenneth A. Stickney, a Seventh Day Baptist minister, has been received by the editor and is passed on to our readers as an item of interest and a matter of prayer.

I believe that it will be of interest to Seventh Day Baptists that after several years out of active pastorate, yet not inactive as to serving the Lord, He is leading me into the evangelistic field.

I am open and available to our churches that feel so inclined by the Holy Spirit to hold meetings in their churches. I operate completely by faith, and trust the Lord who has promised to supply all of our needs according to His riches in Christ Jesus.

I am only interested in seeing revival come to our churches in these dark days. This is something I have longed to do for a number of years but have waited for His go-ahead signal.

Please pray for us in this step of faith. — P. O. Box 437, Holland, Mich.

Worship Service

A man may think he is religious; but, if he has no control over his tongue, he is deceiving himself; that man's religion is futile (James 1: 26, New English Bible).

The Bible refers to speech many times. It tells us that a righteous answer turns away wrath. However, the quick answer we often give stirs up more wrath.

When we were children, we played the game of "whisper the secret" or "how the story grew." How little resemblance there was to the original story after all members of the circle repeated it as they heard it. Gossip travels in the same way. Each one seems to add a little and, while it may later be proved untrue, the damage has been done and someone has been hurt. People remember what they "heard" about the person long after they have forgotten that it was proved false.

Fault-finding is another form of worthless speech. We find fault with the minister (although if asked to help him we just say that we aren't capable); we find fault with the choir (although we just can't be bothered to sing with them); we find fault with our editors (but won't take the time to contribute); we find fault with our leaders (but, of course, we wouldn't take an office.)

Pointing out mistakes and helping to correct them is constructive criticism and can be worth while if handled in the right way. Destructive fault-finding does only harm.

Prayer

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Radio Survey Underway

A survey of radio broadcasts past and present is now in progress by the Radio-TV Committee of the Tract Society. This information is vitally needed as a guide to more effective radio ministries. Desired information includes dates, costs, offers, response, type of program, and comments. Replies may be sent to the American Sabbath Tract Society, P. O. Box 868, Plainfield, N. J. — Frederick M. Ayars, chairman.

Decalogue Repealed

(Continued from page 5)

ing. The same apostle a little later gives us the explanation with a text cited: "Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good" (Rom. 7: 13).

With all certainty we know that the devil and sin frequently appear good in order to work ill. But if the good only serves to help the bad, for this one cause the good doesn't cease to be good.

When one studies human laws, frequently one hears uselessness mentioned. This doesn't seem strange to anyone. We well know the defects of human intelligence and the great ignorance in which we live.

When we study the laws of God the same thing doesn't happen. We know that our Supreme Legislator has infinite wisdom and intelligence. He understands everything well, He foresees all, He knows all. In Him there is no danger of imperfection or defect. He knows perfectly His subjects, and He legislates for them. In the same way He knows the nature of their capacities and according to this knowledge He gives them their duration.

All the laws of the Decalogue, from the first to the last, have a purpose: to regulate human conduct in its relations with God.

Since it was God Himself who made these laws, He had to make them in accord with our nature, for our nature, that they will work for our nature as long as it exists. In any other way the legislation would have been imperfect even from a simple point of human view.

Now, if God's laws are made in accord with human nature, so they will serve it, and this while it lasts, could we say that these laws now do not have a reason to exist? Could we say, for example, that the sixth law of the Decalogue is now useless, that we could live without it? But when a murder is committed to what do we look for condemnation? Why do we say and teach that murder is prohibited? Surely we have to say that murder

is bad because it is not according to the will of God, the will of God expressed in the Decalogue.

Now one understands why James in his epistle tells us: "If ye fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well" (James 2: 8).

Then it isn't a useless thing to keep the Sixth Commandment and the others, first written in tablets of stone, and now kept in men's mind and heart.

Everywhere today we preach that we must know God and that it is necessary to practice charity with our fellow men. Because of this ignorance and this bad understanding, the world goes from bad to worse and the Christian life isn't carried in hearts. But if we know that the divine commandments are not useless or haven't ceased to exist, in them we encounter the remedy against such a grave sin. John tells us: "And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him" (1 John 2: 3, 4). In addition, he says: "By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments" (1 John 5: 2).

We can never deny that the cause of our salvation is in the regenerating grace of Jesus Christ imparted to man by means of faith (Eph. 2: 8) but as all who believe in Christ ought to do His will (and this we find made manifest in the Decalogue), the Decalogue should be fulfilled by all true believers.

We believe in Christ and guard His commandments.

Preaching on Hell

"The proper preaching of the doctrine of everlasting punishment is not a hindrance to the success of the gospel, but is one of its chief and indispensable auxiliaries. All preaching which ignores the doctrine . . . just so far lowers the holiness of God and degrades the work of Christ, which is needful to save us from it (eternal punishment)." — A. H. Strong, *Systematic Theology*, quoted in *Paint Rock, Ala., bulletin*.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Protestant Aid
to Needy Overseas
up 15% in 1961

Protestant churches in the United States shipped 346,586,118 pounds of food, clothing, medicines, and other relief supplies for free distribution to the destitute in 52 countries abroad during 1961.

The 1961 shipment of relief goods, valued at \$26,900,118, compares with the 1960 total of 299,593,590 pounds worth \$26,485,718.

Foodstuffs accounted for the bulk of the 1961 total shipment, with 339,048,915 pounds valued at \$18,605,070. Of this total U. S. Government-donated surplus food stocks distributed through the SOS (Share Our Surplus) program amounted to 333,893,961 pounds, valued at \$18,197,893.

The balance of 5,154,954 pounds of foodstuffs, worth \$407,177 came from CROP (Christian Rural Overseas Program).

Clothing shipped overseas came to 5,990,649 pounds with a value of \$6,257,972. Medicines valued at \$1,777,495 accounted for 991,954 pounds of the year's total. Miscellaneous relief materials amounted to 554,600 pounds, with a value of \$259,581.

A Decade of Dedication to the American Home

These words sum up the far-reaching influence of religious records produced by Word Record Co. of Waco, Texas.

This year marks the 10th Anniversary of Word Records, an organization which is the largest religious recording company in the world.

An unusual success story began ten years ago when the company was founded, quite by accident, by Jarrell F. McCracken, whose tireless efforts have resulted in phenomenal growth and tremendous spiritual impact.

More than half-a-hundred distinguished religious artists record for Word. Included in the roster are such well-known personalities as Ronnie Avalone, Dick Anthony,

Frank Boggs, Bill Carle, Kurt Kaiser, Greg Loren, Bill Mann, Bill Pearce, Joe Ann Shelton, Fague Springman, Ethel Waters, and the White Sisters, to mention but a few. The artists combine professional training and devotion to Christ.

As one business associate put it, "There is no doubt, God called Jarrell McCracken to this ministry, and has kept His hand on the business."

New RIAL Head

Roger Hull, president of Mutual Of New York, is the new National Chairman for Religion In American Life. He succeeds Robert T. Stevens, president of the J. P. Stevens and Company, Inc., who served RIAL so faithfully and well.

Mr. Hull, in accepting the chairmanship for Religion In American Life, said, "In these insecure times in which we live, I believe that faith in God is absolutely essential. When we contemplate the responsibilities and opportunities that are ours daily, it is clear to any thinking person that only with God's help can we meet the challenges of our time. You and I can find greater strength and new power for our lives through regular worship."

While various church groups in the United States sought ways for a merger to form a united church, a Baptist minister, the Rev. Homer L. Trickett of Providence, R. I., suggested: "A return to the New Testament offers a more durable basis for Christian unity than any thus far advanced." — BWA.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

Anniversary Observance at Texarkana

March 31, 1962, marks the fifth year since the organization of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Texarkana. Observance of the occasion will be highlighted by special programs on Friday night and Sabbath day. The Sabbath School, Ladies Aid, Christian Comrade youth group, Young Adult Fellowship, and youth choir will all have featured parts in the programs.

Sabbath day, March 31, is also the regu-

lar time for Communion to be observed by the church.

Any Seventh Day Baptists or friends who may be traveling in or near our area are cordially invited to share with us in the worship and fellowship of this happy time. The church location is at 200 Pleasant Street, Texarkana, Ark. The pastor, Marion C. Van Horn, (Telephone 22-8932) resides at 884 Maud Avenue.

Southwestern Association

The Southwestern Association is to be held at Metairie, La., June 21-24, 1962.

Any who have umbrella tents, kindly bring them, and also bedding for same. Otherwise, all will be entertained in the homes.

The topic is "Christ the Rock." — Corresponding Secretary (Mrs. Lela Coalwell).

Ashaway, R. I., Evangelistic Meetings

Plans are being laid for evangelistic services in our church, May 12-19. For these meetings we have secured Rev. John Savard, staff evangelist of Barrington Bible College. He is very dynamic in his preaching of the Gospel, and we believe that a great blessing awaits our members and others who will attend the services.

We realize, however, that conversion comes "not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts" (Zechariah 4: 6). In matters of spiritual growth and of winning others to God we are workers with Him. We are His instruments. We can share our faith, give out the word of the Gospel, give the invitation. But it is God through His Spirit who makes all our efforts effective.

— Church Bulletin.

BROOKFIELD, N. Y. — The members of the First Day and Seventh Day Baptist Churches have been busy for some time now making extensive repairs and improvements to the interior of the church building.

A new light oak floor has been laid and is resplendent with many coats of sealer and wax. That is the first thing you notice but it is only one of many improvements.

The pews and all woodwork have been

cleaned and stained a uniform and darker color. The walls have been cleaned and the ceiling has been painted white.

Beautiful wood panelling has been put in the classrooms above the choir loft, and in the rear entrance.

The work is continuing as many projects near completion. A fine carpet for aisle runners, front of the church and pulpit, has been bought and will be laid soon. The skylight windows are out and undergoing repairs. Most of the stained glass windows which were falling to pieces have been made better than new, materially strengthened with larger cross bars. Each window that is repaired is now in sections.

More than 800 hours of free, skilled labor have been donated and many gifts of cash have been made to further the work. More will be needed. — Brookfield Courier.

MARLBORO, N. J. — The past year has been a very changeable one for the folks at Marlboro. To begin with, Pastor Paul Osborn accepted a call to be "City Pastor" for the Missionary Board. He, Murial, Phillip, Karen Sue, and Joel left us in June. A farewell supper was held and it was a sad parting for the many well-wishers.

Soon Ed Sutton and his wife came along to help fill the gap. Upon their leaving to return to his studies at Salem College, they were surprised with a baby shower and a purse.

There we were, on our own for 2½ months. The opening part of our worship service at our Friday night prayer meetings was in charge of Joan Campbell. The Bible study was under the direction of Harry Ansink. On Sabbaths we had pastors from the neighboring churches. Our deacons very ably took care of the other responsibilities. One Sabbath we had a special program for Sabbath Rally Day, another was our annual Harvest Home at which time we were happy to burn our parsonage mortgage. We held a Layman's Sabbath with Leland Cobb, Rollo Davis, and Mrs. Fred Ayars bringing messages. Executive Secretary Harley Bond shared the Lay Development program with us. Rev. Leland Davis and family shared their slides and plans for their mission work in British Guiana.

During this time the ladies were busy painting and fixing up the parsonage in readiness for the Greens. The pantry shelves and refrigerator were filled. Upon the arrival of the Rev. J. Paul Green, Denise, Carl, and Steven on December 1, a fellowship supper was held with a hearty welcome to our new pastor and family. They have fitted into our church work very well, and we are happy to have them with us.

Pastor Green has started weekly home Bible studies again in addition to our regular Friday night prayer meetings. We are studying *The Story of the New Testament* by Edgar Goodspeed. These studies are proving very successful.

Our theme for our Christmas program was "Christmas Is the Season for Giving." All of the program had to do with the joy of giving, and receiving the great gift of God's Son. Mrs. Paul Lewis directed the program. We sent the gifts to Barbara Bivins for her work in Africa.

The Senior C. E. young people held a box social and slave auction, giving of their talents and netting a very nice sum for the field worker this summer.

The Ladies Aid is divided into three sections, working together on their money-making projects. A chicken pot-pie supper was recently held, netting \$250.

A surprise supper and gift were given Mrs. Melvin Cobb as a tribute for her faithful service as our choir director for twelve years. The choir members are grateful to her. Mrs. Denise Green is our new director and is doing a very nice job.

We have installed a new oil burning heater in our church building.

The Social Committee served a "Meal of Sharing" on March 10 in observance of "One Great Hour of Sharing." We then saw the film, "The Long Stride." An offering was taken for the work of Church World Service.

We were happy to have the Rev. Melvin Nida bring us a Sabbath morning message in February, and join us at a social, explaining Conference plans.

We are looking forward to entertaining the Eastern Association in May and hope to see many of you then. — Correspondent.

OUR WORLD MISSION

Statement of the Treasurer, Month of February, 1962

	Treasurer's		Budget Receipts		Treasurer's		Boards'	
	Feb.	5 Mos.	Boards' 5 Mos.	Feb.	5 Mos.	Boards' 5 Mos.	5 Mos.	
Adams Center	\$ 53.25	351.00		Marlboro	281.73	1,255.67		
Albion	46.26	265.06		Memorial Fund		876.61	36.11	
Alfred 1st	388.15	2,306.54	136.50	Metairie		16.00		
Alfred 2nd	105.00	885.27		Middle Island	29.00	113.00		
Associations and				Milton	671.41	3,715.11	75.00	
Groups		123.97	666.95	Milton Junction	89.40	765.90	40.00	
Battle Creek	450.59	2,021.44	15.00	Missionary Society			749.70	
Bay Area Fellow.		112.39	15.80	New Auburn		209.64		
Berlin	214.69	732.18	10.46	North Loup		225.70		
Boulder	46.45	347.11	25.00	Nortonville	76.00	874.50	50.00	
Brookfield 1st		321.93		Old Stone Fort	30.00	60.00		
Brookfield 2nd	54.00	115.50		Paint Rock		135.00		
Buffalo Fellow.	50.00	172.00		Pawcatuck	504.40	2,431.00	753.48	
Chicago	72.50	420.50	205.00	Plainfield	410.30	2,046.57		
Daytona Beach	180.00	687.28	4.24	Putnam Co.		15.00		
Denver	80.70	424.78		Richburg	98.50	339.50		
DeRuyter		200.00		Ritchie		130.00	83.33	
Dodge Center	39.75	334.54	100.00	Riverside	525.50	1,453.15		
Farina		306.25		Roanoke	65.00	75.00		
Fouke		39.70	20.00	Rockville	30.03	214.05		
Hammond		10.00		Salem	110.00	725.00		
Hebron 1st		79.09		Salemville		145.90	6.00	
Hopkinton 1st		647.25	173.00	Schenectady	33.00	68.00	500.00	
Hopkinton 2nd	5.00	32.00		Shiloh	382.00	3,037.63	160.00	
Houston		18.68		Texarkana		42.00		
Independence	149.05	704.55		Verona	83.22	1,068.32		
Individuals (25.00)	(25.00)	224.00	284.00	Walworth	83.50	316.50		
Irvington	621.44	1,121.44		Washington	10.00	165.00		
Jackson Center		100.00	250.00	Washington, People's		32.00		
Little Genesee	165.00	404.30	39.00	Waterford	103.90	490.60		
Little Rock	16.66	60.62	34.33	White Cloud	35.98	231.11	50.00	
Los Angeles	250.00	1,181.10	15.00	Yonah Mountain		26.00		
Los Angeles Christ's		90.00						
Lost Creek		350.00						
				Totals	\$6,616.36	\$36,561.93	\$4,497.90	

TREASURER'S DISBURSEMENTS

Budget:		Non-Budget:	
General Conference	\$ 758.66	American Bible Society	\$ 10.00
Ministerial Training	704.61		
World Fellowship and Service	49.58		
Board of Christian Education	520.89		
Historical Society	168.59		
Ministerial Retirement	574.88		
Missionary Society	3,062.12		
Sabbath Tract Society	603.02		
Trustees of General Conference	34.71		
Women's Society	139.30		
Total Budget	\$6,616.36	Total received and disbursed by OWM Treasurer	\$6,626.36

SUMMARY

Current annual budget	\$112,193.00	Average amount needed each of next 7 months	\$ 10,804.44
Amount raised in 5 months	36,561.93	Average amount raised in last 5 months	7,312.38
Balance needed in 7 months	\$ 75,631.07	Necessary monthly increase	\$ 3,492.06
Percentage of year elapsed	41.7%	Necessary improvement factor	47.7%
Percentage of budget raised	32.5%		

R. A. Maxson,
Treasurer.

The Sabbath Recorder



PULPIT AND BIBLE

The strength of Protestantism has always been in the preaching of the Word. Thus the pulpit symbolizes most effectively Protestant distinctiveness. It calls for preaching of the whole counsel of God in keeping with this strong appeal.