In Tulsa, Okla., a letter to all churches circulated by the Department of Christian Life and Work of the Tulsa Council, resulted in statements by 120 Tulsa churches that their houses of worship are open to any person "without regard to color." The Council's letter said in part: "This house of God is open to the whole family of God."

World Mission and Evangelism

The Rev. Dr. Roland W. Scott, an official of the Methodist Board of Missions, New York City, has been appointed to serve in Geneva as a secretary of the Division of World Mission and Evangelism of the World Council of Churches. He will assume his new duties July 15.

The Division of World Mission and Evangelism was created in 1961 at the New Delhi assembly of the World Council of Churches when the International Missionary Council and the World Council of Churches became a single organization.

The new official will assist in the general administration of the Division's Geneva office. There are two other offices of the Division, one in New York headed Button.—Alonzo D., son of Ralph and Betsy by Dr. George W. Carpenter, and the London office, under the direction of the Rev. Ronald K. Orchard.

Oregon Baptists Urge Orthodoxy

The Baptist General Convention of Oregon-Washington passed the following resolution at its annual meeting at Kalamath Falls in late October:

"We urge our Southern Baptist seminaries to keep as faculty members only those teachers who believe unquestionably in the complete inspiration and authority of the Scriptures, the deity of Jesus as well as the humanity, His virgin birth, His sinless life, His sacrificial death, His personal, glorious return.

"That man is a lost sinner, that Jesus is the Savior of sinners, that regeneration is necessary to salvation: it comes by faith and produces new life. Hell is the eternal abode of the lost, heaven the home of the saved.

"These things are to be taught and preached constantly to all the people of the world. This is the only basis for a lasting peace."

-(B. P.).

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

BUFFALO FELLOWSHIP, N. Y. — Present plans call for our Church Organization Day to be September 15, 1962, the third Sabbath in that month.

The general planning has been placed in the hands of a committee consisting of Miss Sara Jayne Bottoms, Mr. Harold Wellman, and Pastor Zwiebel.

JACKSON CENTER, OHIO — Mrs. Cretora Miars who has been the point of contact for those who have been sending communications to the churches writes that she is now moving to Milton, Wis., and that correspondence should now go to William Lawhead.

Marriages

Wagner-Tollison.—Charles Edward Wagner and Dianne Tollison were united in marriage March 17, 1962, by their pastor, Marion C. Van Horn, at Texarkana. (The pastor says he reported it incorrectly for the May 21 issue. The groom's mother was a Mitchell.)

Obituaries.

Moser Button, was born on March 7, 1882, at Little Marsh, Pa., and died at the Allegany County Infirmary, Angelica, N. Y., April 23, 1962 (more extended obituary elsewhere in this issue).

Truman.-Mary Wilcox, daughter of John D. and Eleanor Leach Wilcox, was born at Coventry, R. I., January 19, 1879, and died at the home of her daughter and sonin-law, Mr. and Mrs. Clare P. Holl, Greenlawn, L. I., N. Y., May 24, 1962.

She was baptized and joined the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Alfred on March 24, 1901.

She was married to Frank S. Truman in Summit, R. I., August 2, 1899. To this union was born one daughter, Dorothy Wilcox Truman, mentioned above.

Following Mr. Truman's death in 1939, she devoted herself much more intensively to doing and caring for others. She served as housemother at a boys' home on the Hudson, as a companion nurse, and as a nurse in the Chapin Home for the Aged in Jamaica, L. I., N. Y.

Besides her daughter, there survive one brother, Harold Wilcox of Harrisville, R. I., two grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were held on Sabbath afternoon, May 26, 1962, at the First Presbyterian Church, Greenlawn, L. I., with the Rev. Leon Flanders officiating. A graveside service was held on Monday afternoon, May 28, 1962, at the Alfred Rural Cemetery, where burial was made, conducted by her pastor, Rev. Hurley S. Warren. — H. S. W.

The Sabbath Becorder



Backed with the flags that signify national and religious freedom, our faithful pastors open to us the Word of God that speaks to us of things eternal.

The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

A Magazine for Christian Enlightenment and Inspiration Member of the Associated Church Press REV. LEON M. MALTBY, Editor

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Independence and Idealism

Independence Day, about to be celebrated again throughout this great nation, stirs up many different thoughts in the minds of Christian citizens. Long-slumbering emotions strongly linked with patriotism emerge to conscious contemplation as we listen again to a recitation of the great events of our early American history, the birth of our nation, the declaration of our independence, and the struggle to make that independence a recognized reality.

With something akin to reverence we remind ourselves of the wisdom of our founding fathers as they wrote into the basic law of the land the idealism, the love of liberty that they shared. They gave us wise provisions that have stood the test of time and to which men in every succeeding generation have appealed when civil or religious liberty was threatened from within or without.

Only the ignorant, the blind, or the enemies of our cherished freedom dare proclaim today that the issue of political independence is a dead issue. If really responsible leaders had any doubts about the dangers from without to our American, constitutional way of life they would not vote overwhelmingly for such an enormous defense budget. Sober realists uneasily report that this freedom-loving country has never in its history been endangered by so strong a freedomdenying force as is now pitted against us. We have seen over half the world swallowed up by this force either by war or by the cunning propagation of its false idealism.

Patriotism in a nominally Christian nation has need to express itself in Christian ways on Independence Day to match the intense nationalism which characterizes many of the emergent nations of Africa and Asia. In mainland China, for instance, everything (including religion and the Christian church) has become subservient to a perverted patriotic ideal. If China's teeming millions drifting into a new kind of state serfdom can be so intensely patriotic, how much more should we who have constitutional liberties cherish those liberties and express our loyalty to the country that guarantees them.

We have idealism in this country, some

of which is misguided or unrealistic. Some Christians are vocal pacifists and would allow themselves to be ridiculed by fellow Christians or crushed under the heel of an aggressor rather than give up this idealism. At the other end of the spectrum are the extreme rightists, some groups of which are led by staunch Protestant clergymen. They think that they are realistic idealists, and they cry out against selling our national heritage for what they call a mess of pottage.

In between are a vast number of citizens, many of them Christians, whose heads are turned and swayed by the changing winds of persuasion that sweep over the wheat fields. It is difficult to stand erect in times like these. To say that Christian convictions and Christian discernment are not all that they ought to be is but to echo the obvious.

Can we be prophetic in the pulpit and in the marketplace? Perhaps faithful is a more appropriate word. Many of our national and religious leaders are just now beginning to notice that they have fanned up too much of a breeze from one direction. The fields of ripened grain have become flattened and lodged. The anti-anticommunists have gone too far in their denunciations. There appears to be a welcome swinging back to a clearer understanding of the menace that communism poses to the free world and basic Christian principles. Independence Day this year may well be used to further this healthy return to an erect position. Both the government and the organized church, your editor believes, will soon be urging a higher type of patriotism than has been popular in the past few years.

Strange Languages of Christendom

Some of the ancient and modern languages of the world are strange to us because they use different alphabets and write their words in unfamiliar characters. We must master these before we hope to understand their printed communications. Not quite the same are the strange ways of expressing things by the different divisions of Christendom,

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MEMORY TEXT

Who is wise, and he shall understand these things? prudent, and he shall know them? for the ways of the Lord are right, and the just shall walk in them: but the transgressors shall fall therein. Hosea 14:

НЕМИМИМИМИМИМИМИМИМИМИМИМИМИМИМ

but the result is the same — we scarcely understand one another.

Can you understand the language of the Eastern Orthodox Church? Probably not all of it. In some respects it is stranger than the more familiar language of the Roman Church. Both normally use ancient languages, Greek and Latin, but both use terminology foreign to our thinking when they state their beliefs in English. Let us take some examples from Orthodox American Church Life, a current issue of which announces that all the services and beliefs of the early Christian church are now translated into the English language.

Archbishop James in an article "The New Age of Christ Is Here" makes statements such as the following (which are not consecutive):

"The people of America are now ready to receive the True Inner Teaching, and the primitive Church of the Apostles has been established in America, having within itself the inner teachings and the services which were set forth by the Apostles."

"So the task of The Orthodox American Church is to show the many roads that may be traveled within the confines of the Church to reach the Christ Consciousness."

"As the soul travels towards the Eternal Light, the Church, through its Sacraments gently lifts man into Eternal Glory."

When one has struggled to understand the mystical terminology as found in the sentence just quoted he must then face the problem in this day of tolerance and ecumenicity — the problem of trying to gulp down statements like these:

"The Orthodox Church has the Apostolic Succession of Bishops, Priests, and clergy, stemming from the Apostles, with no break in succession. It is the

Mother of Christianity. All Christian churches have sprung from this source."

"Man with his intellect alone will not understand Orthodoxy, but the true inner man will accept and know that the pure and original teachings of Mother Church are the true teachings of the Spirit."

We may be led to the conclusion that far more is involved than understanding the strange languages of Christendom. The greater obstacle to the church union that some affirm to be on the way is accepting the claims of the Eastern, the Roman, and some of the Protestant churches to apostolic succession and near infallibility.

The Church in Communist China

New Book by Francis Price Jones

Would you like to have a well-documented Protestant appraisal of the present situation of the Christian church in China under Communist rule? If you are willing to entertain some disturbing thoughts about a large number of church members and leaders who claim to be both Christians and Communists, then you may want to acquire this paper-back book of 180 pages published by Friendship Press. The author ministered in China from 1915 to 1951 as a missionary of the Methodist Church. He evidently has had access to far more sources of information on the current situation in China than most of us would think possible. The book is replete with names and statements of Chinese church leaders.

The so-called Three Self Reform Movement has been much publicized. Some have labeled it as apostate and completely communistic. However, some of the leaders make a pretty good statement of their personal faith while at the same time mimicking the communist line about the Western churches being the tool of imperialism. The author points out that the Three Self Movement has already, in effect, become the Protestant Church of China. The church has not yet been abolished. Perhaps the Communist party, ment, which shows that conservatives as which would desire that, will eventually exert pressure to bring it about. Dr. Jones seems to think that the present

the church by working enthusiastically for the communist cause. Economic pressure has forced nearly all pastors out of full-time Christian work. For example, there were 200 churches in Shanghai —

Since 1959 there has been what the author calls the period of radical change. Part of this change is a unification of all churches pushed by the Three Self Reform Movement. It does not take the same form in every city but Taiyuan, capital of Shansi Province, is typical. We read (p. 155):

"This large city had churches of the following denominations: Church of Christ in China, Brethren, Assemblies of God, China Inland Mission, Seventh-day Adventist, Salvation Army, and the indigenous Little Flock. In addition there was a Taiyuan Y.M.C.A. Here are articles of union, as agreed upon by all these organizations:

There shall be unified worship for the city of Taiyuan, and a ministerial staff of three or four. All fellow workers besides these, and those assigned to the Three Self office, shall throw themselves into the socialist construction of our mother country. Those who are older or physically weak shall retire. All real and movable church property and all church funds shall be turned over to the Three Self Com-

We cannot take space for the page and a half of details of church organization affecting all the churches. One of the five items under "Ritual, regulations, and church order" reads in part:

All books used in the interpretation of the Bible shall be examined and judged, and those containing poisonous thoughts shall be rejected. Only teachings favoring union and socialism shall be used.

Another heading outlines the necessary reform of each church. The requirement for Seventh-day Adventists (agreed to by them, as noted above) reads as follows:

The Seventh-day Adventists shall abolish their daily morning prayers. On the Sabbath they shall participate in beneficial good works and in economic production. Their tithe system for the support of the clergy shall be abolished, and also their unification of accounts for Shansi Province.

The author makes the following comwell as liberals seem to agree to the new order of things:

"It will be seen from the above that church leaders are sincerely trying to save even those sects that in Western ex-

perience have shown themselves most unco-operative with the main body of Protestant Christianity are an integral part of this unification plan. Not only the Seventh-day Adventists referred to above, but also the Southern Baptists, various Pentecostal sects, and ultraconservative bodies that in the West refuse to take part in any ecumenical movements have apparently all shelved, at least for the time being, their distinctive tenets in order to merge themselves in this unification movement."

There is nothing in the book that refers specifically to the large Seventh Day Baptist Church in Shanghai. However if 187 churches out of 200 have been closed it would seem almost miraculous for this building to remain open or the congregation to be free to attend church in the light of what has happened in the large city of Taiyuan.

Dr. Jones remarks in the closing paragraph of his book, "Thus in casting up a balance of the unfavorable and the favorable factors at work in the Chinese church, it is evident that though the situation may give ground for deep concern, it is not hopeless, and the Chinese church must not be written off as either nonexistent or apostate. No one can know what the next ten years will see."

Recorder Renewals

The subscription department of the Sabbath Recorder takes a personal interest in most subscribers and is as liberal as regulations will permit. Those delinquent in payments do have to be cut off eventually. Recently two names were dropped for failure to pay. The next week a two-year renewal came from one and a three-year from the other. Just before Father's Day a lady from Milton sent in money saying that she knew of no better Father's Day gift. Thoughtfulness in sending in new subscriptions or renewals brings blessings to all concerned.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for July 7, 1962 Headed for Disaster? Scripture Lesson: Jeremiah 25: 1-11.

Bible Reading Cases Appealed to U. S. Court

By W. Barry Garrett,

Washington editor of Baptist Press

Two conflicting state Supreme Court rulings on Bible reading and prayer in public schools have been appealed to the United States Supreme Court.

A Pennsylvania federal court has ruled such practice unconstitutional. Maryland's state Court of Appeals said that until the U. S. Supreme Court clarifies the issue the policy does not violate separation of church and state.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, through its Attorney General, has asked the U.S. high court to review the decision of the federal district court in Philadelphia. This court held that the law requiring the reading of 10 verses from the Bible, without comment, in public school classrooms is an "establishment of religion" and therefore is unconstitutional.

Attorneys for Mrs. Madalyn E. Murray of Baltimore, Md., have asked the Supreme Court to review a decision of Maryland's state Court of Appeals that upheld a similar practice in Baltimore's public schools. In those schools the Lord's Prayer is recited and a portion of the Bible is read.

The Supreme Court has already heard arguments on the so-called Regents' Prayer of New Hyde Park, N. Y. This case challenges the constitutionality of a "nonsectarian" prayer in public schools approved by the New York Board of Regents.

The Pennsylvania case was brought by Unitarians, Edward and Sidney Schempp, of Germantown, Pa. They are parents of three children attending the township schools. They charge that the Bible reading requirement violates the first amendment to the Constitution.

The Abingdon Township school district of Montgomery County (suburban Philadelphia) and the State of Pennsylvania are appealing the decision that prohibits the daily reading of the Bible in the public schools.

The Maryland case arose from the objection of Mrs. Madalyn Murray, who

claims to be an atheist, and whose son attends the Baltimore city schools. Since the state Court of Appeals ruled against her position, she has appealed to the

United States Supreme Court.

The petition from Pennsylvania said, "It is of paramount importance to the parents and teachers of this nation to have the Supreme Court determine whether the Constitution requires that none of the students shall be allowed to listen to the Bible being read without comment simply because one family, whose children need not attend the reading, do not want others to listen."

The appeal from Maryland said that the provision for objectors to be excused did not solve the problem. Attorneys for Mrs. Murray said that "religious discrimination in the classroom involved in dismissing or excusing one or several children from the class during such a reading would be wholly as severe in its social and psychological effects as the racial discrimination which was before the court in the segregation cases."

Conference Registration

Special to ministers serving churches, missionaries on furlough, and their families.

Mission Farms management having become firm on this year's policy of rate reduction for you, we can report the following:

If you select the \$15.00 (dormitory) class of accommodation, your special rate will be \$9.60 for each person in your family.

If you select the \$20.00 (lodge) class, your special rate will be \$12.30 for each person in your family.

As in the general registration, the rate quoted includes room and board for the week, registration fee and insurance.

Children young enough so that they do not require separate plate or cafeteria service are free from all excepting the fifty cents insurance charge.

A "Mother in Israel" **Approaches 90th Birthday**

Mrs. Elizabeth Fisher Davis, member of the Marlboro church and resident of Shiloh, N. J., is due to celebrate her 90th birthday quietly in her home on June



30. To honor a humble old lady who never has made much noise in the world is not at all out of place. No verbal or floral honors can adequately express the love and esteem which she has earned in her long and useful life.

One hesitates to apply to Mrs. Davis the sentimental title "Mother in Israel" only because her influence for good so far exceeds what is recorded in Judges 5 of Deborah, the judge who brought that title down through history. To be sure, Elizabeth Fisher Davis never delivered a nation by military or political exploits; her work has been in the spiritual realm. She does, however, have one thing in common with Deborah of old; she is a composer and singer of lasting songs. Best known as the author of the words and music of "We Young Folks Are Seventh Day Baptists," her poems are many and her musical compositions inspiring for the age level intended. Many of them are published and others, in the providence of God, may yet find their way

into the Sabbath book for children which is the dream of Mrs. Davis to bless the oncoming generations. She would like to live to see this dream of a really attractive book for teaching the Sabbath become a reality, although she recognizes that it will have to be done largely by other hands than hers.

To list the many things that have been accomplished through a long life of useful efforts, fervent prayer, and tenacious faith is beyond the scope of this little article which is only a caption for the picture taken of Mrs. Davis beside her beloved church at Eastern Association, May 26. She has fought and won many spiritual battles that put the exploits of that original "Mother in Israel" in the shadows. In years gone by the farm home was a haven and almost a heaven for a number of young people who received inspiration and life motivation there. At least three and perhaps several more ministers owe much to that home for their conversion or their decision to enter the ministry. Pastors of the Shiloh and Marlboro churches have counted the periods of private or public prayer in her home as being one of the most strengthening forces in their ministry. Not a leader at General Conference, for she has not attended many gatherings in this generation, she has held the problems of the denomination on her heart and has perhaps frequently spoken through the tongues of others for the highest aims of our people.

The writer of Hebrews told great stories of faith in few words and then in Hebrews 11: 32 asks, "What shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and of Barak . . ." There are indeed some faithful souls whose purpose in history is to provide examples of faith and to point to Christ. Such is the case with this "Mother in Israel" of whom we hear no evil — only good as she approaches her 90th birthday. —L. M. M.

A Sabbatarian?

Robinson Crusoe had leisurely weekends (yet all was neat and tidy) because at least the story goes — his work was done by Friday.

MISSIONS — Sec. Everett T. Harris

Southwest Field News

Missionary Pastor Leroy Bass has written regarding the services of the Paint Rock Seventh Day Baptist Church, "Plans for our summer evangelism are going forward. I think our first Sunday night meeting will be on July 15, running every Sunday night until September 16."

Pastor Bass tells of their hope to secure "a qualified music director to come to Paint Rock for two weeks, preferably early in July, but any time one can be available." He adds, "This is what we have in mind (for the music director). Instead of conducting a Vacation Bible School this year, we would conduct a Vacation Music School, in which a choir for our church could be built up, trained to sing together, which in turn would serve as an evangelistic choir for our Sunday night meetings, as well as our church services."

From Paul Osborn, pastor of the Little Rock Seventh Day Baptist Church, comes word that the Rev. Lester G. Osborn is holding special evangelistic meetings from Thursday evening, June 28 through Sunday evening, July 1. Sermon themes are announced for Little Rock as follows: "Three Kinds of Christians"; "Pig-Iron or Steel"; "Practicing the Rests"; "Ought Christians to Keep the Sabbath?"; and "Your Face in the Crowd."

The Rev. Lester Osborn is joint delegate of Eastern, Central, and Western Associations to Southwestern Association meeting June 21-24 with the Metairie Seventh Day Baptist Church. Elder James Mitchell, former pastor of the Edinburg Seventh Day Baptist Church, who is presently residing at Little Rock, will supply the Little Rock church pulpit during the absence of Pastor Paul Osborn who will be attending Association Youth Camp (June 16) and Association at Metairie (June 23). The Little Rock church has voted to assist Pastor Osborn to attend Conference in August.

Shepherding Pastor Marion Van Horn tells of a visit to the Houston Seventh Day Baptist Fellowship in April with good attendance and interest being

shown. The publishing of a special Seventh Day Baptist Calendar has been sponsored by the Ladies Aid of the Texarkana church. Also, an Associational publication "The Seventh Day Baptist Advance" for May 1962, tells of plans to make monthly contacts with Seventh Day Baptists of the South. A slide set of interesting views on the Southwest field is being prepared for loan to the churches through the Missionary Board office. Elder James Mitchell came from Little Rock to fill the pulpit at Texarkana on the Sabbath that Pastor Van Horn was at Houston. A dinner was held at the church on this occasion "so friends invited might have a better chance to visit with the guest speaker."

One of the young men of the Metairie church, Ned DeLand, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey DeLand is to be the exchange camper from the Southwestern Association to the Eastern Association camp. Another son, James is assisting the Palatka, Florida, Seventh Day Baptist Church for two weeks in July.

Members of the Hammond Seventh Day Baptist Church were among those who attended the meetings of Southwestern Association held with the Metairie church. Their pastor, Brother F. Kirtland, brought the message on Friday morning of Association.

Recent Word From British Guiana

Most recent word from Pastor Leland Davis reads: "With hope and faith we moved into our new home at 19 Gordon St., Kitty (East Coast, Demerara, British Guiana) on Tuesday, May 29. On Sabbath June 2, we held our first program. 1. We have both Sabbath School and church in the morning, giving folks opportunity to return home for lunch and before the heat of the day. 2. The young people are leading the "opening worship" of Sabbath School. 3. We have added a young people's Sabbath School class which I am teaching. (Mrs. Peters teaches the adults and Mrs. Davis the children.)

"Our present aim is to strengthen our two Sabbath services here in Kitty. When we have sufficient funds we want to build pews, a pulpit, and an altar table. In the meantime we shall meet upstairs in our front room." Plans for cottage prayer meetings, youth meetings during the week, and other appointments are in the formative stage.

Pastor Davis remarks that they are having heavy rains now, more mosquitoes, and considerably more heat.

Missionary Davis closes his letter with these words: "We are surely glad to get moved into more permanent living and worship quarters, and have every reason to be most grateful to our kind heavenly Father and His people in the States who have made it possible through Our World Mission. I will try to take a few pictures soon so that you can see for yourself how spacious and lovely it looks. The people here are quite proud and happy too!"

Protestant World Mission News

Is Mexico a Catholic Country?

If the figures now available are correct the Catholics of Mexico now have only a bare majority of members, priests, churches, and seminaries. Rev. Dr. Howard W. Yoder, an executive secretary of the NCC Division of Foreign Missions, comments on the 298 per cent increase of Protestants in the past 12 years. The figures are quoted by a Catholic priest, Pedro Rivera, S. J. He was astonished to find that from 1949 to 1961 Protestants had increased from 265,000 to 1,065,161. The rate of increase for all Latin America was 82 per cent, and only Brazil had a faster growth of Protestantism than Mexico.

In a breakdown comparing Protestant and Roman Catholic statistics, Father Rivera listed 5,000 Protestant ministers, 3,000 churches and 58 seminaries. The Catholics have 6,290 priests, 2,046 parishes, 13,384 other churches, and 40 seminaries, he reported.

When the Communists celebrated their conquest of China, their parades were led by individuals carrying replicas of printing presses at the top of long poles. Underneath the picture of the presses was the inscription: "WITH THIS WE CONQUER."

AN OPEN LETTER About Sunday Blue Laws

By Clayton L. Faubion, Stanberry, Mo.*
To the Honorable Earl Warren
Chief Justice of the
United States Supreme Court

Dear Mr. Warren:

For several months the matter of Sunday blue laws has been upon my mind, causing me great concern and fear that the principles upon which our great nation was founded, for which thousands of brave Americans gave their lives, will be trampled underfoot.

When this matter came to my attention several months ago I looked up the United States Constitution. Since I am not a lawyer. I consulted a work which is conceded to be authoritative and in every way reliable — the 1960 edition of Encyclopedia Britannica. There I found that the United States Congress is specifically prohibited from imposing any laws upon the people which establish a religion or religious practice. I also found that the fourteenth amendment prohibits the states of the union from imposing upon the individual rights of the citizen, and that this amendment has been generally held to include the first amendment, dealing with establishment of religion, making it also binding upon the

I respectfully submit that this matter does lie within the field of religious practice and that your opinion that "Sunday laws evolved from religious principles to secular realities," does not in any way divorce the matter from the field of religion. It is reported that three of the justices opposed that opinion because they too, felt that religion is the basis for Sunday closing laws. If it were not so, then why should Sunday be the day selected? The observance of Sunday as a day of rest, as a matter of religious practice, dates from the edict issued by Constantine in A.D. 321, and never, in all the history of mankind, has there

*This open letter which originally appeared in the Bible Advance and was sent to the Sabbath Recorder by the author has had to be shortened because of space limitations. been any pretense that there was any other basis for business closure on that day.

I am fully aware that certain business interests have been pressing for Sunday closing laws, basing their action upon the position that firms which remain open for business are taking an unfair advantage over those who close. Alleging unfair competition, they wish to impose laws to control competition.

Sunday closing laws which are imposed as a means of equalizing business competition are a farce; but worse than that, they deny the citizen his right to buy or to sell under the protection of the law. The farcical aspect of such laws develops in the fact that the only reason any person or group restricts his business activity on Sunday is from respect to a religious principle. Let's put it simply in one concise statement — "I'm going to close my business on Sunday so that I can go to church, or go fishing, or do whatever I want to do, so John Doe must close his business, too, or he is guilty of unfair business practice." Now, Mr. Warren, when we look at it right out in the open with all duplicity cast aside, it doesn't look so American, does

Now let us take a look at the group which you have acknowledged to be the object of discriminatory elements of the Sunday closing laws. You have been quoted as having stated that these laws do not make "unlawful any religious practices of the appellants, but simply (make) the practice of their religious beliefs more expensive." You are also quoted, "The laws' effect does not inconvenience all members of the Orthodox Jewish faith, but only those who believe it is necessary to work on Sunday." Permit me to include with those of Jewish faith, the thousands of Sabbatarian Christians who own and operate businesses throughout the land.

It is generally recognized, especially in our small towns and smaller cities, that Saturday is the biggest day of the week for retail business. Yet, these people conscientiously close their stores on Saturday in obedience to the principles

of their faith. Do they complain that the competition has an unfair advantage in being open on Saturday? Do they send lobbyists to the State Legislatures to promote Saturday closing laws? Of course not. All that they ask is their constitutional privilege to vend their wares wherever and whenever it is convenient to do so.

I am a Sabbatarian, operating a business in a small town. I live in the State of Missouri, where a blue law that is over one hundred and thirty years old is now being enforced. Personally I have not been hurt, for my business is seldom open on Sunday. I find it a very convenient time to get away from the store for activity that I cannot do during the business week, and which I will not do for religious reasons on Saturday. Therefore, my objection as herein stated does not arise out of personal injury or financial loss. This is a matter of principle. However, as a citizen of the United States I submit that my right to transact business on any day is upheld by the Constitution, and that it cannot be restricted by any state so long as my transactions are not fraudulent and do not involve contraband or property which I do not legally own.

I scoff at the businessman who cries, "Unfair competition," against those who are open for business on Sunday. He is one of the most reprehensible and revolting specimens of humanity to be found in this nation. Is he afraid someone else is going to gain a dollar that he will miss? It so, let him keep his store open on Sunday, too. If he's so worried about competition, let him improve the quality of his merchandise and service and give the customers some incentive to patronize his store. He reminds me of the mean wrestler who pulls hair, gouges eyes, bites, and uses every other foul means to overcome his opponent; but just as soon as the other man gains an advantage, he cries out to the referee that he is being victimized by unfair tactics.

Why is it considered in the public interest for retail business to be closed on Sunday? Or more specifically, why is it in the public interest that the sale

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of shoes and hats, potatoes and meat, or hardware and appliances be restricted, while the sale of gasoline, soft drinks, popcorn, theatre tickets, and tickets to sporting events is permitted? The only possible answer to this question is simply that with people not using Sunday as a business day they are free to follow recreational pursuits. But this answer defeats itself because they are also free to go shopping for merchandise that they do not have time to shop for during the workweek. Is it not in the public interest, then, to give them this privilege? Again I submit, Sir, that this is their constitutional privilege.

Under the blue laws which have been enacted it is not against the law to buy on Sunday — only to sell. Is this consistent with American principles? How does it compare with our narcotics laws? It it not also a crime to possess illegal narcotics and is not the purchaser violating the law just the same as the seller?

Now let us consider a group that has not been given a thought throughout all of this blue law controversy — or at least if it has been mentioned it was not with any serious concern. Yet, this is probably the largest single group in the United States that we could classify in a category relative to the question. That is the group which has no religious scruple against operating a business on Sunday.

Actual church membership in this nation has been above the fifty per cent mark for only a few years. It now stands at an estimated sixty-five per cent. On the basis of these figures we must consider some thirty per cent of our population has no religious regard for Sunday. Of the remaining sixty-five per cent that claim religious affiliation, a large number (not Sabbatarian) feel that they violate no principle in doing business on Sunday. Yet, the blue laws force these people to subscribe to a religious practice that they do not acknowledge through faith. It it not their constitutional right to deny all religion and to abstain from all practices which are founded on re-

(Continued on page 13)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION — Sec. Rex E. Zwiebel

Sabbath School At General Conference

For the first time (at least in recent history) a Sabbath School is being planned for General Conference. It will precede the worship on Sabbath morning. A special lesson has been prepared for that date by the editor of the Helping Hand, the Rev. Don A. Sanford. It will be included in the lessons of the Helping Hand for the third quarter so those at home will be studying the same lesson. The lesson will also be available separate from the quarterly for use at that time.

It is expected that the nursery will run as usual, and that the Primary, Junior, and Junior High Conferences will continue through the Sabbath School period.

As plans are now, the rest of the Conference will be divided into age groups for study as follows: a class for each year of age 15 through 20; a class for those 21 through 30; one for those age 31 through 35; one for those 36-40; one for those 41-45; one for those 46-55; and another for those 56 and up.

Several teachers have been secured, and the rest will soon be contacted.

With full co-operation Sabbath School at Conference may well be the high point of the week.

Camp Dates

Dates that have been set for Camp Holston are July 8-15 for Senior Camp; July 15-22 for Junior Camp; and July 23-25 for Primary Camp.

Camping dates for various age groups at North Central Association's Camp Wakonda are as follows:

July 9-16—High School

July 16-23-6th, 7th, 8th graders

July 23-28—Day Camp for younger children

The July 4th weekend is designated for "family camping."

Pre-Con Retreat

Publicity for the Pre-Con-Retreats has been sent to all our churches. Pre-registration is desired for all who plan to attend.

Field Work

The executive secretary of the Board of Christian Education was in attendance at the annual meetings of the Central New York Association of Seventh Day Baptists at DeRuyter, N. Y., June 1-3.

A presentation was made concerning "Teaching Toward Commitment" on Sabbath afternoon for the entire body. An address was delivered to the youth later on in the day. On Sunday afternoon a discussion was led in regard to the work of the secretary and the Board of Christian Education.

He also attended a call meeting of the joint committee of the Central New York and the Western Associations to select a site for General Conference in 1965.

Essay Contest

(We are happy to pass the following notice along especially to our youth.)

The Women's Board of the Seventh Day Baptist denomination is sponsoring an essay contest similar to that of 1960. The winners will be awarded either a scholarship to a Christian Writers' Conference or tuition for a college course in Christian Journalism.

As a denomination we need trained lay workers to write for our publications. Why not begin now to write an essay of about five hundred words on some religious subject? It could be finished by the end of the holidays or earlier.

For further details write the chairman of the Mary Maxson Christian Journalism Committee, Miss Minnie Godfrey, Walworth, Wisconsin.

Names in the News

The Alfred Sun, reporting events connected with the university commencement, announces that B. Colwell Davis of Plainfield and New York has been elected chairman of the Board of Trustees to replace retiring William C. Cannon who has held the position for 34 years. Mr. Davis is the son and namesake of the fourth president of Alfred University.

Professor H. O. Burdick, upon his retirement, was honored with the degree of Doctor of Science during the Commencement Convocation.

DECLARE YOUR FREEDOM

By William J. Krutza

Every July 4th Americans are proud to declare their freedom. On that day in 1776 a number of great Americans signed the Declaration of Independence. They were free men. They were no longer obligated to pay taxes to a foreign ruler. They could choose their own government.

We enjoy the benefits of their struggles. We are free because they fought the battles. We celebrate because they gave their lives for the cause of freedom. In celebrating this holiday every year we should recall that many died so we may declare our freedom.

You may also make a spiritual declaration of freedom. All men are under the bondage of sin; they are slaves to it. But there is good news. Someone has fought the battle for us. Someone has died for our freedom from sin. We do not have to refight the battle ourselves, just as we do not have to refight the British to keep our land free. This spiritual battle against sin was fought over 1900 years ago. Jesus Christ fought it, and won. We can now enjoy the blessings of freedom from sin because of His victory. "Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures" (1 Cor. 15: 3).

We are privileged to enjoy the freedoms of the United States without making a decision to do so; they come to us because we were born here. To the foreigner, our freedoms can only come by personal choice; they must choose this country, give up their former land, and become citizens of our wonderful country by special legal actions.

However, we cannot enjoy the freedom from sin merely because we are born in a Christian country, or because our parents are good church members. We are foreigners to the Kingdom of God; we can only become citizens by turning our backs upon our former affiliation in the world, and by making a personal choice to follow Christ. We must choose to take the freedom that Christ offers us. If we do not make this choice, we will remain under the tyranny of sin. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16: 31).

As we accept the gift of political freedom from our forefathers, so we accept the gift of eternal life from God through Jesus Christ. "By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" (Eph. 2: 8).

This day, whether it is July 4th or any other day, you can declare to the world that you have been spiritually set free for time and eternity. You can make this declaration by trusting in Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. You can claim the freedom from sin which He offers to all men who will believe. Go to your friends and family with this good news.

If you now accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior you can make today your great declaration day. You can sign your declaration of freedom from sin by becoming a Christian.

Additional copies of this article in tract form (red, white, and blue) are available from American Tract Society, 513 West 166th Street, New York 32, N. Y.

Youth News

New Christian Endeavor World

With the August 1962 issue, a new, enlarged Christian Endeavor World will be published.

According to the editor, Phyllis I. Rike, plans include more pages, more issues, more helps, and more eye appeal. All of these improvements are in addition to many currently popular features which will be continued — news of the movement world-wide, pictures of people and events, adult topic summaries, messages from the General Secretary, spiritual guidance articles for teen-agers, etc.

Two pages will be used for each week's topic comments for both the Junior High age and also for Senior High-Young People's societies. This will double the space for program materials. Beginning in August, The Christian Endeavor World will be published monthly, an increase of two issues a year.

Beginning August 1 the subscription rate will be \$3 a year in the United States and Canada; five copies to one address, \$12 a year.

An Open Letter

(Continued from page 10)

ligious principle, if they so desire? "Everything except doing business on Sunday," says the blue law advocate, "they must accede to that one issue."

If a certain writer were writing today he would have to say, "Consistency, thou art a jewel, but thou art lost in the morass of greed and bigotry wherein men make mockery of law and distort principles of justice."

I realize that there is some ecclesiastical pressure for Sunday blue laws, but this side of the issue cannot call for a great deal of concern. In the first place, as soon as it becomes an ecclesiastical issue it is immediately stripped of its false front and can no longer pose as a secular matter. Thus it comes under condemnation of our Constitution without argument. But more than this, any clergyman who is worthy of his cloth knows that it is a useless thing to legislate religious principles. These things must become a part of the faith and conviction of the individual through teaching.

I maintain that no merchant has been seriously harmed because he closed his business on Sunday while a competitor remained open. . . . a considerable amount of business that is transacted on Sunday would never be transacted otherwise. But some businessmen just cannot bear seeing a customer go into a competitor's store.

So it is my observation that the unfair business practice is not perpetrated by those who would do business on Sunday, but by those who would manipulate the laws and influence the courts to restrict that which would otherwise be the legal transaction of business on Sunday.

I would not close this letter without upholding the convictions of the thousands of Sabbatarian Christians, my brothers in faith. We acknowledge that we are a minority group and in many matters we quietly step aside and ask no special favors. However, we feel that in matters of discrimination against us, matters which place a penalty upon us because of our faith, we have recourse to protection under the Constitution of the land. At least it has been so until

now, but it appears that we may be forced to bear this discrimination along with our friends of the Jewish faith.

But what can we say of this group upon which the penalty of discrimination has been placed? As a group you will find them to be among the finest citizens in this great country. Within this group you will find a smaller percentage of law violators than in almost any other group you can name. Many have given their all in the service of the country. One of the outstanding heroes of World War II, awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, was a member of a Sabbatarian group. And the present Congress has a Sabbatarian as a member. I do not offer these facts in a boastful attitude, but humbly. I just want to make it clear that these people have done nothing to deserve such discrimination, but rather should merit the respect of people of all faiths.

This issue has not been resolved, and it never will be, for there will always be the greedy and the bigoted who will press for special advantages. But it is my sincere hope, Sir, that you have now a new insight into this issue, and that when it again is brought before you that you will write your next opinion in favor of the constitutional rights of all men, with penalties and discriminations against none.

Respectfully yours, Clayton L. Faubion.

"Why Some Baptists Keep the Seventh Day"

By James McGeachy

The substance of an address by Pastor McGeachy which was delivered at the John James commemoration service last July 1 was published in the Sabbath Recorder of November 20, 1961, and in the Sabbath Observer (London) of December. The Mill Yard Church has now printed it in pamphlet form, a few copies of which are available at our Plainfield office. If quantities are desired they should be ordered from the author, 17 Higham Road, Tottenham, London N. 17, with sufficient money to cover costs.

Bible Land News

Israel's Newest Town Being Built in Dead Sea Shores

Arad, the next town to be built in Israel's desert areas, gets its first permanent residents at the end of June, Mr. Levi Argov, deputy director of the Arad Region, told the press recently. The 60 veteran Israeli families will be followed two weeks later by 160 immigrant families "straight from the boat." The families will move into asbestos housing units while they are engaged in the construction of the first apartment buildings, three and four stories high.

The town is to be the center of the new Arad settlement region, a 125,000acre area in the Eastern Negev between Beersheba, and Sodom and Ein Gedi on the shores of the Dead Sea. Arad is planned for an eventual population of 40,000, Mr. Argov said, with the possibility of future expansion. Industries planned at the present stage would provide 2,000 to 2,500 jobs. The Dead Sea Works at Sodom, which are undergoing rapid expansion, would require another 1,000 workers this year, and at least half of these could live at Arad.

Listing the industrial projects on which Arad would be based, Mr. Argov mentioned, in addition to the Dead Sea Works, the newly-discovered phosphate and white cement deposits nearby; the gas fields in the region; petro-chemical industries; a porcelain factory; a jersey factory operating for export; a marble quarry; the Arad-Dan Hotel, planned by the Federman investment group; and a rest home for the employers of the Labor Federation's contracting company, Solel Boneh.

Mr. Argov said that if sufficient water were found (and test drillings had been encouraging), 75,000 acres in the area could be used for agriculture.

A road to Sodom on the Dead Sea, through some of the most difficult terrain in Israel, is now in its final stages. The road drops from Arad, which is 2,010 feet above sea level, to the Dead Sea, the lowest point in the world, 1,286 feet below, in a distance of only 16 miles. The officials of the Jewish National Fund,

which is carrying out the road-building job, described the laying of the last two miles of this road, through gaunt ravines and moonscape terrain, as "the toughest rock-shifting job ever carried out in Israel." When the roads around and into Arad are completed, there will be a Class A highway from Eilat on the Red Sea to Haifa on the Mediterranean via Sodom, Arad, and Beersheba.

— The Israel Digest May 25, 1962.

Strong Stuff

Senator Wayne Morse (D., Ore.) campaigning in Congress to ban liquor parties in the Capitol, said he was aware that his proposal was "strong stuff" but that he didn't think it was fair to "bottle up" the resolution in a committee. One might add that we need more senators who are not weak-kneed or muddle-headed a condition that follows liquor parties.

National Lottery Done for — We Hope

A national lottery is as "dead as a dodo bird," according to Congressman Alfred E. Santangelo (D., N. Y.).

No hearings are scheduled on the bill, he said, because the sponsors of lottery legislation have not requested them.

"For years now the people have been bamboozled into the belief that billions could be raised and income taxes could be reduced," the Congressman said.

"The white light of truth and factual information shrink the exaggerated claims and expose the hypocrisy, fakery, and quackery of claims to reduce taxes through national lottery bills hitherto presented," he continued.

Santangelo has been engaged in a running battle against the views of Rep. Paul A. Fino (R., N. Y.). Fino has introduced legislation for a national lottery which he claims will raise \$10 billion a year to reduce income taxes and help pay off the national debt.

Santangelo says that such claims are "fantastic" and "exaggerated." He claims that the sponsors of national lottery have not given the nation full information.

Eleven reasons were given for opposing a national lottery. These include: money

bet, distraction from vocation, mental and spiritual depression of losing money whose loss could not be afforded, lessening application of things earned and increasing appetite for things won, gradual weakening of the better's character.

Santangelo pointed out that all 50 states have laws making lottery illegal. He asked, "Shall we in Congress foist or impose upon the residents of Massachusetts or Ohio or California a lottery which they may think is immoral?"

Put the Emphasis on People

An Asian Christian has told the U. S. Conference for the World Council of Churches that Christianity will remain irrelevant as long as it talks about abstractions. The Rev. Dr. D. T. Niles of Jaffna, Ceylon, general secretary of the East Asia Christian Conference, said, "We must get down to human beings . . . As evangelists we do not meet Hinduism. We meet Hindus. We meet Hinduism only in a library. You evangelize people." Dr. Niles attacked the current practice among Christians of using negative terms in characterizing adherents of other religions as "unbelievers." What we should stress, he said, is that God made man, God loves man, and Jesus died for man. "We cannot find the Christian truth imbedded in Hinduism, but we do find Jesus Christ imbedded in people," the evangelist asserted.

— W. W. Reid.

Notice of Tract Board Meeting

The regular quaterly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the American Sabbath Tract Society will be held in the Board Room of the Seventh Day Baptist Building, Plainfield, N. J., at 2 p.m., Sunday, July 8.

In addition to considering reports from officers, employees, and possible recommendations from eleven standing committees there will be reports from a Four of our young people Ruth Ellis, special Executive Committee and the Mrs. Eunice Maxson Barber, Jean Conference Program Committee. The annual report to the Society and statement to Conference will also be presented for appropriate action.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

HEBRON, PA. — The First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Hebron has called as its new pastor the Rev. Thomas R. McIntosh of Roulette, Pa. He assumed his duties on May 12.

Mr. McIntosh has served as pastor of the Riverside Methodist Church of Roulette and the Fishing Creek Methodist Church since September of 1961 and will continue to serve those two churches in addition to the Hebron church. He will continue to reside in the Methodist parsonage at Roulette. He is a 1961 graduate of Lycoming College and is currently attending seminary at the Alfred University School of Theology. He is married to the former Sandra Ann Morris of Saratoga Lake, N. Y. He has served former pastorates near Wellsboro and Jersey Shore, Pa.

BERLIN, N. Y. — The SDBYF is a small group in our church, but nevertheless an active one. In the last few months they have sold greeting cards and notepaper. in addition to making wreaths to sell at Christmastime. They conducted the monthly meeting following Fellowship Supper April 14, and held a successful penny auction.

Not all of it has been work, though. On February 11 a snow party was held at Arlie Greene's in Center Berlin. After enjoying an afternoon of skating, sliding, and tobogganing, refreshments were served. Another party was enjoyed in Lathams, N. Y., sponsored by the SDB YF leaders, Lyle and Betty Sutton, with refreshments at their home following bowling.

The work is pressing forward, slowly but surely, on our Sabbath School rooms. The next order of business is sheetrock and light fixtures — and contributions to continue the work. The young people have worked very hard, and are truly deserving of a building in which to work and pray.

Cushman, and Hillar Ilves, have recently been graduated from college. We are proud of their records, honors, and achievements, which set a fine example

to the other youth of our church and denomination. Jean Cushman and Hillar Ilves plan to do graduate work next year. They all have our congratulations and prayers. The future of our denomination sen, stewardship secretary, contains the depends upon young people like these, who are so conscientious and dedicated.

On May 5, following Fellowship Supper, it was voted unanimously to adopt the new constitution. Several members of our church had worked long and hard in drawing this up last year. After having made a study of this through our lay development program, they advised the church to vote on it. We all feel that they have done a splendid job and know that it will be a great help to the church in the years to come.

A work bee was held on May 28 at the cemetery to clean up the brush and cut the grass, getting it ready for Memorial

We were privileged to have the Rev. Charles Bond hold evangelistic services at Berlin, May 11-13. Friday evening, May 11, his text, taken from Deut. 4: 1-10, was: "Start with God"; Sabbath morning, May 12: "She Vowed a Vow" (1 Sam. 1: 9-18, 24-28; Matt. 12: 1-13); Sabbath evening: "Taste and See," taken from Acts 4: 1-20. The service series culminated on Sunday evening, May 13, with "Locked Out," using Matt. 25: 1-13 as text, with many people rededicating their lives to Christ.

— Correspondent.

News of Inter-Varsity

What touches college youth touches parents and influences the future. Some of the efforts and achievements of Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship make highly interesting reading. Last year's rioting of students on the beaches of Fort Lauderdale during Easter vacation prompted IVCF leaders to consider that city a mission field during the time that so many thousands of college students flocked to its beach hotels. Consequently nine staff members and 35 Christian students from 12 schools were present this year to do personal work among the pleasure seekers. The headquarters was a beach umbrella with a sign, "Inter-Varsity Open Forum." Although only a few professed faith in Christ during the week more than 1,000 were confronted with the

Gospel in a seed sowing that may later bear fruit. The city and the ministers have invited IVCF to come again.

A news release from William Peterfollowing paragraph:

From a director of a large African Missionary society we received the following information: "At the Missionary Convention we came in contact with more than 150 candidates for our field. At least ten of them will be in the field before the year is over." The more than \$30,000 that Inter-Varsity spends yearly in recruiting missionaries for overseas service seems well spent.

The headquarters of IVCF is at 1519 North Astor, Chicago 10.

Recorder Comment

LITTLE ROCK, ARK. — Please consider this renewal as a vote of confidence in the editorial policy of the Recorder. I don't always agree with it, but I find the Recorder very rewarding.

Accessions-

Plainfield, N. J.

By Baptism: Joanne Poulin Virginia North Guy Duryea Arthur Paquette, Jr.

Marriages

Weber--Langer.—At the Seventh Day Baptist Church, Alfred, N. Y., on Monday afternoon, June 11, 1962, John Walter Weber, Alfred, N. Y., son of the late Carl A. and Aileen Tobey Weber, and Gladysanne Langer, Alfred, N. Y., daughter of Henry C. and Gladys Brown Langer, Jr., were united in marriage, Rev. Hurley S. Warren, the bride's pastor, officiating.

Obituaries

Sampson.—Annie. daughter of the late William and Rachel Bowens was born Jan. 20, 1885, at Annapolis, Md., and died at the Washington, D. C., Hospital Center May

Mrs. Sampson was a charter member of the People's Seventh Day Baptist Church, joining in 1903 under the ministry of the Rev. Lewis C. Sheafe. She had served as a church trustee and a Sabbath School teacher. She is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Harold B. Weaver, four nieces, and a nephew.

Farewell services were conducted from the church by the pastor, Rev. Isaac A. Patterson and interment was in the Lincoln Cemetery.

The Sabbath Becorder

GOD OF OUR FATHERS

God of our fathers, known of old, Lord of our far-flung battle-line, Beneath whose awful Hand we hold Dominion over palm and pine -Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet, Lest we forget — lest we forget!

The tumult and the shouting dies; The captains and the kings depart: Still stands Thine ancient sacrifice, An humble and a contrite heart. Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet, Lest we forget — lest we forget! Far-called, our navies melt away; On dune and headland sinks the fire: Lo, all our pomp of yesterday Is one with Nineveh and Tyre! Judge of the Nations, spare us yet, Lest we forget — lest we forget!

If, drunk with sight of power, we loose Wild tongues that have not Thee in awe. Such boastings as the Gentiles use, Or lesser breeds without the Law — Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet, Lest we forget — lest we forget!

For heathen heart that puts her trust In reeking tube and iron shard, All valiant dust that builds on dust, And guarding, calls not Thee to guard, For frantic boast and foolish word — Thy Mercy on Thy People, Lord!

- Rudyard Kipling.