

## Accessions

Denver, Colo.

By letter:  
Berta Lea (Mrs. Robert, Jr.) Duncan.

Salem, W. Va.

By letter:  
Carol Whichello  
Brian Rogers  
Carol (Mrs. Brian) Rogers  
Michael Hildebrand  
S. Thomas Bond

## Births

Ott.—A son, Troy Levi, to Albert and Ruth (Robinette) Ott of Salemville, Pa., on May 3, 1965.

Rogers.—A daughter, Jenni Suzanne, was born to Keith M. and Donna Rogers at Denver, Colo., May 22, 1965.

White.—A daughter, Catherine Jean, was born to Robert D. and Donna White May 17, 1965, in Denver, Colo.

## Obituaries

Batson.—Martha Wade, daughter of Andrew and Sallie Bee Wade, was born Aug. 2, 1879, in Ritchie County, W. Va., and died March 29, 1965, in Fishersville, Va.

She was married to Charles H. Batson, who died August 16, 1955. Surviving are: three sons, Eldred H. of Parkersburg, W. Va.; Claren H. of Fishersville, Va.; and O. Seager of Charleston, W. Va.; one brother, Espie Wade of Harpster, O.; four sisters, Mrs. Maude Kisner and Mrs. Bertha Rogers, of Parkersburg, W. Va.; Mrs. Carl Beckner of Smithville, W. Va.; and Mrs. Edith Hall of Weston, W. Va.; 7 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a son, Gerald, in 1935, and by two infant sons, one brother and one sister.

Mrs. Batson was an active member of the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church, of the Salem College Auxiliary and the Salem WCTU. Memorial services were conducted by her pastor, the Rev. Clifford W. P. Hansen from the Salem church, and interment was in the Pine Grove Cemetery at Berea, W. Va.

— C. W. P. H.

Bivins.—Nellie Millard, daughter of Herman and Carrie Millard, was born Oct. 30, 1892, at Shiloh, N. J., and died May 18, 1965.

Her childhood was spent in New Market, N. J. On Feb. 24, 1915, she was united in marriage to Joseph Bivins, a schoolteacher and farmer. They made their home in the vicinity of Bridgeton, N. J., and were active members of the Marlboro Seventh Day Baptist Church. Her husband passed away Aug. 31, 1959. Mrs. Bivins was widely known and loved for her

deep Christian faith, her work in church and community service and her attention to the needs of the sick.

She is survived by a son, Dr. James A. Bivins, Carrollton, Georgia; four daughters: Eunice (Mrs. Norman) Rife, Woodville, Ohio; Betty (Mrs. Edwin) Dillon, Painted Post, N. Y.; Virginia (Mrs. Fred) Ayars, Landsdale, Pa.; Barbara (Mrs. Ray) Froding, Philadelphia, Pa.; and sixteen grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted May 21, 1965, at Garrison's Funeral Home, Bridgeton, N. J., by Pastor J. Paul Green, with burial at the Marlboro church cemetery. — J. P. G.

Brissey.—A. G. Thurman, son of the late George W. and Parmelia Van Horn Brissey, was born Jan. 19, 1889, in Ritchie County, W. Va., and died March 26, 1965, following a long illness, in Weston, W. Va.

Mr. Brissey was married Sept. 5, 1917, to Goldie Davis, who survives. Also surviving are: two sons, Howell Eugene, Springfield, Va., and Richard Davis, Charlotte, N. C.; two brothers, John, Long Beach, Calif., and Grover S., Laurel, Md.; one sister, Mrs. Elsie Mae Robinson, Middlebourne; and 6 grandchildren. One son, Edwin Neil, was declared missing in action in World War II. Mr. Brissey was also preceded in death by one granddaughter, two sisters and six brothers.

Mr. Brissey was a member of the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church in which he served as a deacon for more than forty years. He began his long career as a schoolteacher in Ritchie County, W. Va., while still in his teens. He taught in the Salem Jr. High and High School for 35 years. He was a veteran of World War I, and was an active member of the American Legion, the Masonic Lodge, and the Kiwanis Club.

Memorial services were held in Salem on March 29, with the Rev. Clifford W. P. Hansen, the Rev. Leslie Welch, and the Rev. Francis Saunders officiating. Interment was in the K. of P. Memorial Park, Salem, W. Va.,

— C. W. P. H.

Wicker.—Ivan L., was born in Norton, Kan., Feb. 23, 1883, and died in Holton March 16, 1965, after a brief illness.

Mr. Wicker was a retired school custodian. He had been baptized and become a member of the Nortonville church only a year before his death.

He is survived by his wife, Lottie; two daughters, Mrs. Allison D. Hill, Springfield, Ill., Mrs. Don E. Nicholson, Godfrey, Ill., three sons, Lauren E. of Holyoke, Colo., Ivan D. of Seattle, Wash., and Keith V. of Independence, Mo. Also surviving are a sister, Miss Maude Wicker, Norton, and a brother, Fay, of Scott City.

The funeral was held in Holton at the Mercer Funeral Home and burial was in the Holton Cemetery. — L. C. B.

# The Sabbath Recorder



## They Wrought for the Sanctuary

The Denver congregation has not yet been able to build their permanent church edifice; they started, like Israel of old with a "tabernacle." But to beautify their temporary sanctuary the people gave materials and dedicated their time and talents to produce the results partially pictured here and described in this issue. There is a close parallel with Exodus 35 and 36 where the people provided all that was needed and more. "Then wrought Bezaleel and Aholiab, and every wise-hearted man, in whom the Lord put wisdom and understanding to know how to work all manner of work for the service of the sanctuary, according to all that the Lord had commanded" (Ex. 36: 1). When church members contribute their best for the sanctuary it is a constant reminder to them and to others to worship the Lord "in the beauty of holiness" and to devote their best also to the service of the Lord on the highways and byways of everyday business.

# The Sabbath Recorder

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## "Nor Silver Nor Gold"

Peter had to say to the lame man at the temple's gate, "Silver and gold have I none. Many a Christian has found himself in a similar situation without the ability to add, as Peter did, "But such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk" (Acts 3: 6).

Who would have thought that a great nation of the twentieth century, like ours, would have to admit to the world, "Silver and gold have I none"? Our so-called Christian nation also, in spite of all its efforts, must admit that it has not done a very good job of saying to the weak and beggarly nations, "Rise up and walk." We have somehow failed to convince them that our efforts were really in the name of Jesus Christ. Probably our motives as a nation (a reflection of the motives of the majority of our electorate) could stand a little purifying, Christianizing. Take the thought as much to yourself as you feel is needed, but let us look at this silver and gold question as good citizens.

Our country's gold reserves are said to be dangerously low. This is largely due to our national expenditures abroad, particularly our military expenditures. In normal foreign trade we expect a favorable balance, but when we send so much military and economic aid abroad there is little return for it. Another large outflow of gold or its equivalent results from a great increase of travel. The number of foreigners spending their money in the U. S. is but a trickle in comparison with what Americans spend abroad. Many countries count American tourism as their biggest business. It strengthens their economy but depletes our gold supply. Thus we become victims of our own prosperity. Our government does not feel it can curtail its foreign spending so it appeals to its citizens to "see America first" and cut down on private spending abroad. As good citizens we try to pay attention to this appeal. Some of us are glad to see curbs placed on the amount of liquor that can be brought into the country duty-free, although for different reasons than those advanced by our liquor interests.

It seems almost paradoxical that the shortage of gold is now matched by the shortage of silver. Again it is quite largely our affluence that has caused it.

We are victims of our prosperity. In our mechanized age there is a tremendous drain on our coinage system to keep the vending machines working to supply all the foods, drinks, and confections that we can afford but often do not need. Then, too, we are a camera-crazy people. The U. S. photographic industry is the largest industrial user of silver in the entire world. In 1964 the manufacture of film and photographic papers took 37 million ounces of silver — more than was minted in the entire U.S. during the year. Furthermore, there is no known substitute for silver in this industry. It now takes about 35% of all the silver in the U.S.A.

Art Taber, chairman of the National Association of Photographic Manufacturers, states that unless a more practical approach is taken to eliminating silver from coins, the government will use 300 million ounces in minting coins in 1965. This is greater than the entire amount of silver production of the whole world, which was 215 million ounces in 1964. The difficulty is that silver is largely a by product of other mining operations and production is limited by the world demand for the base metals, copper, lead, and zinc. The price of silver cannot be allowed to go up to stimulate production because the value of the silver in a silver dollar is already very close to a dollar. In the light of these facts there is considerable talk in government circles of reducing or eliminating completely the silver content of our coins.

All this may not have too much relation to the behavior of the average Christian in a country church. However, it may have something to do with our peace of mind. It may shake our confidence in the government or in human nature. It may drive us from the temporal to the eternal source of equanimity. If we are aware of what is to come we may be better prepared for it when it comes. Difficult days of adjustment in many areas of life may be in store for us. There may be economic as well as spiritual tribulation involved in the predictions of Christ. In any event the Christian has the assurance of these words: "In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world" (John 16: 33).

JUNE 21, 1965

## Church Bells Ringing

Seventh Day Baptist church bells are "liberty bells" just as surely as is the historic bell that hangs in Independence Hall at Philadelphia, for our bells have rung for religious liberty in this land for nearly 300 years. In June 1963, Congress passed a resolution calling attention to the ringing of the Liberty Bell at 2 p.m. July 4, 1776, to proclaim the Declaration of Independence, and asking that bells be rung throughout America at the same time each year on July 4th. Shall we ring our bells at that hour in thanksgiving for our dearly bought liberty and as a sign of our dedication to the principle of liberty under law for all people as taught in the Bible?

## Basic Structure Stands Firm

In an interview prior to the Dallas Convention (where he was elected to a second year) Rev. Wayne Dehoney, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, answered quite a battery of well-placed questions. One of them had to do with the younger generation and possible theological or other changes of policy that might be foreseen by him after 125,000 miles of travel during the year. He admitted that the new generation must cut its own path and then added:

"I believe our ecclesiology will remain the same because this is an essential part of our tradition. The convention will continue to be a loose-knit confederation of independent autonomous churches.... I believe the younger generation is more conscious of the social issues confronting the gospel and the denomination will be more acutely aware of the church's responsibility in these areas. Theologically, I see no change in our basic structure. A younger generation is always more acutely aware of the current theological "fads" and is more readily given to their sampling, discussion, and debate. For this reason, we will always have some measure of theological tension as historical faith is tested by new and passing ideas. But tension keeps a muscle strong! And theology is the muscle of our faith. It is significant to me that in Kansas City Southern Baptists adopted essentially the





the Battle Creek area from June 23-July 3. On July 4 and 5 this team will journey to Adams Center, N. Y., to assist in day camp and visitation from July 6-10.

Another training session will be held at Verona, N. Y., from July 6-13. The volunteers for this are Ruth Ellis, Betty Enos, Nancy Brannon, and Dorothy J. Lewis. Team B expects to join them for further training from July 11-13. The trainees will constitute team C which is expected to begin work in the Syracuse area July 14, continuing until August 9. They will do visitation, conduct Vacation Bible School and story hours in two locations where there is need, Moyer's Corners and Salt City Homes.

All teams will travel to Camp Harley Sutton August 9 for a Retreat and evaluation day together with the Summer Dedicated Workers on August 10, breaking up the following day for the Pre-Con Retreats.

#### Sermons from Science Pavilion at the New York World's Fair

With a program designed especially to reach the unchurched, and religiously disinterested visitor to the Fair, the pavilion opened its second year with every expectation of reaching over 850,000 persons. In 1964 over 550,000 attended, but an accelerated schedule of performances and additional eye-catching billboards outside are expected to almost double attendance. This exciting prospect is continuing to challenge Christians across the country who see in this project an unparalleled opportunity for witness to the world.

Geared to the scientific theme of the Fair, and featuring the internationally acclaimed films and demonstrations of Moody Institute of Science, the pavilion has had an exceptionally fruitful ministry in presenting the gospel in the context of the carnival atmosphere of the Fair. One remarkable feature of the project is the fact that the entire cost of the building and the program is being financed solely by individual donations from interested Christians. No organization or institution is backing the program. Because of the personal interest this generates, thousands of Christians are supporting the pavilion's

ministry not only by their gifts, but also by their prayers. Joining with them are the almost 1,000 volunteer workers who have been trained to serve as counselors and hosts and hostesses. Thus this undertaking to the Sermons from Science Pavilion dramatically demonstrates the wonderful fellowship of Christians sharing together in confronting the world at the Fair with the good news of the gospel.

#### Theology Needed by NCC, Says General Secretary

At the June meeting of the General Board, the governing, policy-making body of the National Council of Churches which meets three times a year, a theological note was struck by its general secretary, a note that has not been sounded frequently in such gatherings.

Dr. R. H. Edwin Espy (American Baptist) who has served about a year as general secretary, told the General Board that while the NCC cannot form a theology of its own, it cannot provide sound and effective service to its member churches without "some common theological assumptions."

Dr. Espy urged the official representatives of the Council's 30-member communions to match the vigor of their work for social change with increased efforts to discover common theological bases which make their mission unique, thus providing a theoretical framework for common action.

Social and cultural forces have penetrated deeply into the life and thought of the church, he said. The church must now seek to assess these forces in the context of what is "eternally and universally true in the gospel and in the church's total heritage."

Failure to perform such an assessment rigorously could produce a "culture-bound" theology by default, he warned.

"The more the church is in the world, the more it needs to know what it is there for," Dr. Espy said. "And if the churches are to be in the world together, they may need to proclaim their theological rationale together."

#### New Sanctuary Furnishings Made and Dedicated at Denver

By Albert N. Rogers

A new communion table, pulpit, and furnishings were recently built and dedicated at the Denver Seventh Day Baptist Church under the direction of Mrs. Gordon Thorngate, worship department chairman, and the church planning committee. (See cut on cover).

Designed by Irwin Randolph and Dick Shepard, the items of furniture are natural finished birch in a contemporary style in keeping with the hall currently being used for services until the church sanctuary can be built. The table has gilded metal supports and will be covered with seasonal colored hangings. The cross hung above the table and the platform rail were also designed by Mr. Randolph some years ago. The pulpit is fashioned from birch panels and replaces an older one of more classic lines.

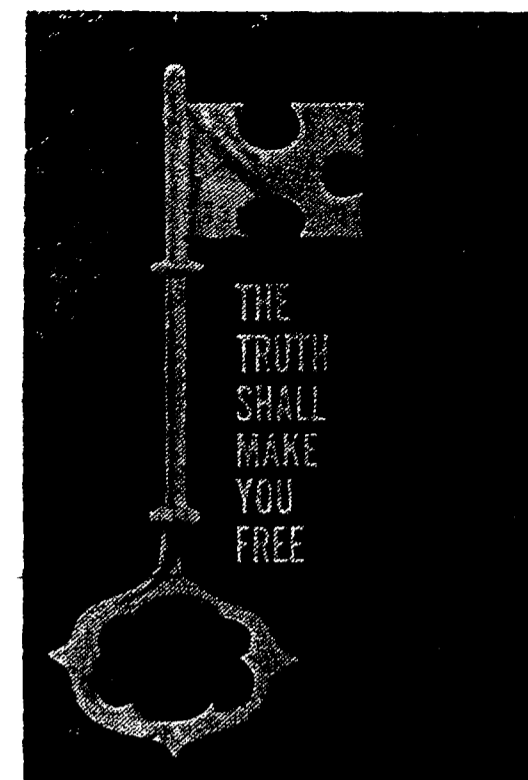
Kenneth Crosby, Dr. E. Keith Davis, Gordon Thorngate, and Rev. Albert N. Rogers, pastor of the church, built the table and pulpit which were finished by Daryl White. Mr. Thorngate also executed a pair of turned brass candlesticks in a complementing design.

A dorsal curtain in rich red falling from ceiling to floor was dedicated with the communion table in memory of the late Maude D. Davis, charter member of the Denver church. A pair of brass offering plates were also dedicated in memory of Wells L. and Jessie A. Crosby.

Pew ends for the choir seats and a pulpit bench were also built to harmonize the overall effect. Several women of the church worked with Mrs. Thorngate in making the seasonal hangings for the pulpit and communion table. Photographs of the articles for publicity and souvenir purposes were taken by Richard L. Steele.

#### SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON for July 3, 1965

The Foundation of Christian Growth  
Lesson Scripture: 1 Cor. 3:3b-11;  
2 Cor. 5:14-17



New York  
Bible  
Society  
Embarks  
on Bold  
New  
Venture

"A bold new venture" is what the New York Bible Society calls its program of printing attractive Bible booklets and distributing them to New York's teeming millions.

Illustrated here in black and white is the cover of the Gospel of John, a golden key on a background of black and green. It has no other title than the familiar words of John 8:32, "The truth shall make you free." How much more fitting to use the words for the whole Gospel than to chisel them in stone at the entrance of a college where the message of salvation is not taught.

The New York Bible Society has already designed and printed seven booklets with covers comparable to this one. One element of boldness in the venture is that the field of operation of this organization (founded in 1809) is just one city—the greatest city, to be sure, but only one. In this, of course it differs from the American Bible Society, located in New York but serving almost the whole world with Bibles and portions in exciting new formats, translations, and new versions.

The Society is ready to use the booklets in its city-wide program of people-to-people distribution. Its own personnel, assisted by volunteers from interested churches, will go from door to door giving them out free of charge. Also, attractive counter-top displays, which hold a variety of the booklets, will be placed in shops and stores throughout the metropolitan area. In beauty parlors and barber



shops, at shoe shine stands, in diners, and wherever people spend a few moments or more, these displays of Bible booklets will invite people to take one and read it. Thus a well-planned major effort is being made to convey the message of the Book of Books to New York's millions.

The booklets of the New York Society are not for sale but sample copies will be furnished upon request to those interested in this ministry. The address is 5 East 48th Street.

**MISSIONS — Sec. Everett T. Harris**

### **Pearsons Return from Malawi**

The Rev. and Mrs. David C. Pearson returned to this country from Makapwa Mission Station on Thursday, June 17, 1965, as they concluded a second term of missionary service in Malawi, Africa. They arrived at Kennedy International Airport (New York) by Alitalia Airline from Rome, having traveled from Blantyre, Malawi, to Rome by British Airline.

The Pearsons are accompanied by their two daughters Deborah and Joanna. It will be recalled that they were accompanied by only Deborah when they departed for their second five-year term of service on September 20, 1960.

Their immediate plans include visits to their parents (Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Butler, Sr., of Woodville, Ala., and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Pearson of Amsterdam, N. Y.). It is expected that they will attend the 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Butler, Sr., to be held late in June.

A special meeting of the Missionary Board was held on the night after Sabbath, June 19, to review with our missionaries the progress of Seventh Day Baptist missionary work in Malawi, and also to consider plans for the future. Mr. Pearson has been requested to serve another term of service in Malawi following a year of furlough, this time to serve as Director of Christian Education. The African pastors have requested that one should be sent who would be "a teacher of pastors."

It is expected that the Pearsons will attend Conference at Alfred, N. Y., in

August. They have consented to speak on Sabbath afternoon of Conference, at which time missionary interests will be presented.

### **An Outboard Motor for British Guiana**

It was quite dark as Missionary Leland Davis and Secretary Everett Harris approached the river landing at the Bona Ventura church on Thursday afternoon, April 13, after traveling 14 miles along the Pomeroy River in a long boat which had been rented for the occasion.

We had left Georgetown that afternoon by aquaplane on a regularly scheduled flight to Charity, about forty miles by air but almost twice as far by land and water travel.

The journey continued from Charity to Bona Ventura as the visitors were met by Deacon Archibald Tobin's two sons. The river was beautiful and calm as we cut the water, propelled by a 5 h.p. outboard motor, at the rear of the long boat. (The boat was shaped somewhat like a canoe, about twenty feet long and three feet wide.)

Beautiful sunset colors lit up the sky and were reflected in the water. Large trees extended their branches out over the river. As we traveled under one such tree we saw a large baboon making off through the branches. Brightly colored birds were flitting through the trees.

Parrots flew in pairs across the river, silhouetted against the evening sky. "Do they always go in pairs?" I asked Deacon Tobin's son who was guiding our craft. "Yes" he answered. "Are they male and female?" He nodded. "Do they stay together for life?" His white teeth shone as he smiled. "Better than people," he replied. And so I watched the parrots flying two by two. And I silently wished them happiness and no parting.

There followed that evening an inspiring opportunity to speak to a large group of Seventh Day Baptists and their friends assembled on the first floor of the home of Mrs. Ewilde English on the Akawini Creek. After this, Pastor Davis and the secretary had a night of rest at the home

of Deacon A. Tobin and a morning of counseling with leaders of the Bona Ventura church.

We started back to Charity at midday in the same rented boat. This time the sun shone down on us in all its strength. This time the wind was blowing up waves and besides that, there was much traffic on the river. The spray blew over us and occasionally a little water would lap over the edge of the boat as waves from passing boats came to us. It was not comfortable and it did not seem safe. The secretary found himself wishing for the twelve-foot, flat-bottomed scow that he uses on Quonocontaug Pond along with Pastors Cruzan and Wheeler for occasional recreation.

We made it safely back to Charity (needless to say, or the secretary wouldn't be writing this) and went on our way rejoicing (after paying for the use of the boat).

The moral of this story is this: let us furnish our missionary with a safer, speedier boat. Plans are going forward to do this. The brethren at Bona Ventura have agreed to build a flat-bottomed launch and we hope to supply the funds for a 15 h.p. Johnson outboard motor. Approximately \$200 is already at hand, received from the Women's Board Project Committee and by direct giving.

Pastor Davis wrote concerning this matter, "For our purpose the dealer advised that we purchase a 15 h.p. 'Work-Horse' outboard motor. Fishermen use the 15 h.p. here, he said, and felt we should since we would need the extra power considering our load and distance from Charity to Bona Ventura. In this case if we were to consider the 15 h.p. motor it would be \$372 (U.S. currency)."

"There is greater danger in putting on the garments of Christianity without a true conversion from within than there is in appearing in public as we really are. This is as true for a nation as it is for an individual."

—Edwin H. Tuller,  
Exec. Sec., Amer. Bapt.

## **ECUMENICAL NEWS**

### **Catholic-Protestant Working Group**

The Joint Working Group, recently set up by the World Council of Churches and the Roman Catholic Church, held its first meeting May 22-24 at the Ecumenical Institute in Bossey, near Geneva.

Purpose of the group is to examine the present relationships between the World Council of Churches and the Roman Catholic Church, and to explore the possibilities for greater mutual understanding and co-operation. The main task of the first meeting was to clarify this mandate and to determine the methods of work. The group has no authority in itself, but will report to the bodies to which it is responsible.

The first meeting provided an opportunity for exchanging mutual information which will prove considerably useful in the progress of ecumenical relations. In addition, it laid the basis for the work to be done in future meetings.

### **Reverse the Spiral Toward Futility**

An executive of the National Council of Churches warns that unless "the ingredient of high spiritual idealism" is present in the nation's anti-poverty program it will become one of the "biggest grab-bags and pork barrels ever." The Rev. Dr. Samuel D. Proctor, NCC associate general secretary of communication, told an interfaith meeting of religious leaders that with the injection of this ingredient, the war on poverty can reverse the "spiral toward futility" and send it spinning to fulfillment. — W. W. Reid.

### **Applied Bible Study**

"...it is all too easy to defend ourselves against the hard thrusts of the Spirit's Sword by using the cushion of a false spirituality; we keep the Word of God firmly at a distance from our everyday world. And our study of it becomes a mere mental exercise, no more constructive than an athlete's weight-lifting. This is nothing short of spiritual tragedy."

—A. Morgan Derham in *A Christian's Guide to Bible Study* (Fleming H. Revell Company).

# Involvement of the Convert in the Life of the Church

By Rev. Francis Saunders

(continued from last week)

## Bible Study and Prayer

This brings us to one of the most important areas for our consideration as we attempt to enlist the convert in the program of the church. That is the area of Bible study and prayer. The convert having just experienced a change in his life or at least a change in his thinking, is generally searching for more light. It has been my experience that these are the ones most anxious to study and learn. Small Bible study groups with an emphasis on seeking God's will for one's life, accompanied by a fellowship of prayer, are often stepping stones to the enlistment of new members in other areas of church life. These actually become training cells in which problems in the new experience find their solution in the power of the Word and in the presence of the Spirit.

The changed and changing life of the convert gets the right kind of direction through the medium of Bible study, and he begins to realize what the apostle meant when he wrote, "All scripture . . . is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (2 Tim. 3: 16). The entrance of the Word giveth light, and the convert grows and matures and comes to a place in his life where Christian responsibility is sought out, and he is able to assume positions of greater magnitude in the life of the church. He needs training in the Word prior to becoming a teacher of the Word. Here again a word of caution should be sounded, that the new convert should not be thrown into teaching responsibilities until he has been to school. In most cases the individual convert will be glad for what training he can get, and will be willing to spend time in preparation before launching out into the deep. Let us not minimize the importance of our leadership training efforts.

While it is true that we should avoid the possibility of the physical organization taking the prior place in our church program, and while we may have been rather outspoken about the undue emphasis which we are prone to put upon committees, boards, and work assignments, yet we must not underestimate their importance in our efforts to involve the convert. There are many tasks within the church which must be done, and all too often these tasks fall into the hands of a few willing members. The convert should have an opportunity of knowing what kind of work organization the church is, and the church should make a real effort to become acquainted with the talents and aptitudes of the new member, so that in the process of time he may be used where his talents are best suited, and where he will be able to render maximum service.

But care should be taken not to over-assign. I'm sure that we have all had the experience of seeing new members, willing to work, yet driven away from the church because they in their infancy were overloaded, and made to feel that they were being "put upon" by some in the church who seemed to avoid responsibility. Consequently they became disillusioned about the "co-operative fellowship" with which they had believed they were uniting. It might be well for us to set up a program of "church work instruction" for the convert in order that he might see how the program functions, determine where his particular interests lie, and then have a part, himself, in the determination of his involvement.

There are imminent dangers involved in too soon placing responsibility on the shoulders of our new members. There is the danger of misjudging the individual's ability and adversely affecting the ministry of the church through poor assignment.

There is the danger of failure on the part of the convert to accomplish a given task. This will tend to dampen his enthusiasm, hinder the effectiveness of the church's witness, and destroy the Christian love which is basic to the fellowship of the church. There is the danger of injured feelings on the part of some member of longer standing who may have had a desire to fill that particular position. Yes, it is well for us, while we are anxious to put our new convert to work, to move prayerfully and carefully, and be sure that he grows up in the work of the church, even as he must grow up in his Christian experience.

One suggestion we have used, not only in helping the convert to find his place in the active service of the church, but also effective in evaluating past assignments, is that of a questionnaire on which every member can mark: (1) areas in which he has served in the past, (2) areas in which he has particular interest, and (3) areas where he would prefer not to serve. A space was also made for suggestions for the improvement of the work of the church. This proved to be of particular value as a check list for the nominating committee, year by year, made it possible for a gradual increase of the convert's responsibility, and a consequent increase in the effectiveness of the ministry of the church as a whole. We found that almost every member of the church appreciated the opportunity to express himself in regard to offices, committee assignments, teaching opportunities, etc. Let us not be haphazard in our assignment of converts to the work of the church.

Finally, may we say just a word about the convert and his participation in attendance at church appointments. The church covenant comes into the picture again: "We promise to meet together on the Sabbath days and other times as the Lord shall give us opportunity." Have we been tempted to measure involvement to a great extent by attendance at worship service? We have our attendance emphasis campaigns, and we expand our chests in pride when new goals are reached, and we have a certain satisfaction in the individual or family whose at-

tendance record is outstanding, even though, as in some cases, he feels that in this way his obligation to the church is fulfilled. His "I attend church regularly" may be pharisaical hypocrisy; but it is also hypocrisy for one to enter into a covenant and make no effort to fulfill attendance responsibilities. Faithfulness in attendance in our churches varies from the family who travels 120 miles each way, almost every Sabbath, in order to worship in our church, to the one who lives within shouting distance of the church and hardly ever attends. Both have entered into the same covenant relationship, and have vowed the same vows. Involvement is at least to some extent measured by such faithfulness, and in our effort to involve the convert, we should emphasize the importance of church attendance as a means of growing in the knowledge and grace of the Lord. It is important! Attendance at the business and committee appointments of the church is likewise a partial measurement of involvement, and I for one must confess that, in the churches I have served, the record is poor. Somehow we need to encourage greater participation in the somewhat dull and uninteresting business considerations of the church. Let us seek for ways for accomplishing this, and channeling the convert's interest to include the practical as well as the spiritual.

Note—Some have already expressed the desire to have this significant article for their files. Extra copies of the four issues in which it has run as a serial are available at 10 cents per copy.

## Effective Communication

"It takes greater dedication to be in the world than to recede from the human race and criticize from the outside . . . The world is in a mess, and we have the antidote: the ageless Christ; the heart-beat of history. God is the answer. We must communicate this answer."

These words by Rev. John Haggai, noted evangelist, set the tone for his message on the practical applications of the grace of God at the 23rd annual convention of the National Association of Evangelicals.





## BURMA SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CONFERENCE

By L. Sawi Thanga

The Burma Seventh Day Baptist Conference is a young organization. Since its inception at Tahan in 1960, it moved from one place to another for the Sabbath worship service, as it has had no church of its own till 1964. But gradually the Lushai people and many other clans living at this place are taking an increasing interest in the activities and the Sabbath worship service conducted by this mission.

Burma is divided into five main divisions, namely, Central Burma, Shan State, Karen State, Kachin State and the Chin Special Division. Tahan, our headquarters, is situated between the Chin Hills and Sagaing Division, northern region of Burma. Various nationals with different costumes and customs are living in this area. They are popularly known as Lushai, Chin, Kachin and Nagas, etc. All of these tribes were converted to the Christian faith by various foreign missionaries for the many past decades.

After three years of existence, Mr. Lian Ngura and Khawvelthanga, the then president, and the pastor respectively, formed the nucleus of the mission, contacting some outstanding and qualified persons for the implementation of the gospel of Christ. In April 1964 the Executive Committee was formed with three officers and ten committee members. Since then, the mission is growing rapidly in number through Christian influence. Meanwhile, encouragement was received from Secretary Harley D. Bond and Rev. Leon M. Maltby of Plainfield, New Jersey, to organize a stable mission center in Burma under the banner of the Seventh Day Baptist.

In August 1964 the mission secured one church building at Tahan representing

about 200 Sabbathkeepers. The building is a good one donated by Mr. Rokunga, the philanthropic member of our denomination. In October of the same year one more center was established at Tuivar representing about 100 members. Gradually the indigenous people of various clans living at these places were inspired and made to realize that Saturday, the seventh day of the week, is the only true Sabbath that was observed by Jesus Christ and His disciples during their earthly ministry.

As members are increasing rapidly, the mission finds that ordained ministers are essentially necessary to perform all the religious rites for marriage and the sacrament, etc. The Executive Committee then decided that, to serve this purpose, Pastor Khawvelthanga, aged 57, be ordained into the Seventh Day Baptist ministry. Advice and encouragement were received from Secretary Harley D. Bond who took great care about the ordination, and also gave a new name for our denomination, Burma Seventh Day Baptist Conference. The Burma Baptist Convention was requested to assist at the ordination, but as the response was not encouraging, Rev. Dr. G. P. Charles of St. Gabriel's Church, Rangoon, was approached to do the needful. Dr. Charles, being a good gentleman, was ready to help us in every way possible. We hope that the ordination service will be arranged as soon as convenient.

Our conference is penniless, with two unpaid pastors—one of whom is to be ordained presently. Converts are being made by pastors, as well as the church elders and individual members, by emphasizing the gospel of Christ. No account is kept, as there are no funds for the conference. All the expenses, big and small, were met individually. But financial assistance for the maintenance of our needy conference would enhance our work and the activities can be extended as far as practicable.

We are also translating books and tracts of our denomination into one of the major languages of Burma, namely Lushai; and books could also be translated later into other dialects, if possible. For which purpose a Publishing Board was formed

sometime back with seven members. The members are translating books and tracts, which will be completed before the end of this year. By publication of these tracts it is hoped that the Hill people will be encouraged in the doctrine of Seventh Day Baptists and enlightened upon the Sabbath truth.

### EFMA Purchasing Division

The Purchasing Division of the Evangelical Foreign Mission Association recently announced that the purchase for full-time Christian workers during the last fiscal year amounted to almost \$1,100,000. This is the first year the volume of business has passed the million-dollar mark. Dr. Clyde W. Taylor, general director of the National Association of Evangelicals, congratulated the staff at a Victory dinner meeting held in New York recently. He said, "This high volume of business is important, but more significant is the fact that over 3,500 individuals and organizations during the last year realized the value of a centralized purchasing service as a practical means to use the Lord's money in a wise and businesslike manner, an outstanding example of using modern methods to practice Biblical stewardship."

Mr. G. Allan Small, director of the Purchasing Division, stated, "This is still just a beginning. Our arrangements now for purchasing and delivering automobiles in every large city will help our service grow because we can effect important savings on one of the most substantial investments made by Christian workers everywhere."

As a step of faith, 50,000 catalogs have been ordered and will soon be available upon request for all who are in full-time Christian work either at home or abroad and for the organizations they serve. There are hundreds of articles listed with full instructions how this important service may be utilized. Write direct to EFMA, 120 Liberty Street, New York, N. Y. 10006.

NOTE: Purchases have been made through EFMA for all Seventh Day Baptist mission fields and for many pastors at very substantial savings.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION — Sec. Rex S. Zwiebel

### Young Adult Pre-Con Retreat

Information and pre-registration blanks related to Young Adult Pre-Con Retreat have been mailed to all of our churches and fellowships. The same information and blank will be mailed to anyone who requests it. Get it from your home church or write the Board of Christian Education, Box 115, Alfred Station, N. Y. 14803.

Here is the data: **Young Adult Pre-Con Retreat** will be held at Camp Harley Sutton, Alfred Station, N. Y., beginning with registration at 4 p.m., August 11, and ending with the noon meal, August 15.

The theme is "A Call to Faith." The age limits are 18 to 35 years. The fee is \$13.

Bring sheets, blankets, pillow (if desired), camp clothing, Bible, notebook.

Sleeping accommodations include the upstairs of the lodge, a new dormitory, and a cabin. If Retreaters want to bring a tent or a house trailer, there is room. We hope to have showers and indoor toilets by Retreat time.

The staff is made up of Charles H. Bond, director; Victor W. Skaggs, lecturer on "Beliefs"; Leroy C. Bass, lecturer on "The Antichrists of Our Day"; Elmo F. Randolph, campfire leader and lecturer on the Holy Land; Paul L. Maxson, in charge of worship and recreation; Mrs. Verne Vorhees and Mrs. Leta DeGross, cooks; and Robert Stohr and Rex Zwiebel, business managers. A music director and counselors will be added.

Recreational facilities at Camp Harley Sutton include a horseshoe court, a softball diamond, a volleyball court, a ping-pong table, a swimming pond, and plenty of room for hiking.

Those who participate in the Young Adult Pre-Con Retreat may be assured of an unforgettable Christian experience. Write and tell us you are coming as soon as you are reasonably sure that you can attend.

### Freedom of Speech

"Freedom of speech is a notable concept. If allowed to function properly and all people are permitted and encouraged

to say exactly what they think, it can serve us all well. If through deliberate or other means, it is not practiced, we will lose a most helpful tool in our continuing search for truth."

Edwin H. Tuller in the *Crusader*.

### CoWoCo

The latter part of May a letter went to all our churches through Secretary Harley D. Bond from the Board of Christian Education office regarding the proposed Federation of Seventh Day Baptist Conferences. A correction has come from the executive committee of CoWoCo regarding B under Roman numeral I. The item is entitled Ministerial Training Fund (\$250). It was listed as "Post Conference Training Session" but it should have been listed as "referring to a centralized denominational Ministerial Training Fund being established."

Seventh Day Baptists of the United States General Conference will consider becoming a member of the Federation of Seventh Day Baptist Conferences in their annual sessions to be held in Alfred, N. Y. August 16-21.

### ITEMS OF INTEREST

#### Stronger Stand on Civil Rights

The Southern Baptists in annual session at Dallas the first week of June adopted by a two-thirds majority a strongly worded report from the Christian Life Commission, expressing hope the Convention will pay a more active role in improving race relations.

The Christian Life Commission offers guidelines on social and moral issues. A move led by ministers from Alabama and Mississippi to delete the strongest section of the lengthy report on race relations lost decisively. Last year, messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention in Atlantic City adopted a soft substitute motion authored by Deep South ministers when the Christian Life Commission suggested Southern Baptists take a forthright stand on race.

Applause broke out when this portion of the report was read:

"Our most thoughtful New Testament scholars have unequivocally declared that the racial pride which spawns segregation and discrimination is an offense to the Gospel, does violence to the altar of God, and is rightly understood as a sin against God and humanity."

Referring to progress made through legislation on civil rights, the report said, "Laws can open doors, but only Christ can teach us to love those who walk through those doors. We bear in mind that what the New Testament says is far more demanding than what the Civil Rights Law says, and that the requirements of the church are far more stringent than the requirements of Congress."

#### Martin Luther King Encouraged

On March 25 at the conclusion of the Selma to Montgomery march, the president of the American Baptist Convention, the Rev. J. L. Harnish, sent the following telegram to Dr. Martin Luther King:

"The American Baptist Convention of which you are a minister is praying for your courage, health and strength. We are proud of your calm, dedicated and able leadership. All of America owes to you a debt of gratitude for your Christian spirit of non-violence, brilliant strategy and unique role of mediator and deliverer. Our achievement in space has limited meaning unless the 15th Amendment of U.S. Constitution is in fact an equal privilege for all."

#### National and Southern Baptists Work Together

In eleven states the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention now has state directors for National (Negro) Baptist work. The newest appointment, Julius H. Avery for Florida, a man with a doctor of theology degree, has previously taught in Negro schools. "A new and more hopeful day is dawning in our America for steadily improved relations between the races of men," he said in accepting the work. He will stress evangelism, stewardship, religious education, and mission work on a co-operative basis between National and Southern Baptists.

### Statement on Evangelism

By Robert Beach Cunningham\*

Evangelism has both a broad outlook and a sharp focus. In its broad phase it is deeply involved in total witness—in the church's presence, action and word within today's urban-secular culture. This means: ... that evangelism must take seriously the breadth of the gospel of God's reconciliation in Christ as related to the whole man and his total society; ... that the witnessing church's extension of ministry in God's world must be related realistically to the amazing variety and complexity of today's fast changing, mobile, pragmatic (only what works counts) and profane (this world first) culture: ... that evangelism must be engaged in a continuing search for creatively new and relevant forms of ministry both within the church and within the world. It also says: ... that it must find a new language of communication, a twentieth century koine (the common language of the people) one that will "contemporize" the biblical idiom and speak also through the idiom of modern speech; ... that evangelism must not only give itself to the "extensive" goal of mission to the masses—communication in all the world to every creature, but also to the "intensive" goal of mission to target groups within the mass, if it is to be heard; ... that in pursuing its broad world perspective evangelism must never become insensitive to the needs of people as persons.

In its narrow focus evangelism is concerned with the response of individual persons to the unmerited grace of God—to what God has done for all men in Jesus Christ. It is a call to repentance and faith; to a commitment to Christ and His Church that issues in obedience; to a sharing with Christ in His healing ministry in the world. It is always committed to the proclaiming of the gospel in a manner that evidences trust in the Holy Spirit and that leaves men free to respond

\* Robert Beach Cunningham (United Presbyterian) presented this as a morning devotional message at the meeting of the Board of Managers of the Commission on Evangelism NCC at Atlanta, Ga., May 5, 1965.

or reject the reconciliation God has provided in Christ.

Evangelism's witness through act and word is both the witness of the individual member of the church and the witness of the whole church, speaking and acting within the contemporary setting.

For the individual Christian this witness would mean: (1) Person-to-person dialog involving complete openness, honesty, and mutual acceptance; (2) full acceptance of the Christian disciplines; (3) joyful response to the love of God as manifested in uncompromising obedience and sacrifice; (4) the relating of Christian faith to daily work, facing always the challenge, "What difference should and does my faith make?"

As for the witness of the church as the church, this can be made: (1) by unequivocal policy statements, action-supported, relating to Christian emphases and contemporary issues; (2) by sharing in public demonstrations to highlight the struggle to "humanize" our culture; (3) by seeking through task forces committed to specific objectives to influence the power structures of our time; (4) by providing clergy and laity with accurate information on public leaders and issues; (5) by a continuing search for and experimentation with new ministries in areas where God is pressing His reconciling claims.

Evangelism is called of God to both a priestly ministry of reconciliation and a prophetic ministry for justice and truth. It is committed to the protection of the humanity in man in response to God's accepting love and to the affirmation of all in human history that marks God's presence and redemptive activity. Renewal comes to the church as it responds to this call in worship and action in the world.

"The hope of tomorrow is to start now and teach our people the Bible so that, out of this body of authentic truth, we shall practice the great biblical principles God revealed."

—William Walter Adams,  
Prof., New Orleans Baptist  
Theological Seminary.



**OUR WORLD MISSION**  
**OWM Budget Receipts for May 1965**

	Treasurer's		Boards'	Treasurer's		Boards'
	May	8 Mos.		May	8 Mos.	
Adams Center .....		\$ 298.75			2,117.78	
Albion .....	\$ 61.50	320.50	\$ 50.00		40.00	
Alfred, 1st .....	533.05	4,938.20		20.00	244.00	
Alfred, 2nd .....		1,258.25	10.00	1,283.64	5,694.04	159.00
Algiers .....				61.35	954.75	
Assoc. & Groups .....	295.73	295.73	1,390.96	39.14	199.78	
Battle Creek .....	419.50	4,103.91	80.00		680.86	36.15
Bay Area .....	113.50	316.50	20.67	235.00	1,405.00	75.00
Berlin .....	34.00	1,066.62	152.32	30.00	193.00	
Boulder .....		188.70			150.00	
Brookfield, 1st .....		158.00		483.35	3,874.41	72.20
Brookfield, 2nd .....		64.00		474.80	3,494.60	
Buckeye Fellow- ship .....		75.00				
Buffalo .....		465.00	25.00		820.00	3.00
Chicago .....		812.50	15.00		60.00	
Daytona Beach .....	190.00	1,212.00	165.03	360.59	2,244.46	34.83
Denver .....	129.27	1,044.55	25.00	10.00	90.00	
DeRuyter .....	76.00	374.00		38.80	332.65	50.00
Dodge Center .....	81.10	702.65		100.00	1,950.00	
Edinburg .....			75.00	41.13	168.80	106.00
Farina .....	37.50	302.40			80.05	
Fouke .....	10.00	122.50			4,309.14	5.00
Hammond .....		30.00			15.00	
Hebron, 1st .....		409.50	5.00		109.00	
Hopkinton, 1st .....	395.50	1,657.06	30.00	51.00	156.00	
Hopkinton, 2nd .....	13.00	88.50	400.00	330.00	1,186.36	217.00
Houston .....		127.99		325.00	517.50	25.00
Independence .....	39.00	634.00		40.00	127.00	
Individuals .....		295.00	43.00		30.00	155.00
Irvington .....		1,400.00	32.00		94.00	844.43
Jackson Center .....				138.51	532.53	32.30
Kansas City .....	111.50	328.07			90.00	
Little Genesee .....	148.55	908.77	20.00			
Little Rock .....		136.50				
Los Angeles .....	520.00	2,170.00	15.00			
Los Angeles, Christ's .....		25.00				
Lost Creek .....		800.00				
Marlboro .....	542.50	2,317.90				
Memorial Fund .....						
Metairie .....						
Middle Island .....						
Milton .....						
Milton Junction .....						
New Auburn .....						
North Loup .....						
Nortonville .....						
Old Stonefort .....						
Paint Rock .....						
Pawcatuck .....						
Plainfield .....						
Putnam County .....						
Richburg .....						
Ritchie .....						
Riverside .....						
Roanoke .....						
Rockville .....						
Salem .....						
Salemville .....						
Schenectady .....						
Shiloh .....						
Syracuse .....						
Texarkana .....						
Trustees of Gen. Conf. ....						
Verona .....						
Walworth .....						
Washington .....						
Washington, People's .....						
Waterford .....						
White Cloud .....						
Women's Society .....						
Yonah Mt. ....						
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$8,091.01</b>	<b>\$62,284.19</b>	<b>\$3,369.46</b>			
Non-budget .....	157.75					
<b>Total to disburse .....</b>	<b>\$8,248.76</b>					

# The Sabbath Recorder

## In Him A 'Oneness'



### MAY DISBURSEMENTS

Board of Christian Education .....	\$ 640.73
Historical Society .....	38.46
Memorial Fund (Min. Ret.) .....	561.65
Ministerial Education .....	524.24
Missionary Society .....	3,884.90
Tract Society .....	1,010.93
Trustees of Gen. Conf. ....	46.37
Women's Society .....	123.10
World Fellowship & Service .....	98.63
General Conference .....	1,254.00
Church World Service .....	50.75
Salem College .....	15.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$8,248.76</b>

### SUMMARY

1964-1965 OWM Budget .....	\$113,899.00
Receipts for 8 months:	
OWM Treasurer's .....	\$62,284.19
Boards' .....	3,369.46
	65,653.65
Amount due in 4 months .....	\$ 48,245.35
Needed per month .....	\$12,061.38
Percentage of year elapsed .....	66 2/3%
Percentage of budget raised .....	57.6 %
<b>Gordon L. Sanford,</b> <b>Little Genesee, N. Y.</b> <b>OWM Treasurer.</b>	

June 6, 1965.