

The Sabbath Recorder

It is no small thing that our S.C.S.C. teams have been doing—

It is no small thing to change the thinking and the emotional life and attitudes, and goals, and character of a man.

It is no small thing to break the bands of alcoholism.

It is no small thing to open the windows of an individual soul to behold the beauty of God's wonderful universe and to breathe the air of truth.

It is no small thing to surround children with love; to provide youth with both a challenge to their souls and a guide to their feet.

It is no small thing to furnish comfort and security as the shadows of life lengthen, to point to a world where there is no sorrow, no pain, no parting.

It is no small thing to be a bulwark of faith to men and women in the midst of life's fierce battles.

It is no small thing to change the center of a man's concern from himself to that of being for all the world.

It is no small thing to restore a sense of dignity and significance to people who have lost it and to equip others against the danger of losing it—both inside and outside of the organized church.*

Do you think our S.C.S.C. hasn't done all of that? Then you weren't listening very closely during the reports they have given for three years. They have done all of that and more.

Young people, this is one of the best opportunities in the world to witness and teach. It gives you maturity, too, and some of these who have served faithfully are ready to move on into the next phase of service. We need volunteers, with God's finger on them, to fill their places. God has not promised that witnessing will be easy or always as fruitful as we humans feel it should be. But never forget that God moves! He moves at His own rate and in His own time, but He MOVES! and He can continue to move through our S.C.S.C. Will you pray about it and ask for the Lord's leading?

We are looking for Christian "pilgrims" who will take the pack on their backs for the summer of 1967.

* Adapted—Roy B. Deer, American Baptist Convention.

World Evangelism Congress

"The World Congress on Evangelism is an idea whose time has come." So says Editor Carl F. H. Henry of **Christianity Today**, the conservative Protestant magazine which is sponsoring the ten-day global conclave in Berlin beginning October 26.

Dr. Henry announced that the flood of interest in the Congress required a moratorium on delegate and observer invitations as of mid-September, six weeks before the scheduled start of the meeting.

Henry states that "this is no stage-managed conference. No secret strategy has been drawn up for ratification by the delegates, no public declarations have been devised in advance, and there are no projections for the last-minute plotting of organizational maneuvers. The Congress will be in the hands of the delegates."

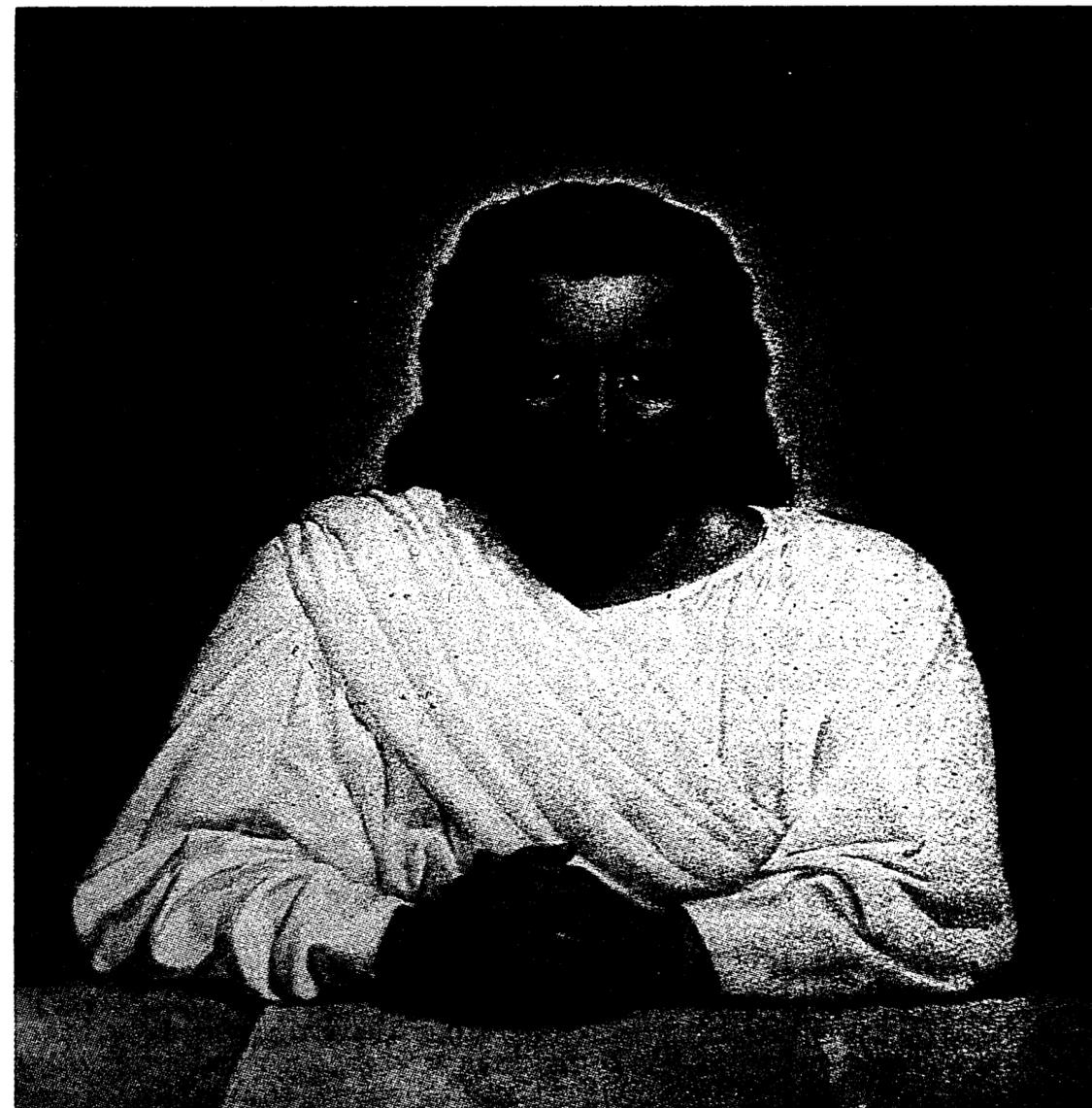
"If indeed the World Congress on Evangelism is an idea whose time has come," he adds, "a flood-tide of spiritual and moral power will inundate the wastelands of modern life with prospects of personal peace and hope, and will lift our sinking civilization to behold anew the commandments and the redemption of God."

A Pastor Resigns

The resignation of the Rev. Don A. Sanford as pastor of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of White Cloud, Mich., has been accepted effective October 1, 1966. Pastor Sanford, who has served the church for the past seven years, will continue in the part-time employment of the Board of Christian Education as editor-writer of the **Helping Hand**, a position which he has held for the past twelve years.

Although future plans are indefinite, the Sanfords plan to remain through the current school year in White Cloud where Mrs. Sanford is employed as a second grade teacher and he will continue with other work.

In announcing his resignation, Pastor Sanford stated that he hoped to be able to devote his primary interest and concern to the writing ministry.—From the **White Cloud Eagle**, Sept. 22, 1966.



What a difference in the day it would make if we were more fully aware that the piercing eye of Christ is ever probing every effort to hide our faults, cleansing as it probes. "All things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do" (Heb. 4: 13).

The Sabbath Recorder

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Member of the Associated Church Press

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Nature Musings

It is once again fall. With the coming of the autumn season some of us who have our roots back in some northern village or farm quite naturally develop nostalgic feelings for our childhood haunts or for a repetition of some of the roving experiences of a teen age that is now quite a ways back.

The first turning of the leaves, the ripening of goldenrod, the moistening of the ground with the arly fall rains, the crisping of the early morning air, the realization that our plump-bosomed migratory birds are fewer in number—these and many other things make us wish we could get our feet on good black soil and observe once more those intriguing secrets of plant and animal life of woodland and fence row that cannot be found in our suburban life or appreciated from a speeding car on a far-too-wide super-highway.

Is this a religious feeling that struggles for emergence at this maturing time of year? Some of us like to think that it is more than just an imaginary walk down memory's lane. The fact that we have such feelings may be due to the religious training and nature observation of youthful days. Then again there is a pretty close parallel between the short-lived beauty of the fall and the mature season of life. There is an urgency about making the most of life and viewing nature at its fleeting best. The news media tell us just which weekend of the season is best for the colors tour. The Bible long ago reminded us that as Christians we should redeem the time, for it says that "the days are evil."

Suppose we cannot get back to the boyhood haunts or may not have the amount of energy to traverse the hills or to explore streams, woodlands, or climb to the treetops for miles around. We have duties that we would not shirk which keep us tied to a daily routine. How, then, can we appreciate nature if we live in a metropolitan area? The probability is that there is more of plant and animal life close around us than we have been observing during the busy summer. Let us illustrate.

Back on the farm squirrels were to me a rarity. They were seen only when one went to the woods at some distance from the buildings. Their natural enemies and hunters' guns (mine too) kept their numbers small. Now they are very numerous in our densely populated city. They play carefree everywhere, burying their acorns in our front yard, frisking across our city streets, building their leafy homes just outside the office window in the one tree beside the denominational building. Of course life is not without its thrills and dangers for the squirrels in our city. They must watch out for speeding cars; they sometimes fall from a high wire. Then there are the city-bred cats that perhaps never saw a mouse but have not lost their hunting instinct. Just yesterday a black cat with a leather collar was one jump behind a squirrel that made it to a utility pole. We are not far removed from the law of tooth and claw in our residential section — or in the downtown section where the larger business swallows the smaller.

We may long for a walk through the wild as in the olden days hoping to get a glimpse of nocturnal animals. But some of these animals have become our neighbors. Racoons may be seen sitting on the curb unwrapping a lunch that had been removed from a tightly covered garbage can next door, or settling family quarrels in a nearby oak. Coon trees on city streets do not exist, but the storm sewer openings are everywhere and just the right size for security—with no effort.

As for the birds, a row of evergreens in the back yard makes a haven of rest for more varieties than one would normally see each day around the northern farm home. Much can be seen of bird and animal life even in the short distance between home and office. To my surprise and pleasure as I rounded the corner of two main streets where one might be looking at churches or feeling sorry for the cliff dwellers in the high-rise apartments I spied a single, late blooming, grass-hidden dandelion next to the curb. There fluttered down a wobbly-winged butterfly to sip the nectar from its golden

MEMORY TEXT

And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive. Matt. 21: 22.

head in the early morning sunlight. How did it get there? God knows.

The trees that line our streets tell strange stories of God's creative mysteries. In the spring when most of the maples budded, blossomed, and scattered their two-winged or single-winged seeds on lawns and pavement some held back to observe the fall season with the nut-bearing trees. Thus in one block the black pavement is covered with smaller than normal maple seeds. In the next block the pyramid-shaped nuts from an overhanging beech tree are crushed from their little brown burs by the passing cars. As for getting one's feet on some rich black soil, that is possible, too, if you have a hidden corner in your back yard where you can make a compost pile of leaves and grass. When opened it can give you a feeling that you have helped nature produce a mound of rich, loose dirt like that from a forest floor. You can spread it out, walk on it and call it your own. God is wonderful! Life can be beautiful!

Why They Change Denominations

It is easier to uncover statistics on the number of people who change denominations than to discover why they change.

In a recent survey conducted by Dr. Ross P. Scherer, formerly of the National Council of Churches and now on the staff of Loyola University, it is shown that 25 percent of the clergy of the fifteen Protestant denominations studied had previously belonged to some other denomination. These denominations were considered to be a fair sampling of all (four were outside NCC membership). It would be safe to conclude that the percentage of change is fairly accurate.

The above-mentioned survey did not try to discover the percentage of laymen who have changed denominations; other surveys have done that. They have shown that more than one-third of American

church people have changed denominational ties at least once. One such report ventured the opinion that the motivation in many cases was more likely convenience than conviction. This seldom fits the person who comes from another religious body into the Seventh Day Baptist church. It probably fits the majority of those who leave us. There has to be considerable conviction to overcome the inconvenience of keeping a different day and belonging to a minority group.

Why is the percentage of clergymen changing affiliations less than that of laymen? Who knows for sure? Perhaps it is no more than the fact that it is much harder to change. Convenience is on the side of remaining with what may well be called, in the preachers' case, the parent body. The matter of pensions enters into it. On the other hand, the well-read minister knows the underlying principles and the theological concepts that mark the differences between some denominations. By the time he becomes a minister he should know where he stands and why; he has developed convictions that can be overthrown only when further study of the Scriptures gives him new convictions.

What is the conclusion of this matter? All of us should feel free to change if a study reveals that there is no real difference and we can serve better in some other church. If, however, we have a choice between following the revealed will of God or teachings contrary to the example of Christ and apostles whom He taught our procedure should not be in doubt. We must turn away from the church that seems not to be in harmony with the law of God and remain faithful to the one that leads us in paths of self-denial and loving obedience. Well nurtured conviction brings peace. Conviction rather than convenience must guide us.

One hardly expects ordinary groups to reject the government good so universally available. But the churches ought to be different. There should be in them that which refuses to be bought or bribed. Where others quickly succumb they should hold firm.

C. Stanley Lowell, Editor,
Church & State, Washington, D. C.

GENERAL CONFERENCE OFFICE

"Facing Frontiers With Faith"

Alton L. Wheeler, general secretary

During the next five years, Seventh Day Baptists of our country are challenged to accelerate their spiritual pace and to revitalize their witness in the name of Christ by "Facing Frontiers with Faith." On August 18 the Planning Committee, through the aid of projected slides, outlined at a General Conference session at Redlands, Calif., the strategic significance of this five-year program of advance extending through 1971.

With the passing of those years, effort will be dedicated toward strengthening and revitalizing our Christian witness.

Year I (1966-67) the emphasis will be on Individuals;

Year II (1967-68) on Churches and Associations;

Year III (1968-69) on General Conference, Boards and Agencies;

Year IV (1969-70) on Support of Missions at Home and Abroad;

Year V (1970-71) on the Witness of Seventh Day Baptists Around the World.

Program packets were sent to churches in June. If additional sets are desired, please direct requests to the Office of General Conference, 510 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, N. J. 07061.

Year I—Fourfold Appeal to Individuals

Year I began October 1, 1966, and will continue through September 30, 1967. Four areas of stress will include: (1) Personal Evangelism, (2) Tithing, (3) Bible Reading, and (4) Sabbath Study and Observance.

Personal Evangelism

When Jesus said to His disciples, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel . . ." He implied that He intended for that assignment to continue until the Good News shall be shared with the entire world. Christians should witness for Christ throughout each year; however, it has been suggested this year that special effort be made during the fall and spring of the current year. Rev. Leon Lawton as Director of Evangelism has set forth several suggestions regarding improving one's effectiveness in witnessing. He stands

ready to give assistance wherever possible, helping to train in a number of parishes. His address is Brookfield, New York.

Tithing

November 5 has been designated as "Stewardship Sabbath." This year every church is urged to join in forming a nation-wide frontier teaching and encouraging tithing. Due to a number of adverse circumstances, the tithing materials have been delayed in being mailed. Only recently, the Rev. S. Kenneth Davis of Westerly, R. I., as a member of Commission, was named as stewardship chairman. Materials will be mailed to the church clerks, stewardship chairmen, or treasurers, and pastors on October 6. Several excellent tracts on tithing are included, and churches are urged to order generous supplies for distribution to the members of their fellowships. The proposition set forth in Malachi 3: 10 merits prayerful and personal interpretation and involvement. Paul would add the reminder that "It is required in stewards that a man be found faithful." (1 Cor. 4: 2).

Tract Board Progress

The Board of Trustees of the American Sabbath Tract Society plus a few visitors gathered in the spacious Board Room of the Seventh Day Baptist Building on Sunday afternoon, September 18, for an important and lengthy quarterly meeting, for a brief annual meeting of the Society, and for an organizational meeting of the newly elected board. The story of what was done then and since that time in relation to the change-over from commercial and denominational printing to strictly denominational publishing was told in the October 3 issue. Much was done also in other matters at the fall meeting.

The election of trustees resulted in the addition of quite a few new members as follows: John Conrod, Philadelphia; John L. Harris, Shiloh; David T. Shepard, Cedarville; Ethel M. Wheeler, and Wavne C. Maxson, Plainfield. Total membership of the board is thirty. In addition, the following consultant members were

named and given responsibility on standing committees: Frederik Bakker, Courtland Davis, Mrs. Charles Whitford, Everett Harris, Sr., Loren Osborn, Alton Wheeler, and Rex Zwiebel.

There was a change in some of the officers. The new president is Charles H. North, who has been treasurer for many years. The treasurer is Ethel M. Wheeler, with John Conrod as assistant. At the organization meeting the president appointed the standing committees. C. Harmon Dickinson replaces L. H. North as chairman of the Advisory Committee. Victor W. Skaggs heads the Supervisory Committee in place of William Armstrong. Everett Dickinson takes chairmanship of the Distribution of Literature Committee in the place of Charles Bond. There were also numerous other changes in the personnel of the eleven committees.

At the regular board meeting action was taken to authorize the use of invested funds to straighten up publishing house accounts and to capitalize the new printing service. Upon the recommendation of the Publications Committee it was voted to contribute \$200 from budgeted funds to the Burma Conference for the printing of additional Seventh Day Baptist literature in the Lushai language. Other committees reported a good level of work accomplished during the quarter.

The secretary-editor noted that General Conference had approved an adequate budget for the **Sabbath Recorder** and the total amount requested at our July meeting for the general work of the board from OWM. He expressed hope that the **Sabbath Recorder** could in the near future return to its normal size of sixteen pages every week.

Veiling the Great Commission

Dr. Carl F. H. Henry says that far-sighted leaders who think one denomination can evangelize the world need ecumenical lenses. He warns, however, against an "ecumenical Christianity promoting mergers and social revolution while it veils the Great Commission."

Helen Shaw Thorngate

Robe of Achievement Recipient

Helen, the second of the four daughters of George and Nellie Burdick Shaw, was born when her father was pastor of the Seventh Day Baptist Church at Nile, N. Y. His pastorates took his family to live at Plainfield, N. J.; Yonkers, N. Y.; North Loup, Neb.; Ashaway, R. I.; and Salem, W. Va.—so Helen was a much-traveled person. But this was only the beginning.

She was graduated from Milton College in 1920, and that summer was married to a young medical student and veteran of World War I, George Thorngate. The ceremony in the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church was performed by her father, assisted by his father, the Rev. Charles Thorngate. Their honeymoon was a canoe trip on Rock River. Their first home was in Madison, Wisc., where "Thorn" was attending medical school.

The fall of 1924 finds Helen and Thorn with their first son, George IV, called "Briar" because he was a little Thorn, setting out for the China Mission field as medical missionaries. They traveled with the H. Eugene Davis family and visited at the home of the farthest west (Johnson) cousins on their way to the Pacific.

The next 26 years were busy ones on the China Mission field. Dr. Thorngate worked with Doctors Crandall and Palmberg at the hospital at Liu-ho, and after special study in America, as a chest surgeon in a clinic in Shanghai. He looked after the mission business in later years, as well as taking care of the mission family and church members. As a change from professional work, he and Helen belonged to a short-story writing club in Shanghai which published collections of the members' works.

In China three more sons were born to the Thorngates — David, Stephen, and Philip. Mabel West, who knew her well, says that Helen was a great addition to the China Mission family. Her friendliness, wisdom, and sense of humor were greatly appreciated. She accepted the Chinese on equal terms, learned their ways, enjoyed their food and entertainments. In bringing up her boys she was

an example to the Chinese of a good mother. She sent the boys to Chinese schools in Liu-ho before coming to Shanghai to live. She was a loyal worker in church and hospital. She was generous of her time and money, always thinking of things to do for the pleasure of others. She helped make a home for the women doctors Crandall and Palmberg who were so busy that her good noon meals were most helpful. She was an excellent missionary in spirit, example, adaptability and co-operativeness.

During these years there were many trips back and forth across the ocean, separations of the family due to illness, educational needs, and the political fortunes of China as first the Japanese and then the Communists took over the country. The hardest separation was in 1940 when Helen and the boys came home to America leaving the father to face the uncertainties of the Japanese occupation of China. He spent nearly 8 months of 1943 in a Japanese concentration camp. At last he was repatriated on the ship Gripsholm with the Davises in 1943.

During the years of World War II the father and sons, who were all pursuing medical educations, were of great service to the United States armed forces. After the war the Thorngates returned to China in 1947. Helen did not think she could teach, but was willing to try. She helped care for Mabel West when she broke her hip; and took over Mabel's classes when she came home in December 1949. Helen was loved by her students, and admired by the Chinese and foreign communities as well.

Again the Thorngates were forced out of China, this time by the Communists. Through all, Helen's unique qualities of mind and spirit kept her family a close unit even when separated.

In 1950 when it seemed the Thorngate family might settle down somewhere in their homeland, the United States government sent Thorn to Saigon on a medical mission, and Helen followed him for another period of overseas service.

Home again, the serious illness of a younger sister and the needs of aging

(Continued on page 15)

A story of Christian opportunity, of dedicated lives, of committed members of the Missionary Society, and a people's heart-warming response to need told on these pages by those closest to the events as they are happening.

The Blantyre Story

FAITH IN ACTION

A VENTURE IN FAITH IN MALAWI

Rev. Everett T. Harris,
Secretary of the Missionary Society

Sometimes it is well to look back over the way we have come in order to appreciate better where we now stand and what should be the way ahead.

It was in 1954 that the Rev. and Mrs. David Pearson first began missionary service in Nyasaland/Malawi. Pastor Pearson served as superintendent of that mission field for two five-year terms. He expressed the desire to be released following his second term of service and on April 24, 1964, the Missionary Board took the following action: "The secretary of the Missionary Board is authorized to recruit a properly qualified person to go to Nyasaland after Superintendent Pearson's departure, to serve as a teacher for pastoral counseling and training. Such person will be expected to set up a continuous program for training



and recruitment for pastors and church leaders." This is a logical and important step in the continuing indigenization of our work in Nyasaland/Malawi.

Months were spent in prayer, in consultation, and in correspondence to find the right person for this position. Calls were issued to qualified leaders in our denomination but without success.

Pearsons Reconsider

Then it came time for the Pearsons to return to this country on furlough. Again after much prayer and deliberation and counseling it was decided to request Mr. Pearson to reconsider his decision to discontinue service in Malawi. At a specially called meeting of the Missionary Board held June 19, 1965, with almost 100% of the board members

present, the following resolution was voted: "In view of the two terms of sacrificial service given by Rev. David Pearson and his wife in the employ of the Missionary Board in Malawi, Africa,

and because of the great value his experience and maturing judgment have in this work;

"Be it resolved that we express our deepest appreciation to him, to Mrs. Pearson and to the children for their contribution to the spread of the gospel message and the Seventh Day Baptist witness;

"And be it further resolved that we reaffirm to him and his family a call to a third term of service with the Central Africa Conference, Malawi, through the Makapwa Mission and in the capacity of Director of Christian Education and Ministerial Training, or such other area of service as may be mutually agreed upon by the Missionary Board and the Executive Committee of the Central Africa Conference."

Challenge Accepted

After several months of consideration Pastor Pearson finally accepted this call,

with certain modifications. He asked that the work which he would do place an emphasis on evangelism as well as Christian education. A job analysis was drawn up setting guidelines for his services. Among the tasks which will challenge his talents and ability are the following:

Assist in the selection of ministerial candidates; Prepare and teach courses of study in the traditional denominational subjects; Establish and maintain a small library; Supervise the field work assignments, and accompany the students to outlying areas; Plan for and aid in the teaching of annual refresher courses for the pastor and preachers; Periodic church visitation encouraging evangelistic type meetings; Annual visits to churches of Northern Region of country and biannual visits to churches of Central Area; Service as advisor to the churches, working toward better organization and greater efficiency.

HOME - HEADQUARTERS PLANNED

(Dr. Victor H. Burdick, M.D., medical chief of staff, Makapwa)

Problem Presented

Seventh Day Baptists have been faced with the need for obtaining a house in the Blantyre-Limbe area of Malawi for Rev. David Pearson and family, whose appointment to the position of Director of Christian Education and Evangelism of the Central Africa Conference will take effect as of his return to Malawi in July 1967. It is not a simple thing to find a house suitable either to rent or to buy, in the Blantyre-Limbe area for these reasons: (1) The Malawi Government is rapidly buying up many of the existing houses for expatriate civil servants; (2) Other houses are taken up by incoming residents employed by an expanding number of new businesses; and (3) House owners, sensing this increasing demand, are raising their rents and selling prices.

Although it would be somewhat more economical to build than to buy, the building codes are very strict, professionals would be required for the work, plans must be drafted by an architect, and ap-

proved by the Town Planning Board, a lot must be purchased and this only with the permission of President Banda. Finally, the owner-to-be would have to rent another house temporarily while he directed the building of the new house.

Solution Cited

Friends in Blantyre who informed Dr. Burdick of these situations regarding housing in the area, advised him to approach Mr. Eric Bright of the Malawi Development Corporation, asking about the houses that this corporation is building for sale or rent. This he did, and Mr. Bright seemed very sympathetic with our needs as a mission enterprise, and has supported our request for information. He outlined the corporation's method of conducting business, and gave Dr. Burdick information about houses available. Dr. Burdick concluded that the rents and selling prices of this corporation are much more reasonable than those which individual owners are charging. Since the

corporation deals with prospective buyers and renters on a first come, first served basis, one must begin negotiations with them far in advance of occupancy—generally even before the houses are built. With this information Dr. Burdick has advised that we deal through this corporation as soon as possible.

The Development Corporation completed building 50 new houses early in 1965, all of them now taken. They have now started another 36 houses, many of which are already reserved. Although the corporation does build houses for renting, buyers always have priority and a renter could lose his house to a buyer. Also, at the present time the corporation is short of funds, and are building houses only for buyers.

The advantage of buying over renting is chiefly economical. Rent at the going rates would in 9-10 years pay for the house. With present expansion in Malawi the value of houses is going up so that, if it was necessary to sell after some years, one might expect to recover close to the purchase price, if not more.

The Development Corporation will build according to the one of their nine architectural plans which the buyer chooses. The houses they build vary in selling price from \$13,000 (two-bedroom) to \$30,000 or more. The one regarded as most suitable for the Pearsons is a three-bedroom house at \$20,000. One "bedroom" would be used for office, library, and possibly committee room and class room. Water, sanitation, lights, etc., would, of course, be available. The kitchen is equipped with an electric range. It may be possible to have this house built on a site within one mile of the Likabula Bible Institute, and, if not, then within three miles.

Time Table

Once the corporation gets our instructions for which type of house we want and choices of site, and our guarantees that are required, they will begin building. The house should be completed in about six months. Payment, in cash, is required

in thirds—one third when foundation is laid, one third when roof is on, one third at final completion. The house should be completed in six months after starting. In order to make the payments as required, in cash, we will have to supplement what we can pay, with money obtained on loan (from sources in U. S. A. or from a building loan society in Blantyre, the New Building Society).

Commission, Conference Enthusiastic

Rev. S. Kenneth Davis,

Commission member

Catching the vision presented by the Missionary Society for realization of a theological school for our pastors in Malawi, the Commission voted unanimously not only to approve the special appeal for \$5,000 requested by the Missionary Society for a down-payment on a home and headquarters in Blantyre, but to ask the Missionary Society to double its appeal thereby decreasing interest rates, assured that Seventh Day Baptists, when presented with the challenge, will want to subscribe at least that much in special over-and-above gifts.

The Conference shared the same enthusiasm as a report was brought back to the floor from the Conference Committee of Foreign Mission Interests approving both the request of the Missionary Society and the recommendation of Commission.

Missionary Board Action

At a special meeting of the Missionary Board September 18, 1966, the following recommendation of the Executive Committee was approved:

"That the corresponding secretary be instructed to proceed with appropriate action on a special appeal for funds in the amount of \$10,000 to be used as a down payment on property in Blantyre, Malawi;

"That the treasurer be authorized to initiate negotiations to finance the pur-

chase of such property at a price not to exceed \$20,000 and with the Malawi Development Corporation looking towards the purchase of suitable property."

Conference Recommendation

We recommend that the Missionary Board be empowered to make a special request for a \$10,000 down payment on property in Blantyre as a headquarters and home for our director of Christian education and evangelism.

Faith and Works

Convinced that the best way of demonstrating faith is in one's works, members of the Board of Directors of the Missionary Society are pledging toward the home in Blantyre. One pledge for \$100 has been received. Ninety-nine more such pledges would put us over the top on our appeal while countless smaller gifts will mean that much less in interest payments.

Bricks for Sale

Very soon your local church will have paper "bricks representing the bricks with which our new Blantyre headquarters will be built. "Bricks" will sell for just \$1 so that boys and girls as well can have a part in witness. Ask your pastor about them. Help build a "wall" of the new building in your own Sabbath School.

Pearson in Intensive Training Program

A veteran of ten years' experience in the field in Malawi, the Rev. David Pearson is probably the most experienced Seventh Day Baptist for serving in this newly independent country. Yet far from being satisfied with his present knowledge he is spending a year in intensive training to better serve the needs of his adopted people.

Mr. Pearson is enrolled at Eastern Baptist Seminary in Philadelphia where he will pursue such exciting studies as the development of Christianity from the

Apostolic Age to the Reformation with emphasis on the personalities and significant influences which have helped to shape the life and thought of the church. Coupled with this he is studying the Christian mission in the world of today and its approach and attitude toward the non-Christian world.

Other courses deal with theory and application of the teaching-learning process, organization and administration of churches, biblical studies, and an analytical study of culture of man.

Because You Want to Know

Question: What are the projected plans for raising this amount?

Answer: (1) A "Minute Man" appeal is being launched to raise \$5,000, needed at once for a deposit or down payment on the property.

(2) Red cardboard "bricks" are being printed for distribution among the churches at \$1.00 per brick. It is hoped that 10,000 bricks may be sold. Churches will be encouraged to "build a wall" of Blantyre House.

(3) The four center pages of this issue of the **Sabbath Recorder** will be printed in extra copies which may be mailed to a list of "related Seventh Day Baptists" who are not supporting the local church or denominational budget to the full extent of their ability or resources.

(4) Consideration is being given to securing a loan from the Malawi Building Society of Blantyre which would make it possible to spread the payment of any remaining amount over several years.

Question: To whom should funds be sent?

Answer: Funds may be sent directly to the Missionary Board office at 403 Washington Trust Building, Westerly, R. I., or may be sent through church and denominational treasurers. (This appeal has been approved by action of General Conference.)

Plans For A Ministerial Training Program In Malawi

(An address delivered by Rev. David Pearson on Sabbath afternoon, August 20, 1966, during Conference at Redlands, California.)

There is a stewardship of preaching. The Apostle Paul felt this stewardship and expressed it in the words, "Woe is unto me if I preach not the gospel."

Along with this sense of compulsion to speak for Christ there is the kindred stewardship of preparing men to preach. This is a top priority matter, both in our home country and abroad.

Applying this matter to my own plans, it is my intention, at the request of our Missionary Society, to return to Malawi, Africa, possibly in July 1967. Plans call for residence to be in Blantyre, a city located about 40 miles northwest of Makapwa Station.

Program Outlined

Actually the situation proposed for Blantyre is somewhat parallel to the work being done by Dean Victor Skaggs at our Center for Ministerial Training in Plainfield, New Jersey. However, it is not our purpose to attempt to conduct a Ministerial Training School but rather to co-operate unofficially with the Likubula Bible Institute, led by Rev. Robert Barr who has worked in Nvasaland/-Malawi as an interdenominational missionary for approximately 30 years.

It is felt that Mrs. Pearson, Pastor Otrain Manan, and possibly others may help in our own ministerial training program. My work in the interests of pastoral training represents about half of my total work. The rest of my time will be spent in visiting churches and assisting the pastors in various ways.

Staff Considered

Should we find that co-operation with Likubula leaves much to be desired, we may find it necessary to conduct our own ministerial training school, somewhat along the lines of what we have done at Makapwa in past years. If so, Mrs. Pearson could teach in the area of Christian education and possibly Bible. Pastor Manan could assist and I could take what was left, in the fields of homiletics, theology, and denominational subjects.

Dr. Victor Burdick has assisted considerably and together with his fellow missionaries has conducted a training school during our furlough absence in 1959-60. He might be willing and able to serve again as a special lecturer, making his lectures coincide with his town purchasing trips from Makapwa Station.

Selecting Students

Shortage of students is no problem in Malawi as it is in this country. But though it is relatively easy to enlist ministerial students, it is not so easy to get the right ones. Especially is this true when work is short. Some may look upon the ministry as merely a job. But we want men that are called of God. It is a glorious calling.

We have heard talk of the shortage of ministers being caused by underpayment. Sometimes it seems that the minister ought to pay for the privilege of preaching. There is a thrill to standing before people with God's message, preaching "as a dying man to dying men."

Ministerial education at Blantyre, or wherever, must be more than mere academic study. The heart must be prepared as well as the mind. So many are turned out of school academically fit but void of the Spirit and power of God. May God save us from such as this.

God being with me, God helping me—as long as I have to do with our training program in Blantyre, I wish to help create and maintain an evangelistic spirit in our educational program.

Commendation and Reward

Before closing, I want to thank the ladies of the Women's Board for their efforts to secure a car for use in Blantyre. May God bless these efforts.

In all our foreign endeavors, and work here at home too, let us keep in mind the words of the missionary hymn, "And all thou spendest, Jesus will repay." Of this fact I have no doubts. May Jesus Christ be praised.

Training Leaders for Malawi

(Loren G. Osborn, President
S.D.B. Missionary Society.)

The dream of every mission effort is to make its field self-sufficient as soon as possible. This dream takes one step closer toward reality with the planned return of the Rev. David Pearson to Malawi as the Director of Christian Education and Evangelism for the Central Africa Seventh Day Baptist Conference.

Several fascinating aspects of this new phase of Seventh Day Baptist work in Africa become evident when the project is examined. First, and probably of most importance, it exhibits a desire on the part of the African people themselves to take the initiative in carrying on their work, because this plan was conceived and in part financed by them. It provides professional direction in an area that will undoubtedly pay the greatest dividends in souls won and churches formed because the emphasis will be not only on training of leaders, but on outreach.

Second, and also important in the overall aim, is the fact that this outreach will focus in great part on the city dwellers. Africa is no less affected by industrialization and urbanization than is the rest of the world, so this decision on the part of the Malawi leaders is in step with the times.

Third, the emphasis in teaching at this level will be on leaders rather than general education. With the Malawi government's becoming more efficient and capable, schools and other services will be taken over, leaving the field for evangelism and pastoral work more open. Here is the area in which trained leaders are most urgently needed by the Malawi Seventh Day Baptists, and this is the area in which United States Seventh Day Baptists, through the continuing program of their Missionary Society, is now staffed to aid them.

David Pearson is at present taking advanced studies in education subjects so that he will be better able to direct the efforts of the Malawian ministerial students and assist the churches in their lay training programs.

In making this move from the "mission" concept to the contemporary emphasis of overseas ministries, a drastic change in plans and facilities is required. The personnel are available, both for teaching and learning; the need is clear and the method to follow is evident. An urban headquarters, conveniently located for students, leader, and outreach projects is now the problem.

Your financial assistance and prayerful support are urgently needed so that this new phase of Seventh Day Baptist overseas ministry can be carried on without delay.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Big Money for Missions

Total contributions to world missions during 1966 through the Southern Baptist Convention reached the \$33.8 million mark in August, a monthly financial statement from the SBC Executive Committee has disclosed.

Contributions thus far in 1966 have exceeded gifts to missions for the same period of 1965 by nearly \$3 million, the financial summary reported.

During the month of August alone, a total of \$1,978,207 was given through the Cooperative budget, and an additional \$262,606 to designated mission causes.

Biggest amounts of the missions gifts, both designated and undesignated, go to the SBC Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, to support SBC foreign missions efforts around the world. So far during 1966, a total of \$21.4 million has been given to SBC foreign missions.

Adventist Giving Is Up

Statistical reports from world headquarters in Washington, D. C., show that Adventist per capita giving in the U. S. stood at \$310.35 for 1965—a \$30 per member jump over 1964. The 1965 figures with 350,000 U. S. members and 1.5 million members worldwide, in the lead in per member giving among U. S. churches above 100,000 members.

Total funds received by the Adventist church in tithe, missions offerings, and home and local offerings in the United States amounted to \$109,319,981.36.

Church World Service Increases Aid to Malawi

Malawi is now to receive a greater share of CWS aid, partly because aid to Nigeria has been discontinued (see item on p. 4 of Sept. 19 issue), and partly because the need is greater in Malawi than in some other countries. The following article is of particular interest to Seventh Day Baptists because of our widespread churches in that country.

The Christian Council of Malawi has now asked Church World Service to serve as agent for a national development program within its country which almost staggers the imagination.

Malawi, formerly known as Nyasaland, achieved its independence from Great Britain two years ago. It became a republic this past July 6. It is a small (50 by 500 miles) land-locked country in south-east Africa with few natural resources. Its population is 5 million. Its annual per capita income is less than \$40. It faces immediate famine but it must double its agricultural output if needs caused by increasing population and lessening foreign (British) subsidies are to be met.

There is no church-state problem in Malawi. Half of the population is Christian. Its president, Dr. Hastings Kamuzu Banda, is a physician and a Presbyterian. The Christian Council of Malawi is strong and maintains good relations with the government; its development plan has the approval of the government and fits in with the economic goals of that government.

Initially, the Malawi Plan has three aspects. Development of water resources has top priority. The first "bore holes" for deep wells, based upon a completed government survey, will be dug this year.

While rainfall in Malawi varies from 30 to 80 inches each year, the terrain is such that there is quick run-off and little water storage. However, most of the country is underlaid with a good strata of pure, fresh water that would provide, in many areas, all of the water needed for safe drinking and irrigation.

The Malawi government has well-drilling equipment which it has been unable to use due to lack of funds. It will lend the equipment to Church World Service, which will employ the technicians to operate it.

Tom Colvin, general secretary of the Malawi Christian Council, is understandably excited about the well scheme. He says it will aid in "village development" because "the wells are only a first step." Villagers will be expected to "contribute something" for the well—and that "something" is expected to be a village school, a farm-to-market road, or some other community development project requiring the donation of local labor and materials.

Agricultural development will be given a huge boost by the creation of a pilot agricultural extension service. A demonstration farm will be maintained, where Malawians will be trained to take back their new knowledge to their own villages. They will be taught to use irrigation efficiently, how to use fertilizers and improved seed. The Malawi government is lending a mobile self-contained audio-visual unit also to Church World Service which will be used in villages to teach hygiene, nutrition, and better methods of agriculture.

Although 95% of public education is now supported by the Malawi government, the churches will initiate still one additional program which is related to education. A school lunch program is



Malawi School children receive educational materials.

being launched this fall which will provide hot noon meals in 4 of 26 secondary schools; more schools will be added later. Such lunch programs are now unknown and students, arriving at 7 a.m. and leaving at 4 p.m. each day, rarely bring anything to eat with them. Feeding of pre-school children, with nutritionally-balanced meals, will also be inaugurated.

Other projects will be started within the total program as personnel and funds are secured.

Teen-agers are not finding employment in the cities and while 500,000 Malawians have emigrated to neighboring countries seeking work, not all youth are able to leave nor wish to. Projects will be initiated for youth—beginning with small garden plots near cities for which CROP will provide seed. The vegetables will not only provide better nutrition for families tending the plots, but will also provide some income as surplus is marketed.

The Malawi Plan is being projected over a five-year period, "to tackle the things which should be tackled," as Tom Colvin puts it. Cost to Church World Service is expected to be around \$250,000. After five years, hopefully, the government will assume responsibility for projects not yet completed.

There is much reason to believe that the Malawi Plan will be a significant, visible nation-building program. The country is small but the plan is comprehensive; the government is co-operative and its own development plans are being co-ordinated with those of the Christian Council of Malawi. Of course, there is always risk of failure. Church World Service believes the risk is worth taking.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION—Sec. Rex E. Zwiebel

Junior Conference Report

Junior Conference was attended by 23 boys and girls ages 9-11. Sessions were held in the basement of Anderson Hall. The program on weekdays, Monday through Friday, was as follows:

Choral reading: Scripture and poetry
Hymn singing
Hymn interpretation through rhythm choir
Fun songs and choruses
Indoor and outdoor games
Hiking
Daily swim—University gymnasium
Meetings with three missionaries
Preparation for Conference worship
Assistants included Mrs. Lewis H. V. May, Riverside; Miss Phyllis Fuller, North

Loup; Miss Elizabeth Maddox, Riverside; Miss Becky Butts, Alfred, Roger Bottoms, Boulder, Douglas Wheeler, Salem, and Rev. Albert N. Rogers, Denver.

Special sessions were held in connection with the General Conference program on Friday helping to lead midday devotions, and during Sabbath School on Sabbath morning.

Mrs. Albert N. Rogers,
Director.

New Hymnals

We ordered several hymnals to be used and purchased at Young Adult Pre-Con Retreat last August. Because of the low attendance we have 14 left, and we are offering them for sale. You may purchase them singly or all at one time. The hymnal is just off the press, and is called "Hymns and Songs of the Spirit." It is published by the Judson and Bethany Presses. The cost is \$1.75 per hymnal. Order from the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education, Box 115, Alfred Station, N. Y. 14803.

Personalities in the News

The 100th year of instruction at Pacific School of Religion began October 3 at the Berkeley campus. At the opening Convocation for the centennial year the address was given by Dr. Wayne R. Rood, professor of Religious Education at PSR, who has just returned from a sabbatical year of study at Oxford, England. His topic was "Words and the Word: a Problem in the Teaching of Christianity."

Dr. Rood is chairman of the Committee to Conduct Ecumenical Conversations of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference.

Secretary Rex Zwiebel attended the semiannual meetings of the Department of Educational Development, Division of Christian Education, National Council of Churches, Sept. 25-30, at Atlantic City, N. J. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the Program Board of the Department.

He conferred with General Secretary Wheeler and others in Plainfield en route.

Helen Shaw Thorngate

(Continued from page 6)

parents found her doing her share in their care. At last the four sons had achieved their medical education, each in his own special field, and the family dream of a Medical Group came true at Monterey, California. Helen is a great help to her husband and sons in their professional lives. She acted as treasurer of the Medical Group from its inception in 1953 until the coming of K. S. Howard in 1965.

Weekly Sabbath services are held in the home of the elder Thorngates for the family and all Seventh Day Baptists who may be in the area. She is a helpful member of the Pacific Coast Association. An expert in cooking Chinese foods, she is a charming hostess for friends passing through Monterey. She is an all-round person, writing poetry, sketching and painting, sailing, and baby-sitting with her grandchildren, who now number 13. Her own severe illnesses have been bravely surmounted. One who does not let her left hand know what her right hand does; calm, wise in judgment, gifted with deep understanding of people, Helen Thorngate is an inspiration to all who know her.

She is now to be honored among those worthy to wear the Robe of Achievement.

—Elizabeth Johnson Green.

Aug. 18, 1966.

LET'S THINK IT OVER

Clergy Votes "No" on Red China

With the United Nations Assembly again in session the question of the admission of Red China is likely to be a sharp issue. Last year the vote was 50-50. Whether or not this is a religious or moral issue is debatable.

On February 22, 1966, the General Board of the National Council of Churches, meeting in St. Louis, adopted a resolution calling for the admission of Communist China to the United Nations and the granting of United States diplomatic recognition to the Peiping regime.

Other church bodies have taken similar stands. Many leading Christians, however, are convinced that it would be morally

wrong to admit a nation with such a record to the UN especially when that nation and its friends call for the expulsion of the Republic of China.

Dr. Dan Poling, one of America's most respected churchmen and a lifetime leader of Christian Endeavor, is chairman of the Clergymen's Emergency Committee on China. He was convinced that the February action of the General Board of NCC did not represent the opinion of Protestant clergymen throughout the nation. He and the committee instituted a comprehensive poll to get the facts.

Three questions were put to over 65% of the Protestant clergymen, selected at random from every state in the Union.

1. Are you in favor of the admission of Communist China to the United Nations at this time?

2. Are you in favor of the expulsion of the Republic of China from the United Nations in order to satisfy Communist Chinese conditions for joining?

3. Are you in favor of the United States granting diplomatic recognition to Communist China at this time?

The "Nos" were overwhelming. Of those responding 72.9% were opposed to the admission of Communist China to the United Nations; 93.7% were opposed to meeting the basic Red Chinese conditions for joining the United Nations; 71.4% were opposed to diplomatic recognition of the Peiping regime. There were almost 30,000 who responded—a very significant number.

Dr. Poling concludes that church officials or bodies advocating admission of Red China speak only for themselves and not for the Protestant community.

The Race for Relevance

In a scholarly address before a recent Southern Baptist Communications Conference James Leo Garrett, professor of Christian theology at Louisville, made some thoughtful evaluations of present-day trends.

The liberal Protestant theology which achieved popularity in the first third of the century was later discredited by thoughtful scholars. It was replaced by the now passing (neo-orthodox) era, which stressed the given, the revealed,

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and was more concerned with authenticity than with relevance, said Dr. Garrett.

Another era of liberalism has come as the pendulum swings back and certain voices cry for the relevance that was felt to be lacking in the theology of Barth and his followers. Just recently the religious world has been shocked by the radical or death of God theology. Dr. Garrett says this era gives its primary attention to the Christian message to modern man and/or the unbelieving world, and is more concerned with relevance than with authenticity.

The question naturally arises as to whether one has to choose between relevance and authenticity. The speaker did not call for an unthinking traditionalism nor for an abandonment of sincere attempts to communicate. He did deliver "a clarion appeal for careful assessment of the biblical and historic Christian categories and their abiding significance before these should be scuttled for the latest theological fad."

"It is an urgent plea that in the race for relevance we not lay aside that authentic Christian message and life that are our very reason for running at all," he declared.

Speaking of the death of God theology, Garrett said that they are placing so much emphasis on "what modern man will accept," and yet we don't really know that "he will accept this modified gospel any more than he would have in the first century."

Garrett said he was not willing to toss aside "our historic heritage" and a biblically based theology, but there is a sense "in which we must be modern without being captivated by the errors of modernity."

Army Chaplain Promotions

The Department of the Army has announced a new promotion policy for chaplains, which may be seen as an incentive for ministers to volunteer.

Chaplain (Major General) Charles E. Brown, Jr., Chief of Army Chaplains, states that chaplains who are ordered to active duty on or after 31 October 1966 will be promoted to temporary Captain on date of entry on active duty.

Previously all Army chaplains entered the service in the grade of 1st Lt. and served in that grade until promoted like other officers. Doctors have frequently received the grade of captain when going on active duty.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for October 22, 1966

God, Our Security

Lesson Scripture: Isaiah 37: 14-21a, 33-35.

Marriages

Palmer-Farber.—James Francis Palmer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Francis W. Palmer of Brookfield, N. Y., and Linda Marie Farber, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Farber of North Brookfield, N. Y., were united in marriage on July 30, 1966. The Rev. Carl Metz of the First Baptist church officiated at the service in the 2nd Brookfield Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Soper-Matthews.—LaVere Soper, son of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Soper, Oshkosh, Neb., and Beth Matthews, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Matthews, of Oshkosh, Neb., were united in marriage at Oshkosh, on July 30, 1966. They are now at Bartlesville, Okla., where he is a ministerial student at Central Pilgrim College.

Williams-Jess.—Leonard Williams, son of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Williams of North Loup, Neb., and Judy Jess, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lavern Jess of Scotia, Neb., were united in marriage at Scotia, Neb., on August 21, 1966.

Obituaries

BABCOCK.—Miss Katharine M., daughter of Edwin J. and Jessie True Babcock, was born at North Loup, Neb., Nov. 7, 1891, and died at Lincoln, Neb., Sept. 17, 1966.

She became deaf when 18 months old, attended school in North Loup, and Northampton, Mass. She became a professional photo retoucher in Lincoln and Omaha, making her home in Omaha for many years. She cared for her aged mother, who died in June 1966, nearly 101 years old.

She was baptized by the Rev. George B. Shaw and joined the North Loup Seventh Day Baptist Church in 1908, maintaining her interest and loyalty as a nonresident member through life, also fellowshiping with the Church of the Deaf in Omaha.

Survivors are two brothers, Edwin J. of Lincoln, and Arthur of Omaha, Neb. A brother now deceased was Oscar T. Babcock of Milton, Wis.

Funeral services were conducted in her home church by her pastor, the Rev. Duane L. Davis, and interment was in Hillside Cemetery, North Loup.

—D.L.D.



Trees of Righteousness

There is beauty in trees, whether the golden maples of New England that contribute their sweetness every spring, the towering redwoods of California that date back to the time of Christ, the twisted pines and spruces that struggle with the elements at timberline in the Rockies, or the stalwart oaks of Florida that bear patiently the burden of hanging moss, or the spreading oak of New Jersey that inspired Sgt. Joyce Kilmer's immortal verse from World War I,

"I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree."

Perhaps Sgt. Kilmer's thoughts went back to the Bible which tells us that we are called of God to be trees of righteousness. The blessed man (Psalm 1) meditates on the law of God and "He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; . . . and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."