

OUR WORLD MISSION

OWM Budget Receipts for November 1966

	Treasurer's November 2 months	Board's 2 months		Treasurer's November 2 months	Board's 2 months
Adams Center ..\$	221.00	\$ 221.00	Memorial Fund	1,188.37	
Albion	55.16	156.32	Metairie		
Alfred	826.65	826.65	Middle Island ..		20.00
Alfred Station	219.25	219.25	Milton	549.91	30.00
Algiers			Milton Junction	86.25	304.35
Assn. & Groups		75.20	New Auburn ..		51.30
Battle Creek ...	345.08	769.63	North Loup ...	200.00	442.25
Bay Area		44.00	Nortonville ..	95.50	350.43
Berlin	241.00	241.00	Old Stonefort ..	20.00	65.00
Boulder	100.20	168.40	Paint Rock		60.00
Brookfield 1st..	124.00	124.00	Pawcatuck	481.05	962.10
Brookfield 2nd	16.05	21.05	Plainfield	426.26	665.85
Buckeye Fellow- ship			Putnam County		
Buffalo		25.00	Richburg	72.00	111.00
Chicago		25.00	Ritchie	40.00	40.00
Daytona Beach	108.33	324.99	Riverside	916.66	1,017.83
Denver	125.50	261.73	Roanoke		
DeRuyter		6.00	Rockville	14.19	30.94
Dodge Center		279.94	Salem	161.00	189.00
Edinburg			Salemville	25.00	50.00
Farina	31.90	31.90	Schenectady ..	11.21	42.21
Fouke		5.00	Shiloh	812.80	817.80
Hammond			Syracuse		
Hebron, 1st ...	113.50	113.50	Texarkana		
Hopkinton, 1st	118.75	323.00	Trustees of		
Hopkinton, 2nd		31.00	Gen. Conf.		
Houston			Verona	131.82	261.82
Independence ..	46.50	81.25	Walworth	110.00	110.00
Individuals	200.00	294.00	Washington ...	65.00	65.00
Irrington		350.00	Washington, People's		30.00
Jackson Center			Waterford	95.50	221.15
Kansas City ...		30.00	White Cloud ..	35.25	82.77
Little Genesee	272.20	272.20	Yonah Mt.	15.00	15.00
Little Rock.....	5.63	29.98			
Los Angeles ...	315.00	955.00	Totals	\$ 7,850.10	\$14,572.07
Los Angeles, Christ's		100.00	Non-Budget	135.00	\$ 80.00
Lost Creek		150.00			
Marlboro		272.00	Total to Disburse	\$ 7,985.10	

NOVEMBER DISBURSEMENTS

Board of Christian Education	\$ 586.28
Ministerial Retirement (Mem. Fund)	768.12
Ministerial Education	694.64
Missionary Society	3,211.14
Tract Society	973.43
Trustees of Gen. Conf.	36.73
Women's Society	134.96
World Fellowship & Service	92.30
General Conference	1,467.50
S.D.B. World Federation	20.00

Total Disbursements\$ 7,985.10

S U M M A R Y

1966-1967 OWM BUDGET	\$124,735.00
Receipts for 2 months:	
OWM Treasurer	\$14,572.07
Boards	80.00
	14,652.07
Amount due in 10 months	\$110,082.93
Needed per month	\$11,008.29
Percentage of year elapsed	16.66%
Percentage of budget raised	11.75%

Gordon L. Sanford,
OWM Treasurer.

November 30, 1966

The Sabbath Recorder



WRITING YOUR RESOLUTIONS

Is it fruitless to make New Year's resolutions? Yes, if they are made too lightly, for they may be as lightly broken. No, if they are pondered and prayed over before being written down. Sustained improvement is just as possible as initial conversion. To pledge to do better in certain areas where we have been weak and to ask our Lord to help us are first steps toward that nobility of character which true discipleship calls for.

The Sabbath Recorder

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Member of the Associated Church Press

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Watchman, What of the Night?

A brief section of the twenty-first chapter of the prophecy of Isaiah entitled "The Burden of Dumah" contains words that have encouraged Bible readers through the centuries as they faced new days and new years:

He calleth to me out of Seir, Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night? The watchman said, The morning cometh . . .

The year of our Lord 1966 has been a year filled with many blessings and many comforts for those living in such a prosperous country as ours. But with the light there has been darkness for many, and the world in general could well be described as being in a period of prolonged darkness. The newspapers have described night rather than day.

Watchmen have been straining their eyes along the borders of the Holy Land. The physical wall between east and west Germany has had its watchmen with rattling machine guns that have cut down many members of families trying to get out of the dark night of the eastern half of a divided nation. There seem to be no signs of morning as one looks across from the west. Korea is still divided. The Church has ceased to exist in the northern half. The night seems to be settling deeper in China for the believers there who have been watching for the morning. Africa's emerging nations are hardly breaking out of darkness into bright sunlight. Many are the spots where darkness has descended again.

Looking at Vietnam where terror stalks from one end of the country to the other and the foes within are more troublesome than the enemy troops in battle array, it has been a year of night. The watchmen of the military forces have had a tremendous responsibility. Across our nation there have been insistent calls like that of Isaiah in the Scripture quoted above. We are beset with doubts; we are calling out through every medium of communication to the planners, the strategists, the military commanders, "Watchman, what of the night?"

The dark spots of earth are many; the night has been long. Perhaps the spiritual watchmen have not been as alert as they should have been. Thinking in terms of

international problems or of a general improvement of moral standards in our nation or throughout the world, we who are supposed to be watchmen on the walls cannot reply to the twice repeated call, "The morning cometh." We would have to add as that watchman did, "and the night." There will be a repetition in 1967 of many of the anxious situations of 1966. Some of our young men sent off to the Far East to stem the swelling tide of Communism will not return.

In the closing weeks of 1966 our government sent up a different kind of satellite to hover at over 22,000 miles above the earth and to keep a weather watch. Its pictures from out there pretty well beyond the pull of gravity have come back and have been published in our newspapers. From a physical point of view there has never before been such a watchman looking down upon our old, round earth. What was seen from that silent, photographic watchman far out in space was mostly clouds. The particular picture published showed quite a little of the eastern coast of the North American continent not covered at that moment with dark clouds. It is interesting to remember that clouds change and that the next picture might be brighter.

What is now possible for an inanimate weather watchman has always been possible for God. Perhaps He sees far more holes in the political and moral clouds of night that engulf our world than we can see from our limited family, church, and national horizons. We cannot expect 1967 to be trouble-free when society as a whole is so infested with trouble makers. But with firm faith in the Ruler of the Universe and the Savior of men we can with confidence answer the question put to the watchmen with the same words, "The morning cometh." Indeed, morning has broken in our personal experience. We know whom we have believed and are persuaded that He is able to keep that which we have committed unto Him against that day. Does not the great apostle say of us as well as of those of his time, "We are not of the night, but of the day"?

DECEMBER 26, 1966

MEMORY TEXT

I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee. Psalm 22: 22.

Week of Prayer

It is something unusual and unique for Seventh Day Baptists to have their own printed materials for the Week of Prayer which begins January 1. The blue booklet, edited by G. Zijlstra and Rev. E. T. Harris for the use of the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation, was printed largely by dedicated service at the Publishing House in Plainfield.

Your editor has just read it through and finds it simple, warm, concise and highly usable. It has good suggestions for prayer each day of the week. Every church has had opportunity to order copies at a very nominal cost. We are reminded that this traditional Week of Prayer is being recommended by the Planning Committee as in the past. What better way for our people to begin the year than to have special group and individual prayer sessions for the total work of Seventh Day Baptists in the various conferences throughout the world. Let us make it a real week of praying.

An Editorial Thank-You

One of the privileges of an editor is the opportunity to take a few inches of space for a personal expression of thanks from time to time and especially at this season of the year. Your editor, his wife, and the staff want to express grateful appreciation for the many greetings received and the words of encouragement that came with them. They were heart-warming.

We would mention not only the thoughtful remembrances from Seventh Day Baptist friends and acquaintances who have long been readers of the denominational organ, but also the friends outside the denomination with whom a pleasant editorial association has developed.

Letter greetings have come also from numerous charitable organizations that couple beautiful expressions of the meaning of Christ's coming with an appeal for support of these worthy causes. These, too, are appreciated and prayerfully considered. The response to our own suggestion of gift subscriptions was heartening.

May we make bold to try to speak for all of our subscribers and to voice the thanksgiving of all for the feeling of joy brought by unexpected remembrances and the well expressed thoughtfulness of long-time friends?

God Is Not Dead

We trust that the "Death of God" which captured too many headlines in the early months of 1966 has now pretty well succumbed. It just had to be short lived because there was so little to keep the abortive idea alive. In every age—including the age of the Old Testament prophets—there have been some who in their trouble or in their outspoken opposition to the revelation of God have said that God was dead. They were wrong.

Back in 1863 the poet Longfellow wrote "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day." He had a seriously wounded son and was tempted to think in terms of, "For hate is strong and mocks the song Of peace on earth, good will to men." However, more serious thinking brought him to the triumphant affirmations of the fourth stanza:

"Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
'God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,
With peace on earth, good will to men.'"

Friendship

*One's heart of love through clash of hand,
Some words or deed, without demand,
May break the net of Satan's snare;
By showing how we really care.
He may not know the Christian way,
Except through us this very day.*

—Ralph Loofboro.

President's Column

By Dr. Lewis H. V. May

The recent Pacific Coast Association program centered around Luke 11:5-10 with the subjects "Open Your Heart, Asking," "Open Your Heart, Seeking" and "Open Your Heart, Knocking." There are no greater promises to the open, loving heart than those found in these passages. The asking heart receiveth, the seeking heart findeth, and to the knocking heart, it is opened.

It is unique to Christianity that there can be a willful act of man that can initiate a predicable response in God. There is an attitude in man that is necessary to motivate man to make these requests and perform these acts. That is, a willingness to become involved. The Pacific Coast Association program hit upon the essence of this year's theme emphasis better than anything the president of Conference has been able to construct; that is to become involved, to "Open Your Heart, Loving." This expresses better than anything I have heard the invitation to involvement with an open heart in each other's labors for our common Christian goals. It predicts the results of that commitment as a product of the love of God and His willingness to participate and bless with success our efforts to spread the good news of Christ in our time.

We need to "Open Our Hearts, Loving" and commit ourselves to the Christian life and to giving the Christian truth to others as we try to practice it amongst ourselves. We must involve ourselves in asking, seeking and knocking throughout our society, showing love that Christ can give mankind through us. As we "Face Our Frontiers with Faith" we should not be surprised when one mission of love in Christ receives, finds and is opened to each and all.

"May I express my thanks for this good magazine? I enjoy reading it. I like to renew the subscription."—Dallas, Tex.

General Conference Office

Alton L. Wheeler

Facing FRONTIERS with Faith

The Scriptural record of the historic flight of the enslaved Israelites from Egypt and their pilgrimage in the direction of the "promised land" includes the significant statement that "the Lord went before them by day . . . and by night . . ." (Ex. 13: 21).

As Seventh Day Baptists are challenged in these days to "face FRONTIERS with faith," they, too, are urged to venture forth daringly and with accelerated pace into the realms of the untried, the unexplored and the unknown. For some, the time is long overdue for a breaking away from enslavement to provincialism, acquiescence to lethargy, or allegiance to stereotyped statements of beliefs. For others, the hour is at hand when Christians as individuals and groups should more aggressively become involved in the effort to enlarge the circle of Christian fellowship, to communicate the gospel to others outside the Christian fellowship or to express more active concern and compassion for the entire world.

The primary motivation may be negative or positive. It may be selfish or altruistic. It may be a "running away from" or a "pursuit of." It may be the fear of death or love for life. It may be rebellion or aspiration. Most significant of all, any valid motivation should be instigated of God.

So far as the Israelites were concerned in venturing forth "facing FRONTIERS with faith," whether their motivations were primarily negative or positive, according to the record, God was the agitator. At the burning bush, after telling Moses that he had seen His people's affliction, had heard their cry and had known their sorrows, He said, "I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt, unto the land of the Canaanites . . . a land flowing with milk and honey" (Ex. 3: 17). Most significant of all is the statement that "the Lord went before them by day . . . and by night . . ."

As Seventh Day Baptists as individuals or groups look inward, outward and forward in these days, let them also look upward. Granted, they will do well to seek to spring to life, and to dare to become more actively involved and dynamic in the larger Christian witness of our times. They will do better, however, if they feel confident that the Lord wills their continued witness as a people, and that He "goes before them by day . . . and by night . . ."

White Gifts

Sabbath Schools in many churches have developed a custom, which has now become almost a tradition for them, of presenting what are called "White Gifts." Some make the public presentation at a vesper service; others collect the funds far enough in advance so that it will reach the recipients at home or on mission fields well before Christmas. In some Sabbath Schools the whole group decides on one worthy cause; in others each class decides for itself, with some classes having several projects. From one church bulletin comes the following well stated definition of purpose.

"For the past several years, the Sabbath School, either as departments or classes, has taken up "White Christmas Gifts" to be distributed to different mission fields, or local charities. This is a reminder that we will again this year take up a 'White Christmas' collection, and that all Sabbath School departments or classes should make their own arrangements for this collection and decide where they would like the money to go. Let us keep in mind that these gifts are taking the place of what we used to spend in exchanging gifts among ourselves."

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for January 7, 1967

Channel for God's Power

Lesson Scripture: Luke 4: 16-19; 5: 18-26.

News of the Tract Board

Twenty-two members of the thirty-member Board of Trustees of the American Sabbath Tract Society met at Plainfield, Sunday afternoon, December 11, to review the work of a quarter that had brought numerous changes. They also looked ahead as best they could to the second half of the budget year and the work that should be provided for in the budgets of several years to come.

Nearly all of the eleven standing committees reported meetings and progress in their work. The filmstrip library reported strong demand for Bible and seasonal filmstrips and the acquisition of several new ones. In distribution of the literature, the committee and the secretary reported that cost figures had been worked out for each tract so that those willing and able to contribute to the cost could be given a basis for such contributions. The committee also noted that it had doubled its purchase of special issue **Recorders** in November to meet the requests for use in fairs on a matching fund basis.

The Sabbath Promotion Committee noted a slight change of policy to encourage all Associations to take advantage of matching funds for fair booth rentals. It announced well-formed plans for Sabbath Rally Day, the third Sabbath in May. Several additional helps for a full observance of the day will be offered. The theme, related to the Conference theme, will be, "Sharing God's Love—Sharing God's Sabbath."

The Supervisory Committee, with much different duties than before, gave a detailed six-page report of its activities, plans, and budget position. A great amount of work had been done to effect the change-over to strictly denominational printing with reduced staff. It was shown that the employees were handling their work with increasing efficiency. At present there is no manager, the programming of work being taken care of by the coordinator, Secretary Alton Wheeler. Much office work connected with the phasing out of the commercial

work has been done by the chairman of the Supervisory Committee, the Rev. Victor Skaggs, and another member, Mrs. C. H. Dickinson. This is not yet complete. As to the future, the committee was able to report that indications after the first two months of operation are that the Publishing House will be able to continue its service to the denomination without incurring financial loss with costs for major printing jobs maintained at last year's levels. It was stated that it would probably not be possible to move from a "printing service" to a "printing ministry" within the first year. The latter will involve more "dedicated service" than is now available.

The editor of the **Sabbath Recorder** reported some increase in subscription receipts since the journal went back to the former sixteen pages each week. He also noted a strong demand for the November special issue. The corresponding secretary reviewed some of the more interesting letters and spoke of bright prospects of Seventh Day Baptist work in several countries.

—L. M. M.

Visitors in Bethlehem

King Herod could not understand why wise men would make a long journey to Bethlehem—not until he was told about the Messianic prophecy naming that little town. King Hussein of Jordan does not have to ask why 20,000 people made reservations in hotels to visit Bethlehem at Christmastide in 1966. The little town of Bethlehem was the turning point of history. The king welcomes the tourist to the birthplace of the King. His kingdom is not threatened, but rather supported by the recognition of the birth of the Messiah.

WHICH TO OBEY?

When a person takes it upon himself to choose which laws he is going to obey, he opens a gate . . . to anarchy . . . and I don't know a way of closing it.

—James Fisk,
Los Angeles Police Inspector.

Riverside Pastor Makes Pacific Coast Visitation Trip

By C. Rex Burdick

For nearly three quarters of a century the Pacific Coast Association of Seventh Day Baptists has been ministering to its scattered membership and to inquirers through pastoral visitation trips made through California and sometimes in Oregon and Washington. More recently, these visitation trips have assumed a pattern of semiannual trips, made in the spring by the pastor of the Los Angeles Church and in the fall by the pastor of the Riverside Church.

This pastor has just returned from such a trip that has taken him in a criss-cross pattern throughout much of the state of California, a round trip of well over 2,200 miles. During the eleven day trip, eighty personal calls on lone Seventh Day Baptists or those interested in Seventh Day Baptists were attempted, some fifty of which were completed. The Sabbath was spent with the Bay Area church where several from Monterey joined the group for morning and afternoon sessions and a pleasant fellowship meal. Sabbath day in the Bay area provided an opportunity to discuss the work of the Association with the group in general, and privately with Pastors Oscar Burdick and Ted Hibbard, and with Dr. Wayne Rood, a former colleague on the Seventh Day Baptist Commission.

Some one will ask: "What is the purpose of such a visitation trip?" The purpose has been summed up in the following statement which was sent to all persons concerned before the visitation trip was undertaken: "The purpose of the trip is severalfold: (1) to urge full dedication of lives to the Lord, (2) to challenge to continued spiritual growth, (3) to encourage those who believe in the seventh day of the week as the "Sabbath of the Lord our God," and who do well to seek ever to observe it even though they are not conveniently located close to a church of their choice, (4) to cultivate Christian fellowship, (5) to aid toward a better un-

derstanding of the will and plan of God as revealed in the Bible, and (6) to help face baffling life situations with which one may be confronted."

Some one will also ask: "Is the visitation trip effective?" The answer must be a qualified "yes." The answer must be "yes" because many people seem blessed and strengthened by such a visit. It must be qualified because no effective outreach for Christ can possibly be made by such a limited witness.

A few examples will serve to illustrate both the frustrations and the challenges of the Association visitation trip. In one city we searched for two hours for a lady who had moved two times, the second time to another town. When we finally greeted her on her step we heard her say, "I wish you Seventh Day Baptists would leave me alone." We tried to locate a young serviceman in another city. He, too, had moved and we went to the new address only to discover that he had been transferred to a base in New York state. A lady, a member of an eastern Seventh Day Baptist church, was quite friendly but showed no interest in Seventh Day Baptists on the West Coast. She could not be counted on, she indicated, to attend a fellowship group if one were developed near her. There are other Seventh Day Baptists living near her who might have been encouraged had she been interested in Seventh Day Baptist Christian faith as a way of life.

But the frustrations and disappointments were dispersed as clouds are scattered by the sunshine. Two men, living in different areas, a former member of the Dinuba Church and a former member of the Healdsburg - Ukiah Church, each thanked God for the faith which has meant so much to him. Another man, distraught by personal problems, knelt beside me as we prayed. Afterward he said, "You can't possibly know how much good it does me to have the pastors make this trip." In another home where the evening had been spent in Bible study and the night in sleep, the husband insisted that I should not slip quietly out at an early hour without disturbing them. A

pancake breakfast at 5:30 a.m. was a way of expressing appreciation for the visit. A call in the home of a navy man whom I had known in the East was rewarding, as was the visit on a college campus where we shared a meal with a student, a member of the Riverside church. By chance we located a family who are members of the Los Angeles church in a Central California hospital where the son was suffering from a back injury sustained in a football game. Discussion and prayer with them seemed to be an encouragement. We discussed spiritual concerns with a recent convert to the Sabbath who lives in a large city. She offered her home as a meeting place for Seventh Day Baptists if enough interest can be developed in the area.

These are only a few of the incidents which occurred on the Association visitation trip, but they are representative of many more just as interesting. Perhaps the greatest frustration to one making the trip is the knowledge that he will not see these people for another year; in the meantime they are left without the encouragement of a pastor and without the help which can be offered by a local church of their own faith.

Happily, the trip this fall served an additional purpose, to acquaint the people with the newly adopted Association field pastor program, and to introduce by name and by picture the Pacific Coast field pastor elect and his wife, Pastor and Mrs. Glen Warner. We are told in the Bible that the span of a man's life is "three score years and ten" (Psalm 90: 10). It is an interesting coincidence that the pastoral visitation program, in both organized and unorganized fashion, has endured for precisely the same period of time. Elder J. T. Davis made a coastal visitation trip before the organization of the Colony Heights (later Riverside) church in 1896 and subsequently pled with the people and with the Missionary Society to sustain a West Coast ministry. Since that time the visitation program has continued, sometimes sporadically, often with regularity.

This present pastor viewed his latest trip as a connecting link between the older occasional pastoral visits and the vision, now become a reality, of an Association field pastor to promote throughout the whole great West Coast area the work of Christ as done through Seventh Day Baptists.

One of the great narrative Psalms concludes with these words, "Let all the people say, Amen. Praise ye the Lord" (Psalm 106: 48). The people of the West Coast offer thanksgiving to God as the semiannual pastor's visitation trips give way to the greater challenge of a new and expanded field pastor ministry. Let all the people say, "Amen."

Pacific Coast Visitation

(Experiences of Rev. Mynor Soper)

An article about the spring visitation trip up the Pacific Coast by the pastor of the Los Angeles Seventh Day Baptist church, the Rev. Mynor Soper, was to have appeared earlier in this journal but was delayed. Mr. Soper's trip last June differed in some respects from the fall trip by Mr. Burdick, pastor of the Riverside church, which was just recently completed. The highlights of that trip as reported to the Association help to round out the story and to show the potential of more regular visits.

Seldom have the pastors been able to extend their visitation much north of the San Francisco area. This was one of the times when Oregon and Washington were included. Letters from the Northwest had come from quite a number in response to tracts. It had been a number of years since any Seventh Day Baptist had made the rounds to encourage the lone Sabbathkeepers and groups. During that time many new contacts had sprung up. Mr. Soper says of the extent of the trip that it took him as far north as a few miles north of Seattle, Washington, with a great deal of zig-zagging in and out from the coast to make all the contacts. The trip was of eighteen days with a total of 4570 miles driven. There were in excess of sixty personal contacts made

(Continued on page 14)

MISSIONS—Sec. Everett T. Harris

Blantyre House Project Report

Funds continue to be received in almost every mail to be added to the Blantyre House purchase project. The total received has now reached the halfway mark of our special appeal. Approximately \$5,000 had been received as of December 12.

Of the above amount \$3,204 has been received through the Minute Man Appeal. Many churches have not yet reported on sale of bricks for Blantyre House. We are hopeful that the full amount of appeal (\$10,000) will be reached.

The picture which accompanies this article carries the caption, "Watch Our Wall Grow." It shows the bulletin board of the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church located in the vestry of the church where all can view it as they come and go. The "bricks" for Blantyre House carry the names of many of the church members. A silver brick indicates a larger than usual gift. It was decided against using "gold bricks" for obvious reasons.



The young people of the Pawcatuck Church have "taken on the project of selling bricks for the church at our own expense so that all contributions sent will be turned over to the Missionary Society." Two of the young people who have been helping in this project are shown here: Miss Deborah Davis and John Barber.

The young people in a letter sent to every church member called attention to the Blantyre Story described in the October 10 issue of the **Sabbath Recorder**. The letter carried a rather unique way of publicizing the project and of challenging our people to buy the bricks. Because some other churches would like to try this plan the following paragraph is quoted from their letter:

"Enclosed you will find two 'bricks.' These are yours for a contribution of \$1.00 per brick. We are suggesting that you keep one brick in your wallet to remind you of the part you have had in this new outreach, and that you sign and return the other brick with your two dollars. With these returned 'bricks' we are building a 'wall' on the bulletin board. . . . When everyone has responded, the 'wall' will be complete, covering the whole bulletin board. . . . We hope your name will be there, too, 'for as much as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.'"

Renewing Our Strength

(A New Year Meditation)

Who of us does not need a renewal of strength and hope and courage as we launch into a new year? We surely do need it. The prophet Isaiah tells us how to go about receiving it. "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint" (Isaiah 40: 31).

At this time of year it seems especially hard to keep on "keeping on" with the usual round of duties. It would be so nice to go off to Florida and relax in the sunshine. However, we do recall that a Spanish explorer, Ponce-de-Leon went to Florida long ago (in 1513) in search of the "fountain of youth." He hoped for a return of youthful strength and vigor but failed to find it. It wasn't Florida's fault. If there is a literal fountain of youth, Florida is as good as any place to look for it.

But the prophet Isaiah states quite clearly that the real source of renewal is in God, our Heavenly Father, who made us and sustains us day by day. We can find a fountain of spiritual renewal by waiting on God just where we are. And it will be surprising how closely tied to each other are spiritual and physical renewal. Our strength can be renewed.

It is a wonderful fact that the mind and spirit can be refreshed by waiting on God in prayer. He offers us an unlimited supply of His empowering Spirit. But we must be open, ready and receptive. As we enter the new year let us resolve to "Practice the Presence of God" with greater regularity.

End of Quarter Mission Emphasis

It is hoped that every Seventh Day Baptist church and/or Sabbath School has laid careful plans for a special emphasis on Sabbath day, December 31, the last Sabbath of this quarter (which happens to be a "fifth Sabbath," this month).

The missionary keyworker and pastor of each church received suggestions for this observance early in November. You may think of better ways to dramatize the need for a challenging Home-Field message than those offered. You are urged to use imaginative and creative ways to present the Home Missions emphasis in your church.

The missionary keyworker or someone appointed for the purpose is urged to write up some unique aspect of your observance, sending your article to the secretary of the Missionary Society.

Cigarette Advertising Curtailed

In England about a year ago the government stopped cigarette advertising on TV. More recently the government asked the companies to cut out radio advertisements and to sharply curtail newspaper and poster ads.

The reason for this curtailment is apparent. There are concerned people in the U.S. who would like to see something similar in this country—especially if the government is going to pay medical bills for those who inflict themselves with the diseases caused by cigarette smoking.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION—Sec. Rex E. Zwiebel

Church Connected Students Seventh Day Baptist Students in Chi Rho or Congregation at Alfred 1966-67

Church Members at Alfred University

Jerry Benjamins
John Burdick
Becky Butts
Cynthia Butts
Joseph Campbell
Linda Cruzan
Nancy Cruzan
Althea Greene
Kathleen Kenyon
John Ogden
Norman Olsen
Patricia Ormsby
Wyn Parry
Sharon Post
David Wellman

Non-S.D.B. Students (AU)

Bob Franksen
Sharon Fish
Nancyjane Batten
Sue Riesdorph
Sherry Winder
Aneta Haines
Manandra Bera

Faculty (AU)

Henry Langer
H. O. Burdick
Gorden Ogden
Richard West
William Parry
Robert Campbell
Milton Tuttle
Daniel Rase

Church Members at Alfred Agricultural-Technical Institution

David Sanford
Beth Cameron
Edward Dickinson

Non-S.D.B. Student (ATI)

Samson Ojo

Faculty (ATI)

Wesley Mc Crea
Mrs. Mae Lewis
Mrs. Evelyn Burdick
Winfield Randolph
Burton Crandall

Alfred Sesquicentennial Celebrated

By Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Kenyon

The Alfred church has recently completed its third weekend celebration of its first one hundred and fifty years of existence. The celebrations were divided into three phases, each centered about the Shepherd's Psalm, and each emphasized the theme, "The Flock, the Fold and the Shepherd."

On November 30, 1966, to commemorate the years from 1816-1916, a pioneer supper was served in the Parish House. The meal consisted of corn meal mush with brown sugar, molasses and milk, sausages, cole slaw, applesauce, large molasses cookies and tea. The waitresses, dressed in costumes of the era, added atmosphere to the occasion. The program following the meal was conducted by Winfield F. Randolph, and was centered around the subject, "The Bells of Alfred." These were and still are: the church bell, purchased by Rev. Nathan Hull in 1859; the academic bell on Alumni Hall, installed in 1851; and the Fire-hall bell, now 68 years old. There were guests present, some of whom were descendants of the early church members. Mrs. Daniel Rase had an interesting exhibit of articles which were representative of the period during the first one hundred years.

The church service on October 1, 1966 followed the first service when the building was dedicated in 1857, as nearly as possible. The hymns were lined out by Eugene Van Horn and then sung by the congregation. The old, long handled collection baskets were used for the offering. The church was first organized October 20, 1816 with Richard Hull as the first pastor. Pastor David Clarke's message, developed around the 23rd Psalm, emphasized the need for people to grow daily in their appreciation of the voice and presence of the full meaning of the Shepherd in their lives. "The Fold," "The Flock," and "The Shepherds" were presented by Mrs. D. W. Clare, Mr. Richard Tolins and Mrs. A. J. C. Bond, respectively. Following the service the

windows of the church were opened and each bell tolled fifteen times.

Because of inclement weather, the pilgrimage to the cemetery to honor former members was cancelled, and the service was held in the church. A silver plaque had been placed on a tree near Miss Susie Burdick's grave, and a poem written by Carol Burdick Hudson and read by H. O. Burdick in memory of Dr. Raymond O. Hitchcock, highlighted the service.

The second phase of the sesquicentennial celebration was entitled, "Looking Back"—the last fifty years, 1916-1966. On November 11, an Old Fashioned Dinner was served in the Parish House. Some of the foods used in the Pioneer Supper were featured in this meal in a different way. The dining room and tables were lighted with candles reposing in wrought iron candelabra and holders made by the late Fred. S. Place. The look back included introductions and responses from former members, a history of church memorials, a poem written by Miss Elsie Binns in honor of Dr. Raymond Wingate's birthday, a male chorus led by Eugene Van Horn, and a listing of servicemen in the last three wars. The church sanctuary was open for viewing of memorial windows, which had been specially lighted by Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Butts, as well as other memorials on display.

The Sabbath service on November 12, again centered around the main theme, with the pastor's message on "The Shepherd Psalm," "The Fold" by Mr. M. Elwood Kenyon, dealing with the physical changes about Alfred, and "The Flock" by Dr. Paul C. Saunders, denoting the developments within the church during the past fifty years. Former members of Mr. Wingate's choir sang an anthem with him at the organ.

Three pastors, the Rev. A. Clyde Ehret, the Rev. Everett T. Harris, and the Rev. Hurley S. Warren, together with Pastor David S. Clarke served the church from 1920-1966. Mrs. George Potter from Mystic, Conn., a daughter of Mr. Ehret, was present to speak of her father's ministry here; Mr. Harris and Mr. Warren

gave brief talks on their ministries during the years 1940-1952 and 1952-1963. This weekend event was made especially enjoyable with the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Colwell Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Stanton Davis and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lobaugh, children of the late beloved Dr. and Mrs. Boothe C. Davis. A very fine leather saddle was on display which was used by Mr. Davis when he rode a horse from West Virginia to Alfred to enter school here.

The final phase of the sesquicentennial celebration was entitled, "Looking Ahead." A Space Age Supper was served at the Parish House on December 2. The meal was served using paper and plastic table service. The program for the evening featured folk singing with guitar accompaniment by David Geyer, a student at Alfred University, who sang "The Ballad of Hartsville Hill Church" and a Civil Rights song, "Carry It On." Another guitarist, Andy Crandall sang two numbers with the audience joining him.

The Sabbath morning service on December 3 was outstanding because it made use of four choirs: adult, children's, rhythm and bell. The litany used was written by Deaconess Hannah Burdick in four parts: for children, for youth, for parents, and for older people. The pastoral message was based on the over-all theme, "The Fold, The Flock and the Future." Mr. H. O. Burdick spoke on "Our Shepherds." As the congregation sang "Faith of Our Fathers," members of the church who were twenty-five years and younger went to the front of the church. There a deacon, the president of the church, the church clerk and the Sabbath School superintendent presented to four designated young people a communion pitcher, a gavel, a record book and a Bible as symbols of the future work of the church.

The general chairman of the sesquicentennial celebrations was Mrs. Hannah Burdick. She had the vision which made the events possible. It has meant months of planning, and to her the church is very grateful. Mrs. Helen Ogden was chairman of the three meals.

Ordination at Algiers

In the New Orleans area the little church at Algiers of which the Rev. Mary Craig Johnson is pastor was again in the news November 19, 20, on account of the ordination service conducted there. A city paper printed a three-column picture showing the candidates kneeling for the laying on of hands and another receiving the certificates at the hand of the pastor. It was the sixteenth anniversary of the church called "God's Lighthouse of Prayer" and its seventh year as a Seventh Day Baptist church.



Receiving ordination were (left to right), Curtis Williams and William Riggin as deacons, Odile Williams as missionary, and Hilda M. Johnson as minister of the gospel. Those who participated in the laying on of hands were: The Rev. Mary Craig Johnson, pastor; the Rev. H. E. Deland, pastor at Hammond; the Rev. Ralph Hays, pastor at Metairie, La.; the Rev. A. McClain, a visitor; the Rev. Adolph Showers, pastor of the West-side Fellowship at Hammond; the Rev. R. J. Baker, who has recently left the assistant pastorate of a Baptist church to become a Seventh Day Baptist minister; the Rev. S. Knightshed, a visitor; the Rev. Mrs. Mildred Guyntery, a visitor.

The sermon for the joint ordination service was preached by Mr. Hays. Earl Deland and Adolph Showers of Hammond sang a duet. Others not so well known to Seventh Day Baptists in other places took part in the music of the two-day gathering which is said to have been a good witness to the community. Most of the people in the congregaion were not connected with the local church and were not Sabbathkeepers, according to Mrs. Johnson's report of the services.



UPPER ROOM Editor Changes

Dr. J. Manning Potts of Nashville, Tenn., editor of the internationally circulated "Upper Room" devotional guide, will become the executive director of the Lake Junaluska Assembly of the Southeastern Methodist Jurisdiction, located near Waynesville, N. C., as of Jan. 1, 1967. Dr. and Mrs. Potts will move from Nashville to Lake Junaluska and will be able to give full time to the new duties by May of 1967.

The Lake Junaluska Assembly serves the 2.8 million Methodists in 16 Annual Conferences of the nine-state Southeastern Jurisdiction. Its programs extend from late May through early October.

The Upper Room is published in thirty-seven languages and forty-four editions, with a circulation of three million copies. The readership is estimated at ten million persons in 120 nations. All editions are published bi-monthly. The announcement of the change for Dr. Potts does not state who his successor as editor will be.

How Not to Give Thanks

By enthroning self, worshiping things, and idolizing affluence.

By accepting relative ethical codes that negate the Ten Commandments.

By making peace with sexual license that smiles at fornication and makes light of adultery.

By putting "In God we trust" on our coins when we have no faith in God.

By buying more copies of the Bible than of any other book only to reject its teaching, deny its authority, and fail to read it.

From editorial in Christianity Today.

New Auburn Planning Retreat A Rich Experience

The fall planning retreat was something new for the New Auburn, Wisconsin, church and proved to be a rich experience. It was decided in July to have such a retreat to plan the work of the church. Where should it be held? A committee discovered in August what looked like an ideal spot. It was the NORWESCO Girl Scout Camp, about ten miles east of New Auburn in 700 acres of basically virgin timberland and located on a lake. It is used by Chicago girls in the summer but not in the fall or winter.

A most cordial relationship with the manager began in early September and continued to grow. He took the committee over the 700 acres to show the advantages and disadvantages for church use. Only one building suitable for use was fully heated. Another had two large fireplaces. The committee told the manager they wanted the camp for October 23, 24, 25. It was quite a surprise to learn that there would be no charge so long as they observed the rules. It was the first such group to use the property and was setting an example. At the close of the retreat the manager was well pleased.

Our schedule suggested arrival at the camp beginning at 5:30 p.m. Sabbath Eve. Some few of the local young people and families who do not have chores to do were there at that time and began setting things up—placing chairs around the "campfire" (fireplace), arranging food on the shelves, and in the refrigerator. At 7:30 we had a singspiration, testimony time, and a general rededication period. At 8:30 we closed this out and had a time of fellowship. Fires were started in the fireplaces to take the chill off during the night.

Sabbath day began with a 6:30 hike for the brave and "early-birds." The woods were aflame with vivid multi-colored leaves. When the hikers returned breakfast was nearly ready to eat. By 10:30 we were ready to have our worship service. For this activity we took

pillows, blankets, hymnbooks, etc., to the woods to an outdoor amphitheater. Folks still talk about that service in the "Green Cathedral" as it is called. There were nearly 70 persons there. There was plenty of singing, reading of the Scriptures, an "open-eyed" prayer (taking advantage of the woodland color overhead to lead us to an experience of awareness that God was present), and a sermon. Everything about the service seemed to lead us to a deep, unique worship experience.

A block of time between 1:00 and 3:00 was allowed as "free time." Some used it for naps while others spent the time in meditation, prayer, or a nice leisurely hike along the many trails and roads of the camp. At 3:00 p.m. we gathered together to discuss the program of the church for the year. We began by plotting the activities suggested by the denomination for all the churches to do together. Then we plotted the annual church activities and as many of the activities of the community as our folk would be involved in. We were thrilled to see the whole year unfold before us as we plotted activities on the calendar through Conference time in August of 1967. The church had never done this before. It gave us incentive to follow this up with further planning. Everyone is now aware of the calendar in our church vestibule and it has several "write-in activities" now added.

At 7:00 p.m. the young people had a Sabbath closing service in the "Green Cathedral" which again was a wonderful climax to the Sabbath. At 7:30 we began an evening of fun. Everyone was tired enough so that we made our "lights-out" time at 11:00.

On Sunday we began our morning program with a Conference resume with Don and Caroline Gray reporting. We sensed a great deal of the spirit of Conference and were aware again that there is a new spirit of determination and optimism prevailing among us as a denomination.

Immediately after lunch at noon, we began "breaking camp." Several of us stayed on until about 4:30 getting the

facilities in better shape than what we had found them. When it was all over, there wasn't anyone who had been in any way involved in the weekend retreat who returned home in the same frame of mind as when he came. It was an experience where we all sensed the Spirit working with us as a church and with us as individuals. It was a time of reflection on our personal needs; a time for gaining together as families; and a time of drawing together as a church. Most of all, living together in such close proximity for close to two days, was an experiment in "opening our hearts loving." It is sure to become a part of the church program for next year. We have learned much from this our first church planning retreat.

—The Pastor.

Pacific Coast Visitation

(Continued from page 8)

not counting those who were in attendance at the two meetings held.

It is interesting to note that the costs of such an extended trip were relatively small. The pastor was among strangers much of the time, but they must have been hospitable for he reported meals for eighteen days amounted to \$11.04. Gifts for the project received along the way brought the total to be paid by the Association down to \$256.71

Accomplishments: "The important thing on a trip of this kind is some sort of concrete accomplishment. In almost every case there was a sharing in spiritual concerns by those visited. There was evident a hunger for fellowship and in many cases a real need for counseling. Other times it was a matter of real inquiry as to the beliefs and concerns of Seventh Day Baptists by new contacts. In every case there was prayer and tracts or special issues of the **Recorder** left with those contacted."

Mr. Soper states: "One of the most exciting aspects of the entire trip was finding a number of interested people in Seattle. Three different households were folks from the Pasco church group which

at one time was ready to become a Seventh Day Baptist Church . . ."

The group as a whole later affiliated with another denomination but one or two families decided that they wanted to remain Seventh Day Baptists. After ten years they were still faithful but lonesome and had just decided to join the other group. His visit so encouraged at least one family that they were determined to seek membership in the Los Angeles church until such time as a group could be established there. Seattle, he found, had a number of families who would support a church. He adds, "It is my firm conviction that a church could be started in the Seattle area. It would start small, of course, but it was not many years ago that the Los Angeles church was also a small church."

Oregon also has a challenge which Mr. Soper describes thus:

"Another exciting event was the acquaintance I established with the Ericksons of Myrtle Point, Oregon. They had previously visited the Los Angeles church when living in this area. They settled in Oregon on a nice little ranch of about forty acres in a beautiful valley with a beautiful clear running stream. Their idea when locating there was to establish some sort of retirement settlement for aged Sabbathkeeping people. They thought also of developing the place into a camp ground for meetings for Sabbathkeeping groups. He is a retired naval officer who spent many years overseas and during that time did much missionary work among the native people of the areas where they served. They still carry on, through support of native missionaries they trained, some of their missionary efforts on Okinawa. Since my arrival home they wrote me a letter in which they stated their desire to become Seventh Day Baptists and if some plan could be worked out they would like to turn over their entire work to Seventh Day Baptists, with them continuing to serve. I found them to be warm spiritual folks who are making every effort to promote the Sabbath and lead people to Christ."

Florida Congregation "Has a Mind to Work"

When Nehemiah returned from the captivity to Jerusalem with authority to rebuild it, the hostile neighboring governors, such as Sanballat, heard that a small group of returnees was attempting to work on the defenses of the city and mocked them. Sanballat said to his army, "What do these feeble Jews? Will they fortify themselves? Will they sacrifice? Will they make an end in a day? Will they revive the stones out of the heaps of the rubbish which are burned?" Nehemiah resorted to prayer and called the people to dedicate themselves to the rebuilding of the walls. He was then able to record, "So built we the wall . . . for the people had a mind to work" (Neh. 4: 6).

At Daytona Beach the parsonage, two doors from the church on First Ave., had been purchased recently at considerable sacrifice. It was a large, old house that would serve the needs of the new pastor much better if it could be extensively renovated and altered before the family moved in. The story of how it was done is told in the first issue of the "Church O-Gram." From it the following information is taken.

Work was started in the summer by the small group of full-time residents. Others came back early, then more and more joined in and the work progressed, slowly but surely.

Ceilings were lowered in all rooms but the kitchen. Sheetrock was put on the walls and ceilings. One partition had to be partially rebuilt. Then came plaster coating, painting of walls and woodwork and some of the floors. As needs came up for fixtures and furnishings and materials, many interested persons gave for these needs.

Contributions included two wall gas heaters, rugs for the living room and bedroom, hall runners, linoleum rug for dining room and pantry, stainless steel sink, kitchen cabinet, hot water heater, light fixtures, window shades and curtains, re-upholstering of davenport and two chairs, some lumber and mouldings and

other odd items. An untold number of hours of labor were given by twenty-six different individuals—no hired help! The result is a very pleasant and comfortable parsonage of which the church can be justly proud.

The pastor, the Rev. Marion Van Horn, writes to his people of what it meant to him to work with the people on the parsonage as they completed the work after his arrival. He expressed it this way: "This work has provided all the twenty-six people who participated the chance to reach mutual understanding and sympathy and tolerance that folks in most congregations never experience. It was a most unusual and valuable experience for the pastor just coming into the church. I personally prize these experiences highly. . . . We have marvelled at the sustained interest shown by the people in carrying on the hard work of parsonage repair for so long a time."

As in the days of Nehemiah, the people had a mind to work—early and late, and long. There is much rebuilding of spiritual walls needed throughout all the land. May it be said in all our churches that the people are ready to put sustained effort into the objectives.

Tract Committees

Does your church have an active Tract Committee or one that exists in name only? Each church should carefully, prayerfully determine the number and kind of committees it needs to fulfill its God-given mission—which is more than maintaining a place for and a form of worship for members. The Tract Committee or the Evangelism-Tract Committee may well function as one of the most active agencies of the local church. A Los Angeles bulletin gives one example of what such a committee might do. We read:

"Approximately fifty people enjoyed the program at 'Family Night' last Sabbath evening. The program was presented by the Tract Committee with emphasis on sharing the literature the church keeps on hand to be given out. Two Billy Graham films were seen: 'Copenhagen Documentary' and 'Man in the 5th Dimen-

sion.' " As usual our hearts were strangely warmed as we saw evidence of God's working in the hearts and lives of people and were challenged to think of the spiritual dimensions of a man's life."

—Tract Board Secretary.

Obstacles to Evangelism

Communist campuses caricature the living God, while many free world institutions simply ignore Him. Communists sacrifice the individual to collectivity; western materialists reduce man to a machine for multiplying mammon.

—Carl F. H. Henry,
at Evangelism Congress.

Accessions

ALGIERS, LA.

By Baptism:

Gerold Lee
Jeremiah Williams
Alfred Lewis
Gesel Lewis
Latonia Williams

By Testimony:

Mrs. Louise Anekins
Mrs. Pauline Williams
Mrs. William Riggins

Marriages

Davis-Crosby.—Curtis L. Davis, son of Deacon and Mrs. Aubrey Davis of North Loup, Neb., and Shirley Crosby, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Crosby of Golden, Colo., were united in marriage Nov. 6, 1966, at the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Denver, their pastors, Duane L. Davis and Albert N. Rogers, officiating. They will be at Vandenberg AFB, where the groom is stationed.

Obituaries

DAVIS.—Carroll E. was born at Fouke, Ark. March 27, 1889, and died suddenly at his home in Nortonville, Kan., Nov. 23, 1966. He moved to Kansas in 1910, and in 1918 married Alma Maris. He was a member of the Nortonville Seventh Day Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife; a son, Alfred, at home; a son, Edwin, of Nortonville; a daughter, Mrs. Allen (Gladys) Neuhaus of Topeka, Kan.; seven grandchildren; a sister, Mrs. Eda Kerr of Fouke, Ark.; and a brother, Elmer Davis of Fontana, Calif.

Funeral services were conducted by his pastor, Paul B. Osborn, from the Warren Funeral Home, with interment in the Nortonville Cemetery.

—P. B. O.