

The Sabbath Recorder

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

MARLBORO, N. J.—We thank and praise God that we will soon have a pastor to lead our church. John Conrod will begin his pastorate here this spring. He and Pastor David Pearson have been leading us in worship Sabbath mornings. We are very thankful for the sacrifices they have been making for us.

Mr. Pearson has been coming down from Philadelphia to lead our Sabbath Eve prayer meetings. Our studies have been taken from the book of Revelation with emphasis on chapters 1-3, 5, 7, and 22.

The Ladies Aid Society sponsored our annual Family Night and Talent Show. After a delicious covered dish dinner, several of our members displayed their talent.

We had special evangelistic meetings with the Rev. Victor Skaggs, March 9-12. These meetings were a great blessing to each of us.

—Correspondent.

Youth at Work

The youth at Riverside, Calif., had charge of the morning service on Youth Day, February 4. They did not stop with a try at preaching, but went on to do some practicing. In the afternoon the Youth Fellowship distributed special issues of the **Sabbath Recorder** and other literature to 300 homes, an activity directed by Jack Jensen, Tract Committee chairman.

Four Unchangeables

Evangelist Billy Graham started off his Puerto Rico campaign March 19 with the

support of high government leaders and an attendance of 14,000. His first message on the four unchangeables brought 466 "inquirers." Speaking of the many things that are changing, he listed four unchangeables—the nature of God as to His wrath and love, the Word of God which is relevant to every generation, human nature which is in rebellion against God, and the way of salvation which demands individual repentance of sin, faith in the work of Christ on the cross, and open confession of having had a spiritual birth.

Accessions

SHILOH, N. J.

By Baptism:

Beatrice C. Harris
Donna G. Lane
Susan E. Lupton
Lynette S. McAllister
Fay E. Moncrief
Pamela S. Rice
E. Ann Sheppard
Caroline I. Williams
Steven A. Harris
Mrs. Terry Stahlberger
Mr. Albert R. Davenport

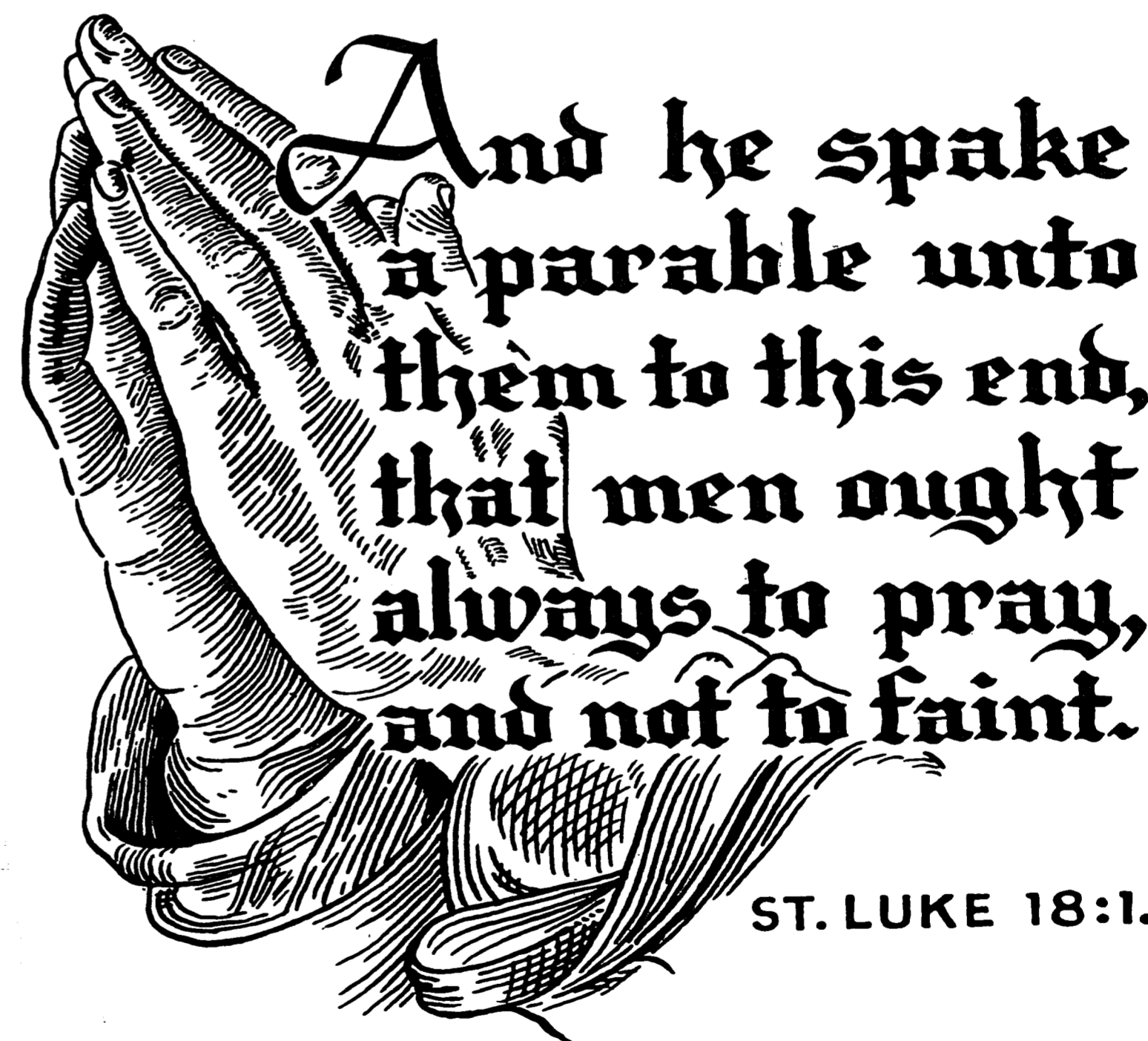
Marriages

Hollenbeck-Peckham.—Lloyd Hollenbeck son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd S. Hollenbeck of Greenwood to Carol Peckham, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hollis Peckham of Andover were married in the Independence Seventh Day Baptist Church on March 11 by the Rev. Glen Bucher of the First Methodist Church in Wellsville.

Births

Hamann.—A son, James Brian, Jan. 16, 1967, to Howard and Laura (Sayre) Hamann of Neenah, Wis.

Patterson.—Stephen Ford, was born October 17, 1966, to Malcolm and Alice Patterson, 853 S. Gilpin St., Denver, Colo.



ST. LUKE 18:1.

The Sabbath Recorder

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REV. LEON M. MALTBY, Editor
Contributing Editors:

MISSIONS Everett T. Harris, D.D.
WOMEN'S WORK Mrs. Lawrence W. Marsden
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, Rex E. Zwiebel, B.D., M.A.

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Is It Good to Be Defensive?

Sometimes a few words put together in one connection strike like a hammer blow to awaken our dull minds to their significance in other connections. Take, for instance, the announcement that on May 23 there is to be another National Drivers Test televised. Its three main objectives are (1) to persuade people to drive defensively, (2) to enroll people in defensive driving courses, (3) to provide important data for future research projects. These are all good objectives, applicable to every driver of a motor vehicle.

What strikes one in the above objectives is the word "defensive," a perfectly good word but one which does not fit the modern mood in religious and moral thinking. Should we not strike out religiously into unexplored heights of personal liberty? Should we not be done with the restrictions of ancient moral codes? Isn't it time to declare our independence of God and the Bible? Let's be bold and aggressive, casting off the restrictive guidelines to which our forefathers clung. This is the type of thing we hear so much about from some of those who pamper the blithe young spirits and advocate what they call the new morality or situation ethics. This word "defensive" is a foreign, outmoded, old-fashioned word. We are laughed to scorn in some circles if we suggest that the Ten Commandments ought to be obeyed as a solid standard of behavior. Suppose we were to be defensive about the "faith of our fathers." Some would say that was not good.

It is interesting to note that a modern version of the New Testament renders a familiar verse differently. Instead of "Be ready always to give an answer" the Revised Standard Version reads: "Always be prepared to make a defense to any one who calls you to account for the hope that is in you . . ." (1 Pet. 3: 15).

This "defensive driving" ought to remind us that there are a great many areas where we are not masters of the situation. Our very life is so often conditioned on adherence to accepted standards of conduct. Defensive driving is to preserve life and limb, to avoid unhappiness and

hurt. How much more should we preserve eternal happiness by guiding our lives by the safety standards that have proven themselves since the thunders of Mount Sinai and the strictures of the Sermon on the Mount. We cannot rebel except to our own hurt. Is this defensive of Christian doctrine and standards? If so, let's not be ashamed of it, and—drive defensively!

Another Look at Red China

Why do students and young people wield so much influence in China? One reason is that there are so many of them. It is startling to learn that over half of China's population of 700,000,000 is under 21 years of age. Is it because the people are prolific, or because so many millions are kept from growing old by liquidation and disease? Perhaps a combination of these factors is what yields a population with a high percentage of youth who have never known anything but communism. Their "Bible" is the gospel according to Mao Tse-tung—and what a senseless adoration they have for his commonplace, uninspiring sayings! These young revolutionaries are zealous, dedicated, evangelistic. They glory in sacrifice and suffering. They worship their leader, Mao. They are willing to die in their efforts to destroy old culture, old customs, old habits, old ideas and to build a new communist society. Mao is God, the Party is the Church, and the fanatical young Red Guards are the evangelists.

Recent visitors from China declare that remaining Christian churches were finally destroyed last summer by the Red Guards. Press releases report all churches were liquidated last August.

The recent Easter season with its stranger than ever antics of rebellious American youth gathering on two coasts and becoming involved in lawless acts and riots makes us wonder. Will they straighten themselves out and become useful, law-abiding citizens, or will they carry over into adulthood their championing of small causes, their ego-mania, and their senseless pursuit of sensual pleas-

ures? It will depend pretty largely on whether or not they can be effectively reached with the gospel of love. It was heartening to see on television the self-sacrificing work of some of the 700 student evangelists at Daytona Beach. The picture of American youth is by no means all dark. Here in America the church is not liquidated; here Christian influences tend to balance the evil forces that infect juvenile society.

What about Red China? The recent revolt against Mao Tse-tung may yield a glimmer of hope that even the youth of China as they mature will come to their senses. As yet there is little evidence that the China revolt is anything more than a power struggle between forces that are anti-Christian and thoroughly communistic. There may be evidence, however, that no man can build his pedestal so strong that it cannot be toppled. There are still two great forces that can work in Red China, the force of intercessory prayer and the voice of Christian radio. Both can fly over the China Wall and penetrate the bamboo curtain. Both forces are ours to use.

(Part of the above information about Red China comes from Robert Bowman, president of the Far East Broadcasting Co.)

"Fervently Pious, Deeply Patriotic"

Dr. Josef Nordenhaug, general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, came back from a trip through the Soviet Union with the report that there are 550,000 Baptists in Russia and that the churches are thriving in spite of the fact that if any try to proselytize or conduct religious education outside the church those who do so are jailed. He states that he found Russian Baptists "fervently pious and deeply patriotic."

If a visitor to the United States contacted the churches of our denomination and left with the impression that our members are fervently pious and deeply patriotic many would feel that he had paid us high honor. Many more would wonder if he was justified in making

such a report, for we are not sure that such a characterization fits all of our congregations. We have no reason to question the observation of Dr. Nordenhaug, for others have expressed much the same thought in different words.

What bothers a great many patriotic Christians in our country is how a large body of Baptists in the Soviet Union can at the same time be deeply patriotic and fervently pious. Their country is not Christian in name; it is militantly godless; it spends millions upon millions of tax money to combat belief in God and to promote atheistic communism throughout the world.

It is hard for us to see how a fervently pious people can give wholehearted allegiance to a government which seeks the world-wide destruction of the faith that motivates them. We who are accustomed to thinking logically and perhaps pride ourselves in subduing all manifestations of emotional involvement in our religious services are puzzled at such a contradiction, such a split personality, as seems to be implied in what is said about the Baptists of Russia. Some have taken the view that nobody can be a true Christian and be patriotic under the Russian regime. It would seem to be better to say that whether or not we can understand it, the observation is true.

It might be better to make allowances for their patriotism than to doubt the fervency of their faith. They are no doubt brainwashed to a considerable degree. They see their country as the great champion of peace, and they have reason to fear war like the plague. It appears that in their patriotism they pick out the best rather than dwell on the antireligious side of their government. They are pretty thoroughly convinced, we are told, that the socialist state is the most desirable and that peace according to the Russian plan is the only peace.

At any rate, logical or illogical, it is probable that the characterization given by Dr. Nordenhaug accurately describes the so-called Evangelical Christians—

Baptists of Russia. Whether or not it is true of Lutherans or other denominations is another question. We must accept it and make whatever allowances are necessary for their piety and their patriotism. It should make us think a little more deeply about ourselves. Can we claim to be better when it appears that we are neither fervently pious nor deeply patriotic?

No Need to Count the Spoons
Is J. Edgar Hoover's
Challenge to Youth

There Is a Moral Code

Today, scores of young people recognize the soundness of the poet's statement that "Want of decency is want of sense," and they seek leadership of the kind that reflects their own good sense. I am convinced that this basic good sense will keep the vast majority of young Americans from being led very far astray by those amoral but articulate persons who seek to wipe out the line between right and wrong. When you encounter such an individual, test his theories against a little gem put forth by Samuel Johnson:

"If he does really think there is no distinction between virtue and vice, why, sir, when he leaves our house let us count our spoons."

The disciplines embodied in the Decalogue are essential to personal self-rule, and I can conceive of no nation retaining its freedom for any length of time if those disciplines are ignored and if the moral code embodied in the Book which guided our forefathers is shelved and forgotten.

What is the greatest challenge facing any young person in this era of rising lawlessness? I believe the challenge for him is to develop and live by a personal moral code which will make it unnecessary for anyone to "count the spoons" when he leaves. And a moral code which keeps the individual upright will help keep the nation in balance.

—Christian Endeavor World.

General Conference Publicity

(Fifth in a series)

Costs at Calvin College

The General Conference Planning Committee of Northern Association announces the following fees per person for General Conference this summer, Aug. 14-19, at Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan:

Adult room and board for week—\$40.00

Children 5 to 10 years—\$20.00

Children under 5 years—free

This price includes the full week of Conference, starting with supper Sunday night the 14th and concluding with breakfast Sunday morning the 20th. Children 5 to 10 years will be housed in a connecting room with all facilities furnished (bed and linen) the same as an adult. For children under 5, the parents are expected to house them in their room and furnish the bed and linens.

The host committee and college management strongly desire all persons to live in the dormitories and eat in the cafeteria, but if this is not possible they have very generously allowed us to make the following arrangements:

Per week—

Lodging only, per person—\$20.00

Meals only, per person—\$20.00

Per day—

Room and board—\$7.50

Room only—\$3.75

Separate meals—

Breakfast .75, lunch 1.25, dinner 1.75.

Children 5 to 10—any of the above arrangements, half price.

Children under 5, free.

There will be an extra charge of \$1.00 over and above the meal ticket for any banquet, to cover the cost of extra courses and waitresses instead of cafeteria.

The college has granted us permission to park a limited number of trailers or campers on the paved parking lot next to the auditorium at a fee of \$2.00 per day. If you are interested in such arrange-

ments, contact George Parrish, 205 Dogwood Trail, Battle Creek, Mich. 49017 as soon as possible for reservation. There will be a \$2.00 per person, per week, registration fee for all persons not housed in the dormitories. It is expected there will be no registration fee for other persons, since Northern Association has set aside \$400.00 to take care of the operating expenses of Conference, so that the fees may be kept to a minimum. In our next article we will describe in more detail the facilities Calvin College is making available to us.

More Sabbath Rally Day Materials

All churches have been sent four copies of a role play program for youth designed to be used by C. E. leaders or possibly Sabbath School classes. The material embodies a familiar old tract, "Her Wedding Ring" written by Mrs. T. J. Van Horn as far back as 1906. This material, conveniently arranged in mimeographed form for more or less impromptu reading by three young folks, may be found to be usable in more than one situation. A considerable number of extra copies are available from the office of the American Sabbath Tract Society.

The special Sabbath lessons for use up to Junior High level have also been mailed to all churches in quantities considered sufficient for each church. Certain of these lessons, particularly in the older age bracket, are available in quantity in case there were not enough sent out.

This offer of sending extra Sabbath Rally Day materials (which could be used just as well at other times) is extended to all our English-speaking mission fields as well as our churches in the United States.

The Sabbath Rally Day bulletin covers soon to be sent to all churches are not in full color this year since the committee was unable to find suitable prepared bulletin covers from the various companies which produce them. The covers, with the Sabbath sharing covenant material on the back, are being printed by our own publishing house.



Amid the rapturous beauties of creation and the manifold evidences of God's love we may find many a

Godforsaken Heart

By Francis D. Saunders

For many marvel-filled hours we had traveled across the mountains and mesas of the western reaches of our great nation. We had passed through literal miles of waving grain, silken gold in the shimmering sun. We had seen the distant Rockies rising like phantom giants on the faraway horizon. We had wended our way alongside the roaring torrent streams, which, continuing through the years, cut their insistent channels alike through resisting granite and shifting sand. Majestic mountain peaks had lifted their white-crowned caps above the desolate soil of timberline tundra. We had dropped from lofty timberline heights to be surrounded by towering trees, verdant in evergreen dress; and later we stood gazing in wonder at a different, desolate glory. Surrounded by the Arizona desert, we could see no sign of vegetation save the struggling cacti. The sun beat hot upon us, and upon the bare, red rocks of the surrounding scene, lending its burning, golden glow to the beauty of the place; and as we stood in wonderment at the revealed glory, we were suddenly snapped from our reverie by the uninspired voice of a fellow viewer: "What a Godforsaken place!" Enhanced as we had been by the beauty of that land, we could hardly believe our ears.

The contrast in scenic beauty could hardly be greater than the contrast of appreciation which filled his heart and mind and that which filled ours; and we could only wonder if perhaps it isn't the condition of the heart which is void of the presence of God, rather than the physical surroundings in which we find ourselves day by day. Many times since the day of this related experience, I have reflected

upon the scene, thinking that I would like to say something concerning the "Godforsaken Heart." A few days ago, the scene was brought vividly to mind again as I heard one of my colleagues remark that there really "is no place which is Godforsaken." We fail to see beauty, or to enjoy blessings or to claim promises, because of the desolate condition of our hearts. To the extent that we are despondent or unappreciative or without hope, perhaps to this extent our hearts are Godforsaken. What is it that brings about this feeling of being forsaken? What causes result in desolation of heart? May I share with you some thoughts on these questions?

No Sorrow for Sin

That heart might be considered Godforsaken where there is no longer any sorrow for sin. The following words of wisdom from the Book of Proverbs are pertinent: "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy. Happy is the man that feareth alway: but he that hardeneth his heart shall fall into mischief" (Prov. 28:13-14). How many are the hearts attempting to hide iniquity! The proverbial saying is probably true in this respect, that "you can fool all of the people some of the time, and some of the people all of the time, but you can't fool all of the people all of the time." Equally true it is that "you cannot hide from God." It is possible so long and so consistently to submit to wrongdoing that the heart becomes hardened, and there is no longer any remorse of heart and mind. This covering of sin "shall not prosper." Conversely it is true that wherever there is an acknowl-

edgement, a confessing and a forsaking of sin, there is the felt mercy of God. Be careful that there be no hardening of the heart against the persistent urging of the Spirit of God within, lest that Spirit then forsake you and you "fall into mischief."

No Thirsting for Righteousness

That heart might be considered Godforsaken where there is no longer any thirsting after righteousness. Paul describes in Romans 1:28-30 those who "did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; being filled with all unrighteousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them." The desperate condition of the life which brings forth the works of the flesh, in contrast to the fruit of the Spirit: "joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance" (Gal. 5:22, 23) is vividly portrayed in this prophetic warning. How desperate is that heart which feels no longing after God, no striving after good, no compassion, no charity, no Christian grace. As long as there is any spark of righteous desire, it is possible for the breath of God to fan that spark into the flame of obedient, Christ-like service.

No Fellowship in Prayer

That heart might be considered Godforsaken where there is no more fellowship in prayer. I suspect that every Christian has at some time or other had the desolate feeling that somehow his prayers were not getting through to God. For one who loves God deeply, and desires Him earnestly, this can be indeed a traumatic

experience. The author of Proverbs 28:9 may have hit upon the core of this problem when he wrote: "He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination." There is a close relationship between our willingness to listen for His will, and our ability to "get through" in prayer. It might be well to spend time in preparation for prayer. May I suggest three preparatory steps to effective prayer. (1) Diligently search His Word for His will. (2) Earnestly examine your inmost being. (3) Submit your heart and life to His revealed will. Having done these things you will find that "the effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

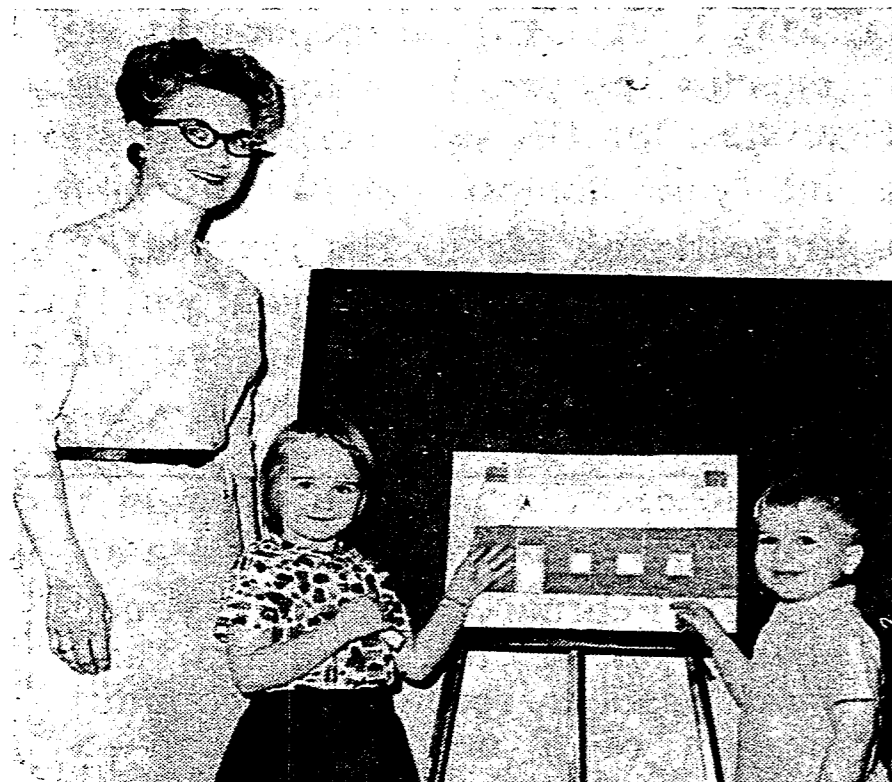
ANNOUNCEMENT

Early February most of the young people, all of the ministers and many leaders received a communication of a new publication—a daily devotional called **YOUTH**—that will be sent out October 1967 (see your church pastor for initial information). The deadline for handing in devotionals was set at February 28, 1967. Although we have received quite a few devotionals we still need many more in order to fill a full year's copy. **As of this notice there is no deadline for handing in your devotionals.**

Please feel free to send anything that you think would be good as devotional material for young people at any time to: Miss Nancy Brannon, R.D. #1, Freeville, N. Y. 13068. We would like to thank those that have already sent in devotionals. We have many wonderful ones from all over the world. We are thankful for such response and interest. Remember! Anytime! Any day! send in **YOUTH** devotionals! —Nancy Brannon & Andrea Crandall, Co-editors.

Junior Sabbath School Helps Build Blantyre House

The White Cloud, Michigan, Seventh Day Baptist Sabbath School reached its goal of 100 bricks—\$100 for Blantyre House. As each dollar was given, a small red brick was attached to a poster displaying a house divided into 100 bricks.



(Mrs. Earl Babcock, Junior S. S. Supt., with Karen and David Babcock).

Most of the money was given by the Junior Sabbath School which channelled its offerings toward this worthy project. All agreed it was an interesting way to help our missionaries. Arrangements were made through the help of Margaret Mosher, missionary keyworker.

It is hoped that the Blantyre House appeal will be concluded on April 30, 1967 and that all funds for this building project will be sent to the Missionary Board by that date.

Catching Up to Date

By Mrs. Victor Burdick

It seems that since we returned to Makapwa, many things have happened, with people going here and there. We are happy for this. It is encouraging for the work of the Lord to see workers being trained. For many years we have struggled with the problem of providing further education than we have here at

Makapwa, training in specialized fields. It seems that all at once many of the pieces worked with over the years are falling into place. We praise our Father for these opportunities. We pray that this training will be used to His honor and glory, to the advancement of Seventh Day Baptists here in Malawi.

Twelve days after arriving back, Victor took two young men to Blantyre where they entered the Likubula Bible Institute, an interdenominational school. (See **Sabbath Recorder**, issue of March 13, 1967, page 10). Stanley Muhezewa is single, and all his expenses are being paid by the Central Africa Conference of Seventh Day Baptists. Watson Mataka has a wife and five children. His school expenses are met by the conference. However, one of the families in the Bay Area church has generously offered to support Mrs. Mataka and the five young ones during the absence of father.

Nine days later Mr. Makatanje left our midst on his way to Zambia, where he was to enter the Kitwe Literature Course. He ran into trouble at the border with immigration authorities. However, after a delay of some two weeks or so things were straightened out, and he again was on his way. The Christian Council of Malawi is paying the cost of this course, although our own conference is taking care of his personal and travel needs. Mr. Makatanje is also a family man, leaving here his wife and two little daughters. The Shiloh Sabbath School has contributed toward support of the family while they are here by themselves. Certainly there is a need for Christian literature in Malawi as more and more are seeking things to read. Again we see the opportunity open in radio—time given free, and an ever increasing number of radios (wireless here) found out in village homes. We pray that the proper place may be found for Mr. Makatanje so that his new talents might multiply for the Lord.

Three days from today, on the 9th of March, 1967, Mr. Muula will leave to begin his journey the length of Malawi and over into Tanzania. Here he will

MEMORY TEXT

And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. Luke 21:34.

take a commercial course for the next six months. This will be a great help to the mission to have a trained person in this field. Mr. Muula's expenses will be half on a loan basis, half met by the mission. Mrs. Muula, her son and daughter will return to her village during the time Mr. Muula is away. The mission will share in her support.

There are still irons in the fire. Harold Dzumani has recently learned that he passed his Cambridge examinations (completion of high school). He is now waiting to hear whether he will be accepted into a school of nursing in Scotland. There is a state certified school of nursing in Malawi now, and we thought for a time that he might be accepted here. However the school is open to women only, with the exception of a few men that government is training for itself. The school of nursing in Scotland will provide room and board, and in addition pay a salary to students. Therefore there remains only the cost of transportation. We are in the process of applying for a loan from the Pacific Coast's Vocational Loan Fund.

Mr. Dzumani would be a great asset to our medical work as a state certified nurse. We are praying that the Lord's will be done. He was married on the 8th of January, and this would mean a long separation. Let us hear what he has to say for himself: "After I fell in love with the former Miss Eneress Nkumba, I found that her character as far as I was concerned was fitting. Malamulo is a place of many nice looking girls, but above all, I needed a wife with a sound character other than outside appearance. Upon completing my secondary education, we decided to marry so that we could share our joys and sorrows together. However,

I told her that my thirst for further education had not quenched, and that I would still go on for three years training as a state registered nurse. I am just expecting to find a place of training, probably overseas." We are praying that the Lord's will be done.

As we look farther into the future, things do not appear so clear, and yet as we trust in the Lord, we know that His way will be made known. It has been the longing of Mr. Mazingah, Mission Superintendent and Manager of Schools, to continue his education. Completion of his secondary school has been blocked so far. The National Council of Churches is offering scholarships for special study of a year, and completion of secondary education is not a requirement for all courses. He is applying for a scholarship in order to study administration in education. He has given permission that an excerpt be used from his application, as is quoted here: "I am whole-heartedly convinced that teaching as a teacher-evangelist in church schools is one of the best arms to reach and convict people of their sins through the teaching of the Holy Word. Just as I found my personal Savior Jesus, through the teaching of religion by a Christian teacher in the classroom, I would really promise to make it life's work, and should I find a chance to improve my knowledge and efficiency in the study of principles, methods, and management in education—I would feel like having brought an advanced armour of witnessing for Christ through teaching in the church schools."

Farther still into the future is Nedd Chitekwe's desire to be a doctor. He is in the last year of secondary school and will be writing his Cambridge exam in November.

Dreaming you say! Perhaps. But we have seen the hand of the Lord working in the past, at this time, and we are expecting it to continue into the future, as we strive to do His will and follow in His way.

Stewardship Representative Duties Defined

In writing to the Christians at Corinth, Paul interpreted giving in this way, "Every man according as he purposes in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver (2 Cor. 9:7).

It may be the privilege of the local stewardship representative or committee to define the difference between educating in stewardship and appealing for money, in stressing **why** Christians should do well to give rather than **how much**.

In this sixth of a series of articles outlining duties of local representatives of boards and agencies, the role of the local stewardship representative is explained by the Rev. S. Kenneth Davis in behalf of the Commission.

As noted in previous articles, church clerks are urged to include such a job analysis in their records for future reference. —A. L. W.

Stewardship Keyworker

1. Selection of the Stewardship Representative should be based on these qualities:

a. Tactful—in a full stewardship program his responsibilities will overlap those of the pastor and many of the other church committees.

b. Resourceful—the area of stewardship promotion as a separate emphasis is relatively new and "how-to" materials are limited.

c. Dedicated—there is no more crying need in the church today than stewardship awareness. This person should be one willing to spend endless hours in helping his local church grow in stewardship of all of life.

d. Dependable—a stewardship program that "breaks down" at any point short of successful conclusion may do more harm than no program at all.

2. General Duties:

a. To receive the materials sent to your church from the Seventh Day Baptist Stewardship Office and, with the local stewardship committee and/or pas-

tor, adapt them to your church situation and calendar.

b. To promote stewardship consciousness on the part of church members and friends.

c. To seek to make your church a tithing-as-the-base-of-giving church.

d. To seek to change the philosophy of the stewardship committee from one of simply budget raising to one of education in stewardship of life.

3. Specific duties (or at least opportunities), for implementation:

a. To suggest a "white gift" program and purposes for the gift at Christmas. The observance of God's gift to us necessitates a response in love.

b. Promotion of giving to the SDB World Federation on the Sabbath ending the SDB Week of Prayer (first week in January).

c. Arranging for workshops in some area of stewardship. A study course will be recommended in time for implementation in January.

d. To encourage the proper committee to implement a training session and program of evangelistic visitation (generally in February).

e. To promote a tithing emphasis during the season of soul-searching prior to Resurrection Sabbath.

f. To volunteer to lead a period during church membership classes in the area of stewardship education. Excellent filmstrips are available from the denominational stewardship office.

g. To see that new church members are immediately assigned to some task for Christ (in cooperation with pastor and/or nominating committee). "Time and talent" forms ought to be filled out by new members as soon as they join.

h. Emphasize the need for summer camps and conferences for various groups in the church—not just young people. Stewardship of natural resources and mission education are good themes, as are any areas of concern peculiar to that particular group. Stewardship covers all of life.

i. To take a lead in laying plans for a full year of stewardship education.

j. Promotion of a fall visitation of members for "time and talent" commitment.

k. Lay plans for the Every Member Visitation for the budget. Thanksgiving season is particularly appropriate.

l. Evaluation of stewardship programs. Send suggestions for improvement and ideas for implementation to the stewardship office to be shared with others.

m. Preparation of tithing and stewardship testimonies or sentences for worship folders, bulletins, bulletin boards and newsletters (in cooperation with the pastor and/or communications committee).

(In all of these areas the Stewardship Representative will want to consult all other concerned committees and individuals, and work with them in implementing these programs.)

Write to:

Seventh Day Baptist Stewardship Office
C/O The Rev. S. Kenneth Davis
118 Main Street
Westerly, Rhode Island 02891

Going to College?

Have you thought about a "Sabbath-conscious" school in a community with a Seventh Day Baptist Church? Dr. Kenneth E. Smith, dean of Milton College, writes that so many scholarships are now available that if you can afford to go to a state college or university, you may well be able to attend Milton, too, with the fringe benefits of a large, active college-church. It won't hurt to check it out.

—North Loup Church Bulletin.

Seventh Day Baptist

1966 YEARBOOK

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S. D. B. General Conference Office

510 Watchung Ave. (Box 868)

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Youth News

God and Country Scouting Award

The Boy Scout program as such is completely interdenominational and interfaith. All boys regardless of race, color, or creed are eligible for membership in the Boy Scouts. Some troops, however, are sponsored by individual churches.

Scouting has a God and Country medal for certain levels of achievement within the church to which a Scout belongs. It is always interesting to hear of Seventh Day Baptist boys who try for this merit award under the counseling of their own pastors. The **Salem Herald** for March 30 carries an article about a Clarksburg, W. Va., boy, which begins with the following paragraph: Tom Allen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley K. Allen, of 1092 Taylor Street, Clarksburg, was awarded the National Boy Scout God and Country Medal on Sabbath morning, March 18, during the regular worship service of the Lost Creek Seventh Day Baptist Church. The candidate was presented by his Scoutmaster, Mr. Burton Leachman. The award, presented by the minister, Rev. Francis D. Saunders, culminated a year of concentrated work and study in the fundamentals of Christianity. It is a program of activities designed to prepare the individual for Christian living in his church and community.

The article continues with information about Tom, who is a Life Scout and is the newly elected senior patrol leader of his troop, a troop sponsored by the First Methodist Church of Clarksburg. It goes on to say that he is an active member of the youth fellowship and choir of the Lost Creek Seventh Day Baptist Church. Hats off to another eighth grade youth who has shown himself willing to learn and anxious to serve in ways that would entitle him to the God and Country award!

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for April 22, 1967

The Power of Faith

Lesson Scripture: Acts 3:1-16.

Souls Saved at Sunrise

Not too many events are scheduled for sunrise. The ones that come to mind are not happy ones. Men convicted of treason in a military court, according to history, listened to the sentence, "For the crime committed you are to be shot at sunrise." Executions other than military have been carried out at sunrise. For all such the fateful day dawned dark.

It is most unusual for large numbers of souls to be saved at sunrise, but it has now happened in San Juan, Puerto Rico. It was this way. Evangelist Billy



Graham never before closed a major campaign with a sunrise service. At San Juan he scheduled his final speaking engagement in a nine-day campaign for six a.m., on Easter Sunday, just ten hours after the close of the Saturday night meeting, which had drawn a responsive crowd of 16,000 persons. On hand at the sunrise service were about 13,500 people, three times more than had ever attended such a service in San Juan.

One hundred girls dressed in flowing white formal dresses, and carrying Easter lilies, marched onto the baseball turf at the beginning of the service to form a cross. As the early morning sun pushed its way over the clouds that ringed the horizon, the audience led by Graham's song leader Cliff Barrows sang, "He Lives." The girls then marched off the field after they placed the flowers on the ground, leaving an outline of a cross. It remained in front of Graham's speaker's platform throughout the service.

Seldom in the Easter sunrise services that have become so popular across

America in the past few decades is there a strong evangelistic note sounded. Services are stirring and jubilant but they usually make their appeal to those who are already established in the faith. Great crosses are reared on mountain or plain which stand as silent sentinels of the resurrection faith through the months until surrounded by crowds of Christians once a year. At San Juan this year it was different. The message of the living Christ was given by an evangelist whose messages reach the heart more effectively than the same words spoken by other faithful pastors.

"The good news today," said Mr. Graham, "is that Christ is alive. We are going to live forever with Him if we put our trust in Christ." He urged his hearers to make that choice. At the close of the service an estimated 600 persons came forward as "inquirers." Of that great number there must have been many, many souls truly saved, judging from the lasting results of such decisions in other campaigns. What a time to find salvation! The dawn of that day was the dawn of a new day for all who could sing for the first time sincerely, "He lives! He lives! You ask me how I know He lives; He lives within my heart!"

When we are truly concerned about lost souls, we will join with the angels in heaven in rejoicing over "one sinner that repenteth" (Luke 15:10). It matters not who shoulders the lost sheep or by what method the unsaved find salvation; the rejoicing on earth ought to match the rejoicing that Jesus says rings across the battlements of heaven. The greater the number, the greater the volume of the music in heaven.

—Editor.

Noted Negro Soloist

Mrs. Martin Luther King, a concert singer who made her debut in 1948 and has appeared in major cities of the U. S. and abroad has been secured as the soloist for the American Baptist Convention in Pittsburgh in May.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION—Sec. Rex E. Zwiebel

Youth Pre-Con Retreat

According to Youth Pre-Con Retreat director, the Rev. Earl Cruzan, the theme for this year will be "The Christian Calling."

There will be two basic classes and discussion periods: the first is titled, "What Can I Believe?" and the second, "Does It Make Any Difference How I Live?"

Staff members selected thus far include the Rev. Duane L. Davis, pastor of the North Loup, Neb., Seventh Day Baptist Church; the Rev. and Mrs. Oscar C. Burdick (He is the co-pastor of the Bay Area church); Miss Connie Coon, a Michigan public school teacher; and Mrs. Earl Cruzan. Mrs. Rosemary Roelly will serve as business manager.

General Secretary Alton L. Wheeler will preside over an evening session as he presents Year II—Facing Frontiers with Faith.

The Retreat will be held at the Barry County 4 H Camp near Hastings, Mich. The fee will be \$19.00. The dates are August 9-13. Watch for further announcement.

Ministers Conference

Pre-registration information with blanks to be sent to the host pastor has been sent to the ministers of our denomination. If through error any minister did not receive the information, he may send his intentions to the Rev. Duane L. Davis, North Loup, Neb. 68859. Please state arrival time and give the method of travel. The registration fee is pro-rated according to the distance traveled.

The conference begins at 10:30 a.m., April 26 and ends with the noon meal, May 3.

Church School Year

At the annual meeting of the Committee on the Uniform Series of Bible School Lessons, Division of Christian Education, National Council of Churches, held March 12-17, 1967, it was voted to change the

cycle of the Uniform Lessons from October 1 to September 30 to September 1 to August 31 beginning with September 1971.

The new cycle corresponds to the beginning of the public school year, thus allowing the students who are promoted in the church school to begin in their new class with the new materials coincidental with promotion at public school.

Secretary Zwiebel attended the meetings of the committee.

Camp Dates

Camp Riverview, North Loup, Nebraska
June 11 - June 18—Junior, Junior High
June 19 - June 24—Primary Day Camp
July 10 - 17—Mid-Continent Assn. Senior Youth Camp
September 1-2-3—Youth Fellowship Retreat

Youth Field Worker

The Youth Field Worker Fund being solicited by the Milton SDBYF has been increased by \$93.50 as of March 8. The Berlin YF sent in \$58.00, and the Pawcatuck furnished \$35.50, Miss Alice Rood reports.

National UNICEF Day

A resolution has been introduced in the U. S. Senate to give Halloween a second name: National UNICEF Day.

Senator Philip A. Hart (D., Mich.), is chief sponsor of the joint resolution which has 24 bi-partisan co-sponsors.

UNICEF aid is now reaching millions of children in 100 countries, according to the Michigan senator. It has helped cure 37 million cases of yaws, has treated 22 million trachoma victims and a million lepers. Even more important it is teaching mothers how to protect their children from these infections, said Senator Hart.

"It is interesting to note that one nickel will buy 30 glasses of milk or provide penicillin to cure a case of yaws. A dime will cure a child of trachoma. Seventy-five cents will cure a young leper," he explained.

Social Action Urged as Part of Crusade of the Americas

Southern Baptists were urged to enthusiastically enter into the proposed 1969 Crusade of the Americas, "embracing a total evangelism which refuses to allow irrelevant barriers like race, class and nationality to close the doors of the church."

Speaking to the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, Ross Coggins of Nashville urged Southern Baptists to accompany the crusade with support of civil rights legislation, open housing, and anti-poverty efforts.

Opposition to such legislation would "make the Crusade of the Americas seem a hollow mockery," said Mr. Coggins. Those who honestly disagree have an obligation to devise alternative proposals which offer better prospects for those whose right to buy a house is restricted.

The speaker also urged Baptists to use their buying power to encourage the elimination of racial discrimination in education, housing and employment. "Last year Southern Baptists contributed nearly \$670 million to their churches. Think how much might be accomplished for racial justice if enlightened Christian conscience prevailed in the spending and investing of such a sum!"

"Hopefully, the Crusade of the Americas will find Baptists throughout the hemisphere proclaiming with the prophets of old that God is not interested in rituals, offerings and sacrifices, but in justice rolling down as a mighty stream. He is the God who is active in the very midst of the struggle of the bruised, the captive, and the poor.

"We must be careful not to preach about a God who is concerned with man's soul but not with the slums in which he lives; a God who interested in a man's prayers, but not in the possibility of his owning a piece of land; a God who is interested in man's personal piety, but not in oppressive economic and social structures which make a hell of his earthly existence," said the social action promoting Baptist.

"Effective evangelism must have great moral power in this age," he concluded. "The challenge of the Crusade of the Americas is . . . to rediscover and then to demonstrate the comprehensiveness of Christian conversion."

A Name to Remember in C. E.

Rev. Christian A. Tirre was named executive secretary of the International Society of Christian Endeavor by the executive Committee at its meeting March 10-11 in Detroit, Michigan, according to announcement made by Arch J. McQuilkin, president.

Mr. Tirre, who is a United Presbyterian Church minister with a wide background of Christian Endeavor experience, joined the International Society staff almost five years ago. In his new position he will serve as chief executive officer of the International Society, with special responsibilities in the areas of public relations and promotion. He will continue to serve as educational secretary, in charge of the total educational program including the current Christian Youth Witness Program, and as publisher and tour director. He was married in 1959 to a girl he met through Christian Endeavor.

Mr. Tirre's Christian Endeavor experiences are many. His first International Convention was Denver in 1953; he was official photographer for colored slides for the Portland, Philadelphia, and Chicago Conventions and prepared visual reports following these events.

In 1966 Mr. Tirre participated in the World's Christian Endeavor Convention in Belfast, Northern Ireland, and served as assistant director of the Vikingland Tour. Also last summer he journeyed to Hawaii for meetings with Endeavors. In 1963 he traveled to the Holy Land.

The Best

The best mathematics — that which doubles the most joys and divides the most sorrows. The best engineering—building a bridge of faith over the river of death.

Annual Church Business Meeting

Thoughts from Revelation 1-3

By Victor W. Skaggs

When we gather as a church met in annual business meeting, we are to be reminded, no matter what problems confront us on the business level of church life, that we are a congregation, a gathered people, with a purpose. In the first three chapters of Revelation a series of "letters to the churches" provides us with material for the evaluation of our church life:

To the angel of the church . . . write:

I know what you have done; your hard work and your endurance. I know you cannot tolerate wicked men, and that you have tested those who claimed to be apostles when they were not, and have found them to be imposters. You show endurance; you have undergone much for my sake, and you have not grown weary. But I hold it against you that you do not love as you did at first. . . .

I know the things you do, your love and faithfulness and helpfulness and endurance, and I know that you are now doing more than you did at first. . . . I have no fresh burden to lay on you, but keep hold of what you have until I come.

I know what you are doing; you are supposed to be alive, but you are dead. Wake up, and strengthen what is left, although it is already on the point of death, for I have found nothing you have done complete in the sight of my God. So remember what you received and heard, and obey it, and repent.

I know what you are doing. See! I have put before you an open door that no one can close. I know that you have little strength, but you have obeyed my message and you have not disowned my name.

I know what you are doing, and that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either cold or hot! As it is, since you are tepid and neither cold nor hot, I am going to spit you out of my mouth! Because you say, "I am rich, I have become wealthy, I need nothing," and you

do not know that it is you that are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked, I advise you to buy of me gold that has been tested with fire so that you may be rich, and white clothes to put on, to keep your shameful nakedness from being seen, and salve to put on your eyes, to make you see. I reprove and discipline all who I love. So be earnest and repent. Here I stand knocking at the door. If anyone listens to my voice and opens the door, I will be his guest and dine with him and he with me.

Let everyone who can hear listen to what the Spirit says to the churches.

—Selected from Revelation 1-3 (Goodspeed)

When the Spirit spoke to the churches He recognized faith and endurance and honesty, love and loyalty and service; but He also recognized and condemned lack of love, compromise in manner of living, lethargy, and spiritual pride. From these selected readings, it may do us good to think of ourselves, our church met in annual meeting, and apply these teachings to ourselves:

1. A church is in danger when it is more concerned with its traditions than it is with Jesus Christ.

2. A church is in danger when it is more concerned with respectability than with the gospel. A respectable church filled with respectable people—a church like ours—faces a particular danger.

3. A church is in danger when it loves a system more than it loves the Christ.

4. A church is in danger when it is concerned with material things (even those of its own existence) more than it is with spiritual things.

I will not attempt to list our problems in this local church today but invite you to list them in your own mind. The problems of the churches in that early century were spiritual pride, self satisfaction, smugness, preoccupation with the physical. What are ours?

Modern youth, says the pastor of Judson Memorial Church in New York, have a deep residue of moral feeling but have little moral confidence in their elders.

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LET'S THINK IT OVER

On the Brink of Crisis

In a book released April 1, 1967, Dr. Carl F. Henry affirms that a major realignment of conservative Protestants may be in the making. He weighs the merits of more cooperation among conservatives in **"Evangelicals at the Brink of Crisis."** Dr. Henry, who organized the Berlin Evangelism Congress last summer, finds that pressures are mounting for "a structural framework to coordinate evangelical effort for a dynamic witness to biblical realities." He cites some of the larger evangelical groups who have been reaching toward larger liaisons across denominational lines, particularly Southern Baptists, Missouri Synod Lutherans and Nazarenes, groups that have held themselves aloof from the National Council of Churches and the National Association of Evangelicals.

Informed Christians need to be aware of the combined size of the unaligned large churches. Where the NCC represents a membership of some 30 million and the NAE a membership of 2.5 million, Dr. Henry gives figures of unaligned conservative churches totalling 21,226,000 as follows:

Among the evangelically - oriented groups in neither the liberal National Council of Churches nor the conservative National Association of Evangelicals: Southern Baptist Convention (11,000,000 members), Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (2,700,000), American Lutheran Church (2,500,000), Churches of Christ (2,350,000), American Baptist Association (725,000), Seventh-day Adventists (365,000), Wisconsin Evangelical Luther-

an Synod (385,000), Church of the Nazarene (343,000), Conservative Baptists (325,000), Salvation Army (288,000), and Christian Reformed (272,000).

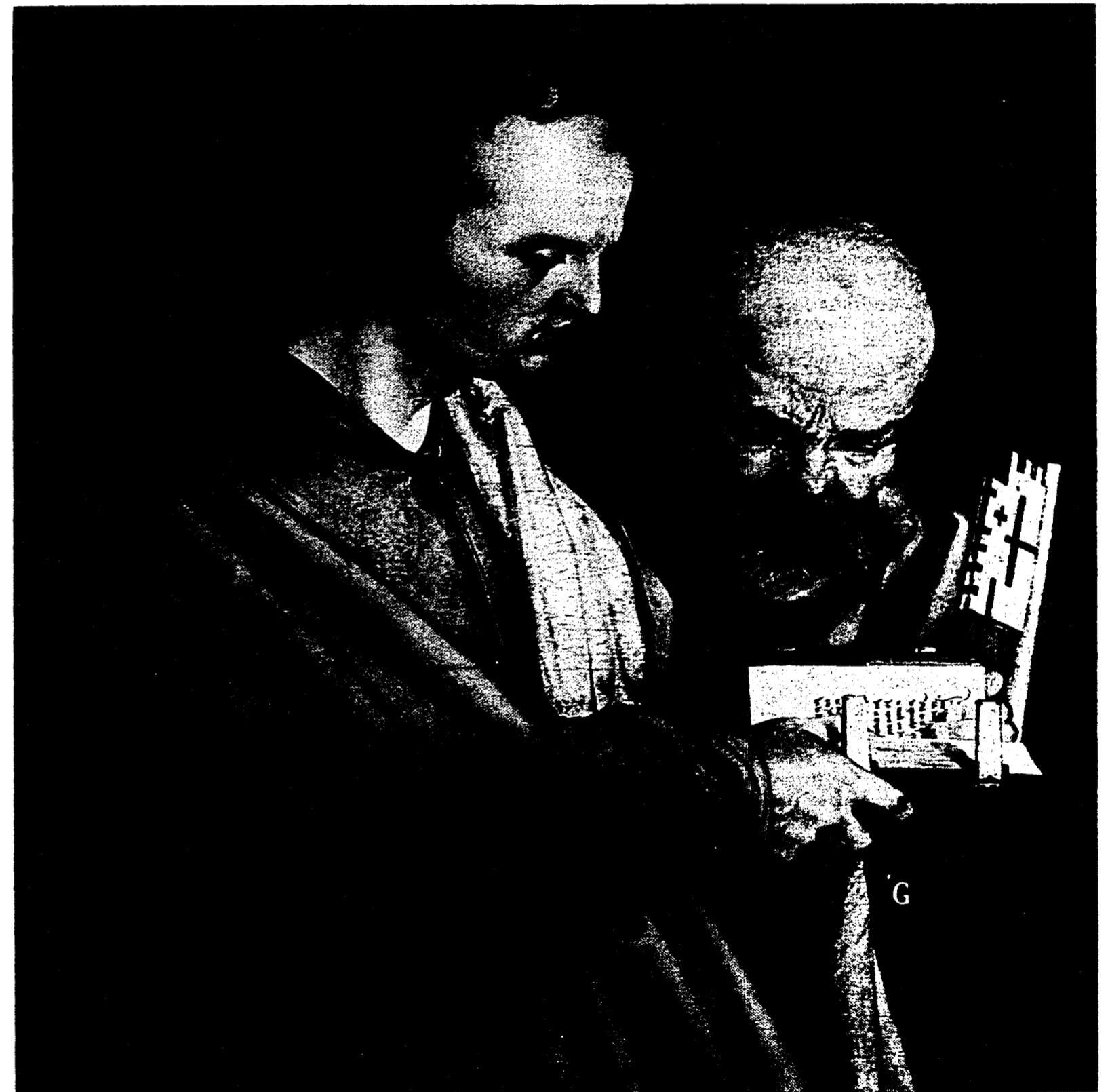
Dr. Henry contends that "whether evangelical ecumenism will acquire structural and organizational forms now depends largely upon the extent to which conciliar ecumenism continues to repress, retard and reconstruct evangelical principles and priorities."

"Perhaps some new evangelical fellowship is due," he adds. "Or perhaps NAE must undergo a transformation and enlargement no less significant than the changes now so imminent in the neo-Protestant, conciliar movement. Who knows but that the next decade will see the emergence of two world frameworks—a commonwealth of neo-Protestant, Orthodox, and Roman Catholic churches, and a global fellowship of evangelical churches."

In Birmingham

Did you know that there is a young couple with much zeal and ability in Birmingham, Alabama? John Bevis is trying to start a group in that city by advertising, tract distribution or by any other suitable means. To make it easier for people to answer ads he has rented a Post Office box under the name, Seventh Day Baptists, P. O. Box 4004, Birmingham, Ala. 35206. If anyone has any family connections or knows of people in the Birmingham area with whom Mr. Bevis could get in contact with a view to organizing a Sabbath School or fellowship, he would appreciate the information.

The Sabbath Recorder



GIANT LOCKS — THE WORD UNBOUND

According to recent discoveries and an Egyptian wall painting, modern, Yale-principle locks date back at least 4,000 years. There were times in biblical history when there was no open vision. But, thank God, there are no great wooden keys to lock up the Word of God, at a time when almost everything we possess is under lock and key.