

The Sabbath Recorder

American countries. Pray for the success of this mission by the director of evangelism of our Missionary Society. Look for exciting, informative stories of these fields or Seventh Day Baptist conferences after the journey is completed. There is evidence that Latin America is now receptive to an aggressive presentation of the gospel as never before. We have a task here and a nucleus for expansion in the countries mentioned above.

—L. M. M.

GOSPEL OPPORTUNITIES

Never before has it been possible to reach so many people with the gospel message.

The literacy explosion enables us to reach millions of minds with tracts and portions of the printed Word. The flood of transistor radios into almost every area of the globe gives us opportunity to capture the hearts of millions more with the simple truth of a loving and merciful Christ. Throughout a world in revolution are millions of souls open to the story of salvation.

—World Vision Frontline News

Statement of Finances

Balance on hand, Sept. 21, 1967	\$ 52.73
Gifts from individuals	16.00
Gifts from Walworth Sabbath School	40.00
From used stamps for missions	10.00
Total	\$118.73
Less bank service charges	2.00

Balance on hand, March 21, 1968

(Note: Our balance in September did not allow us to bear our financial share of the extra cost of printing and mailing the October issue of MISSION NOTES. It is anticipated that about \$100.00 of the present balance will be disbursed on issue.)

Mrs. Edgar Wheeler, treasurer.

Evangelism at Shiloh

By Lora Harris

Rev. Leon R. Lawton, a native of Battle Creek, Michigan, was the guest speaker of a "Preaching Crusade," held at the Shiloh Seventh Day Baptist Church, March 1-10, 1968, sponsored by the Shiloh and Marlboro churches.

Mr. Lawton, with his broad background of experience as pastor and missionary and at present director of evangelism for Seventh Day Baptists, presented each evening and at the Sabbath morning services, some soul-searching and heart-warming messages. Many hearts and minds were moved to greater dedication to the faith we, as Christians, profess. Some were moved to accept Christ as their personal Savior.

An enlightening part of each evening's service was an answer to the questions placed in the "Question Box" and an inspiring feature was fine music with special selections with so many participating.

A reception honoring Mr. Lawton was held in the new Fellowship Hall following one of the services with the Social Committee in charge. At the close of the evening's fun, a generous love gift was presented to Mr. Lawton in appreciation of his time and effort spent here.

News from the Churches

SHILOH, N. J.— The theme, "Jesus Christ is Lord," highlighted the Youth Week program presented by the Senior Youth Fellowship for the morning worship on February 3. The speakers were Donna Harris, Robert Harris, Edward Page and Robert Fogg.

A dinner and a reception were given on February 25, 1968, honoring Mr. and Mrs. John Probasco on their fiftieth wedding anniversary. —Correspondent.



NO REASON FOR WEeping

The women at the sepulchre thought that they had reason for weeping. They had not only lost a dear friend and a great teacher but one whom they had recognized as the promised Messiah. Never had there been sorrow of heart like this. But continued weeping is possible only to those who forget the promises of God. Christ appeared to Mary and said, "Why weepest thou?" Our Lord arose, and all those who put their trust in Him know that according to His word they, too, shall rise. Faith in Christ takes away the sting of death.

The Sabbath Recorder

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Member of the Associated Church Press
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Christian Citizenship Seminar

Your editor was one of the relatively few people outside the Southern Baptist Convention who accepted the invitation, as editor, to attend the fifth annual Christian Citizenship Seminar sponsored by the active (not always appreciated) Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention held in Washington March 25-27. The editor has had a personal acquaintance with Foy Valentine, chairman of the commission, for a number of years. It has been interesting to observe the efforts of this commission to lead the (somewhat reluctant) Convention into a more meaningful stand on civil rights and various other Christian citizenship issues. Those efforts are achieving marked success, if the response and applause of the group assembled at Washington from the East, West, and South is a criterion. There were some 250 invited participants from all levels of the Convention. They applauded most loudly the messages that criticized them most severely—a very healthy sign.

Aside from a growing appreciation of what Southern Baptists seem now prepared to do in the way of meeting social issues, there were other advantages in attending such a seminar. For one thing, Seventh Day Baptists must be led into more meaningful involvement in Christian citizenship, well-thought attitudes on social problems, and intelligent appraisals of the Vietnam situation. Furthermore, such a highly concentrated course on Christian involvement as was afforded by the program was a mental and spiritual toning-up exercise. Incidentally, the widening acquaintance with Baptist leaders from all over the country provided considerable opportunity to answer questions about Seventh Day Baptist polity and practice.

The most important addresses and question periods were those at the hotel from 8:45 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., but into one afternoon were crowded an address by a senator at the New Senate Building, a major message on crime by the Attorney General at the Justice Department, an explanation of the far-flung work of the Health Education and Welfare Department at its big building, and a brief message by the President at the White House.

Portions of the press releases of these important meetings will be presented in these pages for information and to challenge us in our reactions to the statements with which we may not be inclined to agree fully.

In Christ We Rise

The trend of our times is for Christians to put nearly all of the emphasis on the present and very little on the future. We say that we want to serve this present age, to relieve its suffering, heal its social wounds, and give to the underprivileged a better way of life. This, of course, is good except that with our human limitations we find it hard to put emphasis on one good thing without de-emphasizing something else that may be more important in the long run. We are called upon by our Lord to live a balanced, well-oriented life. It is the preacher's business to call us back to the straight path of faith and practice if he sees us deviating from it to the right or to the left.

What does this have to do with the subject "In Christ we rise"? No one can read that great hope chapter, 1 Corinthians 15, without being impressed again with its valid and ever timely argument which may be summed up in the words just quoted. This whole chapter is needed today to keep us aware of the foundation of our faith. The Christian religion as set forth in the New Testament emphasizes ministering to the needs of man, but, unlike some modern programs, it seeks to minister to the whole man for time and eternity. To be so occupied with time as to sell eternity short is no real service to man and his built-in hope of life beyond death. The Bible, and particularly this chapter, stresses this hope of life beyond death. Life is not completed when we pass the portals of death; it is only beginning.

The Scripture says in the familiar version, "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable" (1 Cor. 15:19). The New English Version may make it a little more clear, "If it is for this life only that Christ has

given us hope, we of all men are most to be pitied."

It is true. The world to which we seek to minister will soon know whether or not we have within us a real hope and whether or not there is any urgency in our appeal to them to accept Christ and to lead a Christian life. What message have we for a sick and dying world if we cannot speak with real assurance of a resurrection? We would be "blind leaders of the blind." We of all men would be most to be pitied, professing to have something which we did not have. In this chapter we come back to the foundation of our hope over and over again. It begins with the doctrine that built the church, "Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures" (1 Cor. 15:3). The next verse sets the theme of the following fifty-five verses, "and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures."

The apostle argues the point both ways to make sure that the church sees its significance. There is an almost universal hope for life after death. This is the sure and certain hope of the Christian. We are to rise in Christ. But the certainty of our life beyond the grave depends on the fact that He who tasted death for us also rose from the dead the third day, according to the Scriptures. If this is not a fact, "your faith has nothing in it and you are still in your old state of sin" (1 Cor. 15:17 NEB). There is no certainty of a resurrection for any if Christ Himself did not rise. Without this hope that in Christ we shall rise we have no message. But there is no question about the rising of Christ from the dead; there is no question about our future resurrection. We are not of all men most pitiable. We know whom we have believed. We know the truth of the judgment, the truth of the future life. We have an urgent message. In ministering to the present needs of men we do so from the background of a sure and certain hope of eternal life. We have it. They, too, cannot be happy with just things; they need to accept Him who died for their sins and rose again.

"If Christ was not raised, then is our gospel null and void, and so is your faith."

Phoenix Fellowship

Among Seventh Day Baptists the word *Fellowship* has taken on a special meaning which may not be well understood by those unfamiliar with the way this special concept has grown. While we continue to magnify the usual thought of good fellowship within a church or religious group we have come to think of certain groups as *fellowships*. They are groups gathered together with a certain amount of organization and leadership—groups that are not yet ready to be organized as churches. The name was perhaps used in some cases as an easy angle by which to get people together. Sometimes people would rather go to a meeting that stressed fellowship than to one that stressed preaching and serious Bible study.

Whatever the origin was—whether a fellowship of Sabbathkeepers in a city some distance from the home churches—or a new group gathered by an energetic layman, the term has stuck. It is applied to quite a number of regularly meeting groups which have Sabbath School and preaching services.

It is always interesting to see evidences of permanence and growth in these fellowships. They do come and go, even as new churches sometimes do not last. Our population is too mobile to allow us to predict the future of a church or fellowship that has come into existence largely because of a chance concentration of the mobile elements of the Seventh Day Baptist population. By the grace of God and the continuing perseverance of the saints in a given area, new, well-based groups continue and grow.

What are some of the elements of solidarity? There are many that are more important than the one mentioned here, but the faithful publication of a weekly bulletin is a visible sign of permanence. It is not always possible for a new fellowship to have a weekly bulletin, to be sure. There can be growth without it—else our older churches would not have come into existence and survived. The leader of the fellowship at Phoenix, Arizona, Rev. O. A. Davis, prints a weekly bulletin at his own expense to have something to hand out at services and to

mail to those who ought to be interested. Copies of that bulletin have just come to the office at Plainfield. One of them tells of a record attendance of twenty-one on February 17 when the director of evangelism, Rev. Leon Lawton, was in Phoenix. There are some new substantial members of the Phoenix fellowship. Will this become another new church? It can be helped along that way by those who move to the area or those who know of people upon whom the pastor could call. The fellowship meets in Paradise Valley. The pastor lives at 1046 West Taylor Street, Phoenix.

GENERAL CONFERENCE

God willing
Everyone's
Name should be
Entered on the
Roster of Conference
At the chosen
Location for 1968.
Conference offers
Opportunity to make
New (and meet the old)
Friends.
Each one
Resolve to
Enjoy
Nebraska's
Climate to the fullest
Extent!

See you at Kearney, Nebraska
August 11 - 17, 1968

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for April 20, 1968

STUDIES IN WISDOM LITERATURE
—WHAT IS WISDOM?

Lesson Scripture: Job 28: 12-13, 23,
28; Prov. 3:13-18.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

General Conference Commission

Reports Its Deliberations

By S. Kenneth Davis

It is always exciting and challenging, yet humbling, to review the progress of our various agents in the promotion of the cause of Christ and His Church—to realize how many people are dedicating countless hours and resources to the single goal of helping humanity through various ministries to understand and appreciate the implications of God's love and saving grace.

Taking advantage of the ever increasing resources and expanding facilities graciously offered to us by the trustees of General Conference, the Tract Society and the Conference office, your Commission held their deliberations at the Seventh Day Baptist Building in Plainfield, N. J., March 10-17.

Commission's interim assignments kept Commission members busy since last August. The Stewardship Committee revealed that suggested budgets, packets of stewardship promotion materials, workshops on tithing, notices about items of designated giving, a special year-end appeal, and articles for the *Sabbath Recorder* and OWM News Sheet had been prepared. It was noted that several churches have adopted the suggested budget, that many are studying tithing, and that some have initiated tithing programs.

The Committee on Conference sites shared letters inviting the Conference to Milton College in 1970 and to New England in 1971. The Commission plans to recommend to Conference the acceptance of both invitations. It was pointed out that the invitation from the New England Yearly Meeting was not in our normal rotation schedule, but that the 1971 Conference will coincide with the 300th anniversary of the founding of the first Seventh Day Baptist church in this country in Newport, R. I., and that tours of historic Seventh Day Baptist sites would be included in the Conference program that year. The Host Committee, planning Conference in Kearney, Nebraska, August 12 to 17 reports excellent progress. Publicity by the local committee will be

found in the *Sabbath Recorder* regularly. Kearney seems to be an ideal spot for the work and fellowship of General Conference.

Our Conference president, the Rev. David S. Clarke, reported on the program and plans for Conference sessions and was commended on a well developed program with interesting innovations that ought to make the 1968 Conference a spiritual highlight for those in attendance. Suggestions from individuals for expediting Conference business, standard operating procedures, policies for future host committees and for sponsorship of young people at Conference were given appropriate consideration.

The general secretary reported on the wide scope and demanding schedule of his activities. We are especially glad for the many times and ways he has ministered directly to churches and associations. We heartily endorse present plans for him to be the release worker for a period of intensive service in Jamaica under the auspices of the Missionary Society. Furthermore, we are happy that the SDBWF Executive Committee has arranged for him to attend the annual Conference of Seventh Day Baptists in England, Holland and Germany. This mission will serve as an expression of our deep love and concern for our fellow Seventh Day Baptists in Christ and will strengthen the ties that bind us together. While involved in this mission he will also be able to represent Seventh Day Baptist polity and convictions at the fourth Assembly of the World Council of Churches in Uppsala, Sweden.

In a similar vein, it was noted that sufficient funds have come in from private sources to enable Leon R. Lawton to visit sister churches in Central and South America as well as to participate in the Central Coordinating Committee for the Crusade of the Americas and the Laymen's Congress to be held in Brazil in July.

Our Year II emphasis in "Facing

Frontiers with Faith" has been strengthening churches and associations. In this regard, we were pleased with many reports of progress. The Northern and North Central Associations are studying a plan for merger which will increase their strength, fellowship and witnessing activities. Eleven New York State churches crossing three associational boundaries have banded together in a SDB State Council which will give them representation and stronger position within the New York State Council of Churches. This has been done without affecting associational work and loyalties. In order to tool for action and outreach, the New England churches have organized the New England Yearly Meeting, which has existed since its inception in the 17th Century without formal organization.

Further, we note the organization of a new church in Seattle, Wash.; a newly completed church building in Hammond, La.; a church soon to be under construction in Denver, Colo.; and the anticipated acquisition of church property in Washington, D. C.

The working boards of the Conference presented progress reports on their implementation of the recommendations of Conference, on their current activities, on proposed forward-looking plans, and on anticipated needs. We commend them for their hard work and the spirit of earnest desire to fulfill their trusts—trusts received from God, from our spiritual forefathers and their bequests, and from the General Conference.

Commission is charged, however, with a serious look at the budget. Unless an ever greater amount of S.D.B. interest and concern are translated into support of Our World Mission, how can we authorize the Board of Christian Education to secure the Youth Field Worker which our Conference at Grand Rapids last summer so enthusiastically voted? Even if we can discover a way acceptable to the Post Office to get the *Sabbath Recorder* into every home monthly as voted by Conference, how will we pay for it? The need for medical and educational mission in Guyana is unquestioned, but who will develop and keep them there? Except that

your Commission members are convinced that you share their concern, they could easily despair of the extended hours spent struggling with budget matters.

Because of the increasing need for Christians to be informed as well as to act in many areas of social concern, we are recommending that Faith and Action dialogue groups be initiated in every church to study resource materials, reporting reactions to our Christian Social Action Committee.

The dean of the Center for Ministerial Education reported encouraging progress on the last of three correspondence courses. Study groups, as well as individuals are welcome to pursue an earnest study of Sabbath Philosophy, Seventh Day Baptist Polity and Beliefs, or Seventh Day Baptist History at a cost of \$10 per member per course. Inquiries may be addressed to the dean at the denominational building.

The need was pointed out for in-service training for ministers already serving churches, if they are to keep pace with the world in which we live, and preach and minister in a relevant way. Churches should realize the necessity for continuing study by their pastors.

Commission reaffirms, in the name of the General Conference, our confidence in delegates appointed to represent us in the ecumenical world, realizing that the need for immediate decision in a fast moving world does not give time ideally to have each individual Seventh Day Baptist study every issue and communicate his position to our representatives. At the same time it is fair to assume that our delegates will disseminate their decisions to the churches as soon as possible seeking feedback in order to temper future decisions.

Of course there were the many little things that, while not sensational, needed to be thought through—*Yearbook* statistics and arrangement, uniform budget years, reports from committees, conference registration fees and insurance, the mission and enlargement of Minute Men, letters of inquiry, requests for delegates, letters from sister Conferences, rethink-

(Continued on page 11)

Washington, D. C., Church Purchasing Adequate Building

By Delmer E. Van Horn, pastor

The congregation of the Washington Seventh Day Baptist Church believes that God has selected for them the future home of the church and parsonage. The church has contracted to purchase the



property at 4700 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20011, for \$45,000. \$1,000 was paid down to bind the contract. The down payment is to be \$10,000 and the settlement fee will be approximately \$1,000. All present indications are that a loan for whatever is needed beyond the down payment and settlement fee will be approved in the near future. God has laid it upon the hearts of the people of the church and Southeastern Association, as well as some others farther away, to respond generously to the plea for help. Only about \$2,000 more is needed to make the down payment and settlement fee. There will be an additional need of a minimum of \$3,000 to \$5,000 to properly equip the church and Sabbath School rooms. One room on the second floor will need to be remodeled to make a parsonage kitchen.

The expected new church home is on the corner of Crittenden Street and Sixteenth Street. There are 28 churches on Sixteenth Street between the White House and the D. C. line. This property is about midway. Sixteenth Street and Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., are considered by many to be the two most beautiful residential streets in Washington.

The structure is stucco over masonry, three stories with a basement. Rooms are large enough to more than adequately

MEMORY TEXT

Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's. Matt. 22:21b.

house our present congregation for divine worship. Overflow on special occasions could be seated in large areas adjoining where all could hear and most could see. Church kitchen, dining room, church office or counseling room could also be on the first floor. The second and third floors and basement would be large enough to take care of present needs for parsonage and educational facilities. There is a three car garage behind the house. The basement offers opportunity for group meetings and a service outreach, if so desired.

There is more than adequate parking space on the property as well as on Crittenden, Decatur and Sixteenth Streets.

The original asking price of the property was \$55,000 but the seller accepted a contract for \$45,000. The tax rate indicates the city values the property at \$70,000.

We wish to praise our gracious Heavenly Father for making this opportunity available to us, that we might have a greater witness in the Washington, D. C., area. We solicit your prayers that we may be sensitive to Divine guidance, and that God will continue to lay it on the hearts of a sufficient number of people that this purchase may be consummated.

Reader Comment

This very brief note in shaky but very readable handwriting coming from an appreciative woman in Western New York State awakens our Christian love: "Please cancel the *Sabbath Recorder*; I cannot read any more." There are such people who have enjoyed the subscription that someone has contributed but now find that they must give up the pleasure and profit of reading. The moral of the story is to give your denominational paper to those whose finances are more limited than your own and to give it before their eyesight fails.



The Indestructible Church

By Donna Harris

At a Youth Week service in Shiloh, N. J., on Feb. 3, 1968, Donna Harris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. Frank Harris, gave her views on "The Indestructible Church." Donna is a senior at Bridgeton High School and a member of the Shiloh church.

I have been asked to speak on the indestructible church. When we use the term "church," we are not thinking of the church building nor are we thinking of the local congregation, but of a body of believers, both those who have gone on and those who remain. The New Testament word for the church is *ecclesia*. This Greek word means 'those who are called out.' The church, therefore, is a body of individuals who are called out, who separate themselves from the world and become followers of Jesus Christ. Christ said, "Come out from among them and be separate" (2 Cor. 6:17). In Ephesians 1:22, 23, as I see it, God has put all things under Christ, and has given Him to be the head over all things in the church. The church was founded and built on the apostles and prophets, but Christ is the chief cornerstone (Eph. 2:20). In Matt. 21:42, we find that Christ was rejected by the builders. He still became the head of the church, not because we placed Him there, but by the power of our heavenly Father.

Who Is a Member of the Church?

The last verse in the second chapter of Acts closes with these words: "And the Lord added to the church daily, such as should be saved." We are added to the Lord's Church only when we are saved. The church clerk does not add us to the church; the baptistry does not add us to the church; good works do not add us to the church; only the Lord God Almighty adds us to the church when we believe.

The Bible clearly states that all born again people are members of the Church of the Living God, baptized into the body of Christ by the Holy Ghost at the moment of our new birth. There is one Spirit, the Holy Spirit, by whom we are united

to the body of Christ. This happens the moment we accept Jesus by faith. In Romans 8:9, we find, "If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his."

Members of the true church are united as one in spirit, mind, attitude, and heart. A church cannot be indestructible unless its members totally surrender their wills to God and have yielded to correction and reproof from the Word of God—the Bible. The true Church of God is composed only of those who are growing into truth as God reveals it. The moment one ceases to grow, but wants to retain only what he had five or ten years ago, from that moment on the Holy Spirit ceases to live in him.

Historically, the church as we know it today, did not exist until the New Testament time. The birthday of the New Testament Church was on the Day of Pentecost. On that day, the Holy Spirit came, made Himself manifest in the earth, witnessing that Jesus had risen from the dead, had ascended, and had sent the Holy Ghost as promised. Jesus spent His ministry preparing the foundations for His Church. He called out disciples, teaching them the gospel, and set them an example by His own ministry. He challenged them with the greatest commission ever given to human beings, to preach the gospel of the Kingdom of God to the whole world (Matt. 24:14, Mark 16:15). Jesus did not say that it would be easy to follow Him. Even after Christ's death you would think it would be easier to follow Him, but the Bible prophesied that the church would be scattered, persecuted and tried. Jesus promised, however, to be with the faithful remnant of His Church to the end of time.

What Is the Church's Mission?

The general concept is that the church is here only to make the world a better place in which to live, to lead people to a higher plane of existence, and to bring about a better civilization. This is a misconception. *Read your Bible!* The church is not here to make the world a better place, nor to bring about a higher form of civilization. The mission of the church on earth is to testify against the world, to preach the gospel and to make mankind see the world will never be better until Jesus brings order out of chaos, and peace out of turmoil.

According to God, the world will grow worse and worse, more and more ungodly until Jesus comes. There will never be world peace! There will always be evil men and seducers, and there will always be men being deceived and those who are deceiving.

The church is not in the world to clean up slums, clean up politics, or society, but to regenerate the hearts of men, through the message of the precious Word of God. If man would allow God's Word to do this for him, the above things would be taken care of. The church is in the world to proclaim the gospel showing that sinners can have divine nature, by faith, in the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ. The church is in the world to warn men that there is a hell everlasting, burning with fire and brimstone. The enemies of the church cry out that a loving God would not allow a person to burn in hell forever, and yet Jesus Christ, the tender, compassionate, Lamb of God, spoke often of hell.

Therefore, the church must not fail in preaching the gospel. The command of Almighty God, to pastors, teachers, missionaries, evangelists, and laymen is preach the Word, and if we do that, we will of necessity preach the death, the burial, and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This is the message given to the church to declare to the World.

This is the only way a church can stay indestructible.

Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil.

— Prov. 3:7.

How Much Per Head?

(Thoughts on per capita giving)

When the cattleman is thinking of income, he wonders how much he will get per head when he moves his beef or hogs to market. He has to think in these terms. When the church or the denominational planners think about program and mission, they have to consider the potential of giving as so much per head. They call it per capita giving. Doesn't sound very personal, but the action (or reaction) is personal. A little comparison might help us to turn our reaction into more helpful action.

I just read the figures of government spending on a per capita basis. The proposed Federal spending, according to "Industrial Press Service" equals \$940 per American. This includes the regular budget spending and the spending from trust funds, says Tax Foundation, Inc.

"This expenditure represents an increase of \$10.5 billion, or \$53 per person, more than what is expected to be spent this current year. The new spending figure is \$28 billion higher than for fiscal 1967."

Those sound like pretty big figures per head. Take that one of \$53 mentioned above. That is just over \$1 per week. The stewardship chairman of our denomination has been trying to persuade a number of our churches to accept a higher goal for OWM giving than they have before achieved—\$1 per member per month. There is resistance to such a "high" goal on the part of the churches that are this low in their giving—much more than from those that are way above it. When the government proposes to spend \$940 per American in 1969, it makes us groan a little, especially when we realize that this figure is not per family but includes the newborn babies. By comparison with what our total denominational work calls for and the per capita goals set (for members, not infants) we ought to be ashamed. What do you spend each week for your living? What do you give each week to the Lord's work? How do they compare?

—L. M. M.

CHARLES E. FULLER

The Pioneering Prophet of Radio

Charles E. Fuller, heard for nearly 43 years over the Old Fashioned Revival Hour radio broadcast, died in Pasadena, California, on March 19, following complications resulting from congestive heart failure. He was 80 years old.



The pioneer radio evangelist began preaching in 1925 over a 100 watt station in Santa Ana, California. Gradually the broadcast was extended to cover the Western states, then coast to coast over the Mutual—and later the ABC—radio network. At present the broadcast is heard weekly on every continent over more than 500 radio stations with a combined total of 4,450,000 watts of power.

The broadcast will continue, featuring the Old Fashioned Revival Hour Choir, pre-recorded messages by the late Bible teacher and other speakers including Dr. Daniel Fuller.

Charles Fuller was born April 25, 1887, the fourth son of a furniture merchant who later became prosperous as a fruitgrower in Southern California.

After graduating magna cum laude from Pomona College, Pomona, Calif., he was married to Grace Payton and ventured into the fruitpacking business. He was pleased with his success in harvesting

and shipping the golden ripe fruit. Shortly after their marriage his wife had been led to the Lord by a friend of the family. She began to pray that her husband also would come to the light and be converted.

The change came in 1917. As he was reading a newspaper one day Charles noticed an announcement about an ex-boxer who was to preach in Los Angeles the following day, July 17. Driving in to hear the man, Charles took an inconspicuous seat near the back of the Church of the Open Door. But the message of Paul Rader reached the young visitor and he responded in faith to the truth of the text, Ephesians 1:18.

Back at his fruitpacking plant Charles one day sat at his desk but could not keep his mind on the matters at hand.

His work seemed futile in the light of eternity. God was calling Charles Fuller to preach.

"My burden became so heavy," he recalls, "that I walked through the busy packing plant to a storage room in back and knelt down in the sawdust to pray." The long struggle finally ended. Charles Fuller rose to his feet with these words: "O Lord, I will walk in your path . . . I will even try to preach . . . I will resign my position and trust You to supply our needs."

Since that day Charles Fuller has spent his abundant talent and resources in the service of Jesus Christ.

He was the pioneering prophet of radio. For a generation he preached the good tidings of salvation in Jesus Christ and thousands of sinners listened . . . and lived!

His life was an adventure in evangelism, a voice for God through America's economic depression of the 1930's, through the years of World War II, the Korean conflict and into the Vietnam struggle.

Besides the thousands of conversions which crowned his ministry he was awarded the "Gold Microphone" by the American Broadcasting Company for excellence in broadcast format. The National Religious Broadcasters presented him with an "Award of Merit" in his 35th

(Continued on page 14)

Milton College Accredited

Wednesday, March 27, was a great day on the Milton College campus. The students responded to the tolling of chapel bells, assembling in the auditorium of the 101-year-old southern Wisconsin college for a hastily called convocation to announce Milton's accreditation. For ten years the institution, founded by Seventh Day Baptists, had been upgrading itself to meet the standards of the North Central Association of Colleges. The first request for accreditation was turned down, which made the present acceptance all the more meaningful.

President Banta announced to the students "We passed with flying colors. It's a great day in the history of the college." The news was received by the students with enthusiastic cheers—cheers led by the president. The singing of "Our Colors," the alma mater, was led by Dr. Bernhardt Westlund, head of the college's self-study committee, which helped ready the school for the much coveted accreditation.

One of the major improvements which led to the new status of Milton was the completion of a \$2 million building project last year which included the \$500,000 three-story Shaw Memorial Library pictured here. The library (as previously re-



ported in the *Sabbath Recorder*) was dedicated to two Seventh Day Baptist professors, Dr. Edwin Shaw and Leland Shaw.

The Rev. Kenneth E. Smith, academic dean of the college, made this statement which is of particular interest to his fel-

low Seventh Day Baptists who were connected with the college in earlier days:

"The examiners gave tribute to our faculty, who believed in Milton when times were tough. Our faculty loyalty is still strong and this was noted as a basic strength by the examination team."

Milton's achievements during the past five years which were enumerated in the self-study report and probably figured heavily in the NCA decision were: (1) increased financial stability, (2) new library facilities, (3) a center for campus activities, (4) improved and enlarged faculty and staff, (5) strengthened curriculum, (6) campus expansion, (7) co-operative programs with other colleges and (8) reorganized administration.

The dean stated that faculty loyalty is still strong and that this was noted as a basic strength by the examining team. The host of Milton graduates who have lustily sung the alma mater will rejoice with the present faculty, trustees and students in the better days ahead for their college. The harmony found in music is but a symbol of the greater harmony that has been swelling at the college in the past few years, according to reports.

Commission of General Conference

(Continued from page 6)

ing Sabbatism, office supplies, program and project planning, administrative planning, fraternal delegates to Conference, nominations, letters of appreciation, etc. When counted Thursday night, with Friday yet to go, there were already thirty-six pages of minutes listing sixty-four topics. As we spent six full days together (most of them from 8:30 A.M. till 11:00 P.M.) we began to see what a vast number of people are giving almost unbelievable amounts of time and effort to the end that God's Kingdom may go forward. It is a humbling experience to realize how many facets there are to a forward-looking, forward-moving program for a whole denomination and how well all of the wheels do intermesh and turn together. We of your Commission count it a privilege to be part of the team.

Rhodesian Seventh Day Baptists

(This is the account of Lameck M. Vumah, a former Baptist seminary student of Rhodesia who came to Makapwa Seventh Day Baptist Station in Malawi in search of the Sabbath truth, visiting first the Rev. David Pearson in Blantyre.)

No truly earnest Christian is devoid of a certain sense of defeat. There is the consciousness of conflict with forces of evil, both within and without, that is sometimes overwhelming and overpowering. The real Christian knows that he has enemies for whom he is insufficient. With deep shame and humiliation he acknowledges that too often he goes down before them in shameful defeat, in tragic and repeated failure. Countless Christians down through the ages have uttered with Paul that poignant cry of anguish: "O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" (Rom. 7:24).

The question is therefore, has God no answer to such a piercing cry for deliverance from such intolerable bondage? This is our cry in Rhodesia. Assuredly God has the answer, for he has directed us to His people at Makapwa Seventh Day Baptist Station in Malawi, for this deliverance from all failure and error of Biblical truth concerning the day of rest and worship.

Here our Rhodesian Seventh Day Baptist story starts, not merely as an interesting one, but as the pursuit of a response from Seventh Day Baptists the world over. After seeking diligently for Scriptures which would justify Sunday-keeping as the day of rest, and after conflicting with the truth, seeking my own way, and reaching the climax of my failure even contradicting my Savior, my Lord spoke to me gently: "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32).

Just after these hardships of trying to make the Scriptures agree with me, instead of my agreeing with the Scriptures, God miraculously put me in touch with the Rev. David Pearson at Makapwa. He responded to my letter which sought his help by sending me some Sabbath

tracts which later raised questions among the students during my theological studies at the Baptist Seminary.

After two years of study at the seminary, I decided to become a Seventh Day Baptist believer. With the help of Esther, my wife, I wrote again in 1967 and received letters which encouraged me from Mr. F. R. Mazingah, the Rev. O. B. Manan, and the Rev. David Pearson.

I was invited to Malawi for a personal interview, which would help personalize the need in Rhodesia. This seemed impossible for I had no passport. To secure one a recommendation was required from a local missionary. After five months of waiting my passport was issued, which shows that there is nothing impossible with God. My song was: "But thanks be to God, who leads me on from place to place, in the train of His triumph, to celebrate His victory over the enemies of Christ." I was told to leave Rhodesia immediately for a period of fourteen days. My journey was not an easy one; however, I glory in the fact that the Lord led me through.

In Malawi, the Central Africa Conference of Seventh Day Baptists was unaware of my coming, for it was prior to the date I had given them. Not knowing where to go, I phoned Pastor Pearson who met me shortly. True faith knows no fear nor disobedience, and I found myself at home with the Pearsons. I owe much to this family to express my gratitude for their hospitality toward me. My pen is unable to write of their love. They are with the people they came to save in Malawi. From their table I favoured "American" tea (iced tea). I learned from them and their library.

There was also the Rev. O. B. Maman, the man of God, who was ready to take me from Blantyre to outlying churches. The pastors promised me that they are spiritually ready to help Rhodesia.

I feel obligated to express my gratitude to all those I met in Malawi who were so kind to me. We are now waiting a day in the near future, when a meeting shall be called in which we shall elect our own officers who shall serve our people under the supervision of the Central

Africa Conference of Seventh Day Baptists.

Again, we in Rhodesia look for your spiritual and physical support. The fields are white, but the workers are few. "Come over into Macedonia, and help us."

MINNESOTA MEETINGS

The Semiannual Meeting of the Northern Wisconsin and Minnesota churches will be held at Dodge Center, Minn., April 19, 20 and 21. The theme of the meeting is drawn from the now well-known Seventh Day Baptist camp song "To Know Him and to Make Him Known."

Featured as an important part of the program is the ordination of the pastor, Wayne Babcock. Guests outside the general area of the meetings are expected for the occasion. A letter of special invitation went to the North Loup, Nebr., church, where until recently Mr. Babcock and his family lived. Rev. Victor W. Skaggs, dean of the Center for Ministerial Education, will conduct the examination of the candidate.

PACIFIC COAST ASSOCIATION

Churches and individuals interested in Seventh Day Baptist witness on the Pacific Coast are reminded of the spring meeting of the Pacific Coast Association to be held with the Riverside church (14th and Lemon) April 19-21. "Facing Frontiers with Faith" is the chosen theme. The hospitality chairman is Mrs. Gleason Curtis, 4145 Orange St., Riverside. A recent church bulletin announced April 7 as a church work day—cleaning, painting and repairing in preparation for the guests expected on the 19th.

NORTHERN ASSOCIATION

The Northern Association composed of churches in Michigan and Ohio under the presidency this year of Mrs. Orville W. Babcock will meet at Battle Creek, April 19 and 20. One of the major items for action is the proposed merger of the Northern and the North Central Associations.

APRIL 8, 1968

Youth in Worship

During the past two months the youth of our churches have, upon differing Sabbaths, led in the morning worship services. From those reported to our office we find that 11 youth plus the retreat choir participated in the Milton Church on February 17; several youth led at Denver on March 2; at Paint Rock, Alabama, 10 youth came from as far away as 65 miles to present the morning worship February 3; and, as reported in the *Sabbath Recorder* of February 26, the youth of Lost Creek, numbering 16, held an unusual service. We are sure that many Youth Fellowships participated in many ways in our churches elsewhere.

Several of these talks are in the hands of the editor of the *Sabbath Recorder* for publication.

Another opportunity will be provided on the new dates of National Youth Week, October 27-November 3, 1968, when the theme for the week will be, "Justice on the Spaceship Earth." The Youth Work Committee of the Board of Christian Education is working on suggestions to help celebrate that week.

Additional Camp Dates

At Camp Riverview, North Loup, Nebr., Junior Camp will be held July 7-14. Those who may attend include youngsters who have finished the third grade to those who have finished the eighth. Primary Day Camp will be held July 15-19, and this camp includes those who have finished kindergarten and the first and second grades. Mid-Continent Camp for seniors will be held at Rocky Mountain Camp, dates to be announced.

Conference Camp Displays

Each director of Seventh Day Baptist Camps is urged to keep in mind that we will have ample tables at General Conference upon which to display reminders of the work that is done in our camps this summer. Bring programs, pictures, handicraft items, etc., which will show the heart and work of camp life in a Christian camp.

A Book Review

By Mary Clare, director of Christian Education of the Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Journey Inward, Journey Outward, by Elizabeth O'Connor is concerned with the renewal of the church through the knowing of God, knowing oneself, and through involvement with others.

By becoming acquainted with oneself (the journey inward) talents are found which, when shared with others, help to determine the scope of the journey outward.

The members of the Church of the Savior in Washington, D. C., have reached outward to those in need by establishing a Potter's House (coffee house where each Sunday worship services are held); a restoration corps, whose members paint and repair slum houses in order that families may stay together; the School of Christian Love which prepares members for mission; and another group (FLOC) which is interested in the placement of children from Junior Village in foster homes.

Communion suppers are held three times a week with bread and cheese, fruit and coffee. A discussion follows.

The author says, "In the next twenty years the church will move . . . in places where life is being lived out . . ."

Here is a book with dynamic theology that has come of age.

CHARLES E. FULLER

(Continued from page 10)

year of broadcasting, and from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors came its Scroll of Commendation. The Western Religious Broadcasters honored Dr. Fuller with an award in 1967, in recognition of excellence in evangelism through radio.

The beautiful music of the Old Fashioned Revival Hour played a large part in the program's rise to fame. It was warm music which ministered to the heart and pointed to heaven where the redeemed would be comforted forever. It was joyful music, characterized by Dr. Fuller's cheery favorite, "Heavenly Sunshine," which he introduced to listeners in the 1930's.

The choir of trained singers has been directed for more than a quarter century by Dr. H. Leland Green, director of music for the Pasadena (Calif.) School System. Pianist Rudy Atwood, who joined the broadcast early in its ministry, has accompanied the choir for more than 25 years.

In 1943 he organized the Fuller Evangelistic Foundation to "do the work of an evangelist" by supporting established mission agencies and assisting in the training of workers for the ministry.

He was the co-founder in 1947 of Fuller Theological Seminary along with Dr. Harold J. Ockenga of Park Street Church, Boston, Massachusetts. The school has graduated nearly 1,000 students in its first two decades. He saw the scope of the Seminary broadened with the addition of a School of World Mission and School of Psychology.

Dr. Fuller is survived by his son Daniel, dean of the faculty of Fuller Theological Seminary, and four grandchildren. He died 22 months after his wife of 55 years passed away in 1966. She had participated with him in the broadcast, and as editor of the monthly *Heart to Heart Talk* for some 35 years.

Winter Retreat in Wisconsin

Milton, Wisconsin, on the weekend of February 16-18, was the setting for a winter retreat sponsored by the high school Youth Fellowship. From the eight Seventh Day Baptist youth fellowships invited, four of them were represented; Albion, Dodge Center, New Auburn and Milton, making about 50 high school and college age young people present. Our adult advisors were Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Greene from Dodge Center, Mrs. Suzanna Pederson from New Auburn, Mr. and Mrs. Dale Green from Milton, and Pastor and Mrs. Cruzan from Milton.

Since the weather was too cold and windy for staying at Camp Wakonda, the girls slept in the parsonage basement and the boys in the church basement. Our meals and meetings were held in the church. The topic for the retreat was "Serving," around which our meetings and programs were centered.

The activities began Friday evening at 11:00 with a worship service after all travelers had arrived. After a late retirement, we rose early Sabbath Day with devotions and breakfast. Under the direction of Herb Crouch, choir rehearsal was held before Sabbath School for the anthem in the Youth Week morning worship service. After Sabbath School, morning worship and dinner, our busy afternoon began with Peace Corps pictures and talks by Mrs. Milton Van Horn and Judy Van Horn. Following this, a panel discussion on "Serving" was held under Alan Crouch's direction. We ended the afternoon in song and praise to God with a short hymn sing. Following supper and the Sabbath closing worship service, the evening ended with a "romping" party under Jon Cruzan's direction and a movie.

The retreat came to a close Sunday morning after devotions and breakfast as our visitors began their travel home. As we all separated, we had fond and glorious memories of our wonderful Christian inspiration and fellowship together. Our Lord surely became more real to us in considering Christian service.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

ALFRED, N. Y.—"Something new has been added" to the Alfred Church program. In addition to its Senior, Junior, and Rhythm Choirs, a Middler Choir now contributes to the worship, ably conducted by Alfred University student, Kathleen Kenyon of Westerly.

A new feature of our world concern is the monthly Meal of Sharing, which not only provides a means of helping the hungry and of fellowship among ourselves, but also gives an opportunity for the young people to serve the church in serving the meals.

Following the "breaking of bread" some kind of church-related discussion takes place. For instance, Dean Leach spoke of the war in Vietnam from the detached view of an historian and Dr. Le Mon talked of new trends in church music. Most recently, on the Sabbath when the Chi Rho (the college-age young people's group) had charge of the service and the meal, the program consisted

of a concert reading of "Even the Hater," well-read by Craig Prophet, Becky Butts, and her father, Stanley Butts. Mr. Butts and his wife are the Chi Rho advisors.

A Lenten feature, the Sabbath Listening Hour, brings together those who enjoy a quiet time of reading and discussion. At the first gathering, Pastor Clarke read reviews of the controversial book, "Report from Iron Mountain."

—Correspondent.

MILTON JUNCTION, WIS.—The annual church dinner and business meeting were held at the church Sunday, January 7. Due to sickness in the pastor's family and death in another family our attendance was unusually low. A potluck dinner was enjoyed by all, and the usual business was transacted.

New Year's Eve the Sabbath School had a potluck supper at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Hartman. An evening of playing games was enjoyed.

Sabbath, March 2 our church was invited to worship and participate in a youth service at the Albion church. A fellowship dinner followed. In the afternoon both churches discussed the possibility of merging the Northern Association and the North Central Association. Each church is to vote on the proposed change at its April quarterly meeting.

The Ladies Aid meets once a month, either in the afternoon or evening. Our group is small, but we have money-making projects, occasional programs; and devotions at every meeting.

—Correspondent.

FARINA, ILL.—The effort to procure a pastor has been halted. Since September 4, 1965, when the Rev. Wayne Maxson left, fourteen pastors have been called whom we felt might want a change. Our list of potentials is now exhausted. We shall seek information in this matter from denominational officials who might have information we do not. Our information comes by conversation with those who feel they know one who might seek a change, from the Seventh Day Baptist *Yearbook*, and by observance of items in the *Sabbath Recorder*. However, our services continue each Sabbath Day from

The Sabbath Recorder

10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. unless a guest pastor is present; on those Sabbaths, Sabbath School is from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., and worship from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. We have recently completed arrangements with the Rev. Carlos L. McSparin of the Old Stonefort (Ill.) Seventh Day Baptist Church to fill our pulpit on the last Sabbath of each month. Communion will be held on the last Sabbath of the first month each quarter. *Heart and Mind.*

LET'S THINK IT OVER

First Class Citizenship Year

AFL-CIO President George Meany on January 24 stated: "The AFL-CIO unreservedly endorses President Johnson's 1968 civil rights program. We have testified for and we support the concept that the President has placed before the Congress and each specified piece of legislation he has proposed."

Mr. Meany said, "Much more must be done—starting right now with federal fair housing legislation which is a key item in the war against discrimination and segregation.

"We urge the Congress to remember that in America there can only be one kind of citizenship — first-class citizenship. . . . We urge the Congress to make 1968 the first-class citizenship year."

Redemptive Witness In Realm of Peace

Foy Valentine, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention Christian Life Commission, in a Baptist World Alliance Study Commission on human rights and religious liberty, said that the violence and anarchy by black racists "are tragic reflections of white racism tracing back for hundreds of years."

"Black power racism has fed on discrimination, prejudice, unemployment,

poor housing, poverty, deprivation and all kinds of social disadvantages to create an explosive situation," said Mr. Valentine.

Concluding his prepared paper: "Let us determine that through legislation and through love, through work and through witness, through open doors and through open hearts, through repentance and renewal, we will give ourselves to a redemptive witness in the realm of race."

Accessions

BERLIN, N. Y.

By Testimony:

Mrs. Ann Woltcheck
Joseph W. Woltcheck
Miss Saralyn A. Michaels
Mrs. Ora Etta Lincoln

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

By Profession of Faith:

Trofim Phillips
Rachel (Mrs. Trofim) Phillips
David Phillips
Lenox E. Baxter, Jr.
Joane (Mrs. Lenox) Baxter
Mrs. Jeri Blackwell
Miss Anna May Barber

PAINT ROCK, ALA.

By Testimony:

John D. Bevis

By Letter:

Edward D. Lawrence
Mildred (Mrs. Edward) Lawrence

PLAINFIELD, N. J.

By Baptism:

Mrs. Kay Satterlee

By Testimony:

Mrs. Mary Dixon

Associate Member:

Miss Peggy Williams

Births

Schuler.—Heidi Hermine was born Nov. 30, 1967 to Peter and Rolanda (Wheeler) Schuler of Sunnymead, Calif.

Wheeler.—A son, Ernest Paul, to Rev. and Mrs. Edgar Wheeler of Ashaway, R. I., February 1, 1968.



Flags at Half-Mast

On the morning after the murder of Rev. Martin Luther King on the balcony of his motel at Memphis the mayor of the city of Plainfield, N. J., ordered the flags on public buildings to be flown at half-mast for three days. The night of the shooting President Johnson cancelled a dinner engagement and postponed a flight to Hawaii. Throughout the nation responsible citizens paused to honor the champion of non-violent civil rights action struck down by violence.

It is a sad commentary on the wisdom of white people who did not approve of the non-violence of Dr. King and, by opposing him, fostered the violence of those who championed Black Power and other organizations of Negroes committed to the destruction of society. Now a white extremist in what appears to have

been a well-planned murder has removed the one great moderating voice in the civil rights cause. What will follow?

Pathetically, certain elements in New York City and other urban centers took the occasion of the ruthless act of one person in Memphis to start looting of liquor stores and committing other acts of anarchy. Schools had to be closed in such cities as Newark, not in honor of a minister who had done so much for his race, but for fear of irrational rioting that would dishonor his memory. While national and local leaders proclaim a time of mourning, others take this as an occasion of lawless looting. We need to pray. Perhaps the prayer should be, in part, the words of Jesus, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."