

The Sabbath Recorder
510 Watchung Ave.,
Plainfield, N. J. 07061

Second class postage paid at Plainfield, N. J. 07061

The Sabbath Recorder

LET'S THINK IT OVER

Looking Back

In the light of the present pressure on Congress to do something about poverty and hunger in our nation it is interesting to look back to the first of August last year. The news was then commenting that the U. S. Senate had moved with great haste to pass unanimously a bill to provide food and medical services on an emergency basis "to prevent human suffering or loss of life." This action, the release goes on to say, was a quick response to reports that there are people in the United States who simply do not have enough to eat and cannot get the medical attention they need.

The bill thus unanimously passed called for \$75 million in the next two years. Poverty and sickness have not significantly increased since last August, but publicity of their existence has been greatly expanded. The pressure on Congress has now increased. The needs spoken of are astronomical by comparison. Some leaders, in spite of what has been voted in intervening months, are calling for upwards of \$4 billion. Wherever the proper balance in federal expenditures is, it should be diligently sought by those who have the good of our nation and of the world at heart. Stamping is a tactic for dumb cattle, not intelligent congressmen.

"The road to pure doctrine cannot be driven over corpses." So writes Hans Kung, Catholic Swiss theologian, in a chapter on treatment of heretics. Nothing has hurt the Church and its unity so much as the lack of love shown in its violent treatment of heretics, he says.

Bible Reading Guide

JULY

	<i>Acts</i>	16 - 13: 1-12
1 -	1:12-2:13	17 - 13:13-52
2 -	2:14-47	18 - 14
3 -	3	19 - 15
4 -	4	20 - 16
5 -	5	<i>Acts</i>
6 -	6	21 - 17
		22 - 18
7 -	7: 1-53	23 - 19: 1-20
8 -	7:54-8:25	24 - 19:21-41
9 -	8:26-40	25 - 20: 1-16
10 -	9: 1-19	26 - 20:17-38
11 -	9:20-43	27 - 21: 1-36
12 -	10: 1-33	<i>Acts</i>
13 -	10:34-48	28 - 21:37-22:29
	<i>Acts</i>	29 - 22:30-23:35
14 -	11	30 - 24
15 -	12	31 - 25

Read the passage through. Then read over these suggested questions and seek answers from that passage. You might wish to keep a loose-leaf notebook with your daily notes on each passage.

Accessions

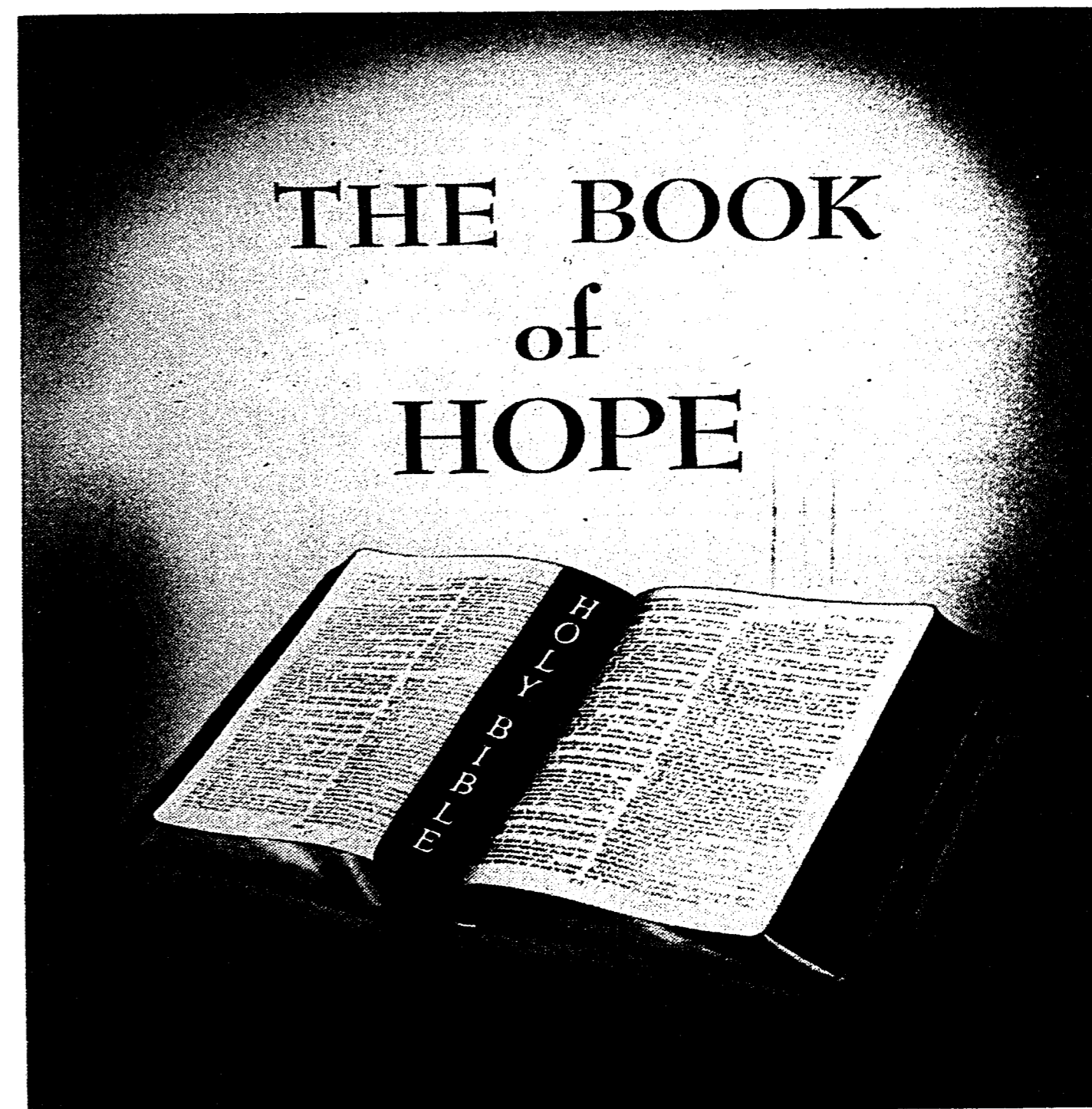
NEW AUBURN, WIS.

By Baptism:

Brent Perry
Amy Nelson
Debbie North
William Mares
Judy Mares
Susie Mares
Joe Mares

Obituaries

Churchward-Claussen.—Alton G. Churchward to Esther L. Claussen on Sabbath Day, May 11, 1968, at New Auburn, Wis.



Our Hope Is from the Book of Hope

Vacation Bible Schools begin. High school and older folks dedicate a portion of their summer to implanting the Word of hope in the plastic minds of children. Summer Christian Service Corps workers of college age, fresh from a training session, fan out across the nation to challenge other young people and adults with the message of hope from the Book. Summer church camp programs are ready. All are inspired by and seek to inspire others with the only hope for a troubled land and troubled world—the hope in Christ that we learn from "The Book of Hope."

The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

A Magazine for Christian Enlightenment and Inspiration
Member of the Associated Church Press
REV. LEON M. MALTBY, Editor

Contributing Editors:

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

Terms of Subscription

Per Year \$4.00 Single Copies 10 cents
Special rates for students, retired Seventh Day
Baptist ministers, and servicemen

Postage to Canada and foreign countries 50 cents per year additional. Gift and newlywed subscriptions will be discontinued at date of expiration unless renewed. All subscriptions will be discontinued six months after date to which payment is made unless renewed. The Sabbath Recorder cannot pay for contributed articles but will send the writer, upon request, up to 10 free copies of the issue in which an article appears.

Published weekly (except August when it is published bi-weekly) for Seventh Day Baptists by the American Sabbath Tract Society, 510 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, N. J. 07061

Second class postage paid at Plainfield, New Jersey. The Sabbath Recorder does not necessarily endorse signed articles. All communications should be addressed to the Sabbath Recorder, Plainfield, New Jersey.

PLAINFIELD, N. J. June 24, 1968
Volume 184, No. 26 Whole No. 6,305

Editorials:

Driver Error	2
Guaranteed Minimum Wage	3
No Winning Pitcher	3
Better Days for India	4
Guest Editorial	4

Features:

Secretary Wheeler in Europe	5
Baptists of the World Increasing	5
Laymen's Spiritual Retreat	6
May a Seventh Day Baptist Be a Conscientious Objector?	9
The Church Has a Future	10
Ecumenical News	10
Better Race Relations Called For	13
Let's Think It over	14
More News About Graduates	15

Missions:

Secretary and Mrs. Alton Wheeler to Visit England	8
Seventh Day Baptist Week of Prayer	9

Women's Work:

Baptist Women's Day of Prayer	11
Christian Education: Duties of a Superintendent	12
Preludes Are for Prayer	12

YOUTH:

News from the Churches	15
Accessions.— Births.— Marriages.— Obituaries	Back Cover

Driver Error

Every year I experience a time of depression. It is that time of year that the Travelers Insurance Companies send me their street and highway accident data book and suggested editorials designed to lower the terrible toll of life and limb.

Once more it is pointed out that 80 percent of the accidents of the year occurred in clear weather on dry roads. Everybody wants to blame the driving conditions or faulty mechanism, or perhaps the other fellow, but statistics rule out everything but the driver as the prime factor in fatal accidents. What causes 52,200 fatalities and 4,200,000 injuries? In 80 percent of the fatalities it is called "driver error." That is a very bland, nondescriptive term. A good many young people were in error, one-third of the drivers involved in fatal accidents being under 25. Many of the errors are rightly so-called, driving when sleepy or driving inattentively. But reckless driving which ranks next to excessive speed as a killer ought to have a stronger word than error. So, too, the high percentage of accidents caused because of alcohol needs a stronger word. There is a considerable amount of sin covered up by that all inclusive term "driver error."

In the sheaf of literature for the editor there can be found some suggestions as to how to avoid errors. They are in the nature of stopping to rest and refresh yourself. Good enough as far as they go, but the Christian must go deeper. If over 50 percent of accidents are due to alcohol impairment it would seem sensible to have a stronger campaign against the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages. The suggestions along this line are mild indeed. By comparison it seems foolish to require automobile manufacturers to constantly improve the safety features and make the buyers pay out millions more per year for mechanical safeguards and to spend so little to change the men that drive the machines to destruction.

Perhaps our problem is that legislation cannot go much deeper than the mechanical. How can you pass laws to make people good? Accidents come from error—often from sin. In our materialistic age we do little about spiritual values. We dare not curb pleasure or

deny the use of alcohol. It seems that we would rather die at the rate of 52,000 violent deaths on the highway than to restrict the habits of our people. Here is where the church and its members must raise a voice and become more active. If we can't have laws to make us safe drivers we can hope to persuade people to subject themselves to the laws of God. A great revival sweeping our nation would radically change the accident statistics that everybody cries about but does not attack at its source, the heart of man.

Guaranteed Minimum Wage

One of the announced aims of the Poor People's March and "Resurrection City" in Washington, D. C., was to demand of Congress a guaranteed minimum wage for all people. Fine, we are all for wages according to the work done and geared to a good standard of living. But that does not appear to be the intent. Some are demanding a minimum wage *for all* whether or not they work. Wages without work is a contradiction of terms, especially when you speak of it as a minimum wage. A guaranteed annual income is not wages unless work is done, no matter how good it sounds.

The system has problems and it would increase the number of problem people. If the guaranteed income is not enough to live on we have the poor still with us. If it is enough to live on it encourages people to avoid work, reducing them to moral and spiritual poverty. It fosters class distinctions by creating a top and a bottom with less and less middle between.

There must be some better way. Let us not be a party to a system that takes away the incentive of productive work. Help must be given to the needy and jobs found for the temporarily jobless. But if we want men to be men the work must be meaningful. The pilgrims in our early history had to make the rule that he who would not work could not eat. That system worked and built a strong country. If those able to work contrive to eat without working the nation has not done itself or them a service.

JUNE 24, 1968

MEMORY TEXT

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned. Romans 5:12.

No Winning Pitcher

The sports commentator summing up the baseball scores, often gives the name of the winning pitcher. Someone has remarked that this is a fiction; a pitcher can lose a game but he cannot win one except as a batter. This does not deny the fact that he can be the most important man on the team, for his job is to keep the other team from winning by making it impossible to get hits.

Is there any comparison between this and the work of the church? The minister in the pulpit and in the parish might be likened to the pitcher. He cannot be expected to win the game or be credited with all the success of the church in its mission. There is very much that he can do to keep the other side from winning, and this part of his work is sometimes overlooked. It is his business to recognize the work of the devil in its many forms, to warn the people effectively. This is stated over and over in the Old and New Testaments. The preacher must be accurate and skillful in proclaiming the righteousness of God against a background of the ever present sins of the flesh. He must so pitch the Word of God that it will go like a two edged sword between the joints of the armor "piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit and of the joints and marrow" (Heb. 4:12).

The church is a team of many members the most skillful of whom is the minister. Under his leadership is the church, opposed by the world, the flesh and the devil. The preacher can lose the game, but as for winning it, he is only one. He must have the willing and effective support of all the other members of the team.

Better Days for India

When we think of famine and population explosion the large country that comes most quickly to mind is India. Probably nowhere in the world has there been such a shortage of food for a densely populated agricultural country. Poverty is still deep, but the famine caused by drought has been much relieved by abundant rain in the worst-hit areas and by a certain amount of help from outside in the way of well-drilling, irrigation, and better seed. There is also hope in the other area—over-population as a cause of poverty and starvation.

Recently your editor had occasion to interview in New York one of the important religious leaders of India, the Rev. K. Devasahayam, president of the Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church, who had flown to America to attend the funeral of Franklin Clark Fry, world-renowned Lutheran leader. He commented on the improved famine situation and had more to say on checking the population explosion. He affirmed that the rate of increase has been slowed by the general acceptance of available methods of family planning. According to this bishop all religious groups, Christian and non-Christian have accepted the necessity of voluntary regulation of the size of families. Thus there may be better days ahead for India, less misery.

Other information coming from official sources in India tells of the need for missionaries. There is government appreciation for all help that missionaries have given to the people of that great land and a promise that the door is still open. This promise has to be taken with a word of caution, however. The government welcome seems to be limited to those "missionaries" who come with the skills most closely related to economic prosperity. The difficulties new missionaries have experienced in getting into India in recent years have not necessarily been washed away by statements of welcome for certain kinds of Christian workers. If the Christian Church were not already well established it would probably be impossible for it to take root and grow. But in all these things there may be in-

dication of better days and wider acceptance of the gospel message by the people.

Guest Editorial

Talk Is Cheap

By Rev. Edgar F. Wheeler

Many voices within and without the church are urging the church to abandon its emphasis upon the spiritual and the salvation of individuals for a course of drastic action for an immediate "solution" for the ills of society—race prejudice, economic inequities, poverty, slums, war, etc. "Join the marches, protest, lobby," they say.

Many Christians, however, have the insight to see that the only substantial way of improving society is to change the hearts of individual men in it. The gospel declares that Jesus Christ came to save sinners and to give them a new heart—a whole new outlook in life.

Unfortunately, too many professing Christians use this argument only as an excuse for doing nothing. It is easy enough to say, "We don't believe in marches, protests, violence, lobbies." Agreed! But what are we doing as Christians?

All too often we are not doing our part in promoting the gospel. We give only sparingly, avoiding sacrifices, to the program of the church, to missions, to charitable work. We avoid responsibility in the church, and withhold a Christian witness to others. We are too self-centered to see the needs—spiritual and material—in our own neighborhood, or to involve ourselves in community projects, to participate where we can in politics and government. What *are* we doing?

Jesus said: "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 7:21). He knew that talk can be cheap. But what we say carries some weight for the Lord when we dedicate ourselves personally and actively to the sharing, promoting and living out of the gospel in all circumstances.

Secretary Wheeler in Europe

As Secretary Wheeler travels through Europe during June and July, he will seek to fulfill several missions in behalf of the General Conference USA, the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation, and in the name of our Christ.

Mail being sent to him during that time may be sent to the following addresses with consideration being given on the part of the sender to time needed for delivery. The dates stated are those of his arrival and departure.

June 10-17—

c/o Lanark Hotel, 348 Seven Sisters Road, Finsbury Park, London N.4

June 17-24—

c/o Mr. G. Zijlstra, Kerstant van den Bergelaan 59a, Rotterdam 13, Netherlands.

June 25-July 19—

c/o World Council of Churches Fourth Assembly, Uppsala, Sweden.

July 19-24—

c/o Rev. Johannes Bahlke, Lastropsweg 30, 2 Hamburg 19, Germany.

July 25-30—

c/o Lanark Hotel, 348 Seven Sisters Road, Finsbury Park, London N. 4 (probably).

NEW JAMAICA FILMSTRIP

The filmstrip library of the American Sabbath Tract Society is now offering to the churches a new Jamaica filmstrip produced by General Secretary Alton Wheeler after his 1968 mission to the island. It is entitled "A Venture to Jamaica with Audio-Visual Aids." With 56 very good pictures Mr. Wheeler illustrates the introduction of audio-visual aids (with the help of his wife) on the island and tells the story of how the people all over the island respond to better teaching methods in the Sabbath School.

There are four copies of this interesting filmstrip available thus making it possible to serve the churches without undue waiting. We are indebted, as usual, to Fred Ayars, member of the Audio-Visual Aids Committee, for reproducing

the slides in convenient filmstrip form and arranging the titles. The script was prepared by Mr. Wheeler with the use of dedicated secretarial service. It is suggested that church leaders make plans right away to further acquaint their people with the Jamaica work through the use of this gripping picture story and message.

The fact that there is something new on Jamaica does not mean that the older filmstrips have lost their value. Consult your *Filmstrip Library* catalog (third edition) for other offerings and write this one in on page 42. Others are, "Fairest Island," and "Jamaica Mission Visit, 1966."

Baptists of the World Increasing

Another annual tabulation of membership of Baptist churches throughout the world shows that there has been an increase of 2.6 million during the past year. The total, considered fairly accurate, is 29,817,707. Since these figures come from the *Baptist World*, organ of the Baptist World Alliance, they include Seventh Day Baptist U. S. and world membership.

There are a number of interesting things about the list by continent and country. For instance, there is an estimate only for the mainland of China (123,000), and a firm figure of 9,704 for Taiwan (Formosa). The number is large in Burma (222,984), small in Korea (7,859), and very small in South Vietnam (336). In Africa nearly half of the 471,000 are in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Nigeria is next largest (78,674), with no separate mention of Biafra, where there are supposed to be quite a number of Sabbathkeeping Baptists. Malawi is listed with 3,163, which includes the 2,981 listed in our *Yearbook* for Africa (mostly Malawi). The editor of the *Baptist World* informs us his statistician used the figures from our 1967 *Yearbook*. Baptists are weak in Guyana, S. A., which is credited with only 488, a figure that also includes the 179 members in our Guyana conference.

Laymen's Spiritual Retreat A Great Experience

Those who attended the first layman's spiritual retreat at Lewis Camp near Ashaway, Rhode Island, over the Memorial Day weekend were enthusiastic about the values received. The retreat was led by the Rev. Leon R. Lawton and Miss Connie Coon, denominational leaders in evangelism. Other staff members contributed to the smooth running of the program.

In certain respects this short retreat for laymen was like the three longer ones for ministers. The daily Bible study of the Epistle to the Philippians was similar, conducted on the Growth by Groups plan of private paraphrasing and group discussion. The subjects taken up in the classes were different: Visitation, Soul Winning, Successful Teaching, Bible Clubs. Other short courses were planned but not called for by those attending. General discussion periods opened up various needs, problems and outlooks.

One of the helpful things at the close of the camping experience was the opportunity to write out a personal evaluation in the form of a letter to a real or imaginary friend. Although these unsigned responses were personal and not meant for publication they do show how deep the current was running and are valuable for others unable to attend this time and considering joining such a group when another layman's spiritual retreat is scheduled. Here are small quotations from some of the letters:

1. *Ann, my Christian Friend:*

My heart is overflowing with the wonderful experience I've had at Lewis Camp at the Laymen's Spiritual Retreat and I want to share it with you.

Just to be away from the telephone and hustle bustle and hear the baby birds and mothers on our window sills and the deep, deep bull frogs and the high pitched peepers down the hill in the swamp set the stage. To have 45 whole minutes each day to really read Philippians and then write portions in my own words under the sure guidance of the Holy Spirit; and then share it with three or four others and relate it to past

personal experiences and plan how these new insights of God's love can be given to others, has just been the greatest

2. These have been three of the greatest days I believe I have ever spent. My only regret is that you were unable to be here and share in the joy of serving the Lord. Christ has given to every true Christian a message that, we found through experience and I think much to our surprise, the world really does want to hear. And that is the message: that Christ lives in and through the lives of His children

3. I felt the presence and understanding of Christ in all connections with the camp. We have a better understanding of others in the discussions, a feeling of doing the work and calling of Christ. We have better understanding of visitation among the unchurched and those with other problems and how to approach them

4. This has been the most rewarding experience! It is amazing how sixteen strangers can get together and because of fellowship in the Love of Christ, within a short time we all know each other and shall be friends forever. I am so grateful to all those who made this retreat possible and to Pastor Leon Lawton for his outreaching sincerity and warmth, which made us "right at home." Difference in ages, backgrounds, and communities have made no difference, except to broaden our view and realize the love of Christ envelops us all and we rejoice in the Lord always

5. I came to Lewis Camp Layman's Spiritual Retreat to enter into a study and sharing experience with other Seventh Day Baptist friends The program was expanded enough to include varied interests. The visitation was a new experience to many of us.

6 *Dear Mary:*

You know I was apprehensive about what might happen at this retreat. I was expecting to say little because I thought that my background from college would put me in left field as related to the adults here. I was being pretty uppity, I guess. But, as you well know, the

power of the Christian community is very great. There were no tensions but each person was accepted and heard.

7 *Dear Friend:*

I wish you could have been with us at the Layman's Spiritual Retreat at Lewis Camp, May 30-June 2. "God at Work, In and Through" was the theme.

. . . The culmination of the program was visiting people in the Ashaway area—the practical application of God's divine guidance as we are working for Him. The contacts made at Lewis Camp and at actual visitation are never-to-be-forgotten experiences. Now I'm taking home the knowledge gained and the love of Christ in my heart.

8. This week I have made progress in some of my weaknesses. Even though I have a long way to go, I am not as "fearful" as I was.

Sorry we cannot include more of the testimonies of the blessings of this camp to the adult laymen who attended. The voice was unanimous although the experiences were individual and different.

What of the future? The Planning Committee will discuss it in the light of this first experiment. An interesting note comes from Dodge Center. They had hoped to send their Sabbath School superintendent but it did not work out. Now they propose that the money collected be used to bring the director of evangelism, Leon Lawton, to their church sometime in the future to share some of his studies with them and other churches of the area.

Racism Is Wrong

A Roman Catholic national paper, *The Lamp*, published at Garrison, N. Y. wanted an article on the race situation and asked a Southern Baptist, Tracy Early, of Urbanna, Va., to write it. It was titled, "A Southern Baptist Looks at Race."

Mr. Early's six-page spread traced the shift from nonviolence to the current more militant stance and called for repentance saying:

"The churches must confess that in regard to the racial crisis, they have not done those things that they ought to have done, and they have done those things that they ought not to have done.

"There have been many exceptions . . . , but considering the overall picture, it is accurate to say that the churches have not had . . . an adequate understanding of the problem of racism, nor the will to wage a strong fight against it.

"They have preached love and goodwill in general terms, but they have failed to come to grips with the reality of racism as it is actually manifest in our daily life."

"Every doctrine is a denial of racism," he wrote. "The doctrine of creation asserts that all men are sons of Adam and therefore brothers by physical descent, and the doctrine of the new birth sees all believers as brothers in Christ. The doctrine of sin says that all are guilty and unable to look down on others as morally inferior, while the doctrine of salvation finds the fulfillment of human life, not in the possessions of outward characteristics such as race, but in the gifts of God's love."

WHITE ARE THE FIELDS

What Jesus once said has always proved true;
Tho the fields are all white, there are workers too few;
He bids us go into the great harvest field
And bring the ripe sheaves that our sickles will yield.

For naught is accomplished by just money or talk
Tho the lack of these things oft a project will balk—
Willing workers are needed: consecrate all to the Lord,
DO all that you're fit for, trust Him to reward.

based on Luke 10:2 and John 4:35.

—D. Alva Crandall (deceased).

Secretary and Mrs. Alton Wheeler to Visit England

(Note: This is a review of plans as received from Pastor James McGeachy in letter dated May 7, 1968, for the visit of Secretary and Mrs. Alton Wheeler to the Mill Yard Church in June and to the British Conference of Seventh Day Baptists to be held at Birmingham, England in July, 1968.)

We are looking forward to the visit of Bro. Alton Wheeler in June, and also his later visit in July with Sister Wheeler to attend our Conference in Birmingham, which of course will be a very small affair compared with conferences in other lands. If we have 30 there in attendance we will do well.

We decided to have it in Birmingham since the friends there have always had to make the journey to London; so it is only fair that we in the south should do the traveling. It means of course that a good number of those in London will not make the journey. Anyway they will have their opportunity to hear Bro. Wheeler in June.

Secretary Wheeler arrives on Tuesday, June 11, and that day I expect to take him around to view the chief sights in the center of London. Since he will arrive early in the morning, we will take him to his room at Lanark Hotel in the evening.

His first meeting will be at Herne Hill in South East London on Wednesday evening. Owing to distances and cost of fares we cannot have another week-night service, so on Thursday we may see some other places. On Friday evening we plan to take him to the service of the Jewish Christian Community. They have asked me to speak that evening.

On Sabbath all will come to Holloway here in London and we will spend the whole day at the Upper Holloway Baptist Church. We will invite Bro. Wheeler to speak at the morning service and in the afternoon and in the evening. On Sunday night we will all go again to Herne Hill where he will be asked to give us a gospel address. In this way I think we can make the fullest use of

his visit. On June 17 he expects to travel to Holland.

On the return journey Bro. and Sister Wheeler will stay the night of Thursday, July 25, at the same hotel, and on Friday, I will take them up by motor coach to Birmingham. The brethren there will find accommodation for us over the weekend. There will hardly be time for a Friday evening meeting since those from London will not arrive till late. They can only begin the journey after leaving work on Friday, and in fact some may not arrive till Sabbath morning. Still we may have a small meeting on Friday evening with those who live in Birmingham.

Sabbath morning, July 27, we will have Sabbath School at 10 a.m., and the service at 11:15 when we will expect to have Bro. Wheeler speak. There will be a young people's meeting in the afternoon, and an evangelistic meeting in the evening. Perhaps Sister Wheeler will take part in the Sabbath School and in the afternoon. In the evening I expect we will have several speakers.

On Sunday we will have Conference business sessions morning and afternoon, or, as some may want to get on the way home on Sunday evening, we may start the evening service early, when Bro. Wheeler can give us his farewell address. This will give you some idea of what we have in mind. We will expect to return to London on Monday and they will be at the Lanark Hotel that night, and then catch their plane for home on Tuesday, July 30.

For Freshmen

The life of the college freshman is often fraught with dangers to his untested faith and his moral standards. The IVCF group at Muskingum College (Ohio) did something to help. They purchased 250 copies of *Good News for Modern Man*, the runaway best-seller Testament and put a copy in the room of every freshman. A staff member says they were well received and that follow-up work brought results.

Seventh Day Baptist Week of Prayer

The devotional material for the 1969 Seventh Day Baptist Week of Prayer has been prepared this year by the Rev. James McGeachy, pastor of the Mill Yard Seventh Day Baptist Church, London, England. This material has now been received at the S. D. B. Publishing House, Plainfield, and the work of printing goes forward. Again we come to the churches with a request that you send your order for number of copies wanted to the office of General Secretary, 510 Watchung Ave., Plainfield, N. J. 07061.

Pastor James McGeachy has used as his theme in this year's devotional booklet "The Hearts of Men." He has taken up such aspects as "The Natural Heart," "The Stony Heart," "The Cleansed Heart." It is well done. It is timely. It is needed. If ever the hearts of men needed cleansing and renewal it is today.

Let Seventh Day Baptists around the world join in supplication to God that He will meet the special needs of each of our peoples. As this is being written the news has just been received of the death of another national leader by assassination. We in America greatly need our hearts cleansed and our spirits renewed and only God can do this.

We would call attention to the special significance of the last day of the Week of Prayer (Sabbath day, January 11, 1969) as being the time set for a day of prayer for the Crusade of the Americas program of which the theme is "Christ, the Only Hope." As Seventh Day Baptists unite in the prayer fellowship, this Sabbath day will take on added significance.

Some churches will order enough copies of the Week of Prayer booklets to send a copy to each church member, resident and nonresident. A cost-of-production-and-mailing request of five cents a copy is being made. The payment can be sent with the order or later, if more convenient for the church.

May a Seventh Day Baptist Be a Conscientious Objector?

Seventh Day Baptists have held that the Ten Commandments form the basis of all right relationships between man and man, and man and God.

The same voice which spoke at Sinai, saying, "Remember the sabbath day," also said, "Thou shalt not kill."

Moreover, He who is the very Son of God, and who spoke protectingly of the Sabbath in this wise, saying, "The Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath," also spoke compassionately of the victims of war when he said, "Love your enemies—pray for them that despitefully use you," and even to "turn the other cheek," rather than to return blow for blow.

Thus we find repeated in the New Testament what was basic in the Old, that when man is lifted up and kept in harmony with his God, he will also learn how to live at peace with his fellowman.

Seventh Day Baptists have repeatedly affirmed their decision to stand behind those whose consciences will not allow them to participate in war (see 1951 *Yearbook*) at the same time that they have stated their willingness to stand behind those of the opposite persuasion.

Any of you who wish more information regarding the steps to be taken to register as a Conscientious Objector to war are invited to write to one of the following:

Mr. Albyn Mackintosh, 1948 Estes Road, Eagle Rock, Calif. 90041.

Rev. Paul S. Burdick, 4 Shore Road, Waterford, Conn. 06385.

Largest Church

The largest church in the Southern Baptist Convention is First Baptist of Dallas with 15,000 members. The pastor, W. A. Criswell, is the 1968-69 president of the Convention. Although he is counted as a segregationist he signed the civil rights manifesto and says that his church is not disposed to turn anyone down for membership if he comes sincerely. The church now has three Negro members.

The Church Has a Future



Dr. L. Doward McBain, who just completed his term as president of the American Baptist Convention, preached a sermon at the famous Riverside Church in New York. He spoke of the church as having a usable past and then turned the attention of his hearers to the usable future which, he said, the church has. We quote:

In spite of all this the church should be far more concerned about a usable future. Its altogether proper plunge into contemporary social involvement is now in danger of jeopardizing our ultimate witness as a Christian church. In our search for relevance and our determination for secular acceptance we endanger our very purpose for existence. Almost totally absent in our race toward involvement is the place of sanctuary. People on the march still need a place to begin and a place to retire and a way station at which to be revived. Even the soldier on the front line sooner or later must eat and sleep. We ought to thank God for our secular involvement and our search to implement love and justice in the social order, but if we lose the place of sanctuary where troubled souls find both comfort and strength, we are in deep trouble as a people of God. Martin Marty once defined the church in two dimensions—"the cave and the tent." We have always needed both.

We are now, however, about to become the church with a tabernacle but without a temple. Harvey Cox in his recent lectures entitled "The Secular Search for Religious Experience" has put it this way, "once you transform everything into mission for social action and lose the intrinsic joy of the spirit of worship you are in danger of losing both . . . you can't really worship, and you don't really serve." From the young American Baptist scholar who wrote "The Secular City" and probably the "stingingest" gadfly against our ancient

manners, morals, and traditions, this comes as a welcome swing of the pendulum back toward the need for sanctuary for the American activist.

One of these days the American religion is, like the prodigal son, going to awaken in the far country with second thoughts about his father's house. The tragedy already beginning to face those of us who have been in the street and on the march is the haunting question "Who sent us?" When we have lost the transcendent dimension of the gospel or what again Cox calls "joy, festivity, and holy mirth" through worship, the motivating force to change society from the "isness" into the "oughtness" is all but gone.

ECUMENICAL NEWS

Niles Replaces King at Uppsala

A widely-known Asian Christian leader, the Rev. D. T. Niles of Ceylon, who preached at the First Assembly of the World Council of Churches 20 years ago will give the opening sermon of the Fourth Assembly this summer, replacing the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the assassinated U. S. civil rights leader and minister.

The sermon will be on the Assembly theme, "Behold, I Make All Things New," and will be delivered in the historic Cathedral of Uppsala, Sweden, on the morning of July 4.

Noting that Dr. King had been chosen originally because of his ability as a preacher, Dr. Eugene Carson Blake, general secretary of the World Council, said that "Dr. Niles is an outstanding preacher who can give us a thoughtful interpretation of the passage from Revelation that provides the Assembly theme."

Dr. Niles has been serving for the past two months as a special consultant to the Methodist Board of Missions in New York and teaching at Princeton (N. J.) Theological Seminary. He is best known as the chief executive officer of the East Asia Christian Conference from its beginning in 1957.

Poor People's Campaign

On June 11 the National Council of Churches through its General Board reiterated its general support for the Poor People's Campaign and reissued a call to its 33 member denominations to participate in the June 19 National Solidarity Day march in Washington. The announcement came after a series of meetings of religious leaders in the wake of the resignation of Bayard Rustin as national coordinator of the march.

Dr. Charles S. Spivey, Jr., director of the Council's "Crisis in the Nation" program, said that "the needs of the poor, the issues of social justice and the great need for massive support for these concerns are of paramount importance for the churches and the nation."

In addition to reissuing the call to participate, the National Council of Churches is sending to its constituents the new set of goals and instructions for the march outlined by Mr. Tucker. They include the following:

"We march to demand an end to poverty and violence in American life.

"We march to demand a national commitment to provide a meaningful job at a living wage for every employable citizen.

"We march to demand that the government guarantee a secure and adequate income for all who cannot find jobs or for the aged, the sick, the handicapped and others who should not work.

"We march to demand that government put an end to hunger and malnutrition in America.

"We march to consecrate our country to an end to violence in national life, and as a first step, enactment of adequate federal controls on the registration and sale of firearms.

"We march in full support of the demands of the Poor People's Campaign and seek immediate implementation of the 99 demands placed by it before the federal government on April 29, 30 and May 1."

WOMEN'S WORK—Mrs. Earl Cruzan

Baptist Women's Day of Prayer November 4, 1968

Mrs. Edgar Bates, president of the Women's Department of the Baptist World Alliance announces the theme of the Baptist Women's Day of Prayer.

Our attention focuses on our theme: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matt. 25:40b). As we pray, we remember that the world will be won only as it sees the teachings of Christ reflected in our lives, in our attitude toward others. "Love your enemies," we are told. And again, "Blessed is that servant whom his Lord, when he cometh, shall find so doing."

My dear sisters, let us be mutually strengthened in our service to the Master by the knowledge that we form a true chain of prayer around the world—not for this day alone but "without ceasing."

"Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?"

When as a great body of Christians we come together to pray simultaneously with understanding — what forces of spiritual power can be released!

Year by year God has blessed our united effort. Let no one think herself too insignificant to be one of the great numbers using the opportunity for more prayer and more giving when November, 1968, arrives. Thought and prayer and preparation begin now!

The love offerings taken at these meetings have been used for relief of our people in distressed areas, for publications to inform us of situations around the world, for continental gatherings which have brought women of many countries together to share plans and to pray, and for the Women's Department meeting held in connection with the Baptist World Alliance Congress every five years.

Please circle the date November 4, 1968, on your calendar for a remembrance of the Baptist Day of Prayer and start making plans now for this meeting this fall.

Duties of a Superintendent

The Sabbath School superintendent is in general charge of all departments of the Sabbath School. When the school sets up periods of worship or business sessions with reports, the superintendent is in charge. He encourages special reports from keyworkers and others who are doing specialized work for the church. A weekly check is made of adult classes and teachers, and other classes through the department superintendents to see where help is needed. He will assist in providing substitute teachers when needed. He will serve as a counselor for all teachers and department superintendents, and when a department superintendent is not present, will see that someone presides in that department.

If there is no Committee on Christian Education in the church, he will arrange for teachers meetings.

If there is a Committee on Christian Education, he will report periodically to it, attend all meetings of the committee if a member, or will attend when invited if not a member.

He will do home visitation endeavoring to enlist pupils for the Sabbath School and will encourage the teachers and superintendents to do the same.

Preludes Are for Prayer

Perhaps that is not what your church bulletin says in so many words—that preludes are for prayer. But your worship committee or your pastor or the music committee has good reason for the musical prelude in your worship service.

We have come to the house of the Lord—you and I—to worship. He is there, waiting. We cannot see Him . . . and often we cannot sense His presence.

There has been, perhaps, too much hurrying and scurrying to get ready for church . . . or the children tried our tempers . . . or traffic was heavy . . . or some "woman-driver" pulled a foolish stunt and upshot our churchgoing equilibrium.

The Bible class was an instructive period all right, but not especially conducive to a quiet, reverent mood as we entered the sanctuary.

Now, with the prelude, comes a time of quiet. It is not meant to be a background of music against which we can chat comfortably with our friends and neighbors. It is, as a rule, a meditative type of music. If we will but let it, it helps create within our being an attitude of prayer . . . a feeling of peace . . . and a sense of nearness to our Father, whose house we have entered.

"Be still and know that I am God," we are admonished. Yes, be still and find greater strength and inspiration than you ever before knew.

As someone else has suggested, "If you must whisper, whisper a prayer," for preludes are for prayer.

—Washington Church Bulletin.

YOUTH . . .

THE SABBATH

What is the Sabbath anyway? It was the day God rested from the work of His creation (Gen. 2:2). It was a day of rest for the Jews. They could relax and let down their hair, so to speak, on the Sabbath. It was a day commanded to be set apart. It was to come once every seven days (Ex. 20:8-11). It was to be a sign between the Israelites and God (Ex. 31:13). Most important, it was a day hallowed and set apart for the worship of the Lord. It was a day dedicated to and set aside for the remembrance of Him. It was for these purposes that Christ used the Sabbath. It is for these purposes that it is to be used by all Christians, and particularly by Seventh Day Baptists. Other people really envy us for having this day. We need not feel guilty for not doing those things that press in upon us and just relaxing. Let's not be ashamed of our Sabbath which the Lord so mercifully gave to us. Let's use it.

(Dale Rood, Westerly, R. I.)

THE SABBATH RECORDER

Better Race Relations Called For

Southern Baptists in general and individuals in many parts of the South have been very slow to accept national legislation and the consensus of Christian opinion on equal rights for the Negro race. The action of their highly representative annual Convention meeting at Houston indicates a change of official and personal attitude. The adoption of a strong 1100-word statement is described by Roy Jennings in a release to Baptist papers as follows.

The statement asking the SBC Home Mission Board to take the lead in solving the problems relating to the national racial crisis was endorsed by an overwhelming 72 percent of the messengers after only minor revision and 60 minutes of discussion.

The crisis was dramatically portrayed in the opening statement with the declaration the nation is enveloped in a social and cultural revolution.

The statement went on to say that "we are a nation that declares the equality and rights of persons irrespective of race. Yet, as a nation, we have allowed cultural patterns to persist that have deprived millions of black Americans and other racial groups as well, of equality of recognition and opportunity in the areas of education, employment, citizenship, housing and worship We have seen a climate of racism and reactionism developed resulting in hostility, injustice, suspicion, faction, strife, and alarming potential for bitterness, division, destruction, and death."

As part of a confession the statement said Southern Baptists have come far short of Christian brotherhood with Negro Baptists in the nation.

To implement their concern, the messengers committed themselves to:

—Respect every individual as a person possessing inherent dignity and worth growing out of his creation in the image of God;

—Undertake to secure opportunities in matters of citizenship, public services, education, employment, and personal habitation that every man achieve his highest potential as a person;

JUNE 24, 1968

—Personally accept every Christian as a brother beloved in the Lord and welcome to the fellowship of faith and worship every person irrespective of race and class;

—Strive to become well informed about public issues, social ills, and diverse movements that are damaging human relationships;

—Recognize their involvement with other Christians and with all others of goodwill in the obligation to work for righteousness in public life and justice for all persons.

While the denomination confessed its shortcomings and its responsibilities in the emerging national crisis, it called upon the nation to respect law and order, urging minority groups to accept responsibility as well as to express their desires.

New ABC President

Culbert Rutenber, professor of philosophy of religion at Andover-Newton Theological Seminary, was elected president of the American Baptist Convention at its recent meeting in Boston. He visited the Southern Baptist Convention at Houston where he was interviewed on the relation between the two Conventions and other matters. Among other things he stated that he had been a pacifist for a number of years and favored stopping the bombing of North Vietnam and reducing the war in South Vietnam.

On organic union of the two Baptist Conventions he said it would be a long time. "Right now neither Convention would accept the other," he observed. They disagree strongly on membership in the National Council of Churches, for one thing. Seeing no prospect of merger, he did think that they could contribute much to each other; ABC being strong on social action and SBC excelling in evangelism.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for July 6, 1968

FROM REBELLION TO DISASTER

Lesson Scripture: Jer. 38:14-18; 39:1-2, 6-10.

LET'S THINK IT OVER

Involvement and Identity

C. Stanley Lowell, editor of *Church and State*, and occasional speaker on this issue in some Seventh Day Baptist churches, sees dangers in the growing passion for involvement of many of the nation's clergymen. Their motives for getting into the government act of relief of poverty may be as pure as the driven snow, he says. But if this is so it is more the pity, because they are not aware that they are on the wrong road—a road that leads from involvement to identity and thus a weakening of the gospel message. This is the way he expresses it in an editorial in the June issue:

"It may be the passion for 'involvement' which motivates the clergy. They must be 'involved' in this and in that, and indeed, in everything. This may sound good, but the trouble is that involvement too assiduously pursued becomes identity Identity with the world is not the supreme goal of the gospel. The gospel is not a blotter to soak up everything

"We believe that payment by the state to the church for the performance of charity is a self-defeating procedure. . . . As history has so often disclosed, churchmen having tasted the state's patronage begin to seek it for its own sake.

"As time goes on, what gets attention and emphasis in the church is precisely those programs which are subsidized by the state."

Essentialists

A few pastoral and lay theologians are advocating a reappraisal of Christian doctrine. Having done this they are coming up with some strange new dogmas. We might call them "Essentialists." They can be divided into three classes:

1. "Ex-essentialists"—who once believed but are now ready to throw all doctrine overboard. It has been said, "A man of faith will never compromise faith."

2. "Non-essentialists"—who never accepted the basic beliefs of Christianity. They are going along for the theological ride. Secretly they are hoping to find faith.

3. "Bare-essentialists"—who have reduced faith and doctrine to the minimum but do not reject it all.

—Watchman Examiner.

Peace Assembly at Prague

The Third All-Christian Peace Assembly, meeting in Prague, Czechoslovakia, took a strong stand against what it called "imperialism" and "economic exploitation" by the United States and other "capitalist" Western nations. Also condemned was "American aggression" in Vietnam.

There were nearly 500 delegates from 54 countries, the largest delegation (46) being from the USSR. Among the Russian delegates were five Baptists. The twenty-five Baptists in the Peace Assembly were called together one evening by Michael Zhidkov, president of the European Baptist Federation, one of the Russian Baptist leaders who has visited America several times. The Assembly was led by Professor Josef L. Hromadka of Prague who has been president of the Christian Peace Conference since 1961 and was reelected.

There was a delegation of Viet Cong from Vietnam but no other delegation from South Vietnam. Two offerings were taken on the last day of the Assembly for the Viet Cong.

Like previous peace conferences under this leadership held in a communist country, the emphasis on peace was from the point of view of communism. The attitude toward the West is shown in a special "Statement on Vietnam" voted by the Assembly in which the conflict there was called a "war of annihilation by a world power against a small nation—which one can almost call genocide." The leader of the Viet Cong delegation, a Roman Catholic, gave an address distributed to the press, in which he said, "The American aggressors and their lackeys have accumulated more crimes than Satan and are showing themselves more perfidious than Judas."

News of the death of Martin Luther King came during the Assembly. A message of condolence was sent to Mrs. King.

More News About Graduates

The appeal by the editor in the March 11 issue for news about the plans of church-connected graduates did not draw from leaders of churches all the information desired. There is still opportunity for short stories of significant achievements and plans for the near future. This applies particularly to those who have received degrees and are now ready to engage in some temporary service project or are preparing further for a life work that will bring betterment to the world.

In addition to the college graduates who have had a connection with the Alfred church and were mentioned in last week's issue are Robert Frankson graduating from the university and David Sanford with a degree from Alfred State College. Sherman Clarke, son of the pastor, received a degree from New Paltz University.

The name of a Nortonville church member was inadvertently omitted from the college graduate list. John Wheeler was graduated at the top of his class at Kansas State University with a degree in architectural engineering. He has accepted a position with an architectural firm in Topeka, Kans., where he and his wife, Joanne (nee Poulin), from Plainfield, N. J., are now residing.

Shiloh adds another name to its college graduation list. Cliff Bonham graduated from Cumberland County College, a two year school, and is to continue college in California next fall.

Pastor Resigns

The Alfred Station church at a special business meeting April 28 accepted with regret the resignation of the pastor, Rev. Ernest K. Bee, which he had tendered on March 23. The resignation becomes effective September 1. It is understood that Mr. Bee plans to take clinical training this summer in the area of Washington, D. C. Steps were taken, according to the published report of the business meeting "to initiate the process to call a new pastor."

India's People Remain Hungry

"The 1965-66 famine is over and India has returned to its normal state of hunger — that means widespread food shortages," said J. Benton Rhoades recently at a meeting of the Action for Food Production (AFPRO) task force in New York.

Because of technical advances in food production and lucky placement of the spring monsoons, there are grain surpluses in some of India's states. Executives reported on the bountiful crop harvested in India this year, but hastened to add that "per capita food availability is no better today than it was 20 years ago."

Mr. Cook said that India's high-yielding agricultural outlook is optimistic because of successful results with hybrid seed.

"If and when India ever reaches a point where food no longer needs to be imported, the country will still suffer from a low level of nutrition. It will take at least another generation to get India's nutritional level up to what it should be," said Mr. Cook.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

RIVERSIDE, CALIF.— According to church bulletins quite a number of the local congregation have received a blessing from "Growth by Groups" Bible studies, a program that was recommended last year by the denominational Planning Committee and taken up by a number of churches this year.

At least four groups have recently been organized to meet once a week for several weeks. The time of meeting is arranged to suit the convenience of the group and hostess. One is on Sabbath afternoon, one at 7:30 p.m., and one at 6:30 a.m., at the home of Jackie Wells who hosts the group before she and others go to their work.

DAYTONA BEACH, FLA.— Baptism was held on May 18, Sabbath Rally Day, for four youth of the Pike family, Robert, Candy, Terry and Michelle. Also on Sabbath June 1, another baptism was held for two young men, John Jacob and Greg Cushing. Some of these youth

The Sabbath Recorder

will be received into church membership at a later date.

Mrs. Grace Acton had an unfortunate fall. She is in the hospital with a broken hip and is gaining very well. Two of our families, the Win Randolfs and the O. B. Bonds are to be at the Southeastern Association in Salemville, Pa. Also four of our youth will attend the association and Camp Joy immediately after. Those youth are Christy Brossier, and Janice, John and Marian Jacob.

We will be having an SCSC team with us for special work in visitation and Bible Clubs for three weeks beginning June 21. The members of our team are Debby Randolph of Boulder, Colo.; Robert Harris of Shiloh, N. J.; Stephen Crouch of Milton, Wis.; and Chris Williams of North Loup, Nebr.

—Correspondent.

Accessions

ALFRED, N. Y.

By Baptism:

Evan Butts
Gary Reid
David Snyder
Sandy Snyder
Amy Tuttle

Births

Gugino.— A daughter, Michelle Carrol, to Thomas and Dawn (Burdick) Gugino of Rochester, N. Y., April 12, 1968.

Kreibach.—A daughter, Michelle Lin, to Henry and Nancy Kreibach of New Auburn, Wis., on Feb. 16, 1968.

Kuck.— A daughter, Myra Jane, to George and Sally (West) Kuck of Alfred, N. Y., on April 19, 1968.

Snyder.— A daughter, Jill Kristen, to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Snyder of Hornell, N. Y., on April 14, 1968.

Snyder.—A daughter, Lucinda Ann, to Nelson and Amanda (Stevens) Snyder of Alfred Station, N. Y., on June 4, 1968.

Marriages

Steele-Saunders.— Richard L. Steele, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Walter Steele, of Littleton, Colo., and Virginia M. Saunders of Rego Park, N. Y., daughter of Dr. Paul C. Saunders were united in marriage in the Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church, April 12, 1968, by her pastor, David S. Clarke.

Obituaries

BABCOCK.—Edmond Rolandus, son of Adolphus and Isadore Babcock, was born March 22, 1888, in Jackson Center, Ohio, and died May 18, 1968, in Holly Hill, Fla.

He was a member of the Battle Creek, Mich., Seventh Day Baptist Church. In June of 1914 he was married to Frances Ferrill by the Rev. Willard D. Burdick.

He is survived by a son, LeRoy Babcock and four grandchildren of Valdosta, Georgia, and two sisters-in-law, Mrs. Emma W. Babcock of Clermont, Fla., and Mrs. Ruby Babcock of Daytona Beach, Fla., with whom he has lived for many years.

The funeral service was conducted at the Haigh and Black Chapel by his pastor, Marion C. Van Horn, and interment was in Shady Rest Cemetery in Holly Hill.

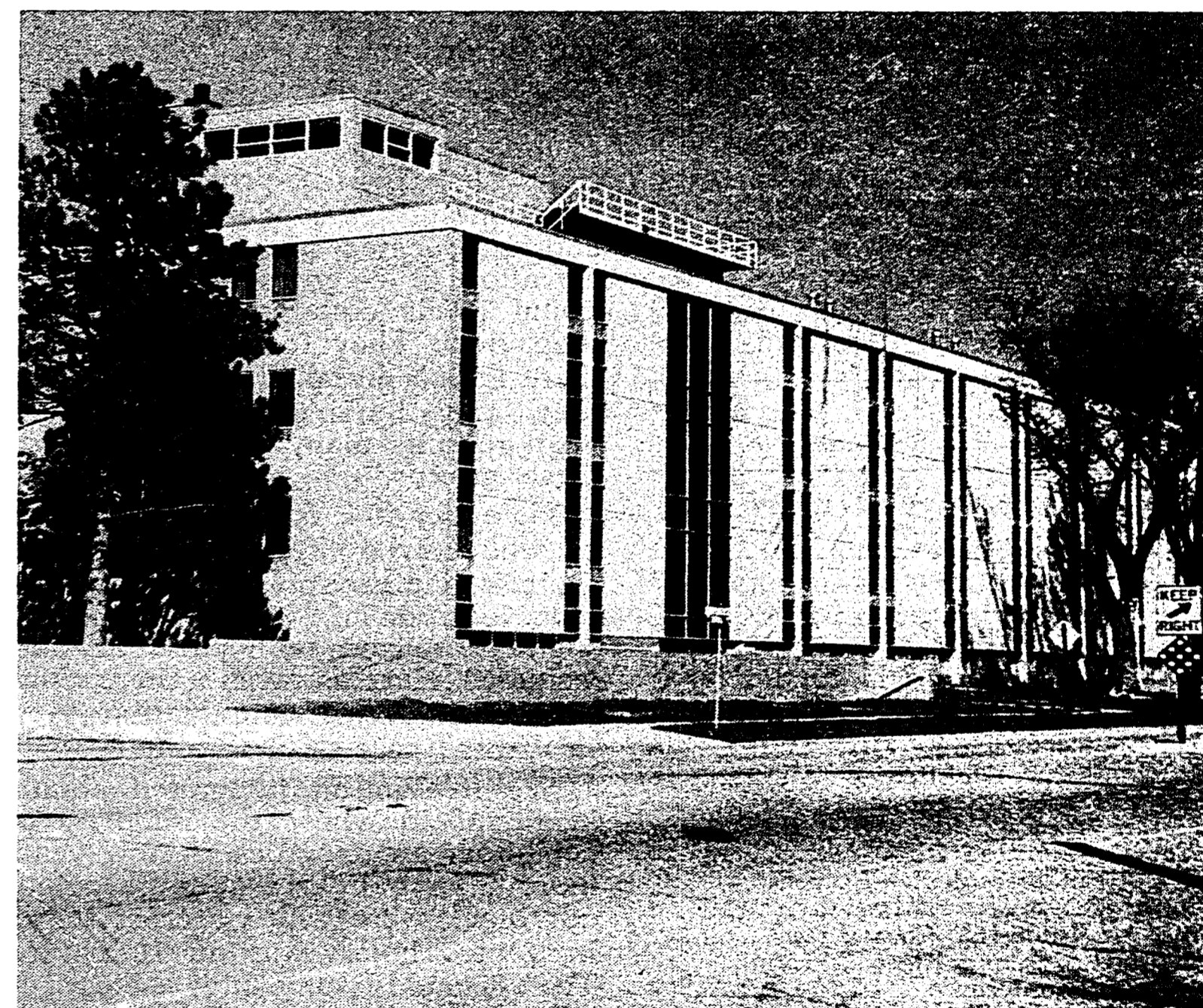
—M. C. V. H.

BURDICK.—Bette Lippincott, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Lippincott, was born on Sept. 7, 1922 in Battle Creek, Mich., and died on May 9, 1968 in Riverside, Calif., after an extended illness. She was the wife of Rev. C. Rex Burdick, pastor of the Riverside Seventh Day Baptist Church.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Lippincott of Battle Creek; two sons, Douglas and Norman; three daughters, Carole, Martha, and Pamela; and a brother, Rev. Robert P. Lippincott of Chowchilla, Calif.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Mynor G. Soper in the Riverside Seventh Day Baptist Church. Interment was in the Hillcrest Cemetery, DeRuyter, N. Y., where a graveside service was conducted by the pastor, Charles Swing.

—M. G. S.



Conference Emphasis Issue

The facilities of Kearney State College at Kearney, Nebr., are made available to a large delegation of Seventh Day Baptists who will come to this mid-continent location for the 1968 session of General Conference. The building pictured here is the Brunner Hall of Science. For articles about the program highlights read what President David S. Clarke has written in this issue. There is a welcome for you at Kearney, August 11-17.