

# The Sabbath Recorder

## Births

Barber.— A daughter, Jennie Lou, to Bill (Hiram W., III) and Barbara (Waite) Barber of Westerly, R. I., Sept. 13, 1968.

Crane.—A daughter, Mary Elizabeth, to Robert and Betty (Robishaw) Crane of Westerly, R. I., Nov. 30, 1968.

Gould.— A daughter, Richell Lynette, to Roger and Reba (Harrison) Gould of Westerly, R. I., Jan. 30, 1969.

James.— A daughter, Amy Elizabeth, to William and Martha (Gavitt) James of Westerly, R. I., October 4, 1968.

## Obituaries

KOPPE.— Mrs. Clara Maag, daughter of Henry and Rosa Ranseier Maag, was born in Wathena, Kans., Aug. 17, 1892, and died in Los Angeles, Calif., Feb. 1, 1969.

Late in life she was convinced of the Sabbath truth and was baptized in the Los Angeles Seventh Day Baptist Church where she attended as health permitted.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor C. Rex Burdick at the Chapel of the Flowers and burial was in the Forest Lawn Cemetery at Glendale, Calif.

—C. R. B.

TRAVER.— Clara B., daughter of Jacob and Harriet McNamara Mead, was born Feb. 15, 1884, at Bolivar, N. Y., and died Feb. 21, 1969, at the Olean General Hospital, Olean, N. Y., following a brief illness.

On March 5, 1905, she married William Traver. Clara was a member of the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Genesee and also the Ladies Sunshine Society. She is survived by her husband, William; a son, Archie Traver; three daughters, Mrs. Alice Cooper, Mrs. Earl Jones, and Mrs. Norman Lawton; a sister, Mrs. Elsie Jordan; 19 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by her pastor, Harold D. King. Interment was in the Little Genesee Cemetery.

—H. D. K.

WHITFORD.— Lucy Helen, daughter of Abert and Ella Edwards Whitford, was born Nov. 24, 1894, in Leonardsville, N. Y., and died Feb. 5, 1969, in the Foothills Acres Nursing Home, Neshanic, N. J.

At an early age she moved from Leonardsville

to Westerly, R. I., where she was graduated from Westerly High School (valedictorian) in 1912. Shortly after her graduation she moved with her parents to Plainfield, N. J., where she made her home. She was graduated from Alfred University (cum laude) and Muhlenberg Hospital (Plainfield) School of Nursing and did graduate work at Teachers College, Columbia University.

Miss Whitford taught Latin and German in Bolivar, N. Y., and did private nursing duty from 1921 to 1925.

She served as a school nurse for 32 years, retiring in 1957.

Miss Whitford was baptized in 1908 in Westerly, R. I. She became a member of the Plainfield church on Jan. 2, 1915. She served as a teacher and superintendent of the Primary Department of the Sabbath School, and later as superintendent of the adult department. She also served as trustee of the church. She was a former secretary of the American Sabbath Tract Society.

She is survived by four nieces and five nephews.

Funeral services were conducted by her pastor, the Rev. Herbert E. Saunders, in the Plainfield Seventh Day Baptist Church, Feb. 8, and interment was in Hillside Cemetery.

—H. E. S.

YOUNG.— Christina A. Burdick, daughter of Charles H. and Audella Burdick, was born at Brookfield, N. Y., Jan. 14, 1876, and died at Westerly, R. I., Feb. 20, 1969, after a lingering illness.

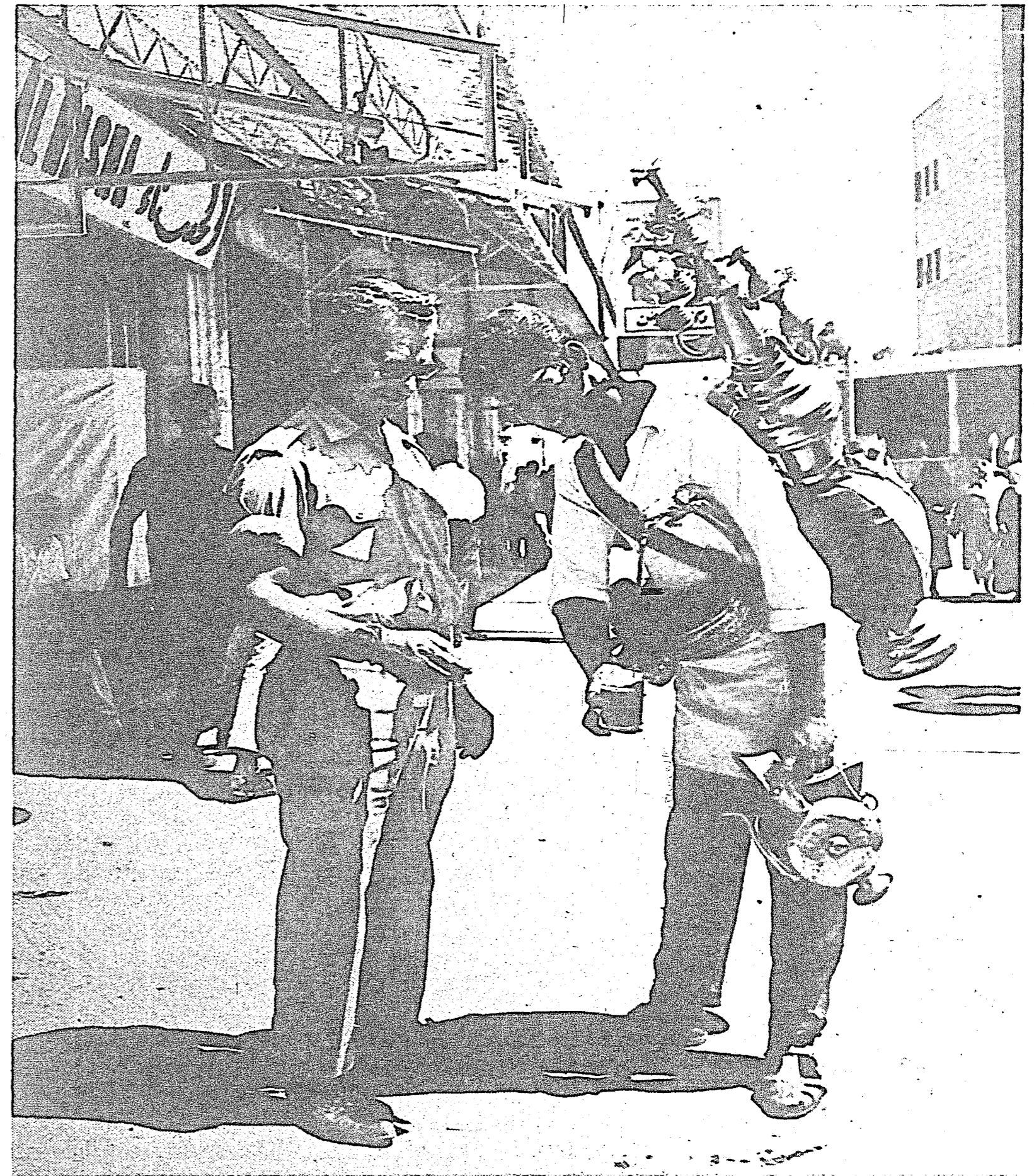
Mrs. Young was the widow of Selden M. Young to whom she was married Nov. 16, 1895.

A member of the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church, the respect in which she was held is illustrated by the words of a contemporary, "The church could last forever and you would never find anyone who would have done more for it than Christie."

Survivors include five daughters, Mrs. Malcolm F. Rooney of Florida, Miss Hilda K. Young of Westerly, Mrs. Charles Brady of Naugatuck, Conn., Miss Frances L. Young of Inglewood, Calif., and Mrs. John A. Edmond, of Westerly; seven grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Private funeral services were held, with a tribute scheduled later at a Sabbath morning service. Interment was in the First Hopkinton Cemetery.

—S. K. D.



Life is not all tension, even in Jerusalem where Jews and Arabs are trying to live together. The pause that refreshes on the hot street is a fruit drink dispensed in oriental style.

# The Sabbath Recorder

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Member of the Associated Church Press

REV. LEON M. MALTBY, Editor

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WOMEN'S WORK ..... Mrs. Earl Cruzan  
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## "The Stranger That Is Within Thy Gates"

Some of the biblical instructions about Sabbathkeeping in the earlier parts of the Old Testament are not quite as easy to apply to our day as others. For instance, there is the provision that the head of the household should see to it that not only his family and his hired servants observed the seventh day as a day of rest, but the stranger within his gates should be strongly encouraged to observe the day, regardless of his religious background — or lack of it. That provision had real meaning among a pastoral, soil-tilling people who were given to generous hospitality. Strangers within the gates were no rarity.

The general principle still holds, but we have a tendency to put the emphasis on the guest rather than the host; it is good manners to respect the religious convictions and the church-going habits of your host, even when you may not quite come up to his standards of Sabbath rest and church attendance.

Suppose we broaden that principle a little to include the larger home circle of the people of like faith who compose the family of *Sabbath Recorder* subscribers and readers. One of the main purposes of our publication is to emphasize the seventh-day Sabbath as our distinctive and as a tenet of faith that binds us together. Is the *Sabbath Recorder* a sort of tent that spreads over us all? In such a large household as this we have occasion to show a generous hospitality like that which prevailed in the pastoral Old Testament (and New Testament) times.

It has occurred to the editors, perhaps more often than to the subscribers during these 125 years of publication, that there are always quite a number of welcome "strangers within our gates." Our readership is considerably wider than our church membership. This was brought to the editor's attention recently in regard to the many other national and regional religious publications received on an exchange basis. Two national interdenominational magazines were trying to get more paid subscriptions. One had stopped sending to us; the other requested payment. Letters sent to the

editors in one case brought all the back issues we had missed and in the other case brought a nice letter continuing the exchange and saying, "We found the editorial in the December 2 issue of the *Sabbath Recorder* most interesting, and thank you for your kind appraisal of World Vision ministries."

It is not enough for the editor and the regular writers of departmental material to remember the "strangers within our gates" who are much more numerous than the editorial staffs of exchange publications; the readers and occasional writers should remember to practice biblical hospitality. When we read and when we write, let us remember those outside our faith to whom someone has sent a gift subscription, those who pick up our paper in general or college libraries, the servicemen at home and overseas, etc. Sure, it is our family paper, as it ought to be, but it is more. For one thing, people read it to see what kind of family we are, whether we are true to our faith, whether we put first things first, and whether we show real love and concern for those outside the family that to them looks rather small. They want to note whether or not we are determined that the family name will be carried on to another generation. Our consistency in Sabbathkeeping and promotion can earn the respect of fair-minded people — if, of course, our practice corresponds to our profession.

## The Walls of Jericho

The man of faith has had no great problem in believing the Bible account of how the walls of Jericho fell down at the very moment the trumpets sounded on the seventh circling of the city by the Israelites under the command of Joshua. There are many things which are accepted as accurate historical accounts of the miraculous intervention of God in the affairs of men. This does not keep us from wondering why or how, for instance, the walls of Jericho fell down.

Archaeologists in times past are reported as verifying the fact that those ancient walls did fall outward just as the Bible states. Some have presumed

that there was an earthquake providentially timed which opened up the city to the army of Israel. Others have questioned the whole account because it seemed contrary to nature.

Recently there has been more excavation of the site of ancient Jericho and a new theory of what happened at the time of Joshua. Dr. Jacob Feld, a New York consultant engineer on the causes of structural distress, failure and collapse, has studied the excavations and the nature of the soil. He recently delivered a paper before the Israel Institute of Technology at Jerusalem in which he maintains that Joshua studied the soil condition and secretly undermined the walls to make them topple.

The engineer reaffirms the earlier archaeological evidence that the walls did fall at about the time of Joshua and fell outward. This is what he said:

"The lower stones, which were the larger ones and must have been the foundation of the city wall, were tipped downwards and outward, as though somebody had deliberately undermined the wall from the outside. It was quite obvious that the earth had been removed from under these stones, from the outside of the wall."

Dr. Feld used his imagination somewhat in adding details to the account in Joshua 6. His speculation, he claims, is not out of harmony with the religious view presented in the Bible. The reader may judge for himself. Joshua, he says, had studied the soil. He found that it was soft and that the foundation of the wall was not more than five feet deep. It could be undermined with simple tools like a pick and shovel in a short time—the six days of marching. He states his theory thus:

"What Joshua needed was cover for his sappers' activities, so that the defenders of Jericho would not notice their operation. This was achieved perhaps by the priests blowing rams horns, and encompassing the wall six days running, thereby creating the diversion to draw the enemy's attention from what the sappers were up to. By the end of the week, everything was ready, and on the seventh day, the priests blew their trum-

pets extra loud, seven times, while the people 'shouted with a great shout' which was enough to make the carefully-undermined walls of Jericho 'fall down flat.'"

Dr. Feld fails to produce archaeological evidence other than the position of the stones, that the walls were undermined by the hand of man. Such evidence might be hard to produce. He does say that he has since viewed many walls of antiquity that had collapsed "and none showed anything like the quite obvious undermining of the walls of Jericho."

Other authorities, like George Frederick Wright in the *International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*, hold the view that it might have been an earthquake that caused the soil outside the walls to give way and let them tumble down. He says it is an earthquake area. Mr. Wright notes that at the time of the San Francisco earthquake Santa Rosa, situated on soil like that of Jericho, suffered great damage although it was twenty miles from the rift. The soil shifted like jelly. To Mr. Wright the falling of the walls at the exact time predicted to Joshua makes it "a miracle of the first magnitude." The theory of Mr. Feld puts God into the historical account only as directing Joshua. The detail with which battles in the conquest of Canaan are described in the Bible makes it seem strange that this strategy and activity of the military hero would be omitted in the account. We do just as well to take the Bible as it is; it is a little late to change the eyewitness record.

#### Hard News or Good News

What do readers want in their denominational periodical? When questionnaires are sent out, the responses show, among other things, a strong desire for news — news of what is going on in the local churches, news of what is going on in the foreign and home mission fields. Among newsmen this relating of happenings without interpretation is called hard news. The demand for hard news of local and denominational happenings may be

#### MEMORY TEXT

Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance. Psalm 42:5.

more of an apparent than a real demand. It may be a superficial, off-the-cuff reaction that does not represent the deeper desires of subscribers.

Recently there was a meeting of editors of Baptist state papers, of which there are many. One of the principal speakers called in was Sherwood Wirt, editor of *Decision* magazine, a very widely read monthly. In one of his addresses Mr. Wirt said he believed Baptist state papers were choking their organs with hard news and leaving out the Good News. He recommended that editors have an evangelistic article in every issue "to keep your papers from going flat spiritually."

When we go to worship services in our own church we meet friends whom we haven't seen for a week or more; we find occasion before or after church to pick up the latest news about their families, their school life, their new experiences in connection with their work. We like to get this "hard news." But that is not what we go to church for; we could get all that at a social gathering or over the telephone. Just as we go to church to get gospel news and to renew our grasp on things eternal, so we look to our denominational paper for something solid, something to inspire us to better living and greater stewardship of time and talents. We want some sober discussion of life's problems, not just the story of social events in the churches or the statistics of marriages, births and deaths. We want to hear about people who have been born again through our local and worldwide ministry. Isn't that what we really want?

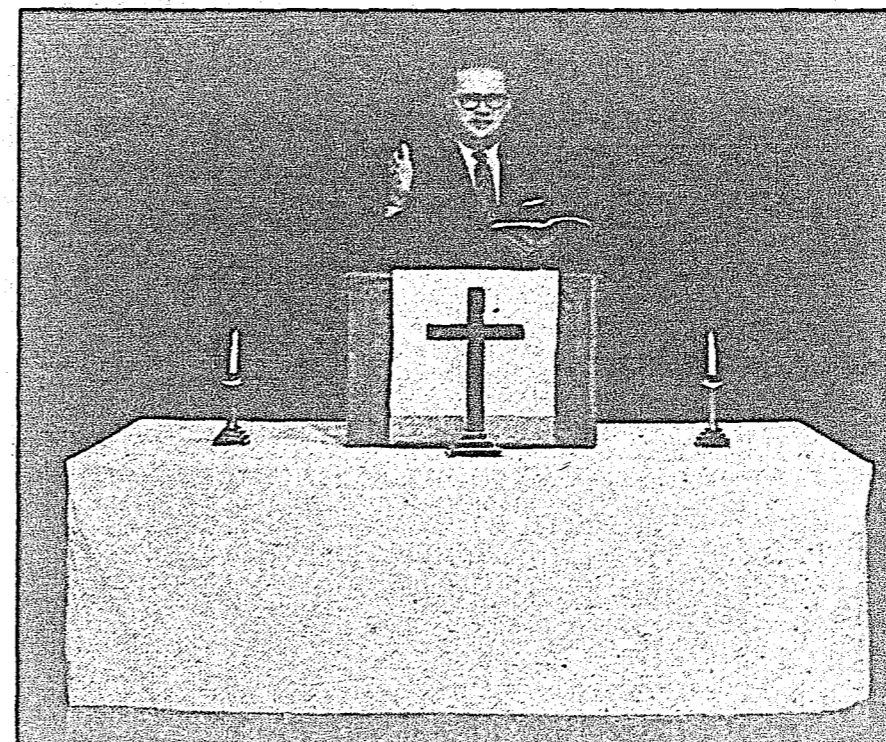
#### SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for April 5, 1969

HE IS RISEN!

Lesson Scripture: Mark 15:42-16:7

THE SABBATH RECORDER



#### Religion on the Road

By Robert J. Hastings

(Condensed)

Jim had just entered his wife in City Hospital for surgery, and checked in at a nearby motel. Alone, 200 miles from the small community where they lived, he browsed through the motel phone directory. "Long distance, room service, local calls." Then his eyes focused on "INNspiration — dial-a-devotion." He dialed the number, and a two-minute Scripture reading and message reminded him that God cares. Jim slept better that night.

It was Saturday night, and Bill, Sue, and their three children made the first motel stop of their two-week vacation. Although nominal members, the idea of looking for a church the next morning was just about the last thing they imagined. Until they noticed a tent card on the dresser, "Worship services in this motel at 8:00 each Sunday. Come as you are. Bring the children."

Fred, in and out of state politics for nearly forty years, had grown skeptical of people's motives. To him, religion was just another racket to manipulate people and finance soft jobs for clerics. Late one night in a motel room, bored and sleepless, he kept flipping the TV dial. The same tired jokes. The same love triangle in the old movie. Then he dialed a closed-circuit channel for a taped program originating in the motel. It included a

believable testimony by a nationally-known Christian athlete, an inspiring hymn, and a short message by a prominent minister.

Are Jim, Bill, Sue and Fred real? Did they find all this in a motel, along with the usual free ice, TV, air-conditioning and swimming pool?

No. Not yet at least. But it is real in the long-range plans of Holiday Inns of America. Executive Vice-President William B. Walton, a deacon in the Second Presbyterian Church in Memphis, wants to explore every possible ministry, not in the sense of "capitalizing" on religion, but with the conviction that modern business can embrace Christian witnessing as well as profit.

This explains the employment of W. A. Nance as national chaplain, an imaginative Methodist minister based at Holiday City in Memphis. He is coordinator for an ambitious spiritual program in the more than 1,045 Holiday Inns. This ministry includes on-the-premises Sunday worship services, two-minute INNspiration dial-a-devotions, weekday Bible and discussion groups for traveling men, a local chaplain-on-call (similar to the doctor and dentist-on-call already functioning), a continuous six-hour audio and video tape of music, inspiration, and Christian testimony available in each room via Musak and closed-circuit TV, and eventually, a small meditation-prayer room in each inn.

Before rushing out to a "revival" in the nearest Holiday Inn, go back and read the phrase, "ambitious program." For at this point, it is more ambition than program. Chaplain Nance's dream may take years.

First on the drawing board are the Sunday services, with a major drive for such the spring of 1969.

Each Holiday Inn will furnish a meeting room, piano and lectern. Leaders will be local ministers, on a rotating basis.

A worship kit will be available, consisting of two white, faille cloths with three-inch gold fringe, one to cover a six-foot banquet table, and the other the lectern; a certificate of attendance for children;

## More than Physical Healing

### Girl Gives Rich Testimony

The SABBATH RECORDER has been running a prayer corner for some months now. It has not included individual requests for physical healing though some of these certainly were high on the list in some churches. The Marlboro, N. J., church through its weekly bulletin of February 22 called for prayers in behalf of one of its young people who was in serious condition in a Philadelphia hospital. Among those led to write to her was the editor, who himself had a minor hospital experience. A letter has come to the editor from Miss Carol Branch which is such a touching testimony of faith that much of it ought to be shared with our readers. It follows:

I am home now. I just had my last operation which had only been done three times before in the whole world. It had never been done at the hospital where I was. The doctors kept telling me not to get my hopes up, for the success of the operation was only a slight possibility. If it didn't work, it would mean more months in the hospital and extensive surgery and a deformity. Well, I prayed and so did countless others. My faith was really being tested. I never gave up hope, even when the doctors kept telling me

and for ministers desiring to use them, a twenty-four-inch gold cross and two electric candles.

A thirty-minute service is suggested, sometime between 7:30 and 9:30 a.m., consisting of two hymns, prayer, children's story, and sermon. (No announcements, no offering, no denominational emphasis!)

As a bonus, the officiating minister and his wife will be guests for Sunday dinner at the Inn.

Holiday Inns no more pretend to take the place of churches than their restaurants claim to replace Mom's kitchen. Neither do Holiday Inns have a monopoly on weekday religion. Other service industries can, and to some extent will, follow their example.

not to expect too much, but I must admit that I did have some doubts throughout the waiting time. I had spent three of the last six months in the hospital and had almost died at one stage, but now I just staked every hope on this operation working.

Well, it did work! And the doctors were greatly pleased. Needless to say, I was and still am, one of the happiest persons around. A dream had finally come true. I had been in for three years and now my hospital days were over. I was once again a "healthy" person. The days following the operation proved to be a time when I felt God's closeness as never before. They still said that there was a possibility it might not work, but I had no more fears. I *knew* everything would be all right.

I owe everything to God, for He truly gave me a great gift. Throughout my entire illness I've come to know the Lord so much better, and I wouldn't trade that for anything in the world. Sometimes we get too busy in our lives with things so God provides us with a "rest" and allows us to get to know Him better. I consider this a great privilege, and am glad He gave it to me. There were many rough times, but He was only making me lean on Him more. I've much to be thankful for, and thank God for each day of good health that I have.

... We ought to be happy that He chooses us to be set aside for awhile to be able to lean on Him even the more. He works in strange ways, but always good ones.

Sincerely,  
Carol Branch

#### Toward a Better Church Service

The pastor was showing a boy around the church building. When they came to a bronze plaque with names on it the boy wanted to know why it was placed there. "These are the names of the boys who died in the service," explained the pastor. "Which service, the nine o'clock or the eleven o'clock?" asked the boy.

## A Dedication

By Martha L. Soper\*

This is a dedication to my parents and to the *Sabbath Recorder*. My father is still alive and I hope will read this article in the near future. Two of my mothers are in heaven. I have been blessed with three mothers in my life—my dear real mother who passed away when I was a babe; then the mother who helped raise me in one of the finest Christian homes in our beloved denomination, and now I have another Christian lady who is taking care of my beloved father in his autumn years.

One of my earliest memories as a little child was a faithful visitor in our home each weekend — *The Sabbath Recorder*. It then had pale green for a cover color and we five Langworthy youngsters all looked forward to our Friday night baths in the two old tin tubs pulled up next to our cozy coal fire to be cleansed bodily for the oncoming Sabbath day. Then came the spiritual cleansing which Mother never forgot. Our baby brother in her arms, we all snuggled around her skirted knees in our clean flannel nighties and said our prayers, asking forgiveness and giving thanks. Then, oh then, how we did love to have her read Mizpah Greene's "Children's Page" — especially because she lived only eight miles from us and we knew and loved her dearly.

I also remember when Grandma Davis would spend winters with us and she'd hurriedly skim through the *Sabbath Recorder* before Daddy came home to nestle down by the fire in his big rocker. He, too, would have his turn at it while Mother read us Bible stories.

Later as we grew a little older, we would print our own little letters to the children's page and then anxiously wait to see them printed and watch for letters from friends and cousins from the other churches of our denomination.

\*Martha Langworthy Soper has lived for some time at Oshkosh, Nebr. The family attends church occasionally at North Loup, Nebr. They also have positions of leadership in a local Sabbathkeeping church.

When I married, God blessed me with a beloved Sabbathkeeping husband and family. He has also blessed me with two of the most beloved mothers-in-law I've ever heard of, with the exception of the Bible story of Ruth and Naomi.

Circumstances gently weaned me away from a Sabbath church and we learned to have our own little Sabbath services together at home and, as the years fled by, our four children took turns in leading our little Sabbath home services. I always had the *Sabbath Recorder* in each of my numerous homes out in the West where God is close to His dear ones—away from the bustle of city life.

Tenderly I've tried to teach each of my children to love and cherish the Sabbath and although none of them ever lived near where they could attend a weekly Sabbath service they were thrilled when we'd get to go either to North Loup or Boulder for a Sabbath day.

God has blessed me again (isn't it amazing how many hundreds of times God will bless one little soul) and answered my prayers. My only son is studying to be a Seventh Day Baptist minister and one of my daughters is married to a young man who also intends to be a Seventh Day Baptist minister.

Before winding up this tribute to my Sabbathkeeping parents, parents-in-law and to the faithful *Sabbath Recorder* that graces our magazine rack, I also want to thank my beloved Uncle Frank A. Langworthy (now 90) for the wonderful ideal he has been in my childhood days as well as being my children's ideal. One of my fondest memories is of his dear wife, Aunt Lena, and of how she faithfully worked on the *Sabbath Recorder* staff for many years.

Let's all as parents and grandparents see to it that there is the weekly *Sabbath Recorder* in each home of our loved ones.

#### CORRECTED CORRECTION—

The chairman of the 1969 Pacific Camp Committee was inadvertently omitted in the list on page 4 of the March 17 issue. The Rev. C. Rex Burdick, pastor of the Riverside, Calif., church is chairman. The committee is functioning well and will have a stimulating program for all ages.

## An Evangelist Available to the Churches



The Missionary Board takes pleasure in announcing the employment of the Rev. Mynor G. Soper as evangelist on the home front, beginning May 1, 1969. Mr. Soper will offer his services to all Seventh Day Baptist churches of our country on a project

or part-time basis.

In stating the call to the Rev. Mr. Soper a thought was passed on that had been expressed in the Home Field Committee of the Missionary Board. At that time it was unanimously agreed that the current emphasis of the Crusade of the Americas that every Seventh Day Baptist church should undertake a year of spiritual renewal, revival and outreach made it urgent that we approach Pastor Mynor Soper to offer his special talent. We called Pastor Soper's attention to a packet of material that has recently gone out from Conference Planning Committee headquarters in Plainfield to all churches to aid in planning a visitation program this spring and special evangelistic services this coming fall, winter and spring of 1970. The committee and Missionary Board felt that Pastor Soper was the one to give this Crusade of the Americas emphasis a great forward lift.

In reply Mr. Soper has written, "I do hereby accept the call of the Missionary Board to serve as home front evangelist on a part-time basis." He then agreed in general to a plan whereby reimbursement for his services would be based on the length of stay in any church. The Missionary Board would provide transportation. The host church would be responsible for the entertainment of the evangelist while serving that church and would be free to provide a "love offering" for the evangelist if felt led to do so.

A schedule of services for Mr. Soper is being worked out. If churches are interested to have Brother Soper come and assist in special services it is suggested that they write directly to him at North Loup, Nebr. 68859, sending a copy of the letter to the Missionary Board office at 401 Washington Trust Building, Westerly, R. I. 02891.

Upon request Mr. Soper has provided the following biographical sketch concerning himself:

Born at North Platte, Nebr., in 1927 to Ralph and Ruth Soper, seventh of a family of nine children.

I took my seminary training in three different schools, Alfred School of Theology; California Baptist Seminary in Covina, Calif.; and Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colo. I took my college work in Salem, W. Va. It was there I met my wife, the former Marian Coon. We were married in 1952. I have served pastorates in North Loup, Nebr., Boulder, Colo.; and Los Angeles, Calif.; besides student pastorates.

We have five children: four girls and a boy, ranging in ages from five to fourteen years.

We are presently living near North Loup, Nebr., and are engaged in developing a family ministry in which the whole family participates through music. We have put on a number of musical programs for various churches in this area. The family is accompanied in their singing by the guitar played by Pastor Soper and on the piano by Mrs. Soper. The children are also learning instruments to help accompany.

We are also engaged in the initial steps of setting up a youth ranching program for young people on our ranch at North Loup.

I have done some evangelistic work in the past for various churches. Some of this was done under the auspices of the Missionary Board several years ago.

God's grace is a remedy for sins—not a license to transgress the law of God.

—Rosenberger.

## Tract Board Work Spring Meeting at Shiloh

The quarterly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the American Sabbath Tract Society was held at Shiloh, N. J., Sunday afternoon, March 9, with 23 of the 30 members present, more than half of whom were from the South Jersey churches. Final, pre-board meetings of three important committees were held on the same day, Supervisory, Publication and Distribution, and Audio and Visual Services.

The board under the new system of closing its reporting year on December 31 instead of May 31 heard the reports (as far as they were ready) that will be acted upon at Conference next summer and will go in the next *Yearbook* — reports covering a little over half instead of a whole year. In general it may be said that the work is going well and that plans for the future are quite well formulated. There are numerous opportunities for greater service to our denominational cause.

The secretary's report to the society showed 60,000 tracts printed during the part year under review. If the figures had been brought right up-to-date to include the publication within the past week the total would have been 100,000. The Publications Committee was able to report that it had financed in addition the printing of 5,000 copies of our "Statement of Belief" in the Telugu language of India. It was an attractive booklet with a separate cover in color. The board, upon recommendation of the committee, met the request of Rev. B. John V. Rao to underwrite the printing of a Sabbath tract, "What Is the Difference?" in the same language and at the same cost. (Printing is much less expensive in India than in the U. S.)

One of the publications just off the press was a booklet containing the statements of the 1967 and 1968 Conferences in the area of social action. These 7,500 booklets, printed at the expense of the Tract Society, will be distributed from Plainfield under the direction of the denominational Committee on Christian Social Action, it is assumed.

The corresponding secretary noted that, following a reminder to the churches, there had been a recent increase in substantial orders for tracts and a good response to the suggestion that users of tracts make a contribution toward their cost.

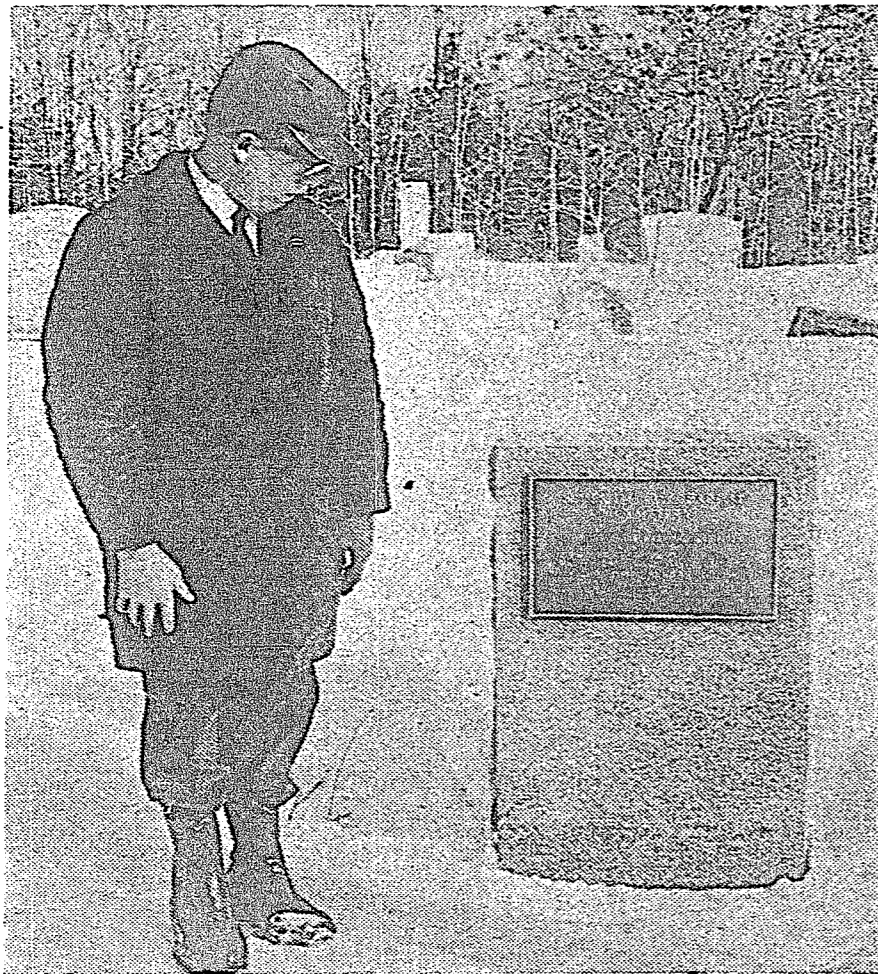
The editor, with the help of a subcommittee had prepared a report and evaluation of the Distribution Committee's project of last summer to offer the *Sabbath Recorder* for two months to nonsubscribers who sent in cards requesting it. The report, which will be submitted to Conference, shows, in brief, that 175 requests were filled and, when followed up, resulted in 39 new subscriptions.

In the area of "Audio and Visual Services" important new action was taken by the board following a detailed presentation by the committee. It involves the purchase of considerable near professional equipment for producing denominational filmstrips with sound and for meeting other denominational recording and radio needs. Financing of the project is not entirely assured but is to be taken care of without further increase in the O.W.M. budget. It was reported that demands for filmstrips during the past six months and more had been running about 50 percent above normal. Currently the office has had difficulty in scheduling the use of materials to the satisfaction of all, due to heavy demand and, in some cases, slow return.

The Sabbath Promotion Committee, which got off to a slow start in the fall, now has an active chairman and has made program plans for the present and advertising plans for the future. Sabbath Rally Day materials for church use are in the mimeographing and printing stage and will probably be received by the churches about the same time that this issue of the *Sabbath Recorder* is delivered. The committee has allocated some of its budgeted money on a matching fund basis to the church and association sponsored fair booths. It looks forward to advertising free tracts in up to four national religious periodicals.

## Preston Church Marker

A historical marker erected in the Preston Seventh Day Baptist cemetery on Route 18 eight miles west of Norwich,



Carll Swing, DeRuyter, N. Y., inspects Preston Cemetery marker.

N. Y., will be dedicated Sunday, April 20, at 2:30 p.m., as planned by the Rev. Albert N. Rogers, president of the Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society of Plainfield, N. J.

The Publishing House affairs were reviewed by the Supervisory Committee. It appears that increasing efficiency and a steady flow of denominational printing through the shop are making it possible to continue without an operational deficit even though there have been some cost-of-living increases in wages. Printing has been done for the various agencies at approximately the same rate for the past two years. The closing of the books of the old publishing house account before the changeover to strictly denominational work has been a tedious process but was reported to be now completed. Some large losses sustained by the American Sabbath Tract Society are to be written off in a manner voted at this March meeting of the board.

The cemetery is located in a wooded area not far from the site of the meeting-house erected by a group of settlers who came from Connecticut in 1804 and organized the Seventh Day Baptist church there. The grave of Elder Davis Rogers, first pastor, is found there as well as those of members of the Clarke, Hull, Maxson, Truman and Wells families. The marker was erected last year by the Historical Society with the help of Gerald F. Rogers of Brookfield, N. Y., and Mrs. Ivan Bliven, Preston town historian.

The Rev. Charles Swing, pastor of the DeRuyter Seventh Day Baptist Church, will participate in the dedication ceremonies and other churches of the denomination are being asked to send representatives.

The Preston Seventh Day Baptist Church was organized in 1816 and embraced several prominent families in the area. As the population declined at the turn of the century it gradually weakened and became extinct. A state recreation area known as Bowman Lake is not far from the cemetery, as well as a Rogers family cemetery.

County highway 18 is locally known as Rogers Street due to the many members of that family who formerly lived there.

—A. N. Rogers

Another board action that will be of interest to Seventh Day Baptists everywhere was the vote, upon committee recommendation, to print 5,000 copies of a proposed directory desired by those who have occasion to travel throughout the United States. The directory will attempt to give the location, and time of services of all our churches, with simple instructions on how to get to the church, including phone numbers if possible.

The editor of the *Sabbath Recorder* proposed a suitable observance of the 125th anniversary of the publication in June. He made tentative suggestions as to content, distribution and financing of an anniversary issue. The matter was left to the editor and Advisory Committee with power.

## A Trip Through the Southwest

By Rev. Paul S. Burdick

With the beginning of the month of February, Mrs. Burdick and I were invited to travel with our daughter Esther on her journey, as youth leader for the denomination, to church groups in the great Southwest and on to the Pacific Coast.

Of her visits to youth groups, Esther will have her own reports to make to the Board of Christian Education, so what we record will be random impressions of the trip and of the groups which we visited.

### Paint Rock, Alabama

Visiting in Paint Rock at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Butler, Sr., is always a happy event. Loyalty to Christ our Lord, and to the faith of the Sabbath through the years has made this family a rock of faith and of good works that many will appreciate without more words of mine.

Groups of children were meeting in the kitchen of the commodious Butler home, and in the parsonage, for Bible stories and Christian instruction. Brother Clifford and Sister Clara Beebe are carrying on this work which was recently started by Connie Coon while she was there. In spite of the fact that there are several churches in the town, it was discovered that of the 35-40 children attending these classes, a majority had no other means of Christian instruction. May this sort of dedicated Christian service go on under God's hand.

### Arkansas and Texas

The next stop was at Little Rock, where the Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth Van Horn are holding up a gospel witness in a very needy area. Dr. and Mrs. Lloyd Seager and others are giving faith and prayer and good works in the strengthening and witnessing of the church there.

While Esther made a trip into Louisiana to visit groups there, Mrs. Burdick and I visited churches in Fouke and Texarkana, Ark. Almost fifty years ago, when the writer was pastor in the Fouke church and teacher in the school, Seventh Day

Baptists were carrying on a work whose impact is still felt in the community. A few of those older in the faith were still recognized, and the consecrated work of the Rev. Ralph Soper and his wife are now apparent in church growth and great improvement in the church building.

At Texarkana on Sabbath day, we had the privilege of speaking to a fairly large and attentive group on "Christ and Non-Violence." After the church service, a buffet luncheon was served in the parish house.

An understandable loss to the ranks of ministers in this area took place with the accident which happened to Pastor James Mitchell. He can no longer preach, but his home in Little Rock is one of radiated faith.

### Phoenix, Arizona

One reaches Phoenix after driving over many miles of near desert, interspersed with an occasional irrigated area, miles in extent. The climate is ideal, after leaving the snow and frost of New England. Brother and Sister Arlie Davis are upholding a Christian and Sabbath witness in this busy city. On Sabbath a group of fourteen met at the home of Doctor Swanstrom, where Esther brought her message to youth, and the writer was privileged to speak on "How Christ Fulfilled the Law."

It was a personal satisfaction to meet here again Miss Joan Clement whom I had not seen since we worked together four years ago in Malawi.

This whole trip through the Southwest emphasizes again the opportunity which Seventh Day Baptists have in this area, equal to almost one-third of the United States. Our churches are small but growing. They have problems, but under God's guidance should be able to meet and overcome them. "The workers are few but the harvest is great." May God give us the vision to enter these fields with men and a message of truth and righteousness.

Tomorrow has two handles, the handle of fear and the handle of faith. Which handle are you grasping?

**London Women's Group  
Writes to U. S. Women's Society**

A letter was received by the Women's Board from the president of the Seventh Day Baptist Women's League in London, England. We want to share with you this letter that you may know what the women there are doing and we ask that you pray for them in their work, that their strength and courage may be strong to carry out the work of our Lord.

They send greetings "in Jesus' Holy Name." They also thank us for letters they have received and the courage given to help them as women to be doing something to establish the Kingdom of God. Special thanks for the news letters they have received.

Since they live so far from each other it is not possible for all to be at the meetings each time so plans sometimes are delayed, but they are determined to go forward in their work.

The Women's League sent a contribution for Mr. Dzamani and some of their women had the privilege of meeting Mr. Dzamani when he visited the Mill Yard Church.

The League of Women was formed just over a year ago and it is interesting to note that their regular meeting time is the first Monday evening of each month—the same time the Board of Directors of the Women's Society in this country meets.

The letter written by Mrs. Iris Codrington goes on to state some of the things they have accomplished in 1968.

"We always have a short devotion, then have our minutes read, followed with a roll call being answered by the repeating of a Scripture text from each sister of our league. Plans are being made to keep us busy in helping our work for Christ. We also have a sewing class. For the first time in our Seventh Day Baptist work in England on the 26th of October 1968 we sponsored a program in the form of a social which was attended by the members of our Mill Yard and Herne Hill groups and other friends who made

this program a blessing. The form of the social was in two parts: in the first part we had songs, solos, recitations, and addresses. Among those who gave addresses was Pastor McGeachy, who spoke very much about the women having formed their society in England. He wished us God's blessings in our work. During the second part we had a sale of various articles which we provided for this occasion such as men's and ladies' clothing and books given to us by Pastor McGeachy. The sisters of the league gave free refreshments.

"We all join in wishing all of you over there God's richest blessings."

They plan to keep us informed of their progress as they are determined to go forward by God's help.

*Our Prayer Corner*

**Suggestions for Prayer This Week**

Pray for:

1) The leaders who have already accepted responsibilities on the program of General Conference, that they may lead us into deeper sensitivity in His service.

2) The people who are making plans to get a blessing from Conference at Nyack, N. Y., next August, that they may receive and impart a blessing.

3) The slow of heart and the feet-draggers in our churches who ought to be out in front in the gospel work.

4) The Brisseys as they return in April to Jamaica from well earned retirement to fill in at Crandall High School until another couple can take over.

Suggestions for intercessory prayer are solicited from all who see the need. Send them to the editor or to the Conference president so that there can be many voices raised in intercession for the people who most need to be upheld at the throne of grace.

Though it does not have to, the zeal for Christian education has a subtle way of pushing evangelism to the periphery of life . . . . Both are essential.

—Robert E. Coleman

**Youth May Compete**

A generous gift from the Diebold Foundation will make possible the continuation of the Christian Youth Witness Program of the International Society of Christian Endeavor, according to announcement by Rev. Christian A. Tirre, executive secretary. The 1969 Christian Youth Witness Program will mark the thirteenth year that the awards have been named in honor of Mr. Diebold.

The entries in Christian Endeavor's eighteenth annual competition will be judged this month in Columbus and St. Louis. The purpose of the program is to generate in Christian youth a desire to give witness to their faith in Jesus and the and to serve together for Christ and the Church in their community, nation, and world, both now and in the years to come. The program is based upon Christian witness projects reported by individuals, societies, and local unions in the United States and Canada.

The 1969 Albert H. Diebold Awards will be presented to the winning individuals, societies, and local unions at Christian Endeavor's Portland Pilgrimage in Portland, Maine, July 4-6. The Pilgrimage is being held at the Williston Congregational Church, where Christian Endeavor began in 1881. The awards will total more than \$1,325 in cash, grants to attend the Portland Pilgrimage, award plaques, and certificates.

**Negro Professor at New Orleans**

For the first time in its history New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has employed a Negro professor. Charles E. Boddie, who has been president of a Baptist Seminary in Nashville, Tenn., for the past five years, has resigned to accept the position at New Orleans, effective April 15. The Nashville seminary is American Baptist but affiliated also with the national Baptist Convention. He is scheduled to teach in the social ethics department of the Southern Baptist seminary.

**Dodge Center To Be Host  
to Semiannual Meeting**

The Semiannual Meeting of the Northern Wisconsin and Minnesota churches will be held the weekend of April 25, 26 and 27. The host church will be the Dodge Center Seventh Day Baptist Church, Dodge Center, Minn.

We are looking forward to a soul searching, spiritual good time with our 1969 General Conference president, Leland Bond of Lost Creek, W. Va. Mrs. Leland Bond (Lettie) will accompany her husband on this trip.

We would welcome all who would find it possible to come and worship with us through this weekend of services and fellowship at Dodge Center.

—Briana Sutton, Cor. Sec.

**An Open Bible in Every Room**

The president of Holiday Inns of America is a Bible man. It is said that he keeps a worn Bible on his desk for ready reference. At his instigation the 1,060 Holiday Inns have a policy of placing an open Bible in each of their 142,000 rooms. We have come to expect Bibles in hotel, motel, and hospital rooms, placed there through the efforts of the Gideons and others, but an open Bible — that is something different. It encourages reading. Furthermore, just think how many maids and cleaning women handle Bibles every day to make sure that they are open. There could be some real stories about the maids who open the Bibles, as well as the guests who find them open.

Wallace E. Johnson of Memphis, president of Holiday Inns, was elected on February 20 to the new post of chairman of the board of the Laymen's National Bible Committee. It is this committee which, with the American Bible Society, co-sponsors National Bible Week. This year it will be Thanksgiving week. Mr. Johnson served as chairman of National Bible Week last year. This new post will involve year-long activity. He is also chairman of the executive committee of Religious Heritage of America.

## Vietnam Refugees Get Scripture Kits

Vietnamese war refugees in camps near Saigon are receiving both spiritual and material aid through a program that involves the cooperation of local Vietnamese Christians, the Bible Society in Vietnam, the Japan Bible Society, the American Bible Society, World Vision, Inc., and the United States Air Force.

Special kits containing sewing, hygiene, or school supplies are being provided by World Vision. To these is added an illustrated Scripture selection—"Words of Hope"—containing Psalms 27 and 55, together with 2 Cor. 1:3-11.

The selections were prepared by the Bible Society in Vietnam, printed by the Japan Bible Society and flown to Vietnam by the U. S. Air Force.

Churches near the refugee centers are distributing the kits and the leaflet. Thus far some 400,000 of them have been distributed in the nearly 100 refugee camps in the Saigon area alone.

## Servicemen's Demand for Scripture Sets Record

More than two million copies of the Bible or parts of it were distributed to U. S. servicemen in 1968 by the American Bible Society.

The Rev. Dr. James Z. Nettinga, ABS executive secretary for national distribution, said there has not been such a demand for Scriptures in the Armed Forces since World War II.

He said the ABS board of managers has authorized a budget supplement of \$70,000 to help meet "emergency requests" from military chaplains at home and overseas.

Of the 535 members of the 91st Congress, 389 are veterans.

Veterans Administration sends 18,900 monthly education assistance checks to U. S. war orphans.

About 3,500 war widows will use their new G. I. education benefits during the 1969 spring semester.

## NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

### LITTLE GENESEE, N. Y.—

This church has a new Recorder correspondent. She here reviews the church pastoral and program situation for the yast year and promises to keep our readers up-to-date in the future.

Harold King of North Loup, Nebr., came to us as a dedicated service worker helping us for a month prior to Christmas 1967. Having lost our pastor a short time before, Harold's work in the church and community was greatly appreciated. He was released from the service program to become our pastor as of January 1968.

Rather extensive repairs and remodeling at the church and community center have been accomplished. Other work is soon to be undertaken.

Our church facilities are serving a dual purpose at the present time. The Union Gospel Church of Obi is meeting in our church for services Wednesday evenings, Sunday morning and evening every week.

Mission Emphasis Sabbaths have been observed on dates which seemed to fit our particular church program. These have created considerable interest. The slides showing our people in other countries have been a means of feeling closer to them.

Our World Mission emphasis was held during the month of May and continued on through June. Each member of the church was asked to save "A nickel a day all through May" and "Sing the same tune again June."

Another big day for us was when the Hebron and Richburg congregations met at Little Genesee for a joint service. The Rev. John Fehringer of the Nativity Lutheran Church of East Aurora, N. Y., gave a very inspiring and thought provoking sermon. A tureen dinner at the community center followed the service.

The young people of the church, under the pastor's leadership, sponsored recreation programs for the community's children of all age levels on Saturday nights and Sunday afternoons.

The young people are also responsible for the printing and distributing of a

monthly paper called "The Belfry." This contains news and happenings of the entire community in addition to church activities.

Vacation Bible School was held for eight days after school was out last June. Again our loyal young people were of great help.

Youth Sabbath was observed on December 28th, the young people conducting the service.

About 1960, while Eugene Fatato was our pastor, the idea of having an all-night New Year's Eve party was promoted. With the exception of one year, when New Year's Eve was on Friday, these parties have continued to grow. The young people of other churches—Richburg, Bolivar Methodist and others have attended and have their pastors and other adults as chaperones. Basketball, volleyball, other games, hiking in the snow, watch night service at 11:30, followed by pancake breakfast between the hours of 12:30 and 3:30 have made for a happy beginning of a Happy New Year.

—Correspondent

DAYTONA BEACH, FLA. — Three young people joined our church in February. It's a real blessing to welcome these youth.

The church has a new Show'n Tell with 15 sets of stories for use mainly with the Bible Clubs but also for the youth retreats. This is a gift of friends of the church. Another recently acquired gift is a Gestetner mimeograph which we very much needed.

At the monthly dinner and church aid meeting \$200 of the group's funds were transferred to the church to be sent for SCSC work. Another \$25 was voted to be sent to the Women's Board. Thirty-seven attended the dinner.

—Correspondent

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.— During the months that the church has been without a pastor the preaching has been assigned in various ways. Lay leaders have spoken fairly frequently. For a time the visiting ministers were drawn from several churches of the Highland Park Ministerial Asso-

ciation, neighboring churches. For a number of weeks the church was served by Professor Ladd and one or two others from Fuller Seminary. More recently a theological professor from the Baptist Seminary of the West at Covina preached. Evangelist Arthur Blessitt from Sunset Strip spoke once, as did a Seventh-day Adventist elder. One week a Sabbath-keeping evangelist was available. It has been quite a variety for the church. In addition it has introduced a live Seventh Day Baptist congregation to quite a few seminary and other leaders who may thereby be better able to understand and interpret our position to those with whom they come in contact.

—Editor

METAIRIE, LA.— We held our annual business meeting on January 25. Church activities for the year were reviewed in reports and officers were elected. Pastor Earl De Land continues to serve both the Metairie and Hammond churches with half support coming from the Missionary Society.

Jack Hays has been working as assistant pastor and given the title of Minister of Community Relations. Among the various projects promoted by Brother Jack in the past year were a Driving Safety promotion and an "adopt-a-family-for Christmas" project. Both gave opportunities for him to appear on local TV stations in interview and news programs on behalf of the church. The Christmas project matched 23 families in need with 23 families who volunteered help. The church thus had an indirect hand in helping make Christmas a happy time for nearly 90 youngsters.

Other officers of the church are: moderator, Floyd Coalwell; clerk, Linda Hays; treasurer, Jack Hays; trustees, Floyd Coalwell, Harold De Land and William Hand; Sabbath School superintendent, Floyd Coalwell.

Looking ahead in 1969, we hope to have a special observance in honor of the tenth birthday of our church. Once a month we have a social or fellowship gathering for the entire church group.

—Correspondent



# The Sabbath Recorder

## Marriages

Drew - Brossier.— George Drew, of Eustis, Fla., and Julia Rogers Brossier, of Orlando, Fla., were united in marriage, Feb. 24, 1969, at the home of Dr. M. Josie Rogers, in Daytona Beach, Fla.

—M. C. V. H.

## Births

Wilson.— A son, Josh David, born March 4, 1969, to Paul C. and Becky Wilson of Westerly, R. I.

## Accessions

DAYTONA BEACH, FLA.

By Baptism:

Therese Trede  
Michelle Trede  
John Jacob

## Obituaries

AYARS.— Martha Cobb, wife of Erling E. Ayars of 7215 S.W. 54th Court, Miami, Fla., died Feb. 25, 1969, at the age of 77 following a long illness.

A native of Yonkers, N. Y., she was graduated from Alfred University. From 1924 she resided in Coconut Grove, Fla., where she became a member of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. She also was a member of the D.A.R. In June 1967 she and her husband attended their fiftieth Alfred class reunion and on July 14, 1967, they celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary.

Besides her husband Mrs. Ayars is survived by two sons, Arthur D. of Miami and Robert M. of Pen Argyl, Pa.; a daughter, Mrs. Margaret Hellig of Houston, Texas; 9 grandchildren and a niece.

Funeral services were held at St. Stephen's Episcopal church with the Rev. Canon Paul Reeves officiating. Burial was in the family plot in Flagler Memorial Cemetery.

—E. E. A.

COOK.— David Rensch, son of David, son of David H. and Hattie (Rensch) Cook, was born in Burlington Township, Mich., Sept.

15, 1900, and died at his home in Pomona Park, Fla., June 21, 1968.

His first wife died in an automobile accident June 10, 1946, in Union City, Mich. On June 19, 1948, he was married to Fern M. Severance of Battle Creek, Mich. Surviving beside his wife are two daughters, Mrs. Howard Priest, of Union City, Mich., and Mrs. Charles Crow, of Nakomis, Ill.; and one stepdaughter, Mrs. James Jacob, of Pomona Park, Fla.

He was employed as a communications specialist by the Crescent City, Fla., Police Department.

A funeral service was held in Crescent City, Fla., and later a Masonic service in Athens, Mich. Burial was in Abscota Cemetery, Burlington Township, Mich.

—M. C. V. H.

PALMER.— Evaline P., daughter of Eugene J. and Lulu I. Palmer, was born July 7, 1892, and died at Rockville, R. I., January 19, 1969.

Miss Palmer spent her entire lifetime in the area of Rockville. She was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Rockville and attended its services regularly until her death. She had been active in the Ladies' Aid and was well respected in the community because of her service. She is survived by a sister, Mrs. Lucy Johnson of Hope Valley, and a brother, Josiah of Coventry.

Funeral services were led by her pastor, Clifford L. Bond, and interment was in the Rockville cemetery.

—C. L. B.

RANDOLPH.— Greta F., daughter of Roy and Cora Bond Randolph, was born March 24, 1903, at New Milton, W. Va., and died suddenly March 8, 1969.

Miss Randolph, who resided in Salem, W. Va., was a member and deaconess of the Middle Island, W. Va., Seventh Day Baptist Church. She was a descendent of Jephtha Fitz Randolph, one of the early settlers of the Salem area. In addition to her church she was active in several professional and civic organizations.

Funeral services were held March 11 from the Harbert Funeral Home in Salem with Pastor Doyle K. Zwiebel officiating. Interment was in the Brick Church Cemetery at Lost Creek, W. Va.

—D. K. Z.



## Crusade of the Americas in Guyana

The Crusade of the Americas came to Georgetown, Guyana, the last of February. With leadership from America meetings were held with overflow audiences and good results. Dr. Shadrack M. Lockridge, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, San Diego, Calif., and Mrs. Martha Branham, concert soprano and soloist at First Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex., were featured in a two-hour program in the Georgetown City Hall on February 26.