

The Sabbath Recorder

How Many Sod-House SDB's?

The *Sabbath Recorder* is glad to help our people to recall their pioneer days or those of their parents by printing the following notice. The sod-house heritage of Seventh Day Baptists is closely bound up with their religious convictions, which were strong.

Did you ever live in a sod house, a dugout, or an adobe-block building; or were you born in one? Did you ever teach school, attend school or church services in a sod building, or help build one? Or are you a child or perhaps a grandchild of a former pioneer sod-house dweller or builder?

If you can answer "yes" to any of these questions, the Sod House Society of America, Colby, Kans., would like to hear from you. The unique society is making an effort to compile a census of people who have had any kind of personal experience with sod houses, dugouts, or adobe-block buildings, which were once common in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Their census will also include the descendants of such persons.

If you are a former sod-house dweller or a direct descendant of a family that can claim a part of the sod-house heritage of the prairie-settlement era of North America from 1870 to 1930, the society wishes to have the information to include in a permanent historical record to include in a permanent historical record of sod-house dwellers and their families.

To make this survey a success, information is needed from folks in all parts of North America. If you have any information concerning former sod-house dwellers, your report of this will be most

welcome. Please tell where the sod buildings were located and give the family names. Kindly send your report to Sod House Survey, Colby, Kans. 67701.

The *Sabbath Recorder* followed many of our pioneers to their adobe and sod-house dwellings. It would be interesting to print the names of those who are able to report to the Sod House Survey, Colby, Kans. Why not send a copy to Plainfield? An article might be written for our 125th anniversary number the second week of June.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

RICHBURG, N. Y.— A special offering was received on March 15 for One Great Hour of Sharing.

On Missionary Sabbath, March 29, a fellowship dinner in the church parlors followed the morning worship service.

In the afternoon slides were shown of our mission work in Guyana.

The quarterly church business meeting was held at the church Sabbath night, April 5. Plans were made for the coming of Miss Connie Coon who will be with our church from April 15 to the end of May.

—Correspondent

Accessions

ALBION, WIS.

By Baptism:

Rosemary Kathryn Geske

By Testimony:

Mrs. Marion Onsgard

MILTON, WIS.

By Baptism:

Teresa Shaw

Linda Burdick

Glen Johnson

LeRoy Loofboro

Rodney Loofboro



Crusade of the Americas in Brazil

These Brazilians were among 22 who made public professions of faith in Christ during a week of evangelistic services in March, in Aracaju, Sergipe, in northeast Brazil. Pastor Jose Guedes dos Santos, of Maceio, Alagoas, preacher for the Aracaju meetings, is in the background. Four weeks of Crusade of the Americas services throughout Sergipe resulted in more than 110 decisions being registered publicly. (Photo by Roberta E. Hampton)

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 Copies10 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.

A Seventh Day Baptist weekly (two issues omitted in August) published by the American Sabbath Tract Society, 510 Watchung Ave., 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, P. O. Box 868, Plainfield, New Jersey 07061.

PLAINFIELD, N. J. April 28, 1969
Volume 186, No. 17 Whole No. 6,347

Editorials:

Is the Racial Crisis a Gift to the Church? 2
Loving the Communists 3

Features:

Conference Publicity 4
Ministering to Spanish-Speaking Workers 6
Our Prayer Corner 6
Crusade of the Americas Brings Results
in Brazil 7
The Coming of Spring 7
What Is a Fellowship? 11
Does Ecumenical Zeal Diminish Missionary
Zeal 13
Jungle Doctor Filmstrips 13

Missions:

Change of Leadership at Crandall High .. 8
Items of Interest from Central Africa Conference Board of Trustees 9

Women's Work:

Meet a Woman from Wisconsin 10
Dedicated Service News 11

Christian Education:

Higher Education 12
Camp Dates 12

News from the Churches 15
Obituaries Back Cover

Is the Racial Crisis A Gift to the Church?

The Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention sponsored a soul-searching seminar in Chicago March 31 - April 2 with the theme, "The Church's Mission in the National Crisis." This particular denomination, the one which has more segregationists in it than any other (since it is the biggest church in the deep South), came up for some criticism during the seminar that caused some soul-searching.

The keynote speaker, the Rev. John Nichol, pastor of Oakhurst Baptist Church of Decatur, Ga., (an integrated church), startled the 250 leaders assembled with the statement that the volatile racial crisis in the nation may prove to be "God's gift to His church." The general thought appears to have been that this crisis will make the church re-value its criteria for success. Churches must stop thinking about the culture they uphold and start serving with real love. His church, he said, decided to sell its newest building and move back into its older facilities, and to use the money to minister to the people in the largely black community. He pointed up the theological basis by saying, "Jesus would rather love all men than be loved by most men." He went on to suggest that while the church may need a theology of failure, what it really needs is to adopt biblical standards by which it can measure success. With probable reference primarily to churches of his own denomination he noted that in some churches "truth is constantly being sacrificed on the altar of peace, and the end result is not peace at all, but an uneasy armistice."

The racial crisis will bring out the worst in some people and the best in others. Some terrible things are being done against the laws under which an orderly society must function. The offenders are not a race, either white or black, but a misguided, frustrated minority of that race in a given community. Lawlessness must be dealt with in absolute fairness and Christians must seek to develop the qualities mentioned in such Scriptures as, "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good" (Rom.

12:21). This verse, it will be recalled, follows that hard one about how to treat those who do you harm: "Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst give him drink; for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head."

Those who have been following the suggested denominational Bible reading for the year in 2 Samuel the week of April 6-12. The exploits of David are not all edifying reading, but some of them are. Impressive indeed are the numerous occasions on which David showed tenderness to his enemies and melted them by "heaping coals of fire," so to speak, on their heads. When Saul, who was seeking his life, was in his power he spared him and when Saul was killed David mourned for him — as he did for numerous other enemies and traitors. David almost had mutiny in his army because he loved Absalom his son who had raised an army against him. When the usurper died, King David, who all but lost his throne in the uprising, again showed forgiving love and wept saying, "O my son Absalom, my son, my son, Absalom! would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son" (2 Sam. 18:33).

Was David foolish? Are we foolish when we forgive? In racial crisis we could try a little more love.

Loving the Communists

Would we have to get a new definition of love to advocate and practice love for the Communists? New perhaps to us but not new to the New Testament, which is already nineteen centuries old. There is not so much difference between loving the Communists and following the example of John 3:16. We do not get much indication that when "God so loved the world" it was because of the goodness of the world. Rather, it was a love the purpose of which was to make the world become something that it was not when it rejected the message of Jesus and nailed the Son of God to the cross. It is possible to love and pray for the Communists and to see some of them transformed by God's redeeming love.

APRIL 28, 1969

Can we hate "with a perfect hatred" and love with a perfect love? Not very easily. If we really love the good we must hate the evil. It is so popular to think lightly of evil which, in consequence, tones down our love for good. This is one of the chief causes of ineffectiveness of professing Christians; they don't love righteousness enough to really hate unrighteousness. But how can we separate between the man and his deeds? If a man is the very personification of evil, how can Christian people love him? One way is like Jesus, and after Him Stephen, who could pray in torture, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." This amounts to saying charitably that they must be insane. That is quite different from our modern court scenes where the defendant tries to save his skin by pleading temporary insanity.

That which brings these things to mind is a printed letter from Pastor Richard Wormbrand, head of "Mission to Europe's Millions," who consistently exposes Communism. His spirit seems to be quite different from the spirit of some others who are fighting this great evil. If it were not so, his literature would not be readily accepted by Campus Crusade for Christ and his speaking engagements for May would not include such evangelistic centers as Park Street Church in Boston, Gordon College, King's College and Nyack Missionary College.

The brochure mentioned above has a picture of Gus Hall with the following caption: "Gus Hall, a man to be loved and prayed for. Gus Hall, general secretary of America's Communist Party, 23 W. 26th St., New York, N. Y. He does harm to America. Let us reward him with our love. Write to him calling him to repentance. Communists can be won to Christ."

In another section of the printed letter Pastor Wormbrand tells of the beginning of his work and the attitude of it. He compares the present situation with that of Joseph unjustly imprisoned by Pharaoh and says:

Two years ago, we started with empty hands. But we knew ourselves to be kings. We had a

MEMORY TEXT

For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the Lord. Psalm 12:5a.

big dream. We united with other dreamers whom God brought in our way. We were unprejudiced. Viet Cong kill Americans. Then we must love them and give them the Gospel. The Chinese Communists torture Christians. Then we must love them and preach them the Gospel. Rioting students in America are destroying university buildings. Let us then love them and preach to them the Gospel. Russian Communists take the children away from their Christian parents. Let us love them and give them the Gospel. Like that Pharaoh of old, we see no difference between men. We love both the tyrant and his victim, as well as the Communist tyrants' accomplices in the church. The conditions for great spiritual plenty have been fulfilled, as they were fulfilled in Egypt in Joseph's time.

After two years, we have a rapid growing mission in America; a mission which was confined to Europe has now become a worldwide organization.

It is not our purpose to promote the organization that this man has started. It is our purpose to call our people to that kind of high purpose which includes love for our enemies and praying for those who seek to do harm to us and to the cause of Christ. This is a call to the difficult but not to the impossible.

I received a letter recently from a person who has experienced in less than fatal form some stoning like that of Stephen. The warm, tender letter says that it was possible to pray that those who cast the stones might receive pardon: "The most wonderful and beautiful thing has been the opportunity afforded me to witness to those who have thrown some of the heaviest stones and to show them a 'more excellent way.'" It is no wonder that the Apostle Paul speaks of the Christian way as "the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 3:14). It is much higher than where most of us find ourselves living.

Conference Publicity

Operation Conference, 1969

(Number 3 of a series)

What is a Seventh Day Baptist Conference?

An interesting thing happens every August. And if you could stand back far enough to see the total occurrence, I'm sure that you would wonder about the sanity of the persons who make up this "happening." Because for a week and a half, more or less, otherwise competent and "proper" people pull up stakes; migrate halfway across the nation; sit through numerous religious sessions varying from informal prayer meetings to the most formal business sessions; and generally suffer the indignities of cafeteria food, dormitory (or even camper) lodging, unpaid labor often more demanding than our vocation — all at personal expense and on vacation time. You may not believe that this could happen! But it does, and it's called a Seventh Day Baptist General Conference. And this article, along with others to follow, is written with the sole purpose of inviting and urging you to attend.

Why do we do it? Why do first offenders return for a second exposure? And a third? Why do the "regulars" do it year after year? Even elder and handicapped persons make the effort! Why?

To answer this mystery, one must first attempt to define a Seventh Day Baptist. As you will appreciate as this article unfolds, Seventh Day Baptists cannot be defined to the satisfaction of all members. But in general, these individuals are members of a religious organization (denomination) which not only believes in the fundamental right of all to define their own personal beliefs as they themselves feel they should be defined, but also agree that each has the duty and responsibility to witness to these beliefs as ministers of God. Thus they are believers who through their own interpretation of the Scriptures, the example established on Earth by God's Son, and the continuation of His expressed will for

each of us through His Spirit, are followers of that witness to the extent of their human capabilities. To add that they are in general agreement with the traditional Baptist philosophies but with the added insistence on the maintenance of the biblical Sabbath — for both a demonstration of wholehearted obedience and a revitalized worship of God — superfluously defines them in slightly less abstract terms.

Because of our individualism (I can use the possessive because I happen to be one), considerable thought and study must be exercised even for the like of the above description, as much will be spent by the reader in return. Even so, considerable rebuttal is expected. So it is that since we are a scattered collection of searching individuals, it would never do for us to have even a figurehead leader with any real authority. In order to carry out these programs which are a part of any active church or denomination in this twentieth century, and all of its crises, we annually collect these individuals at a continually changing geographical location where the individuals can be heard and the programs established. This we call our General Conference.

Physical arrangements for these conferences have been designated to the various area associations of Seventh Day Baptist churches. In 1967, for instance, we were "hosted" by the Northern Association, who arranged for the use of the facilities at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich. Last year, the Mid-Continent Association arranged for our meeting at Kearney, Nebr., at the state university campus. And this year it is the Eastern Association that is currently arranging for the use of the Nyack Missionary College Campus at Nyack, N. Y.

The program is set up to provide for the conducting of the business, but in addition a thoroughly inspirational and creative program for all attendants has been the history of these meetings. This aspect has been delegated to a Conference president, elected a full year in advance of his "official" term of service. For the first year, he is designated as a

vice-president, and at the same time, elected to the denomination's "planning" committee called "Commission." The year is usually spent in familiarizing himself with the plans and programs already underway; adding "new blood" by contributing his dreams; and incidentally planning "his year."

So Conference is the climax of two years of preparation, and it shows! Somehow this collection of Seventh Day Baptists really becomes one assembly of dedicated, responsive, appreciative, (but still individual) individuals. Somehow the Lord's work is never dull, and the religious services never dreary. There is a mystical type chemistry that seems to cause the amalgamation of all these individuals and creates a most inspirational and awesome experience for all in attendance. Somehow the dreary day-to-day activities of the past year have a meaningful place in the puzzle of life; the hardships and problems of the year disappear into insignificance or somehow have a worthwhile place in God's plan for us. There is a realization of accomplishment and need for rededicated worthwhile effort!

But there is more too. There is the fun and fellowship of greeting and really visiting with relatives and friends. And while Seventh Day Baptists proudly trace their family heritages and ties, no one is considered "outside" the family influence. True brotherhood could never be more ideally practiced. It is an ideal "family" situation, with "junior" conferences from nursery to high school ages. There is the satisfaction of professional participation of our earthly service on the highest level. To some it is an opportunity to join in our choir; to others it means participation in a committee of social concern, or in assisting a board or agency with a problem needing a new approach. Perhaps to some it is an opportunity to relax and listen for new ideas or a closer revelation of God's will. Perhaps it is even a different type reaction to all, but it's totally satisfying to those who "let themselves go."

Ministering to Spanish-Speaking Workers

It is not a new thing for the rural church organization known as the West District of Cumberland County, N. J., to try to provide a Christian ministry to the Spanish-speaking agricultural workers who are employed by the farmers of the area each season and live mostly in small camps provided by the employers. For several years this church organization has provided facilities and funds for a full or part-time chaplain who could speak the language. The West District includes the Shiloh and Marlboro Seventh Day Baptist churches and the Baptist and Presbyterian churches of the villages of Greenwich and Roadstown, also the new Methodist church of Hopewell.

As another planting and harvesting season begins these churches have made plans to again help their seasonal neighbors as much as possible. This is accepting the challenge of foreign-language missions at the door as well as sending missionaries to the countries from which the Spanish-speaking people come. In our cities there are large foreign language elements but ministering to them is the primary task of the large churches of various denominations in those cities. In South Jersey the rural churches have an opportunity to minister to the people who come to them. This local organization, with limited resources, grasps the opportunity.

A mimeographed flier distributed in the West District churches outlines the kind of service to be rendered this year with the help of a minister recently come from Cuba. He will spend Wednesday evening calling, will hold services Thursday evening and will be on call for workers and employers. He is paid a modest weekly stipend plus car expenses. The following paragraphs, intended to introduce the chaplain to the sponsoring churches, may well be of human interest to a wider readership since it speaks also of the situation in Cuba.

The Rev. Roberto Hernandez is 29

years old and was born in Cuba. He arrived in the United States with his family on November 6, 1967, under the sponsorship of "The United Broadway Methodist Church" of Salem, N. J.

Mr. Hernandez and his family are now living in Vineland, N. J. He is employed by the Welfare Board of Cumberland County with offices in Bridgeton. His wife, Mary, was a teacher in Cuba, and is presently employed by the Housing Authority, Department of Urban Renewal in Vineland. Their only child is a son, Bobbie, who is six and is in the first grade.

Mr. Hernandez was graduated from "La Progresiva" School (Presbyterian) in Cardenas, Cuba, with a Bachelor in Arts degree. He then studied four years for his Theological Degree in "The Union Theological Seminary," Matanzas, Cuba.

After his graduation from seminary, he became pastor of the Methodist Church in Mayari, Oriente, and served it for one year. He was then called to the pastorate of the Central Methodist Church in Havana, the oldest and largest Methodist church in Cuba. After serving this congregation for four years, he decided to leave Cuba.

He and his family are very happy in their new homeland. He is pleased to be able to work with Christ through our churches as we minister to those workers in our area.

May God bless our work together!

Our Prayer Corner

Suggestions for Prayer This Week

Pray for:

1) Those young people giving dedicated service and those who for health or other reasons have not been able to continue with their service or plans for summer service.

2) The Host Committee of General Conference as it holds frequent meetings to lay plans for the delegates who will be coming to Nyack, N. Y., in August.

3) The projected Seventh Day Baptist evangelistic work in Korea with a large tent under the direction of Jin Sung Kim.

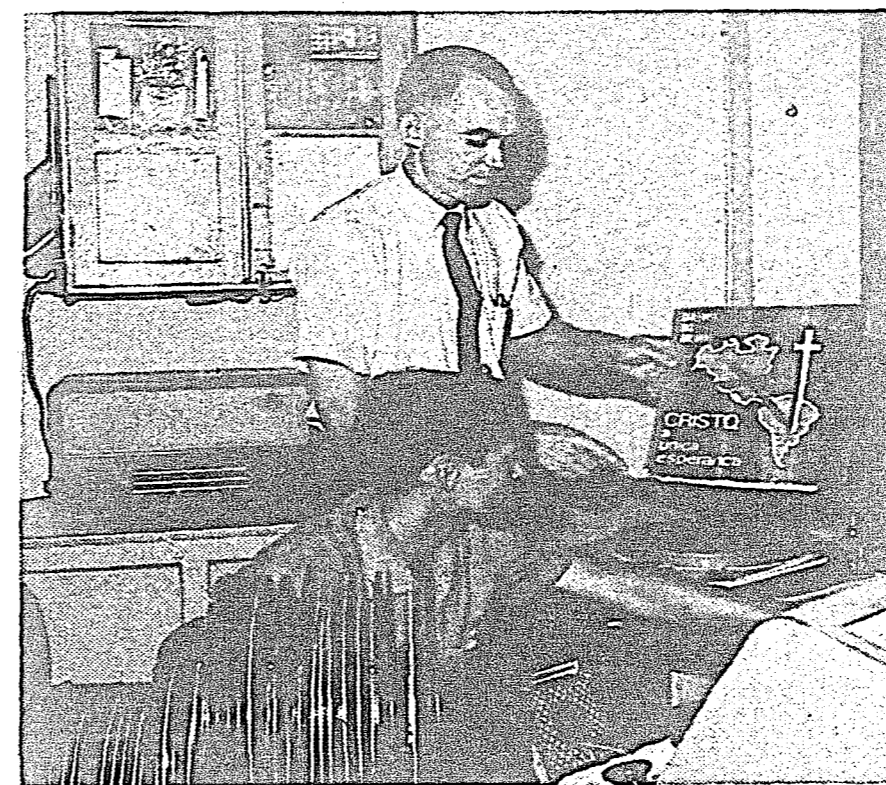
Crusade of the Americas Brings Results in Brazil

More than 110 public decisions, including 91 professions of faith in Christ, were recorded during Crusade of the Americas meetings in March in the state of Sergipe, in northeast Brazil.

Baptists in Sergipe were the first in Brazil to hold simultaneous crusade meetings, reports Miss Roberta E. Hampton, public relations counselor for the North Brazil Mission, with headquarters in Recife, Pernambuco.

Following three weeks of simultaneous meetings in Baptist churches in the state, the churches of Aracaju, capital of Sergipe, held a week of services in the 600-seat auditorium of the state historic and geographic institute. Pastor Jose Guedes dos Santos, of Maceio, Alagoas, preached, and 22 professions of faith were registered.

The Aracaju meetings were publicized on a daily Baptist radio program and by spot radio announcements, sound truck, and crusade posters. The evangelistic emphasis of all the services was backed up by personal visitation and distribution of tracts and portions of Scripture.



Missionary Darrell D. Cruse discusses with the radio technician, Josafa Aclantara, the publicity for the crusade. Seventh Day Baptists are not in this part of Brazil but they are part of the Crusade of the Americas and are praying for the spread of the gospel in Brazil.

The Coming of Spring

By Paul V. Beebe,
Mt. Berry, Ga.

March 27

Torrents of rain shower down and then freeze. But just as surely as it rains and is cold we know that the sun will come to drive out the chill and warm the good earth.

Oh! for showers of blessings in torrents to flood our souls; and the warmth of His love to shine down and drive out the cold of hate, prejudice and indifference coming from Satan, replacing it with the almighty love of God.

"There shall be showers of blessing."

April 11

The cool refreshing showers come down again.

The nourishing rains come down.

The showers come down to quench the thirsty soil.

The heaven-sent drink comes down to bring life-refreshing water for both earth and soul in promise of the forthcoming crop.

The trees throw off their coats of gray to don their robes of green.

Red maple keys, red bud and dogwood burst forth in white, red, and scarlet to cover the hillsides in a blanket of rich color.

God is so gracious to bestow upon us the gift of spring.

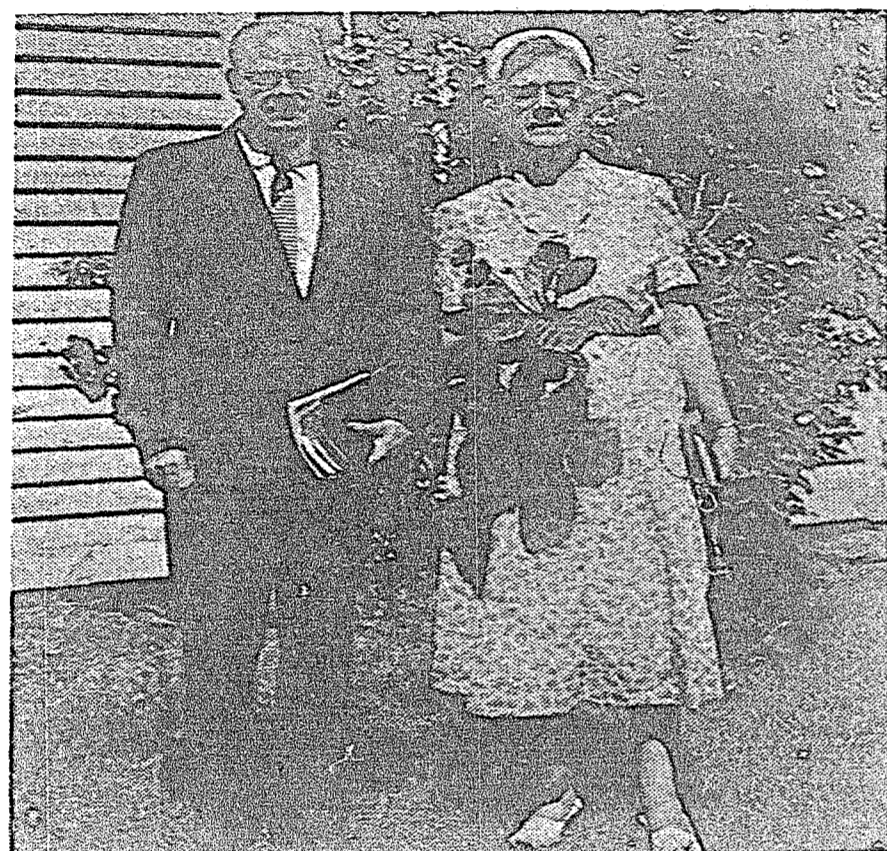
Truly 'tis, "Grace, Grace, marvelous Grace."

Honolulu Chief of Police

If a Baptist tourist in Honolulu got a parking ticket, could he expect special consideration from the chief of police? Probably not. The chief, Dan Liu, would possibly assume that Baptists ought to be exemplary citizens who would avoid running afoul of traffic regulations. But Baptists in Hawaii may be justly proud that the chief of police has shown such an interest in Christian work that he was elected president of the Hawaii Baptist Convention at its twenty-fifth annual session. Chief Liu has also recently been honored by the American Bible Society.

Change of Leadership at Crandall High

After two years and eight months of service at Crandall High School, Kingston, Jamaica, the Rev. and Mrs. Neal D. Mills returned to this country on Friday, April 4. Since arrival they have been visiting and resting at De Ruyter, N. Y., at



the home of Mrs. Coon, sister of Mrs. Mills. The Millses began this second period of missionary service at Kingston on August 1, 1966, leaving the pastorates of the Rockville and Second Hopkinton Seventh Day Baptist Churches in order to do so.

It will be recalled that former Crandall High School Principal Courtland V. Davis had requested assistance in carrying on the multiple duties of principal of Crandall High and the Missionary Board's representative to the Jamaica Conference. When the Rev. and Mrs. Neal Mills were approached to assist at Crandall High School offering "dedicated service" (without salary), they consented to do so. However, when Mr. Davis learned that the former principal of Crandall was to be his assistant, he requested that he and Mrs. Davis be the dedicated workers couple and that Pastor Mills take over

the principalship, assisted by Mrs. Mills. After much hesitancy and prayerful consideration Pastor and Mrs. Mills consented to the change in plans, with the understanding that the Davises would stay on and help with the work. This plan was followed until the death of Mr. Davis in October 1968. Mrs. Davis has continued her valuable help both at Crandall High School and as assistant to the Rev. Joe Samuels, secretary of the Jamaica Conference.

The Rev. and Mrs. Neal Mills have now been succeeded by the Rev. and Mrs. Grover Brissey who arrived to take up the work a few days before the departure of the Millses. It will be recalled that Mr. and Mrs. Brissey had provided a five year term of outstanding service at Crandall High just before Mr. and Mrs. Courtland Davis began service (1955-1960). It is expected that the Brisseys will serve until the summer of 1970, when Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Crandall of Arkport, N. Y., have agreed to take over the work. (A picture of Grover and Alma Brissey appeared in the April 7 issue.)

An expression of appreciation to the Rev. and Mrs. Mills was given at the April 20 meeting of the Board of Managers of the Missionary Society. The Millses and the Wayne Crandalls were scheduled to attend a meeting of the American Tropics Committee of the board during the weekend of April 26-27, thus providing an opportunity to review the work and needs at Crandall High School and lay long-range plans for the future. The prayer support of all Seventh Day Baptists is requested for the Rev. and Mrs. Grover Brissey and our continuing work in Jamaica.

A welcoming and farewell service for the outgoing and incoming missionaries was held at Crandall High School on Sunday, March 23, 1969. This was combined with a program of observance of the 20th anniversary of Crandall High School. The program included a "Recital of Sacred Harmonies" by the school choir and the all male voices of "The Gospelaies."

Items of Interest from Central Africa Conference Board of Trustees

(Note: This review of matters considered at a meeting of the trustees of the Central Africa Conference of Seventh Day Baptists was received through Dr. Victor Burdick. The meeting of the trustees was held March 18-19, 1969 at Blantyre Mission Station, Malawi, Africa.)

Pastor Manan to Visit South Africa. Negotiations are under way for Pastor Otrain Manan to spend a few months in Port Elizabeth, South Africa — as "fraternal worker" — with a group of Seventh Day Baptist-oriented people there. Holland Seventh Day Baptists are underwriting most of the expense. Enroute, he hopes also to spend time visiting members of our mission in Rhodesia, pastored by Lamech Vumah. Pastor Manan is now awaiting a visa to enter South Africa and hopes to start out in May.

New Members for World Federation of S.D.B.'s. Pastor Shadrack Mzumara and Mr. Nantikwa (second-year student at Likubula Bible Institute) were chosen to replace one, and to add a newly permitted fifth, to our membership in World Federation of Seventh Day Baptists. Other members are: Mr. Makatanje, Mr. Mataka, Pastor Manan. People assembled at this year's Conference will need to select one or two of these members, to represent us at the 1971 meeting of the World Federation — and to consider means of financing the trip.

Incorporation Approaching. Doctor Burdick reports that there is slow progress in the proceedings for incorporation of the Central Africa Conference of Seventh Day Baptists. Following our January meeting, when we approved an amendment required by the registrar general, in the organizational minutes of 1967, solicitors Lilley Wills and Company again presented our application with amended minutes, to the registrar general.

Two Christian Education Courses Planned. Pastor Pearson outlined plans for a two-weeks' course in Seventh Day Baptist polity, to be held at Blantyre Station from 24th March to 9th April.

Our eight Bible School students, some graduates of our own Bible School courses of former years, and one Seventh Day Baptist each from Rhodesia and South Africa, are expected to attend. Included among the various subjects will be an intensive study into our own Conference's Constitution and organization.

Shortly following this course will be a two-week refresher course for active pastors and preachers, held at Makapwa. A variety of courses and teachers will be presented, designed to strengthen the ministry of our older church workers.

Youth Camp Plans. Old stuff in U.S.A., but new to our work in Malawi, is the youth camp proposed for late September at an obscure but nicely suitable site near Mlanje Mountain. Pastor Pearson, chosen as director, may be assisted in teaching by Mr. Mataka, and Mrs. O. B. Manan. Another woman will act as housemother for the girls. Charges to campers will be set purposely low to encourage attendance at this new camping experience.

1969 Budget Accepted. Learning that overspending in 1968, of about £650, had greatly depleted our reserves, the trustees accepted the 1969 budget as proposed, which follows a more conservative line, and curtails some of the "extras," such as assistance to self-help schemes, and building renovations. A previous proposal to accept \$78 less per month of O.W.M. receipts — to repay funds drawn from trust funds for hospital renovations — was set aside as impractical at this time.

Blantyre Station Development Plans Receive Boost. Having thoroughly restudied an earlier proposal to trade in the Makapwa Station Land Rover for a new one, the Planning Committee recommended (and the Board of Trustees approved) that we transfer most of the £1280 held in Motor Vehicle Replacement Reserve to a Reserve for Blantyre Station Development. It had come to seem unreasonable to invest so much money into replacing the Land Rover whose already limited use is now even

(Continued on page 14)

Meet a Woman from Wisconsin

Doors that Did Open

By Marjorie J. Burdick

(Continued from last week)

The Young People's Board had a reserve fund and could offer me a salary of \$800 for ten months work. There followed two busy and broadening years in my chosen field. We of the board worked with other boards in trying to unify the work with our youth throughout the denomination. "Newsbits" was used to bring helps for use with children and young people in their church groups. Our apartment in Lansing became the business office.

There were opportunities for cooperation with other church leaders of youth. I represented the board as a trustee in the International Society of Christian Endeavor, and had charge of one of the conferences at the convention in Milwaukee in 1933. The following February I spent a week in meetings with the Interdenominational Young People's Commission of the International Council of Religious Education. These proved to be valuable in many ways, and most of the expense did not fall on our board. Other opportunities came for ecumenical work—talks in church groups and parent groups on religious education, church symbolism, and teaching leadership training classes. Members of the Young People's Board were cooperative and helpful, although funds ran low and it was necessary to give up some plans for work with our youth.

With tears in my eyes and heart, this door was closed at Conference in Salem in 1934; the board was moved to the Alfred area. I went to Rhode Island where I spent a year and a half working with my parents in the churches they served. While there we organized a club of more than a dozen girls, and rejoiced to have most of them ask for baptism. Openings in religious education were scarce, and I chose to return to public school teaching.

My teaching for the next seven years was in Ohio. Again doors opened to pursue religious work: I taught a large group of women in a Sunday School, sang in the choir and worked with girls. It was understood that I was a Seventh Day Baptist and that I kept the seventh-day Sabbath.

In 1938 I purchased a house in Milton, as a home for my parents and me. I came here to teach in 1944. My parents enjoyed ten years of retirement here before Father passed away. It was good to be together, to work and to worship in a Seventh Day Baptist church. Yes, other doors began to open.

I retired from teaching in 1962 and have been able to devote more time to church work. Teaching in Sabbath School and working in the organizations of the church continue to bring much satisfaction. I gave up singing in the church choir to assume the task of recording the church service to share with shut-ins. This is a very rewarding experience for those of us who participate.

In 1950 I was chosen by the church to be a deaconess, and I have found joy in this service and the work on the Advisory Board. The church formed a historical committee in 1960, and I have had the privilege of being chairman of this group. Not only are we trying to secure all things of historical worth, but are working on a church history.

Our denomination has given opportunity to serve through the Committee on Obituaries. After working a few years on the committee, I suddenly found myself chairman. I gladly served in this capacity from 1953 to 1966. For several years my home has been the headquarters for the Women's Board, with one room used for our well-equipped office, and other rooms for the monthly meetings of the executive board. These "doors," too, have brought rich experience through service with consecrated workers in the denomination.

I have a deep feeling of gratitude to all with whom I have worked through

these many years. It was never just "I," but rather "We" working together to bring Christ's love to others through our efforts. I hope to continue, always with the realization that never will I "drift beyond His love and care."

Dedicated Service News

By Doris Coon Rood

The Christian Social Relations Committee of the Women's Board has been busy going over the list of volunteers for dedicated service in the Summer Christian Service Corps and the Vacation Church School and Camp workers to make tentative assignments to the churches that have asked for their services. There are nineteen SCSC volunteers, seven VCSC volunteers and thirteen requests for workers. We praise the Lord for this fine response which is nearly double what it was last year.

The large increase also doubles the amount of money needed to finance the projects. Last year the expenses were \$2,900, so this year an amount between \$5,000 and \$6,000 will be needed. Travel expenses are likely to be higher this year since many airlines are discontinuing their stand-by student rates.

We are grateful to the individuals and groups who have already sent contributions. Keep them coming! Consider the increase in dedication among our young people and the additional calls for service. Consider also the blessings realized in previous summers by workers and churches alike. May these considerations be reflected in your additional giving.

The committee has accepted the invitation of the Dodge Center, Minn., church to hold the training session there, since many of the volunteers are from the mid-west. The dates for training session are June 12 - 18. This leaves six weeks for service before the evaluation session on August 5.

Send any contributions to the Women's Board treasurer, Mrs. Harold Baum, Rt. 1, Box 13, Edgerton, Wis. 53534.

What Is a Fellowship?

The term "fellowship" has come to be used among Seventh Day Baptists and perhaps in some other denominations in a somewhat technical sense. We have to say "somewhat" technical, for there is no fully accepted definition of how well organized a group should be before it can be referred to in a semiofficial way as a fellowship. Sometimes the group is a nucleus of mostly new people who may be in the initial stages of forming a church. Again it may be a loose grouping of non-resident members of one or more Seventh Day Baptist churches living near enough together so that they can meet with some regularity for Sabbath School or lay-led church services. Some fellowships have existed for years; some are new and temporary. It appears that almost any group that meets may call itself a fellowship and feel a sense of unity by so doing.

An interesting reference to an unpublished and relatively new group comes in a letter recently received from Richard D. Shepard of 152 Sands Ave., Monroe, Ohio. It reads:

"I would like to enter a subscription for eight yearly subscriptions to the 'Helping Hand' starting with the April issue. These are for the Ohio Fellowship of the families of Ernest Bond, Richard Shepard and James Wells."

This is a commendable way of giving a group permanence—ordering Sabbath School quarterlies and conducting classes. Sometimes there is not much distinction between a fellowship and a Sabbath School that is not connected with a church. Wherever there is a possibility of a group there ought to be one. It only takes two or three families with Sabbath loyalty to start a purposeful fellowship.

—L. M. M.

AN ANCHOR OF THE SOUL

Youth craves security and really wants an anchor. But what if his elders are dragging their anchors and heading for shipwreck?

Higher Education

The Higher Education Committee of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education has recently completed the listing of high school juniors and seniors as sent in by our churches. The lists will be sent to our church related colleges with a request that material advertising the colleges be mailed to each individual. We are grateful to the churches who cooperated in this endeavor.

Another project of the Higher Education Committee, Burton B. Crandall, chairman, is the biennial Seventh Day Baptist Ministers Conference to be in session in Salem, W. Va., April 30 to May 6.

Lectures on the proclamation of the gospel will be delivered by the Rev. Victor W. Skaggs, dean of our Seventh Day Baptist study center; lectures on present day Sabbathism will be presented by the Rev. Herbert E. Saunders, pastor of the Plainfield Seventh Day Baptist Church. Small group discussions will follow each presentation.

Others who will participate on the program include S. Kenneth Davis, Harold King, Francis Saunders, Duane Davis, Leon Lawton, Charles Bond, Paul Osborn, Harmon Dickinson, Charles Swing, Donald Richards, Doyle Zwiebel, K. Duane Hurley, Carroll Van Horn, Alton L. Wheeler, Elmo F. Randolph, Delmer Van Horn, Ralph Hays, Leslie Welch, Edward Sutton, Edgar Wheeler, Kenneth Van Horn, Eugene Fatato and Leland Davis.

Reports will be presented by the boards and agencies of our denomination.

Delmer Van Horn will be music leader, and he urges all men to bring their "Townners."

J. Paul Green is the host pastor. Rex Zwiebel is the program coordinator.

The meeting will be open to the public on Sabbath Eve, May 2.

On May 5, the conference will convene in the Lost Creek, W. Va., church, then come back to Salem for May 6.

Camp Dates

The Mid-Continent Association camping schedule is as follows:

June 22-29—

MCA Youth (Senior) Camp, Rocky Mountain Camp, Boulder, Colo.

July 6-13—

Junior-Junior Hi Camp at Camp Riverview, North Loup, Nebr.

July 13-20—

Junior Camp at Rocky Mountain Camp

July 13-20—

Primary Day Camp at Camp Riverview

The Seventh Day Baptist Vocations chairman is C. Robert Stohr, Richburg, NY 14774.

Comment on Birth Control

In an editorial *Church and State* takes very sharp issue with the birth control encyclical of Pope Paul VI. Here are extracts from that editorial:

"The Pope was not content merely to deny the use of effective birth control measures to Catholics under his rule. Not only did he ban birth control, abortion and sterilization, he also, in effect, condemned public programs in this area and urged his followers to oppose them. This encyclical could not have been worse . . .

"What, then, shall be said of this bachelor arbiter of the marriage bed? He deserves the prompt repudiation of his own church whose members are already demonstrating that they will no longer be ruled by despotic fiat . . . Protestant ecumenists who have been hinting that they would be willing to accept the Pope's rule should re-think their position. Just how good is his rule, anyway? The entire civilized world should join in the strongest possible condemnation of this wicked and inhuman encyclical."

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for May 10, 1969

THE BIBLE

IN THE LANGUAGE OF THE PEOPLE

Lesson Scripture: Acts 2:1-12

THE SABBATH RECORDER

Does Ecumenical Zeal Diminish Missionary Zeal?

Mergers and ecumenical cooperation don't seem to be helping the outreach of the big American church bodies.

An editorial in *Christianity Today* (April 25 issue) cites new statistics showing that "ecumenical agencies and church-unionized groups suffer from missionary attrition."

Three leading denominations that are the products of mergers (United Methodist, United Presbyterian, and United Church of Christ) are shown to support fewer missionaries today than their predecessor churches did three decades ago.

Comparisons are drawn from the recently-published eighth edition of *North American Protestant Ministries Overseas* and the 1938 *Interpretative Statistical Survey of the World Mission of the Christian Church*.

"During this thirty-year period," *Christianity Today* said, "some nonconciliar churches and the non-denominational foreign-mission agencies grew by leaps and bounds."

"Why does the missionary impulse of agencies linked to the NCC grow weaker?" the magazine asked.

"Although no one answer can be given it appears that the erosion caused by theological liberalism, humanism, syncretism, and universalism, all of which are more evident in the NCC denominations, has contributed largely to missionary decline. If the missionary cause is to be strengthened, this decline must be halted and the trend reversed."

The editorial further suggested that to the extent that a denomination loses its missionary zeal, to that extent its effectiveness at the home front diminishes also.

Eastern Association

Eastern Association meeting will be held in the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Hopkinton, Ashaway, R. I., June 6, 7, 8, 1969. Theme for the meetings will be: "I will make you fishers of men" (Mark 4:19).

Jungle Doctor Filmstrips

Something new has been added to the offerings of the Filmstrip Library of the American Sabbath Tract Society. It is a series of four Jungle Doctor filmstrips with disc recordings. The pictures are cartoon style, in color. The narration on the records is good. Dr. White's clever and humorous stories present Christian truths in a manner that is not soon forgotten. Told in an African setting using jungle animals, the stories appeal to all ages and apply to all lands.

The titles are: (1) "The Great Wall" — which the jungle animals cannot penetrate, and which is compared to the wall of sin between man and God; (2) "Safe as Poison," the story of an egg-stealing snake and how he was caught — as sin finds you out; (3) "Little Leopards Become Big Leopards," telling how little ones so cute to play with later become dangerous — like little sins; (4) "Why God Sent Jesus," in which the African boy tries to tell his dog why he shouldn't dig up the newly planted peanuts — God solved the communication problem by sending Jesus.

These filmstrips will probably find their greatest use with Bible clubs and Vacation Bible Schools. Since there is only one set available it is suggested that unless they are to be used on consecutive days that they be ordered two at a time, rather than four. The first two are on one record, the last two on the other record. Prompt return makes service to the next user more possible.

ECUMENICAL NEWS

NCC Group

Opens Membership Talks with U. S. Roman Catholics

A "new and important stage" in examining the relationships between the National Council of Churches and the Roman Catholic Church in the United States was reached on April 8 at the first meeting of the U. S. Catholic Bishops' Committee on Ecumenical and Inter-religious Affairs and a committee of the National Council named to study the

possibility of Catholic membership in the NCC.

The 14 members of the joint group, which included six Protestants, seven Catholics and one Eastern Orthodox, spent a long working day at the Holy Family Roman Catholic Church at the United Nations. While they explored the structures of their respective organizations, program interests and certain "churchly assumptions," they emphasized that they were limited to making a study of the proposal and not to presenting a specific plan for membership.

The Rev. Robert C. Dodds, who headed the NCC group, commented that "bishops and denominational leaders tend to be cautious about changes in their institutions until they see that changes are beneficial." However, he saw in the creation of the study committee an indication that "we have reached a new and important stage."

—Religious Newsweekly

ITEMS OF INTEREST

American Baptists Show Membership Gain

In figures recently released for 1967 American Baptists announce a net gain of a little over one percent. Numerically in 6,000 churches (5,402 pastors) the net gain was 17,656. To achieve this net gain the churches had to take in 95,733 new members, of which 45,552 were added by baptism. This increase is more than usual, it is understood.

Financially, the American Baptist Convention reports that total income was up for the 1968 fiscal year, with per capita giving also up a little, to \$13.42. However, giving for their "Basic Mission Program" was way down (92.9 percent of its goal), \$194,330, less than in 1967.

Presbyterian Giving Declines Sharply

Mission giving in the United Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. during 1968 was \$2-million short of its goal of \$32 million. This represents the sharpest decline in mission giving since 1943. In-

come in 1968 was less by \$1.3 million than in 1967.

Cutbacks in personnel and program are already underway because of the financial crisis. The services of ten executives and clerical workers in the Board of Education in New York and Philadelphia have been terminated. Overseas missionaries who retire or resign, totaling 60 in number, will not be replaced.

Dr. John Coventry Smith, moderator of the General Assembly, stated that substantial losses in membership and increased expenditures for local missions projects may have been contributing causes of the decline in giving.

Central Africa Conference

(Continued from page 9)

further limited by new government restrictions on number of passengers and qualifications of drivers. Rather, we decided, let the money be diverted to the plan for buildings in Blantyre for the expanding Christian education and evangelism work.

New Car for Conference Secretary. The Planning Committee proposal was accepted, to set aside £65 monthly towards replacing the 10-year old Volkswagen sedan now used by Pastor Manan.

Evangelistic Work Planned. The week of July 20-27 will see some of our pastors and preachers making trips to regions outside their own, for a week's concentrated efforts to strengthen churches. Pastor Nangazi and Preacher Kazembe to certain Mlanje area churches; Pastor Nothale and Preacher Chilonga, Cholo area; Pastors R. Mwango and Msonkho, Chikwawa area; Pastors Ganunga and H. Mwango, Chechawa in Central Region. May God attend their efforts with spiritual fruitfulness.

Sermons for Radio Malawi. Three one-week sessions for concentrated work in preparing tape-recorded religious programs for Radio Malawi have been arranged by Gospel Broadcasting Company for April. We are asked to send capable persons from our Conference to assist in these workshops. Mr. Aissa, Mr. Makatanje and Mr. Manan were chosen to attend.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

ALABAMA, TENNESSEE, GEORGIA AREA.— Several times special Bible clubs have met for the Paul Beebe children of Mt. Berry, Ga., and the Kirtland children on Keel Mountain. John Bevis, formerly of Birmingham, (now of Salem College) who joined Paint Rock last year and was licensed, expects to be in the Alabama area in the latter part of May. He will bring the morning message May 31 at the Paint Rock church.

Pastor Clifford Beebe hopes to attend the biennial Seventh Day Baptist Ministers Conference at Salem, April 30 to May 6. He also planned to attend a meeting at Berea April 20 to take up plans for a new campsite for the Southeast and then spend a week with the Mountain Mission before coming back to Alabama.

Most of the field missionary work for the last few months has been confined to correspondence with an occasional trip to Sand Mountain and Paint Rock. The Lavender Mountain Sabbath School meets regularly each weekend when the Paul Beebes are at home. Correspondence is continued with our S.D.B. Prayer Partners (the Junior Sabbath School at Verona, N. Y.) and our Pact partners of the Crusade of the Americas.

Your earnest prayers are requested for the continuing work of His Kingdom and especially the work mentioned here.

—Field Missionary Correspondent

BATTLE CREEK, MICH.— The parsonage debt is doing a rapid disappearing act. The balance on March 31 was only \$498.31. Since we started the month with a debt of \$1,232.42, this is mighty good . . . the offering at the Meal of Sharing was \$112.75, and the letters mailed to members and friends brought 23 responses and \$233.02.

—Friendly Guest

MARLBORO, N. J.— There have been several social activities and significant meetings during the past two months.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Campbell entertained the Young Adult Class of the

Sabbath School for their March meeting at which plans were made for hosting the gospel team in April and conducting the Sabbath eve devotional services.

The Helping Hand Class, according to its annual custom, honored those of its members who can be classed as senior citizens. The members invited and introduced to the group their guests during the social time, which stressed memories and religious thoughts.

The Ladies Aid sponsored a covered dish supper with thirty-eight local people attending. The program was in the nature of a family talent night. Most of the performers were children, though some of the musical numbers were by talented adults.

The Sabbath School on March 22 presented the new filmstrip of our Guyana mission produced by Deacon Fred Ayars. The Guyana field is especially dear to the Marlboro people because they have promoted substantial gifts to the present Leroy Bass mission family. A new piano was sent to Mrs. Bass soon after they went to the field.

From April 3-5 the church held a preaching mission with the Rev. Eugene Fatato of Battle Creek as the evangelist. He brought with him two girls from his church, who helped with the music. The sermon themes were: "A Church Is," "Personal Experiences in the Inner City," "Get Up and Walk" and "He Touched Me." An Easter Sunrise Service was held at nearby Jersey Oaks Camp. Mr. Fatato at that 5:30 a.m. service gave "Thoughts on the Resurrection."

—Correspondent

NEW AUBURN, WIS.— On March 29, the missions emphasis Sabbath for the quarter, several families with their children enjoyed a fellowship dinner together. Following the meal there was an informative discussion of our mission work in Guyana.

Our pastor, the Rev. Edward Sutton, has been unusually active in his preaching ministry this spring, having prepared and delivered forty-four sermons and addresses for the churches and communities of New Auburn and Bloomer. He

preaches regularly for the United Methodist Church of Bloomer. Lenten services in New Auburn were hosted alternately by our church and the local United Methodist Church. Pastor Sutton did the preaching at all of these weekly services from February 23 through April 4, Good Friday. The sermons were much appreciated by the members of both churches, according to reports. Some of the New Auburn people attended the joint Lenten services in Bloomer also.

—Correspondent

PAINT ROCK, ALA.— Since the Pass-over night came on Wednesday this year we decided to have the Lord's Supper on Sabbath morning, April 5. This change was made in order to accommodate several of our distant members who could not otherwise attend. The ordinance of "foot washing" was foregone this year because of the absence of several of our members who believe this to be an essential part of the observance. (Foot washing and annual communion services are observed in a few S.D.B. churches.—ed.)

The quarterly business meeting of the church was April 6. Several important matters came up, including summer pastorate of the church. Pastor C. A. Beebe and wife expect to go to the Mountain Mission in West Virginia soon after association. Tim Looney of Salem College was called to serve as summer student pastor but was unable to accept since he will be in summer school.

The 78th session of the Seventh Day Baptist Southwestern Association will convene with the Paint Rock church June 12-15 (Thursday night through Sunday noon). Pastor Clifford Beebe is president. The theme is "Go to the South" from Acts 8:26.

We expect visitors from Arkansas, Louisiana and Florida, as well as a delegate from New York. It has been ten years since Paint Rock has entertained the association.

We have applied for two workers to help with Bible School in July. We had 71 children last year.

Brother Mynor Soper and family will be coming for special meeting the latter part of July. He is a son of former Pastor Ralph Soper.

The Bible Clubs organized by Miss Connie Coon in December, are keeping up with good interest. Thirty or more children attend regularly. Several of the children in the Paint Rock club (meeting at the parsonage) have moved but new members have come in. The club which met at Dan M. Butler's outgrew their home and moved to the home of R. L. Butler, Sr. Outgrowing this, they now meet at the Cedar Point Community Building.

—Field Missionary Correspondent

Obituaries

BIRD.— Ernest C., was born in Sioux County, Iowa, Nov. 13, 1867, and died at the home of his son at Boulder, Colo., March 23, 1969.

Mr. Bird was a bee keeper. He moved from Nebraska to Boulder in 1906 where he lived until going to live with his son in 1965. He joined the Boulder Seventh Day Baptist Church in March 1937. He was married to Frances Harrisburg who died in 1939. Several years later he married Elle Hurzeler who died in 1957.

Surviving are two sons: W. S., of Anguin, Calif.; and H. L. of Boulder; a brother, Myron of St. Petersburg, Fla.; six grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and seven great-great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held at the Ahlberg Funeral Chapel in Longmont, with interment in Green Mountain Cemetery in Boulder.

—Daily Camera

The Sabbath Recorder

