

The Sabbath Recorder

MAIL NOT ALWAYS SLOW

We hear frequent complaints about the mail being slow, especially second class mail such as the *Sabbath Recorder*. Negative comments come more naturally than positive or appreciative comments. We would like to pass on one of the latter.

Sabbath Rally Day was scheduled for May 17. The Sabbath Promotion Committee sent out materials to the churches including bulletin covers. Let it be known by those whom it may concern that our office received back again on May 16 one of these church bulletins with the program for May 17. It was one of the farthest away churches, Riverside, Calif. Incidentally it mentioned an intriguing sermon topic, "Keep the Sabbath! What for?"

Let's Think it Over 42 Senators Sponsor Anti-Alcoholism Bill

Forty-two Senators are co-sponsors of a bipartisan bill aimed at making a five-year, \$65.8 million attack on alcoholism, the nation's fourth most serious health problem.

The proposed Alcoholism Care and Control Act of 1969 was introduced by Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R., N. Y.) and Sen. Frank E. Moss (D., Utah).

Sen. Javits quoted the U.S. Public Health Service and the Crime Commission as describing alcoholism as ranking behind only heart disease, mental illness and cancer as America's most serious health problems.

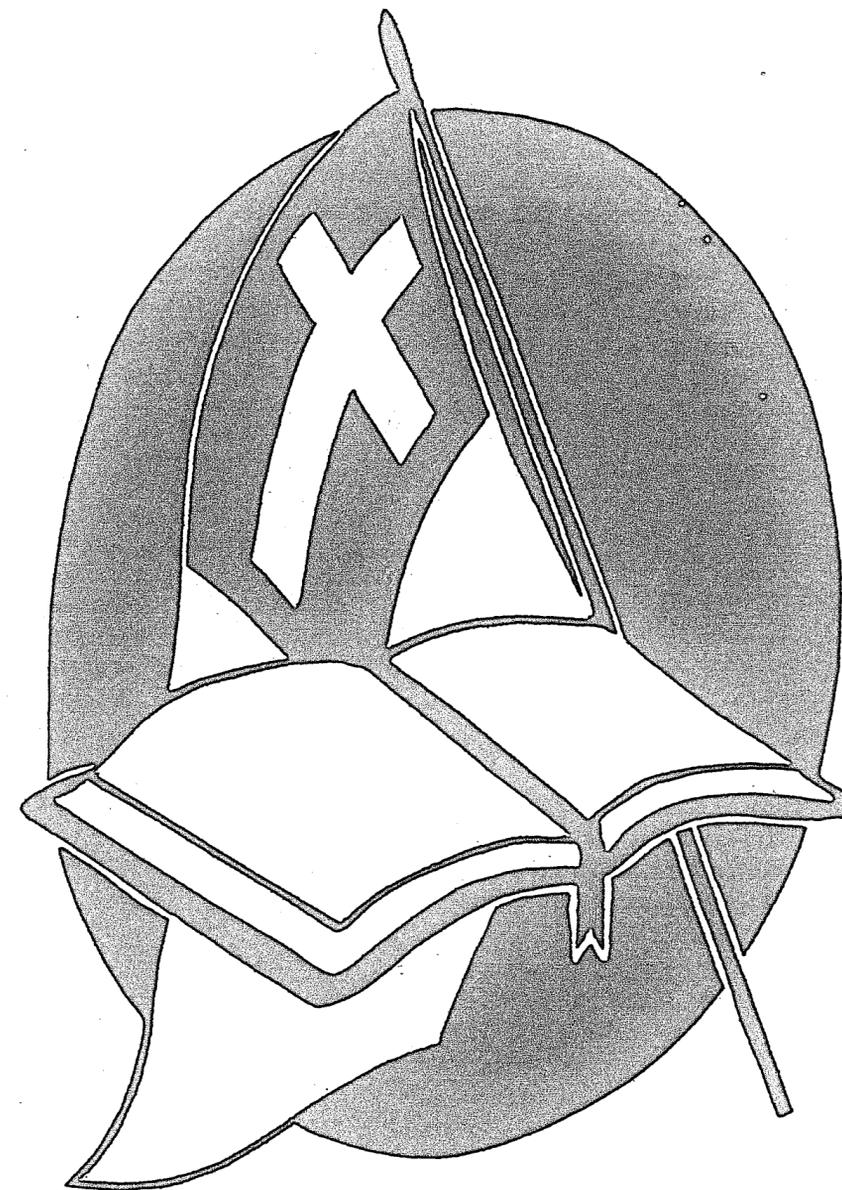
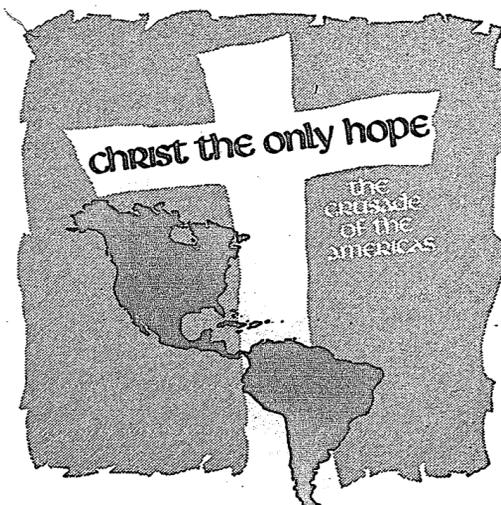
"Alcoholism afflicts an estimated 5 million Americans, and roughly 250,000 persons join the ranks of alcoholics each year," said Sen. Javits.

The New York Senator cited studies which show that:

1. Alcoholism costs American business \$2 billion annually in absenteeism and efficiency;
2. One in every seven new mental patients is an alcoholic;
3. One out of every three arrests in 1965 was for public drunkenness;
4. The \$9 billion annual cost of traffic accidents can largely be attributed to drunkenness; and
5. Alcoholism cuts the life expectancy of Americans by about 10 to 12 years.

The Alcoholism Care and Control Act of 1969, would establish a division of alcoholism and alcohol problems within the National Institute of Mental Health with broad responsibilities in the areas of research, education, coordination, prevention, and support for community treatment and rehabilitation programs.

It has other provisions to implement specific programs. —BP



Miss Gedge Harmon, creator of this linoleum print, presents the symbolism of the church, represented by the Christian flag unfurled behind the open Bible whose light of truth stands out against the darkness of the world. The women of the church, whose work is emphasized in this issue, have a major part in holding high the Christian flag and opening wide the Word of God.

The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

A Magazine for Christian Enlightenment and Inspiration
Member of the Associated Church Press

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Volume 186, No. 22 Whole No. 6,352

Editorials:

Purposeful Teen-agers 3

Features:

Thumbnail Sketches 3

President's Column 4

Our Prayer Corner 5

Investment in Our Future 5

Let's Face Facts 6

Church Women United— Women at Conference 7

Women Try Christian Therapy 8

Meditations 9

A Letter from the Pearsons 11

Light 12

NABWU Executive Meeting 15

Steadfast 16

Missions:

Assistant in Evangelism Reports 13

How the Church in Georgetown Brought Christmas Cheer 13

SPECIAL EMPHASIS ISSUE

The first issue in June is another in the cycle of emphasis issues coming each month (except August and September). The Women's Board, located in the Southern Wisconsin area has provided much of the material for this issue, articles written, for the most part, by officers and members of the board. In 1969 the denominational program of Facing Frontiers with Faith features "Know Your Boards and Agencies." We are glad to include some biographical material about some of the most active Women's Board members.

COMING NEXT WEEK 125th Anniversary

June 13 marks 125 years of continuous publication of the *Sabbath Recorder*, since the first issue came out on that day in 1844. Very few religious publications have attained that age. The editors of most of them have written brief congratulations, which will be printed next week in an issue that will be preparatory to a larger historical or anniversary issue that will come out just before Conference.

God has blessed us in these 125 years and we do not want this anniversary date to pass without notice or without expressing gratitude to our Heavenly Father for making such a periodical possible.

This is a good time for long-time subscribers and new subscribers to talk up their weekly denominational journal and to introduce it to others. When people join the *Recorder* family they join something substantial, something that started long before the Civil War and has been meeting spiritual needs ever since.

Wanted, a Secretary

Do you know anyone who would be interested in half-time secretarial work in the office of the editor at Plainfield? The work is largely typing — articles for the *Sabbath Recorder* and stenographic work for the editor and secretary of the Tract Society. It also includes caring for the filmstrip and tape recording requests. It is a responsible, challenging position for a Seventh Day Baptist interested in our national and worldwide work. Please reply at once if interested.

—Leon M. Maltby, secretary-editor

Purposeful Teen-agers

How old does one have to be in order to effectively witness for Christ? It isn't so much the age as it is the desire and the training. Christian Endeavor has proven itself to be an organization that can develop leadership at a young age. Not every local society can match the work done by two societies in New Jersey. In fact, these two societies in a Presbyterian church took first place in the national C. E. awards in the Youth Witness Program. Here is the story of the project that they chose and carried out, as told in a news release of International C. E.

The winning society entry was a summer long beach ministry of evangelism carried out by 19 young people from Junior High and Senior High Christian Endeavor societies, ranging in age from 12 to 17. The young people spent two weeks in intensive training covering spiritual commitment and methods of interview and discussion. The beach ministry was conducted three and a half hours each day for a period of seven weeks. The youth interviewed 916 persons and distributed 729 booklets. Results show 167 first-time decisions for Christ and 27 rededications. Daniel C. Wilkers, a student at Rutgers University, directed the entire beach ministry.

This proves that youth can win youth. In the person-to-person contacts the percentage of conversions in relation to the number contacted is much higher than most evangelists can claim. It is evident that these young folks between the ages of 12 and 17 were purposeful indeed.

Seventh Day Baptist youth in greater numbers than before have volunteered for dedicated service this summer. It is to be hoped that pastors and other project directors will lead them into meaningful service and expect much from them. There is no greater joy that a young person can have than to lead another young person to a conversion experience with Christ.

JUNE 2, 1969

Thumbnail Sketches

of some of the members of the Seventh Day Baptist Women's Board
Lucile Prentice Todd—

Mine has been a simple but richly rewarding life in rural America — near North Loup, Nebr., Nortonville, Kans., and Milton, Wis. A love of children brought opportunities to serve as teacher in church and rural schools and as leader and director in 4-H Club work. We have a son and daughter, both adopted and both married. Important to me are many friendships made through the church, the Grange, and Women's Board. Through board committee work it has been my privilege to help with plans for summer service, attending three evaluation meetings and parts of two training sessions. Hobbies: reading, gardening, and bread baking. Present enthusiasms: the Summer Christian Service Corps, which constantly renews my faith in today's youth, and Milton College, where for the past three years I have worked in the office of the registrar, returning with pleasure to the campus where I met my husband many years ago.

Mabel Cruzan—

I am the wife of the pastor of the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church and have lived in the lovely new parsonage next door to the church for nearly three years. I enjoy my work with the church as well as the denomination through the Women's Board, of which I have been a member nearly three years and on the Executive Committee the past two. I have four children and four grandchildren. My hobbies are knitting, sewing and reading.

Ruth Baum—

I am a native of Janesville, Wis., and have been a resident of rural Edgerton since 1943. As an active member of the Home Benefit Society of the Albion church, I have enjoyed the friendship of the women — also members. I served as a former secretary and treasurer of the Albion church. At present I am active in the Albion Academy Historical Society and the restoration of the museum.

Leora Hartman—

I am a native of Milton Junction, Wis., and have always lived in the Milton area. My parents were Carl and Annabelle Vincent Gray. For over thirty years after graduating from high school my choice of occupation was determined by my knowledge of stenography and bookkeeping. I am a member of the Milton Junction church and Ladies Aid Society, and sing regularly in the church choir. For recreation I like bowling.

Caroline Gray—

My name is Caroline and I am known to most of you as Mrs. Don Gray. Don and I live in Milton, Wis., in a home that was one hundred years old in 1956, and love every inch of it and the spacious lawn with its many trees, including "The Mighty Oak."

I am interested in old things and work part time at the Milton House Museum in the Research and Acquisition Department.

My hobbies are many and varied: from making scrap books of Christmas customs and legends illustrated with Christmas cards, to collecting and dressing dolls, and I am never without something to do with eleven grandchildren to knit for.

I graduated from Milton College back in there somewhere under the tutelage of Dr. Edwin Ben Shaw, with what I believe to be the last Bachelor of Philosophy and Religious Education degree the college gave.

Gladys Hulett Drake—

I was born in Allentown, N. Y., and lived during my early life at Bolivar, N. Y., the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. H. L. Hulett. After graduating from Milton College I spent several years teaching in high schools in Wisconsin and New York. Later I returned to Milton when I was married. We have three children who are married and have families of their own. My interests have involved serving in varied activities and programs of my church; participation in civic and school affairs of the community; membership in the local Woman's Club. Thirteen very satisfying years were

spent working in the registrar's office at Milton College and I now count it a privilege to serve as president of the Seventh Day Baptist Women's Board. My hobbies consist of listening to stereo records and all fine music *live*, genealogy, and reading, with a bit of travel now and then.

Jeannette Appel—

I have been married to the Rev. Addison Appel for 31 years. I am the mother of seven and grandmother of three, a former school teacher, active in church Ladies' Aids, recording secretary for Women's Board. My hobbies are sewing, making quilts, raising house flowers, canning and cooking.

President's Column

Visiting the Churches

A recent journey took the Conference president and his wife to Shiloh, New Jersey. It is not an exaggeration to say that these visits to churches have been a rewarding experience. It has been a pleasure to talk to the many different age groups within the churches.

Friday evening several members of the Marlboro church joined us in Shiloh as we discussed several of the plans for General Conference. Many of the folks in this area are busily engaged in helping with the plans for Conference since they are helping to host General Conference in Nyack this year.

Sabbath morning the church was filled to capacity: approximately 200 were present. It is an inspiration to observe so many young couples with their families attending services. One of the highlights of this morning service was the response of several individuals to an invitation for dedication or rededication of their lives to the Lord. As I spoke concerning sensitivity, I received an extra bonus when I asked, "How many wives told their husbands that they loved them this morning?" And then I asked the men the same question. The women outnumbered the men. Are they more sensitive or just more affectionate? But one

elderly man's hand stood out above all others because he told me later that he had been married over fifty years and he really still loved his wife. Is being sensitive in this way the reason they have shared so many happy years of married life together? I think this was a real commentary in "sensitivity."

It was a real pleasure to visit for the first time the new fellowship hall and educational unit at this church. Surely this is a sign of a live and growing church. Following the noon luncheon I had the opportunity to talk about the revision to the bylaws which will be one of the major items for consideration at this Conference session.

Preceding the noon meal Lettie and I were surprised with a cake to help celebrate our 23rd wedding anniversary. A lovely reception was held for us at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harris later in the afternoon and evening when we had a chance to visit with relatives and friends.

—Leland W. Bond

Our Prayer Corner

Suggestions for Prayer This Week

Pray for:

1) People who are distressed in their minds — fathers who vainly try to support their families, mothers worried about wayward children, patients in hospitals.

2) People who live under political dictatorship where freedom is denied them.

3) People who are caught up in war; tribes in rebellion, lands in revolution. Pray that God will remove from their hearts the desire to kill. Pray that wanting to live in peace you may be one of the peacemakers.

4) Those who seek God's help that they may have faith, that they may have hope, that they may have love for every human as a member of God's great family.

(These suggestions come from the Women's Board.)

Investment in Our Future

Mrs: Loyal (Lucile) Todd

This month, after a week of training at Dodge Center, Minn., about two dozen eager young Seventh Day Baptists will fan out to serve in a dozen areas some of the needs of our churches. They will go with a deep sense of dedication and the assurance that God will strengthen them for the tasks ahead.

Admittedly, they come into the Summer Christian Service Corps and the Vacation Church School and Camp program for a number of interesting reasons, but mainly to serve. From small churches and large, they come with differing backgrounds. They come with varying degrees of self-confidence in their ability to achieve success in their summer projects.

Have you wondered what goes on at these training sessions? A casual observer might say Bible study, group discussion, chapel, classes on vacation church school and other faiths, visitation, music, study periods, and conversational prayer. It's all of that and more. Classes start at 8:30 a.m., and last until prayer time at 8:30 p.m., with some free time for lunch and supper served by the ladies of the host church.

But let's take a closer look. Other things are happening too. There's a subtle change during the week in most, if not all, of these young people. It's not easy to describe but one feels it—a change in attitude, perhaps, or a new and deeper sense of direction. It's as real as quicksilver and just as hard to put one's finger on. Is it being away from home that gives them a different perspective? Do they suddenly see themselves in a new light as part of a larger plan than they had anticipated? Whatever it is, this week of intensive training and good fellowship seems to set the tone for the entire summer.

Last August at Camp Riverview near North Loup, Nebr., we attempted to evaluate the summer dedicated service program of 1968. The first question in the written evaluation by team members was "In what ways do you feel the train-

ing session helped to prepare you for summer service?" Several mentioned the practical help of the visitation experience in overcoming some of their fears in meeting new people, vacation church school study, practice in giving talks for children, and the knowledge of other religions as being helpful to them. But there was more.

"It helped me to get started with the right attitude of letting God work through me."

"It gave me the knowledge of how important prayer is in our lives."

"It strengthened me personally in an unbelievable way and made me realize the seriousness of our work. Group discussion of our New Testament reading was very valuable and gave new light on the Scriptures."

"At training session prayer came into my life for the first time because I had never felt its power before. I came so much closer to my Lord and felt His love surrounding me."

"It gave me time to settle back and begin my actual act of letting God take over for the summer. I was drawn closer to Him through our experiences."

"The visitation classes were most helpful. They helped teach personal humility. I know it humbles me and I'm thankful for it. Prayer periods were rewarding for us all."

Not long ago someone suggested that it would save a good deal in the cost of the summer program if the young workers could travel directly to their area of service and receive their training from the pastor of that church. The statements I have quoted above will show you why I can answer with confidence, "Of course it would save on the cost — but people are more important than money. I think the training session is a real good investment for Christ and the church."

"We have staked the very existence of our country on the faith that a complete separation between the state and religion is best for the state and best for religion."

—Justice Rutledge: *Everson vs. Board of Education*

MEMORY TEXT

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. Prov. 22:6.

Let's Face Facts

Mrs. Arthur (Gladys) Drake

From time to time each of our boards must take time for a thoughtful consideration of its financial situation in the light of the many needs to carry on its work and the funds which are available. The Women's Board sets up a budget each year which presumably will meet our needs for that year. But unlike the other boards only a small portion of the money comes through OWM giving and we depend on contributions from the women's societies to carry on special projects and other board activities.

Judging from two preceding years for the SCSC and VCSC programs, we estimated for budget purposes this year that the cost (transportation and a \$7.50 weekly allowance for each person's basic personal needs) would be approximately \$3,000.

We are very happy that this year there has been an increase in the number of young people who are preparing to serve in the summer dedicated youth program. We give thanks to Him who is working in their hearts in such a vital way! But because of this increase in volunteers there will be added expenses of about \$2,000 which had not been anticipated. Contributions from the women's societies have been received regularly during the past year but now we are asking for additional freewill offerings not only from the societies but from the churches and individuals as well — given as a dedicated gift for the witnessing of our youth.

These offerings may be forwarded to our treasurer, Mrs. Harold Baum, Rt. 1, Box 13, Edgerton, Wis. 53534. The young folks believe in their program! Do you?

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

May Fellowship Day

"Beginning Anew," this year's topic for the May breakfast, considers creative and healing relations in the minds of the community as to acceptance of the mentally and physically handicapped, the drug addicts, the alcoholics, the newly released from prison. How can we help them to become useful parts of our community?

Are we too quick to judge? Do we feel that a problem is none of our affair? Do we look only at the surface?

A poignantly moving story, "A Stranger, My Son," was written by the mother, Louise Wilson. It tells of a much loved and wanted son who from babyhood demanded almost exclusive attention; resented any interference; was suspicious of others; had a feeling of being superior to other children.

At a sacrifice of time, money and love the parents tried to help their son to adjust. Not knowing the situation, friends, teachers, associates, even psychiatrists blamed and openly criticized them.

It was no one's fault. The son's trouble was physical. An eminent physician and psychiatrist diagnosed the condition as caused by chemical abnormality in which certain secretions going into the adrenal gland were off balance. There was no cure. In spite of the criticism of outsiders the parents then knew, that regardless of what they might have done, nothing would have helped. At the conclusion of the story, the boy was put in a select private school. The other children in the family now lived happy, active, talented lives, but their brother had become, "The Stranger, My Son."

A story by Margaret Applegrath also shows how little we know of the trials of others. During World War II, a ward in a large hospital outside London was filled with badly maimed and handicapped men. Word passed through the ward that a celebrity was coming. Each patient braced himself to be polite, but thought, "O.K. Just show this bunch of

cripples what you've got to make a fuss about."

There were none of the trappings of a celebrity about the quiet man who entered — no robe — no collar. Yet every man there knew him to be the bishop at a large cathedral. He passed from cot to cot saying and doing the right things. His talk was inspiring, his prayer fervent. But, when he walked out he knew that he had not helped a single soul.

He turned directly back into the ward. Standing where all could see and without a word he began slowly and painfully to undress. As his garments lay at his feet, the spellbound patients saw plainly that each part of his maimed, deformed body was strapped together by an endless number of complicated braces, pulleys and belts.

A deep sense of kinship stirred. The bishop's shadow had blessed like Peter's.

The above was a portion of a talk given by Mrs. Nancy Kidder, a gifted speaker, at the Milton May Fellowship Day Breakfast, May 1969.

Women at Conference

The annual meeting of the Women's Society will follow the dinner on Tuesday evening, August 12. The dinner will be served cafeteria style in a specially reserved section of the dining area. When a roll call of societies is taken, we hope that every society will be represented. I do not know how much the custom is followed that each society choose an official representative, preferably your president, and pay at least part of her expenses to attend Conference, but we heartily recommend the idea. I'm sure that she in turn will take back an interesting and informative report to those who were not able to be there.

We are counting on your contributions for the display tables. We look forward to your new ideas, programs you have presented, new meeting ideas, program booklets and items you may have made for a service project. As was mentioned in the Women's Board *Newsletter*, it is not our plan to have items for sale but with a display we hope for many helpful

suggestions to "take back home."

The Conference program of the Women's Board is being arranged for Monday afternoon. During the week there is opportunity, if you choose, to participate in the Women's Work Concerns Committee meetings. Discussions there can foster excellent ideas toward the growth and outreach of all societies.

—GHD

Women Try Christian Therapy

Marjorie Burdick

There is healing for one's ailments in the discovery of what Christ can and does do for those who are seeking to find ways of serving through the church.

Probably you, at times, have become weary, tired and discouraged, thinking you are not able to do anything in the church. Face about, try a positive approach, and the shadows will fall behind you. Aches and pains fade away as you lose yourself in deep concern for some phase of His work.

Menial tasks, such as cleaning the church kitchen, making drapes for the parish house windows, typing church bulletins, bring their reward when well-done. Or, perhaps your place to serve may be in the Sabbath School, a youth group, a choir, and of course, in the women's society. There are so many ways you can help with ever the thought of doing all to the glory of God.

Perhaps your heart is breaking in concern for a loved one, or your hopes and plans may be shattered. Again there is healing for you in consecrated service. Are you "Sensitive in His Service"? Or you may be just *sensitive*. That, too, can be cured, if you add, "in His service."

Several years ago I saw an interesting, well-made motto in an office at Caravilla Retirement Home. On this neatly printed card, evidently made by the Indian, Sky Eyes, was drawn a pair of moccasins, and the message, "Do not criticize the other fellow until you have walked two moons in his moccasins." Sky Eyes, that would be "Sensitive in His Service," and hurt feelings could be healed! How many times our Bible re-

minds us of the fact that God can turn our sadness into joy! "The joy of the Lord is your strength" (Neh. 8:10).

Several years ago when I was working with the Young People's Board then located in Battle Creek and my parents were serving pastorates in Rhode Island, Mother and I each had similar "bright ideas." We thought of looking for one beautiful, happy or joyous thing to remember each day. Thus it came about in 1934 I dedicated a small diary, titled "Joy Day by Day" to my mother, and she one to me, "Bright Spots." Choice bits of happiness came to each of us as we shared by thought waves, the good things God has given for us to enjoy. Herein therapy was at work, and later we found it in the words of this poem. Grace Noll Crowell had suffered much, but she has blessed many through sharing her God-given joy.

SOME GAY, ADVENTUROUS THING

*The day will bring some lovely thing,
I say it over each new dawn;
"Some gay, adventurous thing to hold
Against my heart when it is gone."
And so I rise and go to meet
The day with wings upon my feet.*

*I come upon it unaware . . .
Some sudden beauty without name;
A snatch of song, a breath of pine,
A poem lit with golden flame;
High tangled bird notes, keenly thinned,
Like flying color on the wing.*

*No day has ever failed me quite . . .
Before the grayest day is done,
I come upon some misty bloom
Or a late line of crimson sun.
Each night I pause, remembering,
Some gay, adventurous, lovely thing.*

Grace Noll Crowell
in *Good Housekeeping*

Have you ever thought what CHURCH would be like if UR not in the middle of it?

Meditations

SUNDAY:

Oh Lord, it is a good day — nothing is wrong — but I do feel that I must talk to somebody and there is no one close by who seems to fill my needs today. Friends are well-intentioned, Lord, and want to stand by and help if they can, but many of them feel an emptiness occasionally, too, and I'm sure I fail them at such times. Is there some way you can help us to more adequately meet each other's needs? I wonder.

People on the streets, in the markets, on the campus — everywhere — seem so alone and lonely. It's almost as if they were afraid to be friendly or even say "hello" lest they get involved in some situation they can't handle. They just hurry to get the everyday routine of living taken care of for the day, and seem to expect everyone else to do the same, so they can hurry home and be by themselves.

What's wrong, Lord? Why do most people feel that they are better off alone? Is it fear? Is it selfishness? Or are we, as a people, just physically tired out? I feel quite sure You didn't intend for it to be this way. How can we "love one another," except in a general way, like we love kittens, green grass, birds and flowers, when we don't even know the names of most of the people who live on our street?

Is it a pendulum, Lord? Will it swing back to a natural, trusting, neighborly way of living? This has been bothering me lately and no human seems to have an answer . . . I have heard a lot about conversational prayer so I thought I would try it this week and lay some of my thoughts before You. Maybe You can help me find answers and fill the emptiness. Yet, do I dare let even You get that close to me?

MONDAY:

This evening is one of Your masterpieces, Lord — better than any artist could convey to canvas. The heavens are sparkling with stars — a marvel to behold! What a sense of well-being comes over me out here under those stars! I grow pensive as I gaze and wonder . . .

I think of the beautiful little song one of my girls used to sing while she was still at home:

Bright stars are watching the world as it sleeps;
Shepherds watch over the little white sheep;
The lighthouse is shining for ships far at sea,
As God keeps the nightwatch for you and for me.

So sleep, sleep in peace and rest,
Don't be afraid of the darkness;
All's well, for over the land and the sea
God's keeping the nightwatch for you and for me.

That's how I feel tonight, Lord, out here alone — with the stars — and the moon—

Oh, that moon! How nations are scrambling to outdo each other and put a human being on that moon! How do You feel about that? Is it all right with You that finally we are to have a "man-in-the-moon"?

TUESDAY:

Sometimes, Lord, it seems to me that I just cannot put up with this "worldly madness" any longer; somewhere I must find peace! All around me I see evidence of fear, frustration, insecurity and faithlessness — and it rubs off onto me in spite of all I can do! How do I find peace of mind in the midst of such unrest?

I am reminded that the "God of Peace" comes to those who think about things that are pure, lovely, of good report, etc.

It that the whole answer?

Last Christmas I found a Christmas card called "The Clearing" which illustrated the artist's thought that in the midst of all the glitter and tinsel connected with the celebration of Christmas, Christians can still find a cleared spot where You can be found and especially honored on the date set aside as Your birthday.

Can this be a clue as to how to meet the "world"?

In my home I have deliberately set up beauty centers — "happiness corners" as a teen-age friend calls them.

Lord, since You have seen fit to limit my scene of activity to a great degree, I create "clearings" of beauty in my home where it is possible to brush other things aside and seek peace.

Sometimes I find it; sometimes I don't.

Can you help me understand how to always be sure of finding it, so that I can face the world around me with confidence?

WEDNESDAY:

Today my attention has been called once again to the wonderful young people—our children — who are so sincerely taking up the work of Your Kingdom on earth. There must be hundreds or thousands of them that I know nothing about because mostly we hear about those young people who are, seemingly, bent on taking the world and themselves apart!

But I am very thankful today for our own group of Summer Christian Service Corps young folks. Every summer the number is greater as they find out the joys and sense of fulfillment that come from serving You. We need them, Lord; the world needs them; You need them. My constant hope is that we older ones can fully sense their dedication, give them our support and show them that we have confidence in them and their ability — with Your help.

I remember thinking almost 20 years ago after an especially heart-warming testimony meeting at Conference: "Our young people are on the march, we better get behind them and get out of the way!" They are on the march right now — today — and it is a thrilling thing to see. May we never hold them back with any suggestion that they are not mature enough to handle the job or that they are not sincerely seeking to do Thy will.

I believe in them, Lord! Sure, they will make wrong moves — who doesn't? Sure, they are inexperienced — that's good — they are willing to be led. It seems to me that most of these young folks have been raised to take more responsibility than we did. Sometimes I think of all the children being raised in the midst of older people who are tense and afraid and I wonder how they can come to maturity with any sense of security and mission. But some of them are doing it! Some of them seem to be stronger for the struggle. For these I give special thanks today. They are doing what many of us never have been able to do: They are witnessing to the world — and it thrills me, Lord.

THURSDAY:

Now why should I begin thinking about martyrs tonight, I wonder. I have some definite ideas on the subject that I don't dare share with anyone else, so maybe I will talk them over with You, Lord, and see if that will clear my mind.

It begins with a "wondering"! I wonder why it is that the really dedicated, consecrated Christians with a sense of having been touched by You, personally, feel that they must work themselves into an early grave for Your cause! To me

(Continued on page 14)

A Letter from the Pearsons To Mabel West

April 29, 1969

Dear Miss West,

Thank you for your recent letter. We appreciate hearing from you and enjoy the news of others. We also want to express thanks to those who have sent pictures* in response to our request. Some we will save for teachers to use; others will be given to children as stated before. We appreciate the efforts of everyone who has helped, and for those who may also do so in the future.

Perhaps the women of the board would be interested in some of the news of the women's work here. Since our classes for women last October I have received letters from four of those who were here telling of their work. All have been instrumental in organizing women's groups in their churches. One young lady, Miss E. Kadsuwa, has visited four other churches besides her own, and helped the women to begin meetings each place. We do trust that these are continuing to meet; however, Miss Kadsuwa spoke of difficulties in their communities as there had been many deaths among the church families. In a letter from Mrs. H. Msowa, she tells of a four-day meeting at a neighboring church. Then she asked for more of our duplicated booklets for women's work to give to those among whom she works.

Mrs. H. Mwango, our women's leader who helped in teaching the classes, has written of visiting several different churches. Then she described a meeting at Nansomba Church. She had sent letters to five other churches, asking the women to come together at Nansomba.

She writes, "There were many women. God gave us a good meeting. On Friday, there were eighty at 3 o'clock, and in the

*The above reference in the first paragraph to pictures is for continued mailing of Bible pictures, colored if possible, to the Pearsons for use in their work. These can be clipped from old bulletins, store papers, greeting cards, religious calendars, or magazines. Send as many as you can as often as you can to Rev. David Pearson, Box 337, Blantyre, Malawi, Africa.

evening at 8 o'clock we had thirty-six. That night we did not go to bed. We were studying Scripture together and singing, so we failed to go to bed until the morning of Sabbath at 6 o'clock.

"This is about Sabbath. At 9 o'clock our Sabbath School was held very nicely. At that time there were ninety-seven people. At 12 o'clock, the preaching was given to me (Mrs. H. Mwango) but I was afraid because there were so many people. They filled the church and all the porch along the outside. Men, women, boys and girls were 198. In my sermon I spoke of the loose woman, Proverbs 7:1-27. From these words I talked very much. It was not me, but God using me. When the preaching was finished, we sang a hymn and I called people to come to Christ. During the hymn eighteen people came and offered themselves. I asked Mr. Chilonga to come and we both prayed for these."

How wonderful to have such a response in their service! We assume from our experiences that many of those who came were probably not first time converts, but those who felt estranged from the Lord because of sin. The Lord was working in hearts. We do not recommend all night meetings but such enthusiasm as shown in this indicates their interest and desire to do the Lord's work.

The girls are receiving the *Sabbath Visitor* and do enjoy it. Debbie is interested in following items about some of those she knew in our time in the States.

We have recently finished another course with our ministerial students, David teaching them S. D. B. Polity while they were on their holiday from Likabula. He enjoys very much his opportunities with them.

Just now we are working with the possibility of leasing a plot of land here in Blantyre to build a church. There are certain requirements that must be met if it is to be granted and we are not sure whether we will be able to carry it through or not. Pastor Manani feels it is most urgent to our work to have our church, and of course we agree, too, of its value. If this is granted, we will be in need of funds to help in building the

church. There are some in reserve now, but not sufficient. A pastor's house and possibly another building for guests, committees, courses, etc., would also be desired on the same plot.

We trust that your winter is over now, and that you will be enjoying springtime. We hope you are feeling fine now, and that God's presence is felt near you each day. How wonderful to depend on Him.

In our Savior,
David and Bettie Pearson

LIGHT

Mrs. Earl (Mabel) Cruzan

Light is stronger than darkness. God is Light and the true light that shineth in darkness. The light tells us that God loves us and so this light must be shared and this way of life must be lived.

The theme for our 1969-70 program book for the Women's Societies is, "God Is Light, and in Him Is No Darkness at All" which is taken from John 1:5, our basic Scripture.

The worship theme for each month which has been built around "Light Is in the World" has been developed under five different headings. Under *Christian Fellowship* we have developed "Light Lit by Love" for the month of June and "Fellowship with the Father — Through the Son" for July.

The next three months come under the heading of *Christian Joy*. We have used the themes of: "Making Your Joy Full," "Living This Joyful Way of Life" and "Putting Your Light on a Hill" for all to see rather than hiding it.

Christian Celebrations come next with the themes of "Thanksgiving" and "Christmas" being developed.

Christian Understanding comes in January and February when we try to "Understand Light Versus Darkness" and "Darkness Cannot Destroy Light."

Through *Christian Faith* we develop the idea of "God Is Alive" and that the message of Jesus Christ must be shared with others. "Easter" with its renewal of

faith and life has a message for us all. And where would our faith be without "Christian Mothers" patiently showing us the way? These ideas are developed during the spring months.

We have included some thoughts each month for a program or thoughts to work into your program if you do not care to use all that we have suggested. A worship service for each month has been included with Scripture, meditation and usually suggested hymns.

In the resource envelope you will find several booklets or pamphlets with suggestions on how they might be used. Some of these will be informative subjects, some will be program material, and some will be suggested ideas for helping others.

Included is an article about a former medical missionary to China — Dr. Grace Crandall. A program which we feel could be used in a small or large group is also included. This program uses three readers. Extra copies are available at the Women's Board office in Milton.

We have again included an installation service which we hope will be useful to your group as you install your new officers for the year.

We again ask for your suggestions for next year. What would you like included in the resource material? What would you like left out? What areas of concern would you like material on or what thoughts included? We had a few suggestions this year and to those of you who sent them we are indeed grateful. We used as many of them as we felt we could.

We have tried to be "Sensitive in His Service" in bringing to you the resource materials this year. We trust you will find them of some value.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for June 14, 1969

THE BIBLE IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Lesson Scripture: 1 Tim. 4:11-16;
Eph. 3:7-10; Col. 3:16.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

MISSIONS—Everett T. Harris

Assistant in Evangelism Reports

By Miss Constance Coon

Since last reporting for publication, work has been carried on with the Syracuse, N. Y., church, Berlin and Stephentown church area, and at present work is being done in Richburg.

Syracuse, N. Y.

Sixty calls were made in the area: social, sick, contacting and follow-up for Bible Club members, and contacting former Seventh Day Baptist members to determine interest.

A Bible Club with seven members was organized in Baldwinsville. The program has been designed for a period of six to eight weeks. Waynette and Bryan Burdick and Dee Whitcomb are capably carrying it on.

While I was there I had charge of four sermons and four children's stories as well as attending four meetings with the teen-age group.

I was privileged to attend an area Bible Club Movement dinner with two hundred other guests. Two bowling parties made up the rest of the activities.

Bird's Eye View of Bible Club Work at Berlin and Stephentown, N. Y.

The view is fact — not fiction, thanks to my cousin, Elmer Stuart, who rented a plane and flew us over the area. Amidst the purple of the trees against the snow we saw buses wending their way along the narrow roads — stopping now and then to let off school children. We prayed that they soon would become members of the Bible Clubs. The Lord surely answered our prayers beyond all expectations. For with His guidance and the help of Carol Stuart, a fourth grader, thirty-two youngsters came to the club in Stephentown. A little older girl helped Pastor Maxson and me gather forty young people for the club in Berlin. We praise Him for the response and also for workers to continue the program three more weeks.

Richburg, N. Y.

Three Bible Clubs have been organized in the Richburg area. Ellen and

Cindy McCrea were instrumental in helping round up young people for a club of fourth graders and up who meet on Mondays after school. Fourteen were present at the first meeting.

Melody and Candy Lain helped organize a club which meets in their home on Tuesdays. Twelve were at the first meeting there.

Archery and crafts precede the instructional half hour. Filmstrips with records are being shown on some of the parables. Interest is being created through a point system where they receive one for attendance, one for memory verse, one for each new member they bring and one for church or Sabbath School attendance.

Enthusiasm appears to run high and we pray much that this will be a real spiritual experience for those in attendance.

How the Church in Georgetown Brought Christmas Cheer

By Pastor G. Leyland Bowen*

Georgetown, Guyana

In December 1967 the Georgetown Seventh Day Baptist Church felt the need to give a Christmas basket to the less fortunate in the community, but found that there were no funds available. So in January 1968 a women's society was formed in the church. Among their varied activities throughout the year, the women organized a children's ice cream party as a means of raising funds so they could give out Christmas baskets. Two hundred and fifty children attended the party, besides about twenty adults.

The women not only sold and served ice cream, but they had plenty left over to give away, and the Lord blessed their efforts with a handsome profit of \$G 75. Out of this they prepared 14 Christmas baskets containing food, cloth for dressmaking, and various items. These baskets were joyously carried to the needy and elderly of the community for a happier Christmas in 1968.

*Mr. Bowen's picture appeared on the Missions Page of the May 26 issue. He is president of the Guyana Conference.

Meditations

(Continued from page 10)

it seems that to be touched by You and "called apart" to work especially for You should make them think twice about good stewardship of their time and energy! There are so few who actually feel this sense of oneness with You in this crazy world. Is it right, is it what You want for them to choose to literally work themselves to an early death? Wouldn't it be more sensible to work steadily and devotedly, being mindful of a special mission and the need to keep oneself "in shape" to carry on that mission for many, many years?

One thing is certain: I would never want to put myself in Your shoes. To You belongs the honor of dying to redeem man and I think human beings should remember that dedication to You and Your pattern of living is needed, but no man should think, consciously or unconsciously, that by devoting full time, energy and money to that pattern of living to the extent that it costs his life will leave an impact on the world that will equal the impact Your death made. Sometimes it seems to me that some individuals do think that — but I hope I am wrong!

FRIDAY:

Most days seem to have something of "spice" in them! Today it was a gift of a stereo record. There are some interesting and unusual things being done with stereo records. Take the one of the steam locomotive climbing over the California mountains in the midst of a driving thunderstorm! I still laugh when I remember the first time I heard it. I remember sitting and knitting in my cozy chair by the fireplace and hoping that friends who had been visiting us reached home without getting too wet! It was that realistic!

The record today was one made by a folk-singer who has the blood of the Cherokee nation flowing in his veins: Johnny Cash. He and his wife are giving an "on the spot" account of their visit to the Holy Land in song and conversation. Very different — and interesting — and "folksy."

I fell to wondering why it is that many people would find it disrespectful because the grammar is not quite perfect; the music is not all of "top" quality; and Johnny Cash does not always sing church music! Why should *he* be trying to tell the world about his feelings when visiting the Holy Land!

I wonder, Lord, if I am a "rebel" because I think "Why shouldn't he?" Is there a set, accepted, approved method of witnessing? Are all these different approaches that are being tried to fail utterly because they do not follow the usual pattern? Is there no place for creative thinking and imaginative presentation in the witnessing field?

If I am a rebel, Lord, I ask forgiveness — but naturally I don't think I am! Someway I feel that You would enjoy seeing an awakening among Your followers, a new approach. Not that YOU change, just that people must find new ways to understand You. Aren't these signs of life in the old "body"?

SABBATH:

I am reminded again of the wonderful thing the human mind is. What a lot You must have expected of man to give him a tool like that to work with! No doubt You still expect more of him than he delivers!

Anyway, I have been reading a book on the Sabbath that was written by a Jewish rabbi. It has set my humble mind to searching.

I have kept the Sabbath as a holy day all of my life: a day set aside to do only things for You and to refresh my body, mind and soul. And I'm afraid I will have to admit that it has been mostly to refresh myself.

Now here comes this Jewish rabbi who explains what the Sabbath really meant to the early Jew and what it could mean today. It's beautiful, Lord, and how

NABWU Executive Meeting

Mrs. Charles (Lenora) Saunders

Each year the North American Baptist Women's Union Executive Committee meets to transact necessary business. The committee is composed of the elected officers, presidents of the constituent national women's organizations, along with the employed executive secretaries of the national bodies, the North American women members of the Executive Committee of the Baptist World Alliance and five members at large.

The meeting was held this spring at Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. Mrs. Charles Saunders, vice-president of the Women's Board, represented the president. As a part of the program each president, or representative, was asked to give a five minute report on some phase of women's work in her particular convention. A year ago, the president had explained our Summer Christian Service Corps program. This year Mrs. Saunders outlined the part women have taken during the past hundred years, as well as the present, in the total denominational foreign mission program.

A great deal of planning is being done toward participation of the NABWU in

meetings of the Baptist World Alliance which will be held in Tokyo in July 1970. More information will be available at a later date.

Plans for the Baptist World Day of Prayer in November were discussed. The theme this year will be "Let Us Rise Up and Build." One important point in the discussions brought out the fact that some Baptist groups (ours was one) were not being given proper credit for offering taken on that day because directions are not followed accurately for reporting the offerings on a percentage basis of the denominations represented. This error happens when several Baptist groups meet together but can be avoided by careful reporting. However, we still should plan to meet together with other Baptist groups in the same area because Christian fellowship is strengthened and our work is increased not only in scope but in effectiveness. Barriers are broken down as we come to see ourselves as one in Christ.

Why is church attendance down? Louis Cassels, senior editor of UPI says, "If you persist in handing out stones when people ask for bread they'll finally quit coming to the bakery."

I wish I could fully grasp the thought and the feeling! It explains many of the poetic phrases used in the Bible in connection with the Sabbath and each explanation gives the Sabbath more meaning.

But the idea that keeps trying to come to a focus in my mind is that the Sabbath is not a "thing." It is a segment of time — not something that takes up space!

Our human imaginations tend to put a *shape* to everything. "Thinghood" the Jewish rabbi calls it. He says, "The result of this 'thinginess' is our blindness to all reality that fails to identify itself as a thing."

Yet there is a whole area of living that cannot be identified as having shape and filling up space. This is basically Your territory, Lord, isn't it? Love, fear, faith, spiritual awakening are all good examples. And the real Sabbath belongs in this category!

Oh, how I wish these potentially great minds that you have put into our human frames would stop thinking on "thinginess" long enough to grasp the beauty, the significance, the importance of recognizing the reality of this area of life that does not fill up space! It only takes up time. Can a segment of time be classified as a thing? I wish I could grasp the full meaning. But this I do know: my Bible will be read from a different point of view now — since the Jewish rabbi has said that the Bible is more concerned with time than with space!

Lord, help me to fully understand.

—Caroline Gray

The Sabbath Recorder

STEADFAST

By Mont Hurst

"Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord."

—Psalm 27:14

In the midst of a fierce battle the commander of one army saw that his outnumbered forces were losing the fight. His chief of staff came to him and said, "Sir, I have ordered a retreat." The commander replied, "I know that our general is aware of our predicament and will send reinforcements. Withdraw your order for retreat!" The reinforcement did arrive later in the day and the tide was turned into victory.

God knows of our every problem, affliction, frustration and need. If we release our faith to Him we will instinctively know that He is aware of our need and will send deliverance before we are engulfed in defeat. Sometimes, in our frenzy of fear and excitement, we fail to realize He sees all and knows all and is going to deliver us. It is our part to endure the situation or difficulty, intensify our faith, and expect the miracle of His deliverance. In His Word in Isaiah 40:31, He tells us, "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength." Do we need more assurance than this? God cannot lie. He will fulfill His Promise.

Almighty God, I stand steadfast in thy will and power.

Baptist Crusade Campaign Flourishing in Mexico

The Crusade of the Americas, a massive Baptist-led evangelistic campaign in the Western Hemisphere, is getting off to a flying start in Mexico, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board reports.

The Rev. Ervin E. Hastey, Crusade coordinator for Mexico and Central America, said 20 churches of the Guerrero Baptist association registered 592 professions of faith following a one-week campaign in late January.

The campaign is featuring three main regional meetings, March 30-April 6 in the central sector of Mexico; May 25-June 1 in the north; and October 12-19 in the south.

—ABNS

One Nation Under God

In the National Presbyterian Church of Washington, D. C., the church which Dwight D. Eisenhower joined in 1953 when he was president, has commemorated a significant event of his presidency with a special window. In the Chapel of the Presidents a faceted-glass window has been placed that shows President Eisenhower signing the 1954 law which added the words "under God" to the pledge of allegiance to the flag. The whole pledge is worked into the window design. At a time when some are trying to remove all reference to God in public and school life it is encouraging to recall that under Eisenhower a recognition of God as sovereign was written into law, and a fitting memorial in glass now preserves that event.

Happy

Anniversary!

Birthdays make us humble. They remind us that the life we enjoy came to us not from our own effort but from the parents before us. It is much the same with the birthday of a periodical, especially one that is 125 years old. The SABBATH RECORDER was born and named a long time ago through the efforts of people who can now be remembered only by the heritage they left. We of the present generation and those of us who put effort regularly into this publication are grateful on this birthday occasion for the foresight and effort of those who started this periodical and brought it along the way to our day.

ENJOY
ATTEND
BIBLE SABBATH
Seventh Day Baptist
Churches