

The Sabbath Recorder

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Contrasts in the "Holy City"

In modern Jerusalem the old and the new are in evidence. Here a Hasidic Jew (not a rabbi) asks directions of an Israeli policeman. A group of Hasidic Jews dressed much like this one paraded for peace in front of the United Nations Building recently. A small sect of ultra orthodox Jews, they do not believe in defending the state of Israel, contending that they are a people, not a nation. Though some live in Israel they are out of step with the strong nationalism of the orthodox and the liberal Israelis.

The Sabbath Recorder

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Blessed Are the Peacemakers

Hardly another verse in the Sermon on the Mount touches and challenges us as deeply as, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God." Taken in context these words have primary reference to small scale human relations, the disputes that might be carried to court or lead to blows. Blessed are the peacemakers who step in to calm both sides and restore good relations. We like to think, however, that the blessing can be broadened to include those people of Christ-inspired irenic spirit who strive to prevent or to end those large-scale disputes and wars between nations. Such people are indeed entitled to the blessing of their fellowmen, though they do not always get it. Jesus said of them, "They shall be called the children of God."

In a recent issue of an NCC publication *Tempo* major space was taken in descriptions of an organized visit to the place of detention of draft card burners and others who more or less violently demonstrated their conscientious objection, not to all war, but to the Vietnam war. It was a sort of pilgrimage, with the number of visitors and entertainers perhaps exceeding the number of men under detention in the prison at Allenwood, Pa. The three-column red-letter caption over the article was the beatitude quoted above. There is no question about the virtue of visiting people who are in prison — as convicted criminals or for law breaking on the basis of conscience. There might be, however, a little question of the appropriateness of applying "Blessed are the peacemakers" to this particular group of inmates. It would be unwarranted to assume, if we can trust the news media reports of incidents leading to conviction, that all of these young men are true peacemakers. Fair-minded officers and judges would call many of them troublemakers lacking the good qualities of law-abiding citizens. Furthermore, under the new definition of conscientious objector that is being advocated, one does not have to believe in a Supreme Being to be entitled to conscientious objector status. If some of these men (as is probable) do not

believe in God, the editors of *Tempo* should have left off the last half of that quotation "They shall be called the children of God." If the last part cannot be applied, the blessing cannot be claimed either, no matter if there is justification for some of their actions.

The term "peacemaker" insofar as it is biblical should be reserved, as intimated above, to men in whom the peace of God has come to dwell through Christ. There are many others besides the draft card burners who have little right to march under a peace banner.

Take for instance the "peace" or anti-Vietnam War demonstration that harassed the Inauguration Day parade in Washington. According to reports the "peace people" hurled invectives, obscenities and brickbats at the presidential car. A contingent of National Guardsmen was rushed to the scene to forestall violence. Later groups of these same peace demonstrators embarked on a window-breaking, store-looting expedition, which also was thwarted by the forces of law. What a shame that the good name of peacemaker gets dragged in the mud by people whose ulterior motives are not hard to see.

At the same time violence, trespass, and vandalism are committed at Columbia and other universities by those who are against the Vietnam War and the presence of armed services recruiting personnel on the campus. These acts of violence are under the direction of SDS (Students for a Democratic Society). Many of these leaders have been shown to be committed to international communism. The motivation is not peace but something quite different.

Let there be a great effort to establish a just and durable peace, not only in Vietnam but in all the world. But let us try to see clearly the issues involved. It is not necessary to accept the defeatist philosophy, "Better to be Red than dead." Let us follow closely the Prince of Peace. We will then be entitled to the blessing of the beatitude.

FEBRUARY 10, 1969

Marriage Meditation

It is said that marriages are made in heaven. We like to believe it, but we have to remember that even when matches are made in heaven they are lived out on earth, and earth is not a perpetually perfect marriage bower. If we read the Bible correctly as to the origin of sin Satan himself was once in heaven before coming to plague us here on earth. It would appear that true love emanating from paradise can degenerate here on earth unless we give it some help by constantly remembering the sacredness of the marriage relationship.

Most marriage ceremonies make some reference to the first marriage in the Garden of Eden, otherwise known as paradise. A few thoughts have come to me as I read again these first chapters of Genesis at the beginning of the new year. The story of the marriage of Adam and Eve is beautiful. The creation of man in Genesis 1 notes in a summary way, "In the image of God created he him; male and female created he them." Genesis 2 gives the reason and sets forth the method. The story is structured not around creation of the woman except as this contributes to the institution of marriage, with which the chapter ends.

It isn't often wise to ask why God did it this way instead of some other, but here the reason seems quite clear. God could have made woman out of nothing or out of the dust of the earth as He did Adam, but He chose to do it differently to teach a lesson that should last as long as the earth endures.

God performed orthopedic surgery on Adam, complete with anesthesia and postoperative techniques that sound pretty modern. He caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam. It takes something more than natural sleep for the removal of a complete rib. With the rib removed He "closed up the flesh," as surgeons do. When Adam revived from this divine anesthesia, the Lord told him what He had done. The parallel with modern orthopedic surgery ends with the suturing and healing of the incision. God, we are told made something of that rib, something that human orthopedics can by no

MEMORY TEXT

Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law. Proverbs 4:1, 2.

means do. He made another complete body of a different gender and invested it with life and with love. When Adam heard what God had done and saw what God had made, there was a marriage in paradise. He commented, "This is now bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh." Was it God or Adam or the inspired writer who added those familiar words referred to by Christ, "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife"? The writer adds, "And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed." This is the ideal marriage relationship. A few chapters later in the case of Noah after the flood the shame of nakedness is clearly spelled out.

What more can be said about the ideal marriage than is contained in this story of Adam and Eve before paradise was lost? There is not too much hint here of the dominance of man over woman in the marriage relation. It is true, as Paul says, that man was made first and then woman, but that is not a point to be stressed. Adam emphasized the fact that they were one; the rib did not signify superiority but unity and equality.

If we would be practical and realistic we would have to say that not every union bears the marks of having been made in heaven and therefore destined to be blissful "till death doth separate you." However, the New Testament in Gospels and Epistles indicates that even under less than ideal circumstances the union makes them "of one flesh." We must strive for the ideal and keep Eden in mind.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for February 22, 1969

WHEN RELIGION IS VITAL

Lesson Scripture: Mark 7:1-5, 9-15.

Distributing Special Issues

The February special issue of the *Sabbath Recorder* has been mailed to subscribers and to churches and individuals who ordered quantities for distribution. The corresponding secretary urges speedy distribution of these tract-type *Recorders*, not just waiting for visitors to pick them up. There are good reasons for urgency.

(1) The urgency of getting to work. This is one of the best times of the year for consistent, purposeful visitation with tracts. The gift of a magazine along with your tracts makes a very acceptable combination.

(2) This particular issue has more dated material in it than usual. The news of denominational work, though readable at any time will have more meaning if read within the next month or two.

(3) If you have run out of February special issues by March or April you will be more anxious to have the May special that comes in time to use on Sabbath Rally Day.

Having read the issue edited by Ethel Dickinson you may wish you had ordered more. There are only a few hundred left over, which will go on a first-come, first-served basis. One "lucky" church planning to distribute literature at a county fair may get 200 for the price of 100 (\$8.50), thanks to our matching fund program.

How We Answer

When God calls us to go forth for Christ, we may think we are answering, "Anywhere." Usually the Lord finds that we have qualified that answer. It is either, "Anywhere but somewhere else," or "Anywhere but here." How can we be sure that we will have the wisdom or the courage to witness anywhere else if we decline to witness where we are? It would be easier for the healed demoniac to serve in another country, but Jesus told him to face his neighbors.

Commission's Column

Bylaws Revision

The Commission is proceeding with its study and plan for presenting certain amendments to the bylaws of the General Conference to its 1969 session for approval. This study was assigned to a committee composed of George Parrish, Clarence Rogers and Leland Bond.

Following the initial presentation of the bylaws to General Conference in Kearney, Nebraska, last year, churches and individuals were presented multi-graphed and printed materials to be used in making a thorough study. They were asked to report their reactions and suggestions prior to the midyear meeting of the Commission. A gratifying number of individuals and churches submitted interesting reactions and helpful suggestions. The Commission is aware that other churches, groups, and individuals are making, or are planning to make, these studies and would encourage them and others to submit reports to the general secretary at early convenience and prior to June 1.

At the midyear Commission meetings following a sharing of the responses received, a number of additional revisions and additional amendments were drafted, and it was decided that an addendum reflecting these changes should be prepared and sent to the churches for their further consideration prior to the General Conference session to be held August 10-16 in Nyack, New York.

Rev. Victor Skaggs was asked to investigate the parliamentary ruling as to how amendments should be handled at General Conference. He informed the Commission that *Robert's Rules of Order* has a specific rule in this matter and such a ruling will be circulated prior to Conference time. Certain amendments will be in order for action if delegates so desire at General Conference this August.

Publications Planned

Preliminary research is underway in anticipation of publishing or republishing three helpful denominational books during the next few years.

The Board of Christian Education through its executive secretary has sought bids on printing a second edition of the book *You and Your Church*. It is anticipated that when revised copy including certain changes have been prepared that copy will be submitted to the Seventh Day Baptist Publishing House for printing this year.

Research and writing continues on Volume III of *Seventh Day Baptists in Europe and America* under the direction of the Rev. Albert N. Rogers, historian of the Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society. It is anticipated that this volume will be ready for publication early in 1970.

Encouragement was given to the Committee on Faith and Order with Leon Lawton serving as the present chairman to proceed with the preparation of copy for the revised Manual of Seventh Day Baptist Procedure. The General Conference this year will be asked to give official authorization to the end that an editor may be named and that the preparation and printing of this publication may be programmed in the near future.

The general secretary has been asked by the Commission to call together representatives from these various concerned groups to coordinate the printing of these and other periodicals during the next few years.

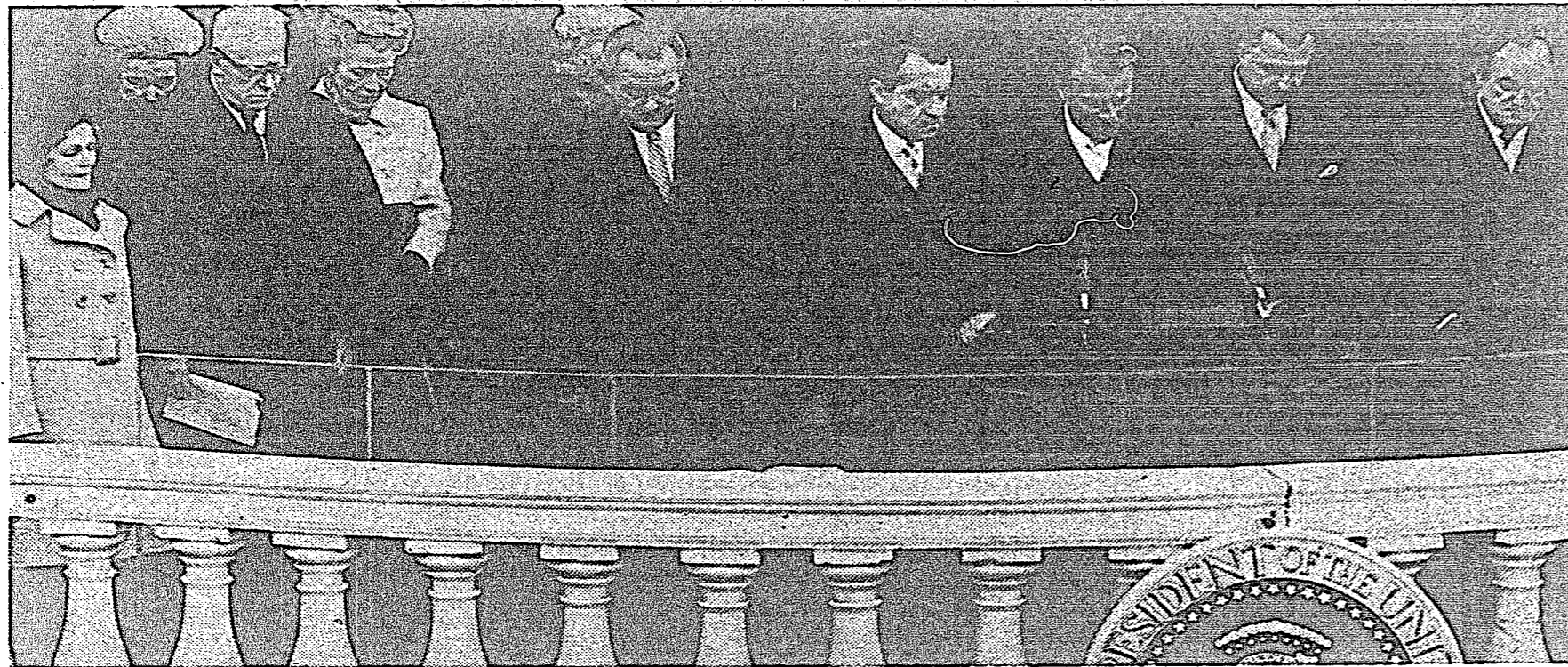
Extending of Our World Mission

The preparation of tentative requirements for the boards and agencies participating in Our World Mission requires diligent work of all persons involved and the Commission appreciates the extended work and diligent accomplishments of its stewardship chairman, the Rev. Paul Osborn.

A number of boards and agencies submitted their budget askings for the last quarter of 1969 and the calendar year of 1970. After holding a combined meeting with the executive leaders of our boards and agencies, the Commission proceeded to prepare an acrostic financial chart introducing several modifications which it deemed advisable and necessary. A fur-

(Continued on page 7)

Inauguration Prayer of Billy Graham, January 20, 1969



Evangelist Billy Graham offers prayer for the nation at the inauguration of Richard Milhous Nixon as 37th American President. Standing behind the podium are (from left) Mrs. Nixon, Chief Justice Earl Warren, President Lyndon B. Johnson, President-elect Nixon, Vice President-elect Spiro T. Agnew, Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey.

Our Father and our God, Thou hast said, "Blessed is that nation whose God is the Lord." We recognize on this historic occasion that we are "a nation under God." We thank Thee for this torch of faith handed to us by our forefathers. May we never let it be extinguished. Thou alone hast given us our prosperity, our freedom and our power. This faith in God is our heritage and our foundation!

Thou hast warned us in the Scriptures, "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" As George Washington reminded us in his farewell address, morality and faith are the pillars of our society. We confess these pillars are being eroded in an increasingly materialistic and permissive society. The whole world is watching to see if the faith of our fathers will stand the trials and tests of the hour. Too long we have neglected Thy word and ignored Thy laws. Too long we have tried to solve our problems without reference to Thee. Too long we have tried to live by bread alone. We have sown to the wind and are now reaping a whirlwind of crime, division, and rebellion.

And now with the wages of our sins staring us in the face, we remember Thy words, "If my people who are called by my Name shall humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

Help us this day to turn from our sins and to turn by simple faith to the One who said, "Ye must be born again."

So we pray, "O God, as we enter a new era, that we as a nation may experience a moral and spiritual restoration.

Thou hast said, "Promotion comes not from the east nor from the west, but from Thee." We acknowledge Thy divine help in the selection of our leadership each four years. We recognize, O Lord, that in Thy sovereignty Thou has permitted Richard Nixon to lead us at this momentous hour of our history.

We beseech Thee that he will have Thy divine guidance and power daily. Help him as Thou didst help Thy servants of old. Our Father, we know his burdens and responsibilities will be overwhelming. He will hold in his hands the destiny of more people than any man in history. O God, our new President

needs Thee as no man ever needed Thee in leading a people! There will be times when he will be overwhelmed by the problems at home and abroad that have been building up to the breaking point for many years. Protect him from physical danger. And in the lonely moments of decision grant him an uncompromising courage to do what is morally right. Give him a cool head and a warm heart. Give him a compassion for those in physical, moral, and spiritual need. We pray that Thou wilt so guide Richard Nixon in handling the affairs of state that the whole world will marvel and glorify Thee.

O God, we consecrate Richard Milhous Nixon to the Presidency of these United States with the assurance that from this hour on, as he and his family move into the White House, they will have the presence and the power of Thy Son who said, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee."

What we pray for President Nixon we pray for Vice President Agnew and members of the Cabinet. May they be given a wisdom and a courage that is beyond their own. Bless them as a team to lead America to the dawning of a new day with renewed trust in God that will lead to peace, justice, and prosperity.

We pray this humbly in the Name of the Prince of Peace who shed His blood on the Cross that men might have eternal life. Amen.

Extending of Our World Mission

(Continued from page 5)

ther communication is being directed to those who are participating as recipients from OWM giving with the invitation to register possible adjusted askings before the Commission meets the week prior to Conference session.

Increasingly generous support of OWM will be sought during the current Conference year enabling us to honor our many commitments as we seek to continue aggressively and enthusiastically to labor and to witness in the name of Jesus Christ.

Time to Talk Turkey About OWM Giving

Are We Killing the Geese?

I'm sure you've heard the story, so I won't repeat it, but after talking and comparing notes with eight other Seventh Day Baptist pastors in the past few days I want to make an application about the need of *Our World Mission* for golden eggs!

Who gives the money to keep the work of *Our World Mission* going? Why, you do! You who are active in your local church. The pastors I spoke with represent some of our strongest and some of our smallest churches. But they all had one thing in common. They were trying their best to carry out evangelistic programs in their own areas, and as one pastor put it, "Programs cost money."

It should be considered a sign of success that more churches are finding it difficult to keep up with the demands of their own expanding evangelistic programs and also respond to increasing OWM commitments. This is a kind of difficulty we can cope with gladly! It is when a *dying* church (of a hundred or so members, perhaps) does nothing but whimper about the 'hard times' and fails to pray for spiritual revival that we run into difficulties that are really discouraging.

Keep the local church active! Keep it going and growing for God's glory! No matter how small or how large, each Seventh Day Baptist church shares in *Our World Mission*. All of the ten boards and agencies that share the receipts from *Our World Mission* depend upon the health of the local Seventh Day Baptist church not only for their finances but also to give them a reason for existence! Through the Stewardship Chairman they promote the budget needs of O.W.M., but none want the budget raised at the expense of losing the vital root of our work, *your own local church!*

Budget promotion is only half the job. Stewardship education is the primary task, and stewardship must closely parallel real spiritual growth. I do not believe that our concept of Christian steward-

ship improves without a corresponding increase in our spiritual life. Which comes first? Try it both ways, and let me know! But you can't have one without the other.

The financial needs of *Our World Mission* will be met only through active, spiritually healthy churches. With ever expanding fields of service before us, we can't afford to lose any geese!

—Paul B. Osborn
Stewardship Chairman

Past Tense Troubles

By Mont Hurst*

"We were troubled on every side: without were fightings, within were fears" (2 Cor. 7:5).

No one can say that he has never been faced with troubles and fears. Fear does not come from God. God has no part of it. He is the author of victory. The devil is the author of fear. We can be beset by fears, troubles and afflictions that can overwhelm us if we forget that God's power is ours. It is wonderful to know we have been troubled and fearful about some things and then to realize that God within us has given us victory. We can know the fact that we *were* in such a condition, but not now, thanks to His mercy, love and power.

The words in the passage of Scripture above are most meaningful. They include, "We *were* troubled" in past tense. Job was troubled like no man. He was troubled on every side and in every way. But, faithful to God, he lived to see the day he could truthfully say, "I *was* troubled, but no more!" He was firm in faith and would have died for it if necessary. His cries turned into paeans of joy and victory in the end. He could look on his past and shout praises to Jehovah for deliverance and more abundance than before. We can be like Job as we release our faith and wait with confidence and patience for His sure deliverance.

Heavenly Father, I was troubled but Thou hast delivered me.

*Mr. Hurst of Dallas, Tex., is a free lance writer for religious periodicals. He has made several short articles available to the Sabbath Recorder without his usual charge.

MISSIONS—Everett T. Harris

Preparing a Church for Revival

By Rev. Leon R. Lawton

(Adapted from COTA Evangelism Guidebook)

God always dedicated adequate time to thorough preparation. According to astronomers and scientists, He spent hundreds of millions of years preparing this universe for man before the miracle of the creation of man. He spent eighty years preparing his servant Moses for the work to which He called him. Thousands of years of human history were dedicated to the preparation of the world for the coming of Christ "in the fullness of time."

The marvelous results of the day of Pentecost were preceded by three years of careful preparation of the disciples and by forty days of companionship with the resurrected Christ. Moreover, the victories of that day were preceded by ten days of intensive preparation in the upper room. The history of revivals in modern times reveals intensive spiritual and organizational preparation before the time of evangelistic campaign. This was true in the experiences of Moody and Finney. It is likewise true in the work of Billy Graham, so marvelously blessed by God. Revival must begin with people of God — in the churches — if spiritual awakening is to come to a society.

In order to experience victory in any evangelistic campaign, whether in a church or community, adequate preparation is essential. Basic biblical principles of preparation include: (1) the preparation of the heart of the believers — of the pastor, as well as of the other church members; (2) the witness of Christians who have been trained and prepared to become winners of souls; (3) the cultivation of the unsaved — creating a spiritual thirst, arousing interest, breaking through prejudices and other barriers; (4) the preaching of the gospel and the giving of the invitation (for which prayerful and intellectual preparation must be made). It is also necessary to prepare in advance of the evangelistic campaign for the conservation of the results, that is, for the indoctrination and spiritual

growth of new believers, leading them to commitment, baptism, participation in the church fellowship.

In order to lead the church to maximum spiritual preparation various committees are needed. The pastor must lead in all phases of the preparation but the pastor needs the assistance of many involved members praying and working on the various committees to involve all church members in preparation and participation, seeking genuine revival.

Revival must sometimes begin with the pastor and spread to the church and through the church to the community. Revival is only a vital renewal of personal dedication to the Lord and willing obedience to His Word. Five steps in personal preparation for revival are clear:

1. Daily devotional Bible reading: to nourish one's own soul; expecting the Holy Spirit to speak; willing to make personal corrections in obedience to His leadership; to strengthen faith; to proclaim the Word.
2. Prayer: in conjunction with the reading of the Word of God, listening for God to speak.
3. Meditate on the grace of God: His dealings with men of old and of our day.
4. Contemplate the spiritual condition and needs of the unsaved: to be moved with ever-enlarging compassion.
5. Study and practice personal evangelism: sharing one's faith and Christian experience openly and gladly.

1969 is the Year of Proclamation — "They went everywhere preaching the Word" (Acts 8:4) — the year of outreach, revival, evangelism in the local church. You, who read these words, are the key!

A special packet of material is being sent to all churches (pastors, clerks, moderators) to aid in planning a visitation program in the spring and special evangelistic services in the fall of 1969. It is for you to use in His service.

New Life for All

By Rev. David C. Pearson

The Week of Prayer, sponsored by the Evangelical Association of Malawi, featured a "New Life for All" seminar when it met at the Kwacha National Cultural Centre of Blantyre during the fall of last year.

The seminar was led by the general secretary of the "New Life for All" movement, the Rev. Wilfred Bellamy, assisted by the Rev. Yukubu Yako, a Nigerian pastor.

"New Life for All" is an evangelistic program in which evangelical Christians of various denominations work together to the salvation of men and the glory of Jesus Christ.

It has been found highly successful in West Africa, and is similar to the "Evangelism in Depth" plan used in Central and South America.

"New Life for All" is not a campaign, nor a series of evangelistic meetings towards which men build, but is rather a movement in which Christians are engaged, not for three weeks or even six months, but until Christ comes.

The plan is systematic, highly organized, and employs various methods of Christian witness designed to produce nothing short of new life in Christ Jesus. Lists of individuals are made, and these are prayed for in daily prayer meetings. Entire villages are covered, and converts are encouraged to join churches near them, churches where Christ is preached in truth.

Personally the writer has been fond of the mass meeting, and appreciates greatly that God has once again been glorified in recent years through the use of this method. But even the mass meeting which deals with thousands, has for its intent the singling out of individual souls, to be dealt with one by one insofar as possible.

Though the mass meeting should be employed to advantage, the writer admits that personal witness is an even greater tool. Whereas the mass meeting is conducted by the "specialist minority," personal work may be engaged in by practically anyone who loves our Lord Jesus

Christ and desires to serve Him. Mere example of life, however good, is not adequate. Verbal witness is a must.

Clergymen honestly know that they cannot hope to win the world to Christ by their own efforts, apart from the laity. Under present world conditions prospects for world evangelization are nil, unless the great majority of Christendom come to actual participation in the confrontation of men with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The situation is absolutely dire and calls for "new life." Men are hopelessly lost, "dead in trespasses and sins, bound for eternal destruction; yet the majority of Christians seem totally unaware of man's true plight. Christ indeed is our only hope, and should be preached in all the wisdom and power available unto men. The Spirit of God is willing to anoint our sincere efforts that "New Life for All" might have a chance among men.

All true methods of evangelism may be employed, and all Christians should enlist in this truly great cause that "new life" might be shared with those who have it not.

Pocket Testament League

The Pocket Testament League, founded in England in 1893 and launched in America in 1908, is a non-denominational ministry dedicated to extension of the Christian faith through free distribution of the Scriptures coupled with mass evangelism. During the past 60 years, PTL missionaries have given out more than 30 million Gospels of John in over 100 countries, printed in the language of each particular area. The present goal, Mr. Smith indicated, is distribution of 5 million Scriptures per year.

"Never before in history," says J. Edward Smith, international director, "have so many people, throughout the world, been so receptive to the preached and printed Word of God as they are today.

Human Relations in the Factory

The scene is a relatively small factory manufacturing electric fans in an eastern city of 50,000. Employees are both skilled and unskilled. As in other factories the management now employs a much higher percentage of Negroes than a few years ago — not without some problems of efficiency and human relations.

The day is the anniversary of the shooting of Dr. Martin Luther King. The Negro employees get into a cluster to discuss taking the day off to register their recognition of that great civil rights leader. They are pretty well agreed to that idea when one of their number, Rufus, persuades them not to leave their work. "What will you do with the day off?" he asks. "You will do nothing constructive; most of you will get drunk and waste your money," he tells them. "This is no way to honor Martin Luther King. How much better to stay on the job today and contribute \$10 each for aid to the starving Biafrans." Matching his deeds to his words he took \$10 from his pocket to start a collection. Reluctantly some of them followed his lead with their contributions. They stayed on the job and had money left over besides their gifts.

Some of the white employees and supervisory personnel were a little skeptical about an unauthorized collection like this. They, too, followed the leadership of one young man who had been there quite a few years and was a respected leader among them. He suggested making a list of names and contributions and started it off with his own gift. By afternoon the contributions from men in that small factory reached a total of \$271. Nearly everyone took part.

Instead of a rift between black and white a new solidarity was felt. Rufus had led the way. Religiously motivated men on the floor had made their religion practical and by so doing bridged a gap in human relations that might have widened.

—Editor

"Elijah was a man of like passions as we are, but, alas, we are not men of like prayer as he was." —L. Ravenhill.

NCC Board Met in Memphis

National and world church representatives moved from policy making to personal involvement in a community's search for justice, January 21-24, as the General Board of the National Council of Churches of Christ met in Memphis, Tennessee.

While adopting only one resolution on Czechoslovakia, the delegates devoted extended time to discussion of reports on Alcohol Problems, Through-the-Week Christian Education Curriculum, Social Violence, Ghetto Community Development, the Police as "Keepers of the Peace," Nigeria-Biafra Suffering and Starvation, and the NCC — Roman Catholic Relations.

During the sessions, a black power group of young people called the "Invaders" were granted time to tell of their crusade for a better community which concluded in an appeal to the Christian Church to help strengthen their cause and to make a \$51,000 grant for community development from church funds.

On Wednesday noon, the General Board members led a march of some 500 persons to the Lorraine Hotel, site of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., for an appropriate memorial service.

Resolution on Czechoslovakia

The General Board, noting the continued, oppressive situation in Czechoslovakia and acknowledging that our country itself has been guilty of oppression,

1) reaffirms its "Resolution on Czechoslovakia" of September 13, 1968,

2) expresses its sadness and horror at conditions that produce the terrible desperation of self-immolation;

3) again assures our brethren in Czechoslovakia, especially those in the churches, that they are not forgotten but on the contrary have our solidarity and prayers, and

4) directs the officers to send the September 13, 1968, resolution and this action to the appropriate officials of the United States Government.

Study on Alcohol Problems

A thirty-one page report on Alcohol Problems was presented by a task force of some thirty-three persons.

A task force of some thirty-five persons had been named a year ago: (1) "To receive in behalf of the NCCC the Cooperative Commission on the Study of Alcoholism report and to recommend to the member communions and the NCCC action regarding the report; and (2) To recommend to the Division of Christian Life and Mission of the NCCC, based on the response to the report and other factors, next steps that ought to be taken to carry forward the program." The report was discussed at length and personal testimonials of concern regarding alcoholism were shared after which it was agreed to have the report printed for wide distribution among the churches for study.

WCC leaders in attendance included Dr. Eugene Carson Blake, general secretary, and Dr. M. M. Thomas, chairman of the WCC Central Committee.

The next General Board meeting will be held in New York City May 1-2.

—Alton L. Wheeler,
General Board member

THE COWBOY'S PRAYER

*When the Master of the prairie
Rides the roundup of life,
And cuts out all who wear His brand
In dust and dirt and strife,*

*I don't want to be a maverick
Or wear the brand of sin,
But I want the marking of the Cross
And so be counted in.*

*To be herded to the Home Ranch
Where pastures all are green,
And water comes gurgling
The flowery banks between*

*So may I live, so may I do,
Wherever I may be,
That all the promises so sure
May always be for me.*

Paul H. Hummel

National Vocations Office

The national Vocations Office for Seventh Day Baptists is located in Richburg, N. Y. The office is still in the process of organization for effective use, and the vocations secretary, Mr. Robert Stohr, asks for suggestions that will speed up the process. Primarily the office will serve as a clearinghouse for those who have services to render and for those who can use the service. Churches and individuals are urged to send to Mr. Stohr a list of opportunities in their neighborhoods that will give Seventh Day Baptists an opportunity to earn a livelihood and worship on the Sabbath. Write to Mr. Robert Stohr, Box 33, Richburg, NY 14774.

We Recommend

For study by Christian Education Committees and/or Young Adult Sabbath School classes we recommend the book *Education for Change* by Joseph D. Ban (Judson Press, paperback, \$1.95).

This book interprets the ministry of Christian teaching in a world of radical change. The "teaching-learning" concept is given a dynamic treatment in such chapters as "Mission Amidst Revolution," "Shapes of Change," "Love in Learning," and "The Congregation—Rendezvous for Mission." While a special chapter provides a lucid treatment of the "crossing point" this challenging concept is illustrated throughout the entire book.

Of special interest to educational leaders, *Education for Change* will have meaning for the entire congregation, since teaching is the ministry of the whole church.

**Seventh Day Baptist
Biennial Ministers Conference**

This conference is scheduled to meet in Salem, W. Va., April 30 to May 6, 1969. The meetings will commence with luncheon on April 30 and end with the evening service on May 6.

Two main topics will be presented through ten lectures: *Proclaiming the Gospel* and *The Relevancy of the Sab-*

bath. The lectures will be discussed in groups. There will be periods of worship, singing and recreation. On Sabbath Day the ministers will be free to attend any one of the nearby Seventh Day Baptist churches.

The place of meeting was chosen by vote of the ministers upon receiving invitations from three churches (the one receiving an insignificant majority found that it was impossible to entertain this year). The time of the meetings was chosen by the ministers. The topics for discussion were chosen by the ministers and through suggestions from General Conference. The annual meeting was changed to biennial several years ago by vote of the ministers because of expense and time involved.

We urge each of our churches, if at all possible, to make it feasible for ministers to attend Ministers Conference for the following reasons:

Our General Conference has asked all churches to release their pastors for periods of study and to help defray the expense involved.

Our lecturers have spent many hours in preparation for this particular event, and they deserve to be heard by as many as can come.

Experience has shown that those who attend are renewed in spirit and have gained new insights related to the needs and fulfillments of their office.

Bibles in Space

When the three astronauts left this earth, they were not sure that they were not going into eternity. They apparently had given that matter some thought. All three of them agreed that out there on that journey around the moon they felt nearer to God. In their space vehicle they had three copies of the King James Version of the Bible from which they took turns in reading to the world on Christmas Eve. Colonel Borman said that the Bibles were in fireproof wrappings. Facetiously one might ask why they were fireproofed. Didn't they know where they were going? Or were they thinking of that fiery reentry into our "hell on earth"?

**World Day of Prayer March 7
Growing Together in Christ**

There are few common bonds which unite different people in this age of conflict between rich and poor, traditional and revolutionary, old and young, educated and uneducated — conflicts which are apparent in all walks of life.

But one bond which annihilates differences, if only momentarily, and serves to heal divisions, is prayer. United prayer has become more important as it brings diverse people back to the touchstone of their faith and gives them the will to be reconcilers in the world.

Although the results of man's inventions have brought us all in closer physical touch with each other, too often hearts remain unmoved by things seen but not understood. The need for hearts to open in understanding is the primary concern of Church Women United. Their World Day of Prayer theme this year, "Growing Together in Christ," is the beginning of a new reality.

That Christian women are growing closer is evidenced by several new aspects of the coming March 7 celebration. Planned since 1887 by American women the content of this worldwide observance is now determined by an international World Day of Prayer committee, using Church Women United's staff to carry out its direction.

It is expected that the World Day of Prayer will bring record numbers of women to services this year. A chief reason for the increasing number of worshipers at the celebration is the fact that all over the world Roman Catholic women are joining their Protestant and Orthodox sisters.

Offerings from World Day of Prayer in the United States will strengthen particular aspects of the church's outreach and ministry. In addition to continuing projects in Christian colleges overseas, literature, migrant ministry, international students, Christian home and family life, Indian Americans, two new projects for 1969 relate specifically to the "Grow-

ing Together in Christ" theme. The first is related to a ministry of reconciliation and healing in our nation at this time of urban crisis by developing pilot projects of dialogue across the barriers that divide communities. This will involve bringing women of different economic levels, racial and ethnic backgrounds together to help change attitudes where white racism is preventing openness and real community.

The World Day of Prayer now held in 130 countries is a significant ecumenical expression, the growth of which can be attributed to the work of lay women.

—Public Relations Department
Church Women United

Our Prayer Corner

"Men ought always to pray and not to faint."

"But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet."

"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

Suggestions for Prayer This Week

Pray for:

1) Our newest churches and fellowships, particularly on the West Coast from San Diego to Washington, including the fellowship at Phoenix, Arizona.

2) Our oldest churches on the East Coast, that their fire may burn brightly for this new generation.

3) The churches in the Eastern Association which must furnish the committees to arrange all needed facilities and comforts at Nyack, N. Y., for our 1969 General Conference.

4) Greater consecration and courage in all our churches to prepare for and make a significant effort in evangelism during 1969 — the Crusade of the Americas year.

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

**Crusade of Americas
on Commercial TV**
By Dallas M. Lee

In the boldest move by any denomination to use television for direct appeal, Southern Baptists have produced a series of three evangelistic color telecasts as part of their role in the hemisphere-wide Crusade of the Americas. They hope to reach 75 percent of a nationwide, prime-time television audience.

The \$175,000 effort is not too surprising, however, in light of the crusade objectives of sparking church renewal, evangelizing the continents and motivating Christian ministries of understanding and compassion to the disinherited.

The television concept was first articulated in Cali, Colombia, where Baptist representatives from North and South America set the objectives for the hemisphere crusade.

Paid prime time sounded great. Television has never been used this way by a denomination. It would be a new use of the medium.

As the idea caught on, the Home Mission Board turned to the SBC Radio and Television Commission to produce whatever the final product was to be. Jack Stanton and Oklahoma evangelism leader J. A. Pennington began work on the idea.

"We thought of filming the crusade rallies," Stanton said, "but cost was prohibitive and it seemed a little provincial anyway."

They then turned to Billy Graham, the Southern Baptist who has more experience than anyone in TV evangelism. With his help and that of radio-TV commentator Paul Harvey, Stanton and Radio and TV Commission technicians and writers turned out three color telecasts, short on preaching and long on lively music and commentary.

"We didn't want a church service but a more personal confrontation," Stanton said.

First in the series is "The Seeking Generation," a 30-minute production aimed at American youth featuring a young Oklahoma Baptist singing group called the Tuneclippers.

The second production zooms in and out on the nation—"The Two American Dreams."

The third and final telecast concerns "The Home and Revolution," and the role of the church in mediating between the two.

In each of the telecasts, Evangelist Billy Graham sits and talks conversationally for eight to 10 minutes to put commitment to Christ in the context of each emphasis.

The series is being marketed to 39 local television stations across the country — primarily metropolitan areas such as New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Dallas, St. Louis and Jackson, Miss.

The series is planned for March 31, April 1 and April 3, although these dates will vary. Some stations, apparently, will be showing the series on consecutive Sunday afternoons.

Catholic - Protestant Biafra Relief



James MacCracken (right), executive director of Church World Service, accepts a check for \$70,000 for aid to Biafrans from Richard Cardinal Cushing of Boston, while Monsignor Andrew P. Landi, assistant executive director of Catholic Relief Services, is handed a check for the same amount by Donald J. Trageser (left), vice-president, CBS Radio Division and general manager of Boston Station WEEI. Listeners contributed \$140,000 to the annual "Penny-A-Month" appeal for Cardinal Cushing's charities. The Cardinal directed instead that the money be equally divided between the Protestant and Catholic overseas relief agencies. The contributions collected by the radio station were six times the amount collected last year.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

LITTLE ROCK, ARK.— The Rev. James Mitchell family entertained the church family on New Year's Eve in their apartment at their store in Cloverdale. Elaine and Janis Mitchell had created a festive atmosphere by the generous use of balloons and festoons of crepe paper.

The Box Supper caused much excitement. Dr. Seager, the auctioneer, was well supported by the bidders. Rivalry seemed apparent not only with the Navy but among the young children.

Rodney Van Horn and Joe Miller, who were home on leave, were enthusiastically received as they presented guitar music with solos, duets and group singing of spirituals, folk and other types of songs.

Janis Mitchell and Arlouene Van Horn had charge of interesting games.

Pastor Kenneth Van Horn, in behalf of the church, presented a Bible to Roger Roe who is leaving for the service, January 21. A candle lighting service was held at midnight after which Pastor Ken spoke some words of wisdom for the New Year.

It was truly an evening of fun and good fellowship. The proceeds from the Box Supper, which was sponsored by the young people, will go for supplies at Camp Miles. —Correspondent

MARLBORO, N. J.— The "Red Meetinghouse Fellowship Weekend" was held on the first weekend of November with Miss Florence Bowden of Shiloh as our special missionary. The theme, "To Serve God in Our Present World," helped us to focus our attention on the needs and the responsibilities of our church and ourselves as its members, as we seek to be "Sensitive in His Service." This special weekend, which was inspired by our 1969 Conference theme, was planned by the Christian Education Committee with Mrs. Rollo Davis as chairman.

We were thrilled to be able to have the "Young Americans of South Jersey" with us for a special concert at our Thanksgiving service on November 27. The Young Americans are a dedicated group of young people who are spon-

sored by the South Jersey Youth for Christ. Our own young people welcomed them with corsages and after the service sponsored a reception for them. The Shiloh church joined with us for this service.

The Christmas program on December 21 was uniquely planned by our Sabbath School superintendent, James Davis, around a filmstrip. The various Sabbath School classes and departments had parts that coordinated with each of the scenes that were projected on the front wall of the sanctuary.

Our church hosted Shiloh for the semi-annual communion service on January 4, ushering in our community Week of Prayer services. A new church, the West Park Methodist Church, joined our West District churches during this Week of Prayer.

We are happy to have Russell Johnson as our student assistant this year. "Pastor Russ" has been attending Eastern Baptist Seminary with our pastor. Pastor Conrod has now completed his seminary training at Eastern, but he will not receive his Master of Divinity degree until the graduation service in May. We are presently making the final plans for his ordination on February 15. The Rev. Francis Saunders of Lost Creek, W. Va., has been asked to preach the ordination sermon.

We are also looking forward to our Preaching Mission services that are being planned by the Evangelism Committee with Mrs. Ray Froding as chairman. The Rev. Eugene Fatato of Battle Creek, Mich., has been asked to lead these services which will be held the first weekend of April. —Correspondent

WESTERLY, R. I.— On January 4 as part of the morning church service John A Barber, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hiram W. Barber, Jr., was recognized in a special program when he was presented with the God and Country award for special achievements and service as a Boy Scout. This somewhat unusual award requires a considerable period of directed activity in relation to the church.

Present for the ceremony were twenty-

The Sabbath Recorder

one scouts of the church-sponsored troop, the scoutmaster and two assistant scoutmasters. Denison Barber, a former scoutmaster of this troop outlined the God and Country award requirements. The successful candidate for the award was one of the leaders of the boys when the troop was first sponsored by the church.

He holds the merit-badge rank of Life Scout and will be an assistant scoutmaster during the next charter year. The church was proud to see one of its boys honored on this occasion. One of the things counting toward the award was serving in the denominational Summer Christian Service Corps at Little Rock, Ark. He is currently the president of the national Seventh Day Baptist Youth Fellowship.

Contributions to COTA

SAO PAULO, Brazil (BP). — The Southern Baptist Convention contributed \$83,682 out of a total of \$90,340 received by the Crusade of the Americas (COTA) central office here during 1968.

Eight Baptist conventions in North America were included in the report. Contributions listed were: General Association of General Baptists, \$500; North American Baptist General Conference, \$830; Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society, \$80; and SBC, \$83,682.

Sixteen of the 42 conventions did not contribute financially to the Crusade of the Americas during 1968, the report indicated.

Listed with no contributions were: Baptist General Conference, National Baptist Convention of America; National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc.; and Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc. The American Baptist Convention was not included on the list since it is not a participating national Baptist body.

Correction:—

The prices of books listed in the January 6 issue contained one error. *Poems* by A. J. C. Bond currently sells at \$2.00, not 75 cents, a price fixed by the author years ago. We are sorry. It is probable that a handling charge of 25 cents should be added.

Marriages

Pogones - Moore.— Linda Moore, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Moore of Harris, Minn., was married to Joe Pogones Dec. 28, 1968, at the Harris Covenant Church.

Obituaries

SAUNDERS.— Hattie Babcock, daughter of Bethuel C. and Phoebe Moyer Babcock, was born Nov. 28, 1868, in Garwin, Iowa, and died Jan. 14, 1969, in Memorial Community Hospital, Edgerton, Wis.

At the age of 14 she was baptized by Elder J. T. Davis and joined the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Garwin. She was united in marriage there in 1889 to Herbert A. Saunders. They made their home at Grand Junction, Iowa, Gentry, Ark., and Garwin, Iowa, until coming to the Albion area in 1936. Mr. Saunders died in 1938. She was also preceded in death by three of their six sons, Orra, Ernst and William A. Saunders who was killed in World War I. Mrs. Saunders was the first Gold Star Mother of Garwin where the American Legion Post 71 was named in memory of her son.

Mrs. Saunders was a member of the Albion Seventh Day Baptist Church and the Home Benefit Society. She was honored at an open house at her church last November to celebrate her 100th birthday. Five generations of her family were present.

She was active in her church and community and voted in the November election. She read the Bible through in 1967.

Surviving are three sons, Perry of Garwin, Herbert and Charles both of Edgerton; 14 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; and two great-great grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by her pastor, Rev. Addison Appel, in the Albion Seventh Day Baptist Church, and interment was in the Evergreen Cemetery.

—A. A. A.



A Visit from the Chief of Chaplains

It Isn't often that ordinary sailors get to shake hands with a Rear Admiral. The expressions on the faces of these men of the Naval Air Facility at Cam Ranh Bay, Republic of Vietnam, indicate that it is a pleasure to meet the Chief of Chaplains of the U. S. Navy. RADM James W. Kelly was visiting and encouraging Navy personnel on the other side of the world during the holidays. Our servicemen know that in the chaplain they have one who cares about them and desires to bring them close to God.