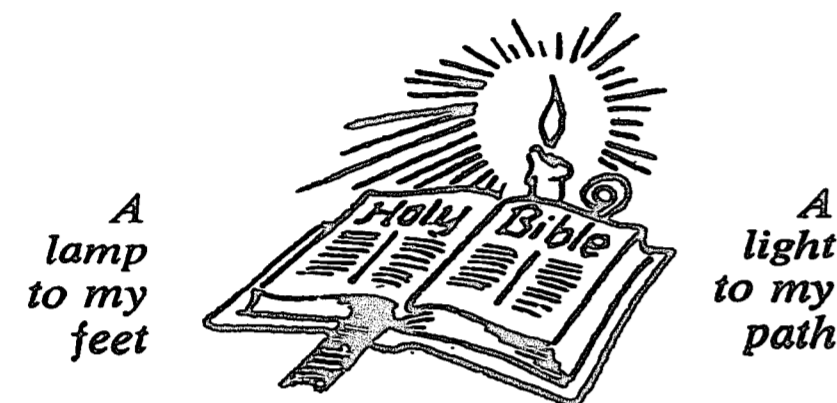


The Sabbath Recorder

TOPICAL BIBLE READINGS



These passages for daily Bible reading are suggested as a help in understanding what the Bible has to say about many areas of interest to us. They do not pretend to be exhaustive. The topics are arranged in weekly cycles, beginning on Sunday and ending on Sabbath. Some daily readings have more verses than others. You may find more passages that will help your thinking in regard to the topics listed. We encourage you to memorize passages that hold particular meaning for you.

HOPE

- Apr. 5—A Psalm of — Psalm 71
Apr. 6—In the Midst of Adversity—Lamentations 3:1-36
Apr. 7—Paul's Testimony — Acts 24:10-21; 26:6-7
Apr. 8—Abraham's Hope — Romans 4:13-22
Apr. 9—The Christian's Hope — Romans 5:1-11
Apr. 10—Hope in Christ — Colossians 1
Apr. 11—Response in Holiness — 1 Peter 1:3-16

GRACE

- Apr. 12—God's Grace to Israel — Deut. 7:6-9; 9:4-6
Apr. 13—Justification by — Romans 3:22-24; 4:5, 16
Apr. 14—Eternal Life Through — Rom. 5:2, 6, 16-21
Apr. 15—Confidence in — Phil. 1:6-11; 3:12-15
Apr. 16—Gift of God — Eph. 2:8-9; 4:7; Titus 3:7; Rom. 11:5-6
Apr. 17—Response to — Romans 6:1-23
Apr. 18—Praise for God's Presence — Psalm 46

PEACE

- Apr. 19—Goodness of — Psalm 133; Prov. 15:17; 16:7-8
Apr. 20—Prophecy of — Isa. 2:1-5; 11:6-13
Apr. 21—Picture of — Psalm 1
Apr. 22—Peace in Christ — Eph. 2:14-17; Col. 1:20
Apr. 23—Given by Jesus — John 14:27-31; 16:31-33
Apr. 24—Gospel of — Luke 2:14; Acts 10:35; Rom. 2:10; 5:1; 8:6; 10:15; 16:17; Col. 3:15

- Apr. 25—Urged upon Christians — Mark 9:50; Rom. 12:18; 14:19; 2 Cor. 13:11; Eph. 4:3; 1 Thess. 5:13; 1 Tim. 2:2; Heb. 12:14; 1 Pet. 3:10-11

HOLINESS—Christian Living

- Apr. 26—Abraham — Gen. 17:1-6
Apr. 27—Israel — Deut. 13:17; 14:2; 18:13; 28:9; 30:2, 10
Apr. 28—Psalms — Psalm 24
Apr. 29—Urged by Paul — Rom. 6:1-23
Apr. 30—Way of — Rom. 12:1-2, 9; 13:12-14
May 1—In Christ — Eph. 4:20-24; 5:1-11
May 2—Urged by Peter — 1 Pet. 1:14-16; 2:1-5, 11-17

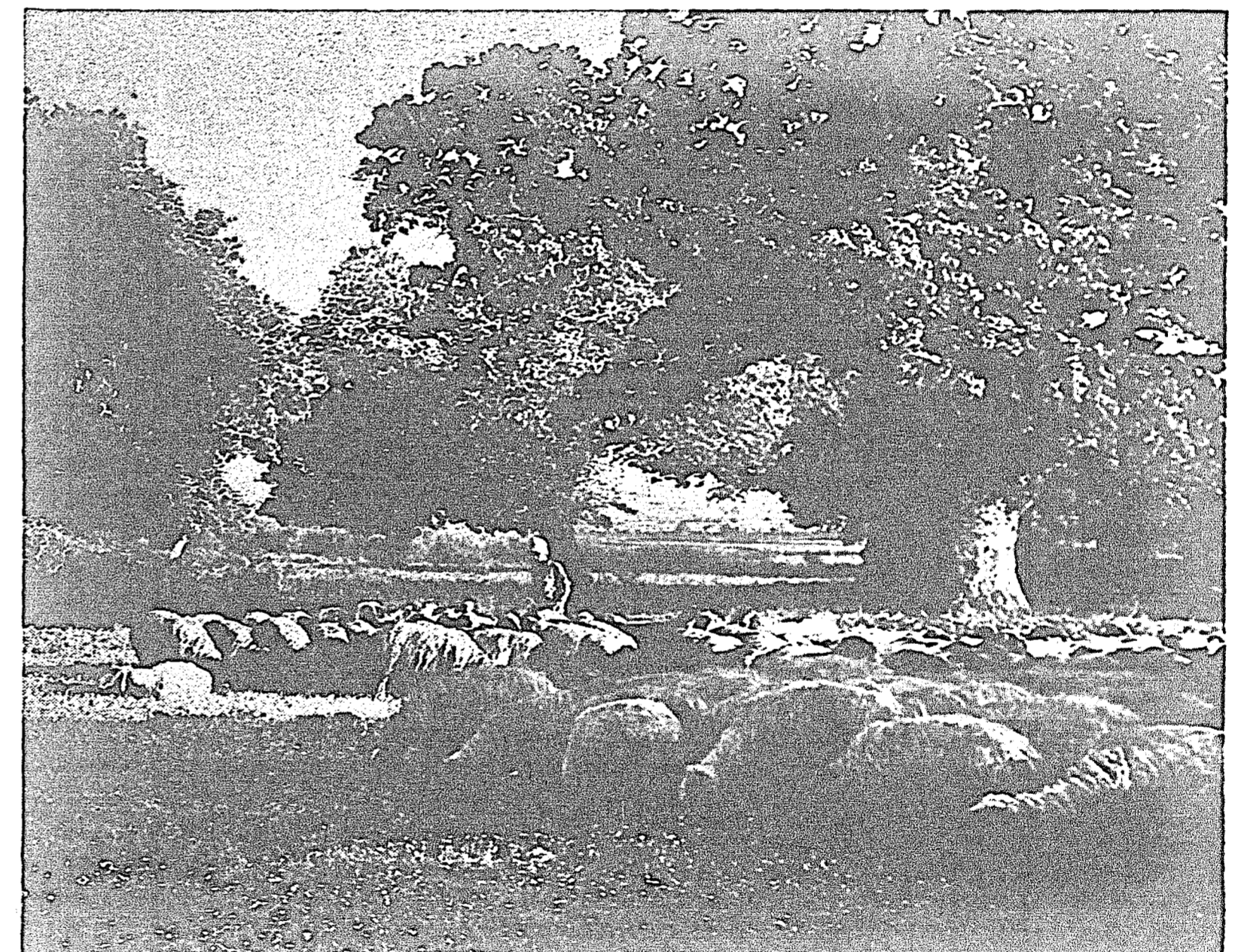
Does the Church See Its Mission?

We talk about a ministry to all mankind, and close our doors to the ones who need our love and concern the most. We talk about a ministry to the whole community, and fret over a dirty smudge on the wall or paint chipped from a chair. We talk about "saving souls" and by our actions witness to a greater concern for material goods. It is high time we all began to express a deeper concern for human lives and the fullest use of our buildings, and worry less about a spotless church kitchen or new light fixtures. God will surely hold us accountable for the stewardship of these properties that we have dedicated to His service as He does of our lives. Church facilities need to be deposited once more for the full glory of His kingdom. Where there is "no deposit," there is "no return."

—Arthur N. Foye, New Hampshire

On to Wisconsin

May this be the slogan of Seventh Day Baptists looking toward the 1970 session of General Conference at Milton, Wisconsin, August 9-15.



Feeding the Flock in Galilee

Jesus spent most of His life in Galilee, a country of hills and valleys where shepherds guided their flocks beside the still waters and into green pastures. Today as one visits the Holy Land in the springtime he can see much the same sights that Jesus saw and can better understand His teaching about the good shepherd and the favorite passage of the Old Testament, the twenty-third Psalm. Scenic as beautiful as this are not characteristic of rugged Galilee, but they can be found.

The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

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

REV. LEON M. MALTBY, Editor

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Owen H. Probasco, chairman, Florence B. Bowden, Charles F. Harris, John L. Harris, Anna C. North, Charles H. North, ex-officio, Loren G. Osborn, Rev. Albert N. Rogers, Rev. Herbert E. Saunders, Ardale C. Skaggs, Douglas Wheeler

Contributing Editors:

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

Terms of Subscription

Per Year \$4.00 Single Copies 10 cents

Special rates for students, retired Seventh Day Baptist ministers, and servicemen

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

Second class postage paid at Plainfield, New Jersey. The Sabbath Recorder does not necessarily endorse signed articles. All communications should be addressed to the Sabbath Recorder, P. O. Box 868, Plainfield, New Jersey 07061.

A Seventh Day Baptist weekly (two issues omitted in August) published by the American Sabbath Tract Society, 510 Watchung Ave., Plainfield, N. J. 07061.

PLAINFIELD, N. J. March 30, 1970
Volume 188, No. 13 Whole No. 6,393

Editorials:

Better Analysis of Revolution	2
Evaluating Church Statistics	3
Causes of Inflation	4

Features:

Redemptive Thought Patterns	5
Planning Committee Holds Spring Meeting	6
Alcohol Studies Debunk Popular View	7
Personal Evangelism: A Life Style	10
Encouraging News from Burma	13
Relief for Nigeria-Biafra	13
Items of Interest	14
Irvington Church Couple Celebrates Fiftieth Anniversary	15
Glories of God.— Discipline and Drugs	16

Missions:

Life Begins with God	8
----------------------------	---

Christian Education:

Christian Education in Malawi	12
-------------------------------------	----

Better Analysis of Revolution

There seems to be a revolution against the church, the ministry, the Bible and theology. Young people are kicking over the traces in every direction. Some of them are challenging our well-established social ethics. There is growing use of drugs either to dull the senses or induce thrills that do not come in the ordinary events of the day. Reasons given for this bursting out of social restraints, this criticism of the established church, include the idea that religion is not modern, not relevant.

Granted, some of us resist changes just because we are set in our ways; granted, some of the things youth want to do contrary to their elders are not basically wrong. The nonrelevance of religion, however, may not be the real reason for all the criticism voiced by youth and echoed by indulgent leaders who say that we must get with it.

C. R. Daley, a thoughtful editor of a Baptist paper, has offered another analysis of this criticism and revolutionary spirit. He asks, "Is it not just because preachers are dealing with the truth, the church is confronting man with God, and the Bible does speak forthrightly to today's issues that these are under attack?" He may have something there. When people have decided on a course of action contrary to the Bible and the preaching in the church, they find it more to their liking to criticize the establishment than to acknowledge their sins.

This, to be sure, is a time for great efforts toward understanding, a time when we must show reasonable tolerance and the utmost compassion. But if the Bible is true and its standards right, then we are betrayers of Christ and of our youth if we condone sin and compromise truth. In our attempt to side with youth we may lose what little respect is left.

The other day while calling at a hospital I fell into conversation with a very personable young student priest of the Roman Catholic faith. It was easy to talk, and we pretty well covered the whole waterfront in a short time. He told of the problems his church faced in holding the youth. Part of his solution was to hold folk masses and in other ways to go along with what the young people wanted

to do. He expressed the hope that he could lead them a little way along the path of religion if not all the way. It was better, he thought, to help a lot of them a little than a few of them a lot. After leaving the young priest I pondered the situation and wondered if he could long hold the respect of the youth. I got the impression that he was compromising some truths to the detriment of the faith. I might be wrong in his case, but there is a real possibility that lowering God-given standards to achieve popularity will fall back upon us like a deadly boomerang.

To quote Dr. Daley's final sentence: "It's not because the ministry, the church and the Bible are so irrelevant that they are criticized today. It's because they are so relevant."

Evaluating Church Statistics

The *Yearbook of American Churches*, first published in 1916 by the Federal Council of Churches, performs a valuable service with its ever widening coverage of church statistics. The newest volume is no exception although one could wish that the figures were for 1969 rather than 1968.

The headline in "The Religious News-weekly" (a service to editors which is now forced to suspend publication) reads, "Church Membership Up — Attendance Down." The figures cover 226 reporting religious bodies. The membership is up by a little over 2 million to a total of 128,469,636, which amounts to a 1.60 percent gain in membership.

The editors use the Gallup poll for an estimate on how attendance compares with membership since the churches do not submit complete attendance statistics. The Gallup poll shows that church attendance reached 49 percent of the population in 1958 but was only 43 percent in 1968. Figures do not seem to be available to compare attendance for the last two years. It is to be noted that the increase in church membership of 2 million did not quite keep pace with the population increase between 1967 and 1968. In 1967 those counted as church

related made up 63.2 percent of the population whereas in 1968 they made up 63.1 percent.

Roman Catholic figures were included in the *Yearbook of American Churches* this time. The Catholic Church reports an increase of 404,905 members in 1969, for a total of 47,873,238. It is the smallest increase in the last twenty-five years. This may be more significant than the Protestant figures since Catholic membership is much more closely related to birth and population increase.

How much can be made of the membership and attendance statistics? It can truthfully be said that church membership and participation are not keeping up with the population increase. However, the difference is slight and this shows that the churches have been active in evangelism and baptizing. On the other hand, if the old are living to be a little older than before the loss by death should be a little less. One can use the statistics of membership optimistically or otherwise.

The attendance figures, if accurate, are something to be concerned about. Do we gather that membership, still high, is less meaningful than in recent years? There could be a number of guesses as to why members are not attending church as faithfully as before. It would seem to be in order to remark that some have become indifferent or that they do not think they will get satisfying food at the morning service. Again, some point out that with more money and more leisure the average church member is able and anxious to use his weekend for something other than church.

When we look at church figures, we naturally make a mental comparison with our own denominational or local church situation. If we conclude that we are below the national average in membership increase or in church loyalty we are uncomfortable. If we are above, it is not enough to give much satisfaction. In either case the challenge for more consistent evangelism and more earnest efforts to make the church meaningful is definitely in order. There is a great work to do.

If we are not helping with the problem we are part of the problem. Let us make disciples and teach them "to do whatsoever I have commanded you" as the Great Commission says.

Causes of Inflation

What business has a minister turned editor to try to discuss the causes of inflation when he has had no special training in business or political science? A fair question. But we can comment on what some important men trained in these fields have to say on the subject, especially if some of the causes are found to be related to Christian living.

William H. Chartener, the vice-president economist of a large company speaks of a host of demons that can be blamed for our present inflation. Among them he lists war, excessive wage demands of labor, high living by consumers, extravagant expectations of business, and a dismal fatalism among investors. That is enough for a start. Depending on our viewpoint, we are likely to say that one or two are more demoniac than others. May I be excused for picking the one that caught my eye and may make more of us squirm than the others.

To what extent is high living by consumers to blame for inflation in the United States? If the writer has hit on something here then there are a lot of people who could do something to end inflation and at the same time show what their Christian faith means to them. Listen to the economist:

Consumers have contributed to the advance of inflation too. Indeed, they began living it up even before the beginning of escalation of the Vietnam war. They were on a borrowing and spending binge following the tax reductions of 1964 and 1965. And they confounded forecasters and policy planners in the summer of 1968 when they responded to a tax increase with one of the largest quarterly jumps in spending we have ever seen.

Like it or not, I'm afraid that we, the common people, the consumers, must shoulder quite a little of the blame for the mess we are in about high prices and

a diminishing dollar. Perhaps this is fairly closely tied to "the excessive demands of labor." We would probably get different answers as to which comes first, the demands of labor or inflation and the high living of consumers.

This much is pretty sure, that when we have more money to spend we think of more things to spend it for. Money to spend creates a call for ever more and more products or pleasures to spend it on. This, in turn, makes a demand greater than the supply, making us willing to pay the higher prices that are necessitated by higher wages and the manufacturer's desire for a substantial profit. If he doesn't make a profit the stock market tumbles and the new investors (including the employees) cry out. So the spiral continues upward.

We have inflation because, to some extent, we would rather have it than to curb our desires. We are willing to skirt close to the edge hoping that somebody else will somehow put up a guardrail that will keep us all from going over the precipice.

It is too much to expect the worldly man to curb his desires, to drink less, buy less, golf less, (even bowl less) or to take less expensive vacations for the general good of the national economy. Is it not possible and right to appeal to Christians to curb their appetites, to live within their means in order to do a greater work for the Lord? Consider this, for one thing, that when we renounce the tendency toward high living we will not only be under much less nervous strain but that we will also have greater ability to support the Lord's work. Money given to evangelism and missions does not increase inflation; it helps to halt it. Furthermore it makes us happy. The offering plate at church becomes a thing of beauty rather than something to make us feel like a heel.

We may not be able to cast out all the demons that cause inflation but when we recognize that one of them may be in our own hearts we can cast it out and be restored to spiritual health and vigor.

Redemptive Thought Patterns

"Whatsoever Things Are Just"

Francis D. Saunders

The word "just" is an elusive term with many shades of meaning listed in the dictionary. The theological meaning of the word "justify" in the *Reader's Great Encyclopedic Dictionary* is: "to cause to be free of grievous sin, and reconciled with God." This definition is close to the meaning of the Christian term. As Edwards expressed it: "A person is said to be justified when he is approved of God as free from the guilt of sin and its deserved punishment; and as having that righteousness belonging to him that entitles to the reward of life" (*The Works of President Edwards*, Vol. IV, p. 66). The apostle Paul was quoting Scripture when he wrote to the Romans: "The just shall live by faith" (Hab. 2:4).

May we turn our thoughts to a day long ago, and examine three men as they each hung upon a cross. One of them was the Son of God, of whom it was said, "that he might be just, and the justifier of him that believeth" (Rom. 3:26). The second was a condemned criminal whose exit from this life was completely without hope. The third was a justified sinner, who, though his life had been that of a criminal, yet heard and believed the assuring word of hope from the Savior; "I say unto thee . . . thou shalt be with me in paradise" (Luke 23:43). There is nowhere a more vivid explanation of justification than at this scene on Calvary. It depicts both the extent and the quality of God's plan of justification.

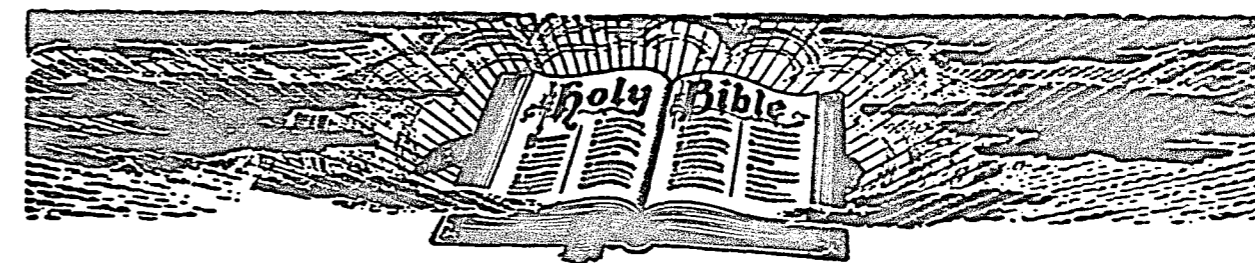
Note the hopeless condition of this last man before his encounter with Christ. He expressed it himself as he rebuked his fellow-sufferer: "We receive the due reward of our deeds, but this man hath done

nothing amiss" (Luke 23:41). He was justly condemned for his sinful deeds, under the guilt of sin and its deserved punishment, but through his death through encounter with Jesus Christ, he found the truth of the Christian precept, "The just shall live by faith" (Rom. 1:17), and he joined the host of the faithful for whom a home has been prepared. So it was that this condemned criminal received, through faith in Christ, his justification. Someone has defined justified: "It's just as if I'd never sinned."

But what about the phrase, "the just shall live"? However beautiful the thought may be that the penitent thief found life even in death, yet there is a sadness in the fact that his encounter with the "Justifier" did not come in time for him to say with the apostle: "For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Phil. 1:21). How much better had he been able to say, "the life I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God" (Gal. 2:20).

Our glimpse of this man, whose life had been void of the virtues of the full Christian life, helps us to understand that it is "not of works, lest any man should boast" (Eph. 2:9); that it is by faith only, without the works of the law. We can see, as we look at him, that it was the righteousness of Christ in him, through faith, that enabled him to stand before God a "just man." It is so with each of us, sinful as we are. First we must be "in Him," and then He will be made unto us righteousness and justification.

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are . . . just, think on these things" (Phil. 4:8).



Planning Committee Holds Spring Meeting

A week of intensive discussion, planning, and coordinating of anticipated denominational activities proved a challenge to the members of the Planning Committee meeting at the Seventh Day Baptist Building in Plainfield, New Jersey, March 8-13. The primary task confronting the committee was developing suggestions for the churches for Year V of Facing Frontiers with Faith under the theme "Strengthening the Witness of Seventh Day Baptists Around the World." This is the logical emphasis after the current year of "Strengthening Our Witness on the Home Front." Time was also given to outlining the next long-range program extending into the '70's to be known as "Era of Action."

The meeting time was lengthened at the beginning to discuss the Washington Church Project and other matters of concern to the Commission as well as Planning Committee. Two sessions on Sunday and one on Monday were presided over by Leland Bond, chairman of the Commission. The Rev. Edgar Wheeler, president of Conference, and Dr. Stephen Thorngate of Monterey, California, first vice-president of Conference, attended the sessions both as members of the Commission and of the Planning Committee. Other members included Rev. Rex E. Zwiebel, as executive secretary of the Board of Christian Education; Rev. Leon M. Maltby as corresponding secretary of the American Sabbath Tract Society; Mrs. Arthur Drake as president of the Women's Board; Rev. Mynor G. Soper, home front evangelist (substituting for Rev. Everett T. Harris) representing the Missionary Society; and the Rev. Alton L. Wheeler, general secretary, serving as chairman.

Speaking for the Washington Seventh Day Baptist Church on the first day was its pastor, the Rev. Delmer Van Horn. The proposed plan previously presented to the Commission by the Washington Project Committee named by the South-eastern Association was to offer as much resource as possible in leadership and

finance on the part of boards and agencies to the Washington church making it a pilot project for what might be done to help other churches. A list of services which might be offered was drawn up by the Planning Committee. It is not possible to announce at the present time just what will be done until the goals are a little more clearly worked out by the local church. The pastor and church are convinced that the church in the nation's capital must become a community as well as an area church.

At one session of the Planning Committee attended by the Commissioners, Leland Bond announced a series of "Introspect and Prospect Conferences" which are scheduled to be held this year prior to General Conference with representatives of the various boards and agencies participating. The purposes of holding such sessions in the interest of our continued denominational witness, seeking to gain spiritual perspective were listed as follows: 1) What is God's mission for the church as a whole in the world? For Seventh Day Baptists? 2) What are we as Seventh Day Baptists doing as participants in God's mission? 3) What are specific areas of concern? and 4) What approaches for action are suggested? The *Sabbath Recorder* and other avenues of information will publicize these conferences.

The representatives of the major boards reported the advances made and plans formulated since the fall meeting of the Planning Committee with a view to continuing close coordination. Dean Victor W. Skaggs representing the Center for Ministerial Education and the Rev. Albert N. Rogers, president of the Historical Society, also shared reports of progress and plans. Home Front Evangelist Mynor Soper outlined his past work and presented several papers relative to evangelism and growth. There was much discussion of how to define and implement a new emphasis on reconciliation, a term that may be used to add a fullness to evangelism. It was noted that the theme of the Baptist World Congress to be held at Tokyo, Japan, July 12-18, 1970 will be "Reconciliation Through Christ," and that the BWA

Executive Committee plans to issue a call and invitation in Tokyo to the various Baptist Conventions and Unions to participate in a "World Mission of Reconciliation Through Jesus Christ."

Since the Planning Committee is responsible for the whole concept of dedicated service and guidelines for its various facets, time was given to current progress and to the best use of high school age youth who are anxious to serve. It was decided that association sponsorship previously proposed might not be practical and that the youth should be trained and used by their local churches in most cases. There is a search for a suitable denomination-wide title to give such young people an identity. It is expected that guidelines for training will be considered by the Board of Christian Education.

The committee agreed that it would be well to make a significant change in the promotion of our Year V emphasis "Strengthening the Witness of Seventh Day Baptists Around the World." It is to be project-centered rather than program-centered. Churches are to be encouraged in various ways to increase their interest in the Seventh Day Baptist work in other countries. To this end it is suggested that from October 1970 to September 1971 there will be a monthly rather than a quarterly emphasis in the churches acquainting our people with the twelve member conferences or groups of churches in the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation. Various other suggestions were made and will be presented in detail to the churches in the packet to be distributed the first part of June.

A questionnaire on the use of packets in the churches was evaluated. The response showed that churches with a forward look are glad to have suggestion and program materials such as have been sent out during the past four years. The new suggestion packet, however, due to its project composition will be much smaller than those of previous years.

This meeting of the Planning Committee was characterized by less writing but much inspirational discussion and deliberation as to the dual emphasis on evangelism and social service.

MEMORY TEXT

Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man. — Luke 21:36

Alcohol Studies Debunk Popular View

As a result of strong propaganda many people seem to have accepted the view that social drinking leads to alcoholism only in the cases where individuals are unstable or emotionally prone to the "disease" as it is called. Recent studies by eminently qualified doctors effectively debunk this common assumption fostered by the liquor interests.

"Emotional problems are symptoms of alcoholism, not causes," according to Dr. Jorge Valles, Houston psychiatrist, speaking at the Twelfth Annual School on Alcohol and Narcotics Studies at Baylor University February 20.

Psychological testing has never been able to reveal a potential alcoholic. The causes of alcoholism are purely physiological, he said. Alcoholism is caused by a chemical action of the alcohol on the hypothalamus in the brain. Most alcoholics started drinking at the age of 17, when this action of the brain was least stable.

Dr. Valles spoke to 279 Texas school teachers and church leaders at Baylor University at the school, which is sponsored annually by Texas Alcohol Narcotics Education (TANE) and Baylor.

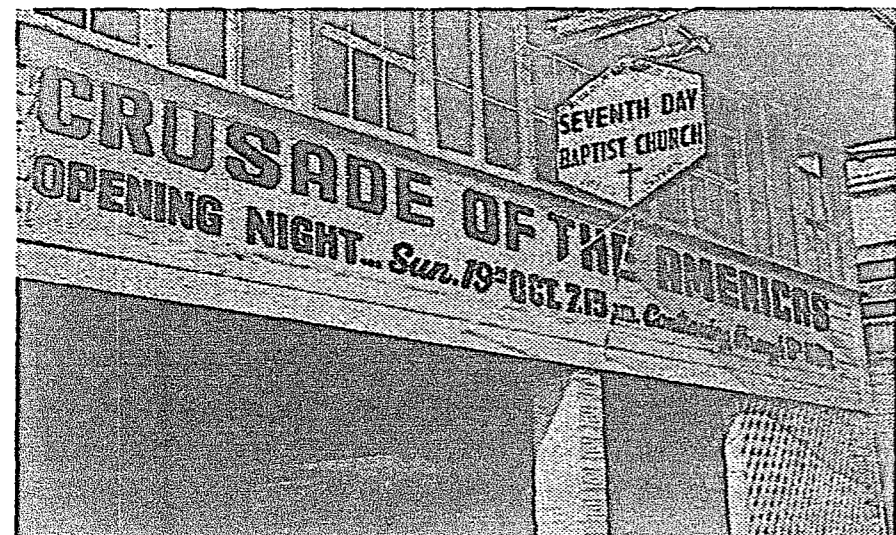
Dr. Valles is the author of "From Social Drinking to Alcoholism," which explains the results of eight years' research into alcoholism. The book was published by TANE Press. He is also the author of "How To Live with an Alcoholic," published by Simon and Schuster.

The Glory of Man

In man's maleness and femaleness were found the diversity that allows us to say "you" and the oneness that permits us to say "we." Different, yet one; one because different. — David Allan Hubbard

Life Begins with God

(As a part of the Crusade of the Americas program under the theme, "Life Begins with God" a series of nightly meetings was held for three full weeks, October 16 - November 5, 1969, at the Kitty Seventh Day Baptist Church of Georgetown, Guyana, South America. An account of the meetings has been provided by Pastor Leroy Bass, Seventh Day Baptist missionary in Guyana.)



Sunday night, the 19th of October, was opening night for our Georgetown Crusade of the Americas held in our church. The Crusade Team members were in their places. At the foot of the church stairs were our lady receptionists, greeting people with a smile, welcoming them to the service. These ladies, Sister Inez Peters, Sister Cecilia Haynes, and Sister Olga Marshall also gave the people an attendance card to fill out, which they were to leave in a box for that purpose on the way home after service. These cards also had places on them to check for either literature, or prayer, or a visit, according to the person's desire.

Upstairs, the head usher, Brother Wilton Peters, gave out song sheets, and showed people to a place to sit. Outside, from a loudspeaker, gospel music was being heard over the neighborhood by tape recording. Then at the proper time, the music was shut off, and the chairman, Bro. Leyland Bowen, stepped to the pulpit and welcomed all to this "Crusade of the Americas" with these words printed on the front of our advertisements: "Life Begins with God: If your plans have gone wrong, try God's plan. If your methods have failed, try God's method. If your life is not complete, let God complete it."

Every night we had guest artists, musicians on the clarinet, soloists, quartets, and some nights testimonies from born-again believers. Also the audience joined in singing lustily from the song sheets, of specially selected gospel hymns. We had to use up all the spare chairs we could find to supplement the pews, and the church would fill up at a few over 100, and this was our average attendance each night.

Many of our messages were illustrated on the screen by a projector and slides. Our opening night message was entitled: "Message Received: Space Men Coming to Earth. What Will They Do?" Our second night's message was also most timely: "How Guyana Is Helped by Four Angels." Because of Venezuelan aggression against this little country, this message was appreciated in a special way.

After the first two meetings, the chairman of the meetings was Bro. Jacob Tyrrell, and he led in the opening of the meetings. Brother Bowen's main task was Crusade business manager, and this entailed much work, seeing after many details of advertising, printing, awards, buying of gifts for perfect attendance, booking guest artists for a future night, and many other things. He was also Crusade treasurer. This was his first experience as a Crusade manager and treasurer, and he learned many things that will be of great help in future crusades.

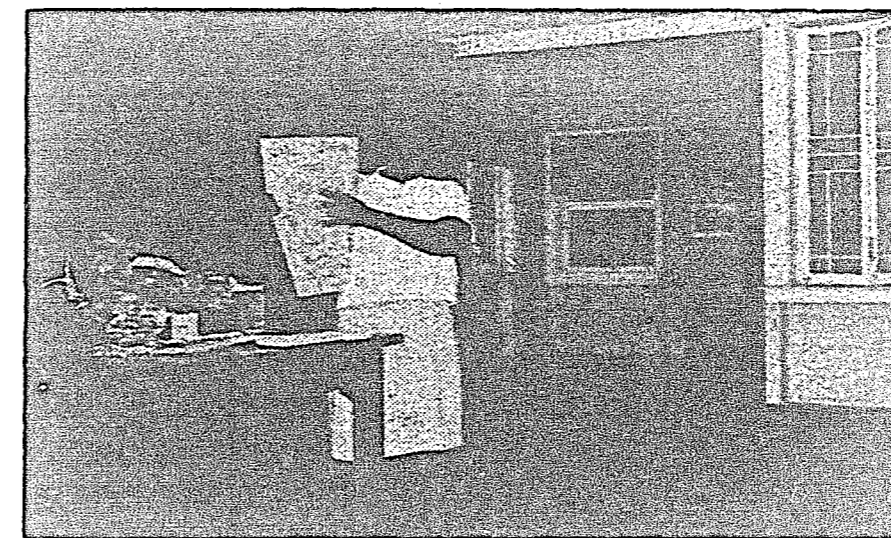
Our Crusade statistician was Sister Grant; her task was to record all the attendance cards, and hand back those that had specific requests on them. We of the Crusade Team divided all prayer requests between us, each taking a portion home for private prayer, mentioning each name before God. Then each evening we made it a point to introduce a public prayer over all these prayer request cards, earnestly petitioning God on their behalf. This was usually done just before the evening message, usually by me, the evangelist, but sometimes by a team member. These were precious moments together before God in prayer, and He seemed very close to all of us at these meetings.

I believe that people today want benefits from whatever they do or wherever

they go. I wanted them to know there were benefits for all who came to these meetings. People want security, they want a good future, they want power, peace, greatness, appreciation, a good world order. We showed that these benefits could be best fulfilled by a living experience with God through the Person of Jesus Christ.

Meetings were held six nights a week (Thursday was the off night) for three weeks over a span of 22 nights. Some other messages given were: "The Life of Jesus Christ in Pictures," "The Greatest Blunder in the Universe," "The Guarded Property No One Has Broken Into, Yet a Child Can Get In," "Agreed: We Do Have Too Much Religion," "A Question God Cannot Answer," "The Greatest Day on Earth" (the Sabbath), "Will Religion Spoil the Marriage?" and several others.

The closing night of the Crusade was on the 9th of Nov., and by this time we had 41 decisions for Christ, with 9 of them requesting baptism and church membership. Then we planned a follow-up series of meetings for the 41 and any others who desired further Bible studies twice nightly for a week. Out of this, we took in six new members on the 3rd of January, four by baptism, and two by testimony of faith and previous baptism.



Sister Inez Peters teaching a converts class after our "Crusade of the Americas."

The results of the Crusade of the Americas are still coming in as several more have asked to be in the next baptism. One is a determined mother of many small children who came not only to the Crusade meetings, but also to our early

morning Week of Prayer held the first week in January. She is now coming out on some Sabbaths so far. Another interest is one of the men in a guest quartet that came to sing for us. He had never heard of Seventh Day Baptists before, but is now becoming so interested that he has determined to keep the Sabbath with us, and is coming Sabbath days now. He likes to keep open-air meetings on his own, and speak for Christ. He was converted four years ago. Now he also witnesses to the true Sabbath. After I showed him what Catholic and Protestant authorities write on the validity of the Bible Sabbath, and the man-made change to Sunday, he does not attend Sunday services any more. Tonight, Sunday, he is going to bring the message at our church, in response to my request. Besides these two, there are a few others who are coming more in Christ's way.

Out of those who joined on the 3rd of January, we have gained a new Sabbath School teacher. Sister Lam, who runs a private kindergarten school, has become our Primary Sabbath School teacher. We are most grateful for this. She too had never heard of Seventh Day Baptists before this Crusade. In fact she had been going to the Crusade of another church in the city, when she received an invitation from one of our sisters to our Crusade of the Americas. She accepted, with the idea she would come just one night, and then return to the other Crusade. But she said she got so much out of our meeting, that she just had to keep on coming to ours. It seems like a dream church to her, one she had been seeking for many years. We have also gained more children for our Sabbath School classes, so that now we have to have seven classes, one for every age group. The Crusade has done a lot for the spirit of our few church members; now we are larger, we have just barely enough Sabbath School teachers for the seven classes, but our church tithes and offerings are coming up. Of course, I do teach our people that God expects them to return His rightful proportion, the tithe, into His church.

Personal Evangelism: A Life Style

By Mynor Soper

A young Communist in Paris said, "The only Christian I take seriously is the one who is trying to convert me." Maybe that idea of trying to "convert" someone scares you or even repulses you, for you immediately visualize the arm-twisting, buttonholing, Bible-wielding, "Brother-are-you-saved" zealot. But be that as it may be, it is true that we will only make an impact upon the world when (1) we are convinced enough that it is only through Christ that salvation is made possible to mankind and (2) we are concerned enough about people that we want to see them "born again" into the kingdom of God.

In other words, we must have firmly in mind that we *want* to see them converted—converted from hopelessness to a living faith in a living Lord—converted from commitment to sin (which results in destruction) to living for the Lord Jesus Christ who was sinless and who calls all men to be His followers (which is the way of life eternal) — converted from purposelessness to a purpose or cause that means more than life itself.

To think in this way of working toward the conversion of someone removes some of the doubtful feeling of meddling, proselyting and generally being fanatical. And make no mistake about it, without each person's being turned around or converted from going the direction he naturally goes, which is the way of the world, there is no chance of his entering in by the straight gate that leads to life eternal. The door to eternal life is just simply not at the end of that path. Only a dead end waits there. So if people want to go where the action—eternal action—really is then they must turn around and go the way God has stipulated. As Christians you and I know that way to be the way of faith in and obedience to Jesus Christ, God's Son.

But what of all those who don't know that wonderful truth? Do we just forget about them, or assume that someone else will show them the right way? Or what

of those who have heard but just weren't interested or convinced? Do we just shrug and say, "That's their worry, not mine"? In either case, it is hardly what Jesus had in mind when He talked about loving our neighbor as much as we do ourselves or having compassion on those who are blind or being destroyed by sin's havoc. And it certainly is not what He had in mind when He commissioned all His followers to go out to the very ends of the world with this good news that in Him is salvation, forgiveness, hope, life eternal, and to make disciples of all who would accept Him. What He apparently had in mind was that you and I, his followers, would be the channels through which His Holy Spirit would draw these people to Himself.

The question you and I have to ask ourselves is, "Am I being that kind of a channel? Are others finding the way of life, real satisfaction and purpose because of me?" If others are finding the way of life because of your witness, it is safe to say that you are a truly happy, excited, even exuberant Christian, radiating your joy and faith in the Lord. If it is not true of you, it is safe to say that you are not excited about the Christian faith to the extent that anyone ever really notices your enthusiasm for it. It is also safe to say that somehow, somewhere down inside you feel a bit frustrated and guilty for not doing the very thing you have a suspicion is the most important thing you could ever do. In other words, a Christian cannot be a truly happy Christian unless he is sharing his faith in Jesus Christ with others. But we can think up many good reasons why we can't, aren't, and (though we don't say it) won't be that channel through which our Lord wants to witness to the truth about Himself to others.

It is certain that if we are to make an impact for Christ on our strife-torn world, to the end that individuals are turned from the way of fear and distrust—hate and worry—lust and wrong causes—to the

way that leads to life, it will be by the convincing witness and testimony of one individual to another. This involves testifying in truth and love and concern to what Christ has done for him and what He can and will do for the other individual. This is evangelism in its truest form. This was the evangelism of the early church. This is the reason it was written of them that they had turned the world upside down.

As Leighton Ford says, "God is not only the maker of heaven and earth, he is also the shaker of heaven and earth." He wants to once again shake the earth for man's salvation. And because you and I won't allow Him to do it through us, He is shaking mankind in other ways, through riots, race wars, fear, uncertainties and change. People today are shaken to their very foundations! They are searching for something better! They are questioning! They are open to a positive witness for Christ. As the young Communist said, they will pay attention to someone who cares enough about them and believes enough in his own faith to try to convince others of it.

In this critical hour, when so little time is left to us, all of us must have a life style, which is simply to share Christ. It must become as natural to us, and as much a part of us, as the clothes we wear.

But let me speak to *how* this can become a "life style" for us. Fears, doubts and failures will be a constant part of any attempts we make to do this by ourselves. There is no doubt that we need help. And Jesus knew this! That is why He said that He would not leave us helpless. But He promised, "Lo, I am with you alway" (Matt. 28:20). "Behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high" (Luke 24:49). And you "shall receive power (help) after that the Holy Ghost has come upon you, and ye shall be witnesses unto me . . . unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acs 1:8).

Ah! The Power! That is what we need! And He says it is available to us in the person of the Holy Spirit. This is the same power that filled Christ (John 1:

33); the same power that helped Him defeat every temptation that came to Him; the same power that made it possible for Him to completely do His Father's will. In fact, it is the very power that raised Him from the dead and seated Him by His Father in heaven (Eph. 1:19-20). Imagine! That same power is available to us (to you and me) to help us *live* for Him and *speak* for Him. Without the Holy Spirit in control of our lives, we will fail on both counts. But with Him in control we cannot fail!

In other words, it is, as Paul said, no longer I that lives, "but Christ liveth in me" (Gal. 2:20). Through His Holy Spirit He wants to dwell fully in you and me. He wants to see through our eyes so we might see things from God's point of view (Col. 1:10, Phillips). He wants to love with our hearts; speak with our lips. How does this come about? First, by realizing that God does not lie! Christ promised the Holy Spirit would dwell in every believer. Trust Him that that is an accomplished fact! That being true, you need only be willing to turn over the controls of your life to the Holy Spirit. Simply tell God that you want to do just that and as an act of your will, relinquish your will to His.

By faith accept the promise of 1 John 5:14-15 that if we ask anything according to His will, He will do it. From this moment on, know that the Holy Spirit is a dynamic force operating in your life (John 7:38-39). He will give you power to live. He will transform your stumbling efforts to witness for Christ into words of power and light. You will come into the full realization that Christ was true to His word, for He did not leave you powerless to do His will in this world!

Suddenly your life style is different! It is a joy to witness and share Christ. It is evangelism and you suddenly like the sound of it!

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for April 11, 1970

THE CHURCH'S LIFE AS WITNESS

Lesson Scripture: Acts 2:43-47; 4:13-22

Christian Education in Malawi

By David Pearson

An officer of the educational department during colonial days remarked, unofficially, that education apart from Christianity was "soulless."

All church sponsored education should be Christian, Christ-centered, and have as one of its aims the leading of souls to Christ. In Malawi the work of Christian Education runs closely with that of Evangelism.

Seventh Day Baptist schools in Malawi have played an important role in the field of Christian Education. Though our schools are partly under government control, and the situation is not the same as it was, we are still free to teach Bible in our schools. This is included in the government syllabus.

The Sabbath School is a major phase of our work in Christian Education. Although in the very early years of Seventh Day Baptists in this country, it was unknown, it has been used for about twenty years and has become a vital department of our churches.

Most of our Sabbath Schools have had three class divisions: men, women, and children. Just recently emphasis has been put upon the needs of the youth, and many churches have requested the lately prepared brief guide for youth classes. Quarterlies for adults and children's teachers are prepared at our mission by an African leader.

Daily Vacation Bible School is used with success at Makapwa where quite a large number of children is reached.

Our first youth camp was held in September of 1969. It was a profitable time and, hopefully, will be repeated in future years.

Periodic short-term courses have been held for our church leaders, in which Bible and practical matters have been taught. Most of these have been conducted at our Makapwa headquarters, though the most recent one was conducted in the Northern region with thirty or more in attendance.

A most important aspect of our present work, one on which the church of the future depends greatly, is the selection and training of promising men for the gospel ministry. Six of these are currently enrolled at Likubula Bible Institute for their basic theological work. One of the many courses they study is Christian Education. Our own director of Christian Education and Evangelism provides studies in traditional Seventh Day Baptist History, Polity, and the Sabbath. In addition to these courses held annually over a three year cycle, frequent classes are held in which a wide variety of pastoral matters is presented for consideration.

That which is being done in the sphere of Christian Education leaves much undone. Opportunity abounds, but personnel, time, and resources fall short. One of the needs is for instructional material produced in the vernacular to which our Chichewa speaking leaders might refer. The fact that they have so little to read, probably drives them to their Bibles; yet other material would prove helpful.

In any church program whatsoever, Christ needs to be given the preeminence. Frequently He is the neglected One, and this is to our shame. Christian Education must not only disseminate knowledge about Christ, but lead men, young and old, into the very presence of Christ, that they might become sons of God and heirs of the kingdom.

From a Pastor's Report

During the year the pastor has made 150 evangelistic calls and 377 home calls. In carrying on the work of the church, including the calling, the pastor has driven his car 9,475 miles locally. Those portions of the summer trips to association, Camp Joy, Mexico and Conference which were accounted as related to church and denominational work amounted to 9,715 miles. Letters written on church business totaled 333. Over 7,600 tracts and leaflets have been distributed by the pastor personally.

—Marion C. Van Horn,
Daytona Beach, Fla.

Encouraging News from Burma

The sixth annual meeting of the Burma Seventh Day Baptist Conference was held at Tahan in late February. President Lian Ngura has written an enthusiastic account of the meetings. He was able to arrange vacation time from his government job (almost all jobs in Burma are government jobs) so that he could attend and do some work in behalf of converts and churches before returning to his home in Monywa on March 4.

"It is evident that the Lord was with us throughout the conference," he writes. His words carry a flavor that would be lost if put into our matter-of-fact phraseology: "We supposed that even the angels of the Lord have taken their 'Hosanna- Alleluia' with happiness heartily during these meetings." Hearts were deeply cheered by the good work of every committee.

Information of the progress of the work has not come to the Plainfield offices very regularly, which makes this report more exciting. Mr. Ngura indicates that there has been progress in every goal during the past year. The annual report given at the conference showed seventy persons converted during 1969. They set a goal of 100 converts for 1970. The writer adds, "Every worker and lay member is equipped with the Holy Spirit and has courage even in the bad situation."

The conference proposed two new meeting houses at Tahan, San Myo Ave., and Tuithiang Village. He suggests that this can be accomplished by the faithful cooperation of people in the United States. Two or three gifts from individuals or churches are known to have been sent to Burma to help them meet their deep-felt need for a church building at Tahan.

President Ngura closed his letter with the exciting news that the conference asked him to give up his government business "to join the mission fields within this year." He speaks of the action as being quite unexpected but most welcome. He has long wanted to give time to such work but saw no opportunity to do so. He says he wants to fulfill their demand since there is such need for

leadership. He recognizes that he is "unable to fulfill by my own strength and wisdom." The people evidently feel that he is the man for this kind of work. While he was on vacation he spent all of his time other than the four days of conference teaching and lecturing on Bible doctrine "especially our Seventh Day Baptist belief among our field workers and laymen to confirm their beliefs in their heart." He did not have time enough to cover more than the most important points, he says.

Such a glowing letter (brief) is heart-warming. We trust that the enthusiasm of their conference will continue through the year. The letter lacks the details of how the poor people in the relatively small churches propose to keep a man on the field when this has not been considered possible before. The people of this part of Burma are Lushai. Through the efforts of L. Sawi Thanga of Rangoon and the support of our Tract Society they have some Seventh Day Baptist literature in their language.

Relief for Nigeria-Biafra

Among several Christian relief agencies seeking effective ways to continue their humanitarian projects for the needy of Nigeria is the World Relief Commission of the National Association of Evangelicals headed by Dr. Everett S. Graffam, 152 Green Hill Road, King of Prussia, Pa., who recently made a trip to Nigeria. The picture shown here (Jan. 1970) is of two children suffering from protein deficiency being fed at one of five WRC feeding stations.

The close of the shooting war between Nigeria and Biafra signals the expansion of another kind of war for the workers of the World Relief Commission, overseas relief arm of the National Association of Evangelicals. This will be a war against extinction, hunger, disease, abject poverty, hopelessness and despair. The weapons will be food, clothing, medicine, blankets, vocational training, and food-for-work rehabilitation programs.

The commission is in close touch with the U. S. Dept. of State and other aid agencies, and hopes to move in with food,

clothing and medical supplies in an attempt to save as many people as possible. At the same time they will initiate a long-range rehabilitation program to give food-for-work employment to some of the displaced and to work toward a stable society and economy.

While food is the most crucial need, of course, the need for clothing runs a close second, especially during the rainy season when respiratory diseases proliferate. Dr. K. W. Tracey, medical secretary of the Sudan Interior Mission in Jos, Nigeria, said: "We are keen on getting Operation Dorcas under way as it combines relief and rehabilitation. At the present time clothing is one of the big needs, particularly as there are more and more displaced refugees." "Operation Dorcas, takes its name from a woman in the early Christian church (Acts 9:36) who became famous for her almsdeeds in the seaport of Joppa (now Jaffa) in Palestine. Her specialty was sewing clothing for the poor.

The idea of combining relief and rehabilitation came to Dr. Everett S. Graffam, executive vice-president of WRC, when he was in Nigeria recently and saw the great need for clothing. The people prefer their own style of clothing, so he and Dr. Tracey discussed the possibility of purchasing large quantities of cloth from local textile mills and hiring Christians to make the clothing, which would later be distributed by evangelicals to the refugees free of charge. "Operation Dorcas" was the result. Many tailors have been rehabilitated, and war widows are given employment in this project.

"The church of God will not move 'like a mighty army' on 'the feet of little children,' nor on the praying knees of devout women, unless there are also the manly strides of men dedicated to the mission of the church. Ample child-power, youthpower and womanpower are not sufficient. The church of Jesus Christ will limp along unless we have ample manpower."

—A. George Downing, Southern California

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Billy Graham Crusades

Mr. Graham announced that he would hold a crusade in Germany April 5-12. Each crusade service, he said, will be televised live in 11 countries, with translations into seven languages.

The evangelist also announced that he will return to New York for a five-day crusade June 24-28.

Mr. Graham held a 10-day crusade in June 1969 at the 20,000-seat Madison Square Garden. This year's crusade will be held at the 60,000-seat Shea Stadium, home of the New York Mets and Jets. As during last year's crusade, the services will be televised nationwide.

The emphasis of this year's crusade will be on students, Mr. Graham said. He added that in his crusades over the past year many young people have found a solution to their drug addiction through "an experience with Christ."

NCCC Broadcasting Shifts Emphasis to "Models of Hope"

National Council of Churches' broadcasting in the next season will de-emphasize critical analysis of problems and focus on presenting "models of hope."

A decision to make the shift was made by directors of the NCCC's Broadcasting and Film Commission (BFC), which has 19 denominational members.

Programs developed in 1970-1971 will feature church situations and persons finding ways to resolve human problems, said Nelson Price, chairman of BFC's operations.

The commission decided too many network documentaries lead viewers to despair, rather than action, by concentrating on social and human problems.

—ABNS

Southern Baptists Create Loan Fund for Negro Churches

The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board has authorized the creation of a million dollar loan fund for Negro and other ethnic Baptist groups.

The agency, meeting in Augusta for its spring session, took the action as a

response to crises needs in the nation.

The action followed approval of the loan fund one month earlier by the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee in Nashville.

According to the board's Church Loan Division director, Bob Kilgore of Atlanta, who heads a division with more than \$23 million in loan corpus funds, said the loans were proposed because the churches to be helped from the new fund do not have this type of assistance available to them from their denominations.

He predicted that probably the major assistance given the churches would be in the form of aiding them to establish a sound financial program which would enable the churches to secure local financing. Where local financing cannot be secured, the board will make the loans.

Maximum ceiling on the loans will be \$30,000 and minimum loan will be \$5,000.

American Baptist Budget

The figures are in for the 1969 American Baptist budget. The Baptists raised 89% of their budget for the year. Total receipts were \$226 below what was received the previous year. No reason is given. December contributions were much higher than anticipated.

Southern Baptists say that their contributions in January were high.

Seventh Day Baptists did not quite reach their budget goals in 1969 but January receipts were about double the amount reported for December.

The Rev. Randolph Nugent a United Methodist minister has been appointed associate general secretary for Overseas Ministries of the National Council of Churches, the largest of the council's five major program units, the Division of Overseas Ministries. He will be responsible for administering a program of nearly \$38 million annually (including a \$25 million global program for relief of the hungry), and will head a staff of some 60 overseas and 50 New York-based executives.

Mr. Nugent's appointment is in line

with the NCCC's policy of seeking a more proportionate number of black executives among its top leadership. He replaces Dr. David M. Stowe, who is leaving to become executive vice-president of the United Church of Christ Board for World Ministries.

In 1915, only one percent of the total civilian population aged 18 years or more, were veterans. Today, according to the Veterans Administration, one out of five in this age group are veterans.

Irvington Church Couple Celebrates Fiftieth Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Schober of Irvington, N. J., came to this country from Germany many years ago and have been prominent in the organization and on-going work of the German speaking Seventh Day Baptist Church since the beginning in 1933. Now retired from their noodle-making business they find many things to keep them busy. Their fiftieth wedding anniversary celebration on March 7, arranged by a son and daughter at a restaurant in Union, N. J., was an opportunity for friends and fellow church members to show their appreciation.

A church service at the Salvation Army building (where the congregation has met for many years) preceded the anniversary dinner. Part of the music for the service was provided by the family. Mrs. Schober played the piano. A son and two grandsons played trumpets. The daughter-in-law accompanied a granddaughter who gave a flute solo. The pastor, John Schmid, spoke on Psalm 90:17, the same Scripture that had been used at the wedding fifty years ago. The small building was filled from front to back for the occasion.

Mrs. Schober was in many respects a counselor for the church in the earlier days. Her husband has continued to hold the office of treasurer and secretary. The couple has traveled throughout this country attending our General Conference and they have made excursions to their native land in recent years. Their address is 16 Marshall St., Irvington, N. J. 07845.

Glories of God

Oh those glorious moments 'tween darkness and light when the shades of gray are giving way to rays of light. The birds awaken with their hearts bursting with joy and their throats flooding forth with song.

'Tis glorious to take time out in the eve to listen to the trill of the birds and the talking of the wind in the trees.

'Tis glorious to watch the stars peek out and the moon send out its beams to bathe the world in a light all golden.

'Tis glorious to know that God is still on His throne and to feel Him as He guides and directs those who will but wait on Him.

'Tis glorious to feel full of life and health;

To be able to enjoy God's world;

To watch the fleecy clouds gather to form storm clouds and see the streaks of golden red sun rays gleam through.

'Tis glorious to be able to thrill at the song of the birds in anticipation of the coming storm and, listening to wind whispering through the pines, to know that God is over all.

—Paul V. Beebe

Seven-day Man

Yet, man is a seven-day machine, designed by the Great Artificer. The greatest blessing ever conferred upon man as a toiler and a laborer is the Sabbath. Henry George said, "Moses was the first labor reformer, and the Sabbath was his chief labor reform." — Clarence Macartney

Discipline and Drugs

At the twelfth annual School on Alcohol and Narcotics Studies held recently at Waco, Texas, one of the speakers at the seminar had some pointed things to say about child discipline and the use of drugs. Here is the story.

Dr. Dominick J. Lacovara, deputy chief of the National Institute of Mental Health Clinical Research Center, Fort Worth, Texas, spoke on narcotics problems.

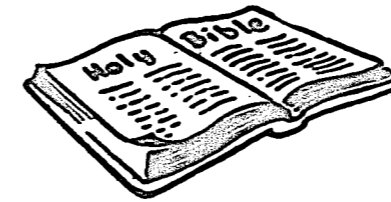
Dr. Lacovara said, "Children cry out for discipline. They do not expect parents to get on the floor and play with them. A parent must maintain a certain identity. He is a compassionate figure, an authoritarian, a provider for the household. His behavior will determine to a large extent how his children will behave There is an emotional vacuum in the addict; a void in the lives of these children who go astray. Often children become angry with parents who neglect them in an emotional way and fail to communicate with them in a real sense."

"Children mold their personality or ego after the pattern of a certain adult — like you and me, for example. It is imperative that all of us unite to curtail juvenile degradation, one manifestation of which is addiction, by instilling in our boys and girls a proper code of conduct, patterned from the ever present triad—the home, the school, the church, or, if you will the community I feel that much of our addiction problem is generated in a family atmosphere not conducive to the development of emotionally well-integrated happy children, conditioned to obedience and legitimate authority," Dr. Lacovara said.

A Special Emphasis Issue of

The Sabbath Recorder

"WHERE THERE IS NO VISION THE PEOPLE PERISH"

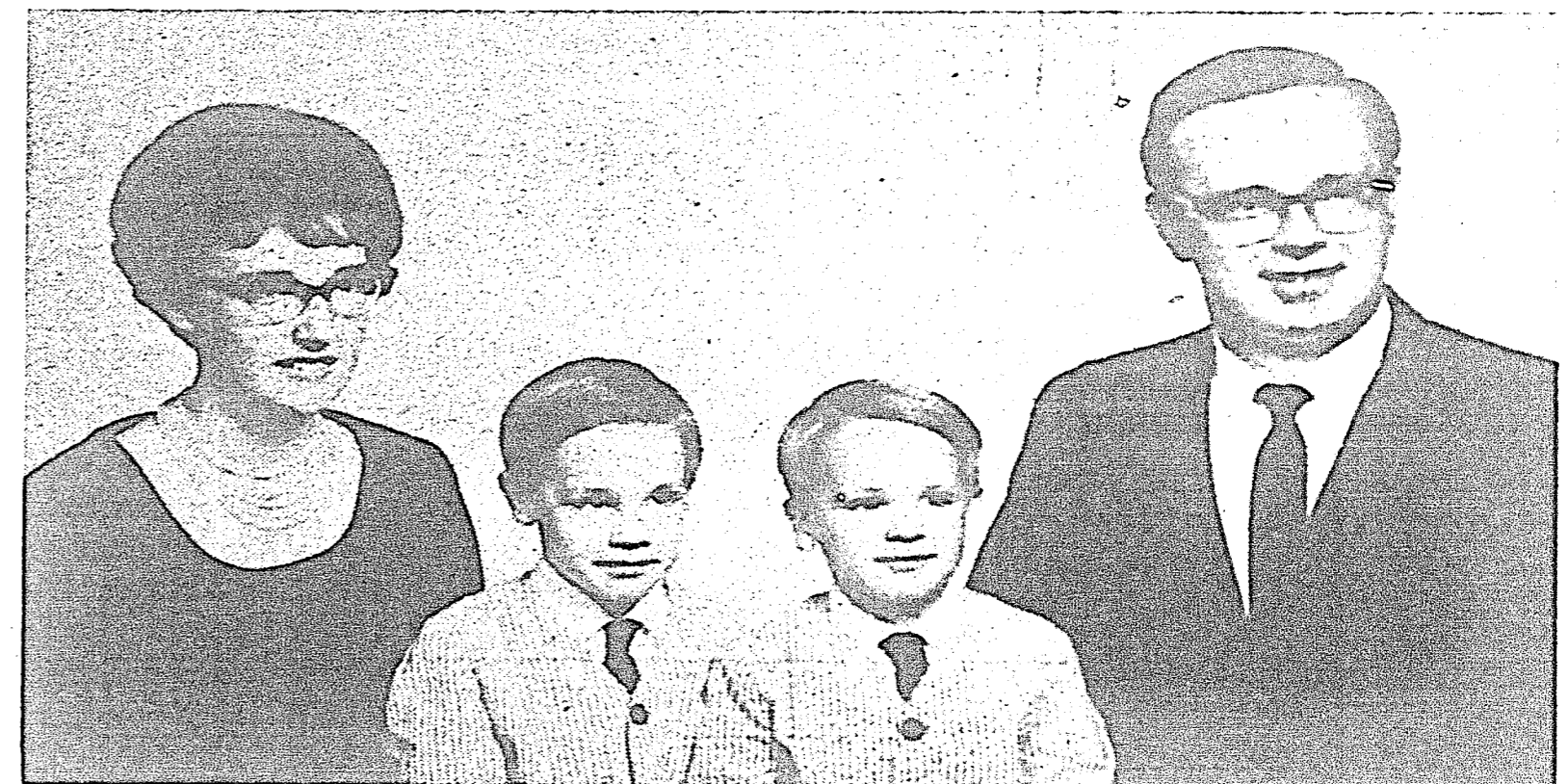


MISSION NOTES



IN THE INTEREST OF SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST MISSIONS

New Missionaries to Malawi



Rev. John and Joyce Conrod with their sons Michael and Philip will be commissioned for service April 25, 1970 in the Pawcatuck Church, Westerly, Rhode Island.

READ: CHURCH PEACE CORPS — PAGE 8
AFTER DEDICATION — PAGE 14