

The Sabbath Recorder

Homecoming Sabbath*

By Marguerite S. Whitford

We gather together, this "Homecoming Day"
To recall some years that have passed.
We rejoice in the thought that many are here
To whom memories have come and will last.
There were stronghearted men, in those days
... gone by
And brave, courageous mothers
Whose lives shone forth with faith and love
With their concern for others.
Their faith in their Maker kept them true—
True to His Sabbath Day.
True to the way of a Christian life,
Striving never to wander astray.
Our forefathers gathered on Sabbath days;
And the meeting on Friday night
Was a quiet evening of song and prayer
That to many was a delight.
There were weddings too, in this dear old church
That lasted a lifetime through
With vows exchanged in God's own sight.
They were always held sacred and true.
To those who have come to worship here
When bells ring, each Sabbath day,
A blessing is waiting for each deep need.
Each is helped, 'ere they go away.
Some who have lived and loved the path
That leads up to the door,
Today only in memory
Can walk there as of yore.
Our hearts hold dear this grand old church
And those who have served it well.
To some it holds more beauty
Than a great cathedral.
In His wisdom, may God bless this church
And may we fail Him never.
May the good that has come from services held
Live and live on forever.

*The lines above were written for and read at the Fellowship Hour in the Second Brookfield Church, Sabbath afternoon, May 16, 1970.

Honest Sabbath Question

How can something be wrong to do one day of the week, but morally right to do the other six days of the week?

This might well be the question of a rebellious heart, not willing to submit to God's limitations. Or it could be the question from a sincere seeker after God's will. Only those who are sincere are likely to be helped by my answer.

Some parallel illustrative examples might help us here. Moses wore shoes when God met him at the burning bush, and was told to take off his shoes in that holy place. Now, why should it be morally wrong for him to wear shoes in this place if it was right to wear shoes in other places? Isn't God everywhere? Still God commanded, and that was enough. God puts His limitation in the realm of *place*.

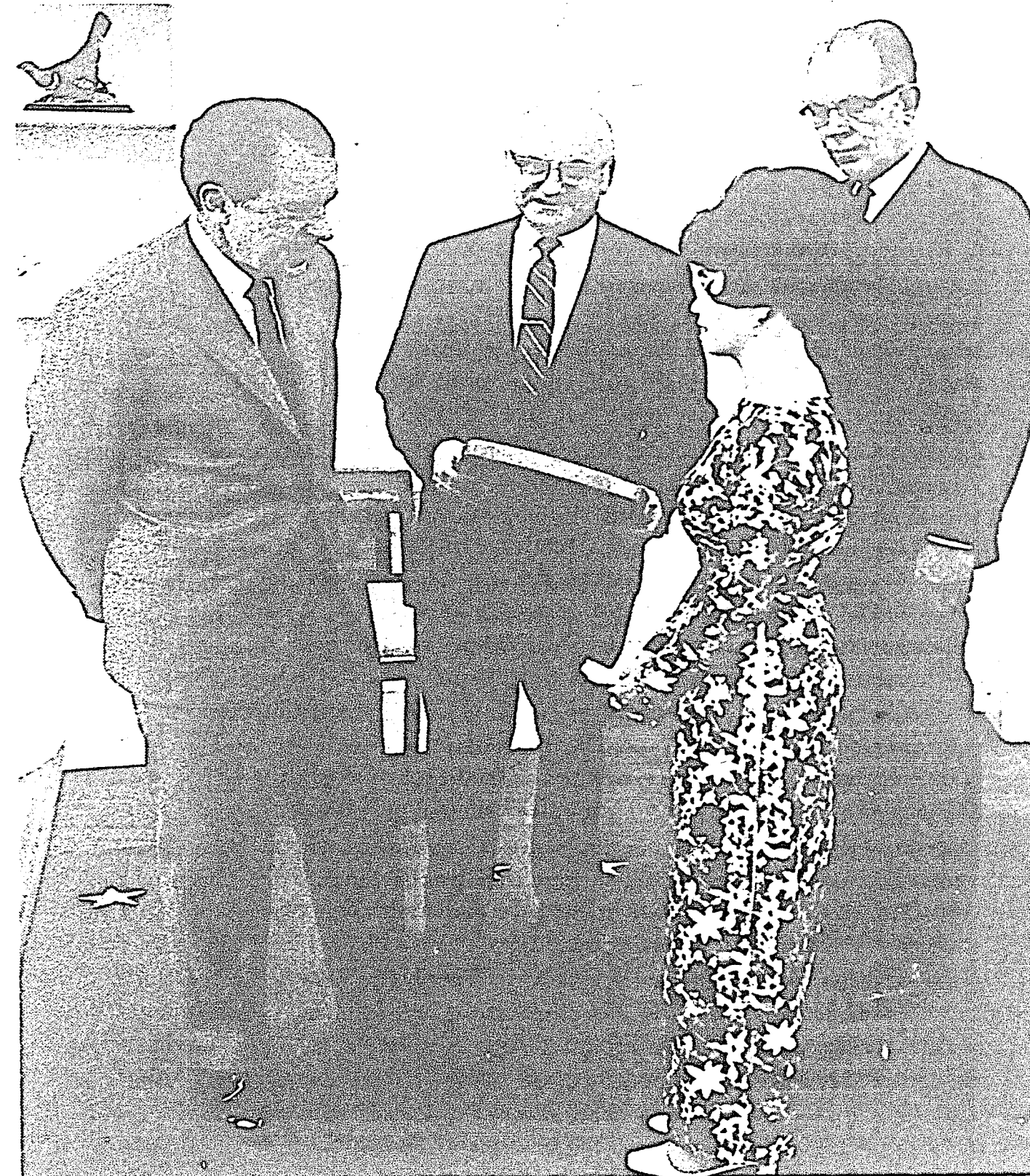
Consider the marriage relationship. Can it be that it is morally right for me to be intimate with one woman (my wife) but wrong for me to be equally intimate with the wife of another? I feel sure of your answer on this! Yes, we must recognize a difference, for in this case God puts His limitations in the realm of *person*.

In the case of the Sabbath, also, I am not free to treat every day as being the same, for God has said that He put His special blessing on (in) one day, the Sabbath, which He calls "My Holy Day." Thus, to disregard the day is to disregard Him. This is a case of God putting His limitation in the realm of *time*.

—W. A. B. in *The Vision*

Without a belief in personal immortality religion is like an arch resting on one pillar, or like a bridge ending in an abyss.

—Max Muller



Vietnam Nurse Meets President Nixon

Mrs. Nguyen Thi Khang, supervisor of the Hoa Khank Children's Hospital supported by the World Relief Commission of the National Association of Evangelicals, is presented to President Nixon by Dr. Everett Graffam (center) head of relief work for N. A. E., who gave the President a copy of the new film "The Many Faces of Vietnam" which tells the story of the combined efforts of military civic action and medical teams along with nationals. The hospital, built and maintained through the personal contributions of the Marine and Navy personnel, has treated more than 50,000 children in five years.

The Sabbath Recorder

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More than by Chance

Some of us are slow to recognize the Lord's hand in the little incidents of daily life. It is natural for me to say that it was by chance that I happened to meet an interesting person. This, on the face of it, seems like a more reasonable explanation of the unusual than to say that we were led of the Lord. Perhaps we have been driven to ascribing things to chance by the excessive claims of Divine guidance that some of our friends indulge in. We may be right in being a little cynical, but this attitude may blind us to the rich experiences that could be ours if we were more open to the leading of the Spirit. Sometimes this leading is not apparent until we look back over the whole combination of events that led to some happy experience. Let me illustrate.

On Sunday, May 31, I had occasion to take public transportation from Plainfield to New York. To the thousands who commute over that route every day nothing could be more commonplace or uneventful. All one has to do is look up the bus schedule and take the most convenient bus as, for instance, the 7:35. Automatically one provides himself with a paper, magazine or book in order to avoid the monotony of the hour-long ride. On this occasion by chance or by the leading of the Lord I met a most interesting person and had no occasion to read the news magazine I was carrying.

I waited fifteen minutes past the time for the 7:35 bus and then walked half a mile to another corner to pick up the next one. It failed to come, so I went to the third corner to get the 8:03. It also failed to come on this Sunday morning. There was just time enough to pick up the 8:34 train. Another disappointment—it also failed to come. Perhaps I could catch the 8:45 bus two blocks away. Yes, it came, and I was on my way. Fortunately I did not have a close appointment schedule.

Upon boarding the bus I had to decide where to sit. I gave it some thought and did not follow my normal inclinations as to the choice of a seatmate. I didn't know whether or not the girl with very dark skin would be interesting, but I decided that I could at least be friendly. When she replied to my greeting, I

guessed by her voice that she was not American-born but was from Jamaica. She was surprised that I knew where she was from, and I was surprised to learn her family and church connections. As mentioned above, there was no monotony, no time for reading.

With all those delays, changes of plans and last minute decisions, it is just too hard to believe that it was by chance that I met a girl from Jamaica living temporarily in Brooklyn and that she was a Seventh Day Baptist, Millicent Comrie, from the Higgintown church. I had met her family, knew her pastor, and had numerous mutual acquaintances. Furthermore, there was a possibility that I could be of some assistance to her in her future plans. We exchanged addresses and parted when her subway train went downtown and mine uptown. We were strangers with presumably almost nothing in common when I sat down beside her. When we separated, she was calling me pastor in the delightful Jamaican manner.

The day had other contacts that were out of the ordinary but perhaps not worth recounting. If God does not control the circumstances, who can say that He does not often lead us in unexpected ways as we respond to the circumstances? One lesson to be learned is to live expectantly. God may have some new and pleasurable experience in store for us that we could so easily miss. I hate to think of the possibility of not speaking to a seatmate with whom I had so much in common.

Willingness To Change

Speakers at a convention of the largest, and traditionally conservative, denomination could well be excused for leading off with shocking statements designed to upset the status quo and make the leaders more ready to accept certain changes that seem inevitable. So it was at the huge annual convention of Southern Baptists at Denver in early June. More than one speaker tried to shake up the delegates and overcome the resistance of the churches to change.

R. Lofton Hudson, director of the Midwest Christian Counseling Center in

JUNE 15, 1970

Kansas City, Mo., could have anticipated some reaction to his advocacy of mixed marriages. "Christians," he stated, "need to courageously seek persons of other races to mix with — and to marry." He later remarked that too many Christians react to the threat of change with the attitude of "If God be for us, who can be against us?" He followed with, "I'll tell you who can be against you — people." He stated that "There is no hope for the church unless it becomes alarmed, upright, gets off its tranquilizers and adopts a courageous tolerance to anxiety."

Another speaker on the same program, Joseph Coleman, a Baptist layman of Tulsa, Oklahoma, had an equally upsetting remark on the need to be willing to change: "Wisdom is just old-fashioned horse sense — that which keeps horses from betting on the human race."

Clever, challenging statements may be needed to move people off dead center, but the remarks do not exactly stand close scrutiny. Horses do not refrain from betting on the human race because they are smarter than men. Most of us have more hope for the human race than interest in a horse race. The Lord was not enthusiastic about the human race when He came down to be one of us and die for us. We are told that He loved the world and gave Himself for it. We can be sure that He still loves this sinful human race and has not given up on us.

As for Hudson's remark that the people can be against us even if God is for us, there is a rejoinder. It is nothing new for the people to be against what God is for; we can expect our good to be evil spoken of, but we trust in God rather than the people. When we believe God and love the people, we will find ways to witness that will bring many of those people to God's viewpoint and to the salvation that makes it possible to say in truth, "If God be for us, who can be against us?"

Willing to change? Yes, by all means, but willing to change only from wrong to right. Christians, stirred up as they ought to be, will change methods and perhaps terminology, but not the message which comes to us crystal-clear from the Bible.

The Myth of Population Explosion

Who dares to label the "population explosion" a myth? Some have suspected that the birth rate in the United States was more like a slow-burning fire than an explosion, but it remains for Leading Families of America, Inc., to come out boldly in a letter to the President calling the population explosion a myth and giving figures to prove it.

A telephone conversation with Judge John Henry Norton, national secretary of the organization, reveals that this is not a Catholic oriented body but a nonprofit association providing economic benefits to 163,000 families with four or more children. Having at least four children is requisite for membership. It is not a religious organization, although Judge Norton expresses the view that God helps parents of large families to be better parents than they would be with only one or two children. The organization is opposed to abortion — which is, of course, characteristic of most Christian and Jewish people.

What are the evidences that people have been feeding us a myth about the dangers of the population explosion, which myth, says Judge Norton, "must be shattered if we are to regain reverence for all life in our country and properly emphasize the infinite value of a child"?

The judge said, "We live on only two percent of the land area of the U. S. Sensible distribution of our population should be our goal. This can be accomplished through tax incentives to industry to relocate in uncrowded areas of our vast nation."

The letter continued, "More than half of the counties in our country have lost population in each of the last two decades. France's population density is 4½ times what it is in the U. S.; England is 10 times greater, and the Netherlands is 30 times greater. However, pollution, traffic jams and delinquency are no worse in these countries than they are here.

"Overpopulation is not the cause for the great poverty of the people of India," the judge continued. "India has 500 people per square mile. Japan has 700 people per square mile. Stable and prosperous Belgium has 900. And Monaco has

76,000. Monaco has 92 times as many people per square miles as India. Therefore, population is not the cause of poverty."

The environmental problem with which we have afflicted ourselves can be overcome with technology and is not attributable to an overall rapid increase in population.

Food is not going to be a population problem, though there have been places in the world where bad government has made it so. The U. N. Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) said in February of this year that there are likely to be food surpluses rather than shortages. Nutrition experts are quoted as saying that in the future we will be able to buy all the protein we need annually for \$5 per person.

It might be permissible to say that overpopulation of the earth is as remote a possibility as the overpopulation of heaven. Why can't we have some speculation on heaven like some of the people of the Middle Ages? Such a study would be sobering and perhaps more conducive to normal blood pressure than all this worry about whether there will be air enough for our next generation. God is still sovereign. Heaven is His throne and the earth His footstool, says the Scripture. He hasn't forgotten man whom He created and He has marvelously provided His creatures with all the natural resources they need to sustain life until that day when they are called to their eternal home.

Our Prayer Corner

Suggestions for Prayer This Week

Pray for:

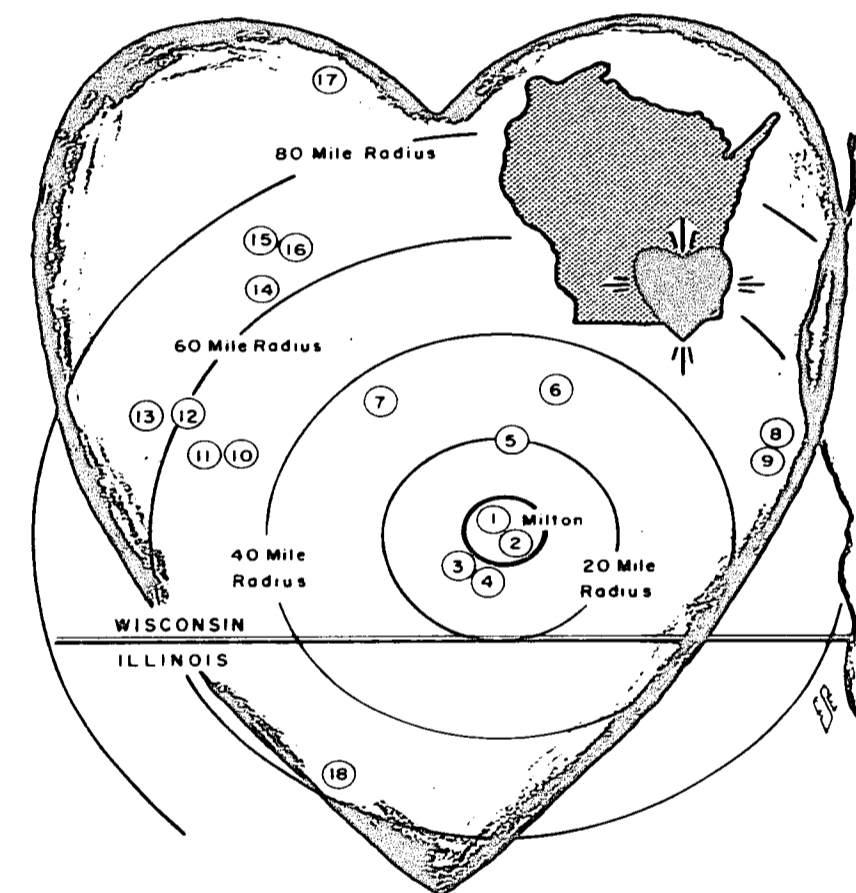
- 1) The SCSC youth in training at North Loup and the projects to which they will go after their training.
- 2) The pastors who are seeking guidance as to where and how they will serve the Lord in the months and years ahead.
- 3) The churches that have been or are soon to be pastorless — that they may experience revival and may secure leadership for outreach work.

Conference Publicity

Beautiful Wisconsin

We like it here—you will too!

Many Seventh Day Baptists will converge on Milton and Wisconsin during the early part of August to attend Pre-Con Camps and Conference. As there are many attractions of historical, scenic, educational and recreational interest within easy driving distance of Milton, it is hoped that the plans of the visitors will include trips to some of these spots. Some of these attractions have been selected for special recommendation and the location of each is indicated on the accompanying illustration and described briefly in this article.



History of the Area

- 2) The Milton House Museum, Milton. Slave tunnel used as "underground railway" station before Civil War, pioneer cabin (1837), relics of early settlers, restored general store.
- 4) Lincoln-Tallman Homestead, Janesville. Restored Italian-style villa, antiques, firearms. Rock County Historical Museum in adjacent carriage house has displays of Indian and pioneer relics.
- 5) Aztalan State Park, near Lake Mills. Indian ceremonial and burial grounds, museum with archaeological discoveries.

6) Octagon House, Watertown. Solid brick house of five floors with fifty-seven rooms. Of special interest is the superb cantilever hanging spiral staircase, the restored first kindergarten in the United States, and the 100-year-old barn with early farm implements.

The Beauties of Nature

8) Mitchell Park Conservatory, Milwaukee. Tropical and desert plants and flower show in the three unique geodesic domes.

10) Cave of the Mounds, Blue Mounds. Eighteen rooms of prehistoric fairyland in all its colorful beauty. Sweaters advisable for the constant 46 degree temperature.

13) Tower Hill State Park, near Spring Green. Wooded area overlooking Wisconsin River. Good place for a picnic and to learn how our forefathers made lead shot for their guns.

15) Wisconsin Dells. The principal attractions here are the unique sandstone formations carved by the Wisconsin River. Two different boat tours enable the visitor to enjoy the beauty of the Upper and Lower Dells. Also a 7.5 mile ride in a "duck" over land and through water provides fun and adventure in addition to enjoyment of the scenic beauty.

18) White Pines State Park, near Oregon, Ill. A park of 385 acres with picturesque Pine Creek, a hardwood forest and the only virgin pine grove in Illinois. Trails and picnic shelters, camping area and cabins.

Manufacturing and Agriculture

1) The Burdick Corporation, Milton. See the production of electronic-medical equipment in the plant of the largest exclusive manufacturer of this type of equipment in the nation.

3) The Parker Pen Company, Janesville. The home of the world-famous "51" and Jotter pens.

17) Arlington Experimental Farm, near Arlington. A 2037-acre outdoor laboratory operated by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences of the University of Wisconsin for development of new agricultural practices, materials and equipment.

MEMORY TEXT

I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which will give for the life of the world.—John 6:51

Fun for All

9) Milwaukee County Zoological Park, Milwaukee. At this world-famous zoo, no bars impede your view of rare animals in natural settings, and colorful birds fly around free around you in the only aviary of its kind.

14) Circus World Museum, Baraboo. Live circus acts, street parade, steam calliope concerts, mementos and circus gear of early years.

Unique Buildings and Performances

11) Little Norway, near Blue Mounds. The picturesque buildings of a preserved Norwegian Pioneer Homestead in a beautiful setting in the foothills of the Blue Mounds. Also a museum of Norse antiques.

12) House on the Rock, near Spring Green. A unique hand-constructed house built high on a rock bluff. Collections of dolls, guns, music boxes and clocks. Walkway in treetops.

16) Indian Ceremonials, Wisconsin Dells. Beautiful ceremonial dances excellently staged nightly in the Stand Rock Amphitheater.

Beautiful Architecture

7) State Capitol Building, Madison. A handsome 282-foot domed structure built of gleaming white Vermont granite. The murals and interior architecture make this one of the most beautiful capitol buildings in the nation.

Brochures and other pertinent information will be available during Conference at a desk manned by Stanley Fox, Elston Shaw and Russell Burdick. Drop a line to the latter at Milton Junction, Wis. 53564 before July 15 if information is desired for pre-Conference visits to any of these areas.

How To Protect a Country

By Nonviolent Means

By Rev. Paul S. Burdick

All Christians will deplore the awful atrocities of war, its effect upon the civilian population, and its destruction of property and life. Violence destroys friendships and encourages more violence on the part of others. That is why we deplore the use of violence by blacks, by reds, or by people of any race or culture. But violence and warfare will be used in the future until some other means can be proven to be effective in bringing about the liberation of people who are under bondage to tyranny, within or from without the commonwealth.

Is there such a defense? Gandhi pointed out that when the whole civilian population of a country is united in a common resolution to resist an outside occupying power, and do it by nonviolent means, freedom can be attained. Martin Luther King, Jr., showed that the power of non-violence was effective in winning liberation from the tyranny of racial inequality. His unfortunate death gave loose rein to elements who were impatient with his nonviolent or pacifist approach to the problem of inequalities among the races. Once again, however, the use of violence by those elements that were once held in check by his assurance of success, has lost the support of thousands who once stood by King in his practically Christian course.

The charge usually levelled against pacifism by its opponents is that it "won't work." It has been called "impractical," "sentimental," "all heart and no brain," until even in the Christian church it has few adherents. Perhaps like Christianity itself it has been looked at, declared to be too hard, and so not even tried.

In the light of this reaction, let us ask again the hard question, "What has pacifism, or nonviolent resistance or civilian defense, to show that it can be a practical method of defending a population from the threat of an outside occupation, or an internal take-over by tyrannical despots?"

Here let us introduce a new term, "civilian defense." It has no relationship

with civil defense and must not be confused with it. It is the complete dedication of a whole population of a country to the effort to dethrone tyranny by every possible means short of violence, killing, and the wholesale destruction of property. It may include freedom marches, refusal to cooperate with the killing process even to the point of going to jail or the giving of one's life, writing letters to influence world opinion, and last but sometimes least effective, appeal to conscience through the churches. (Sadly we remember the stance of the churches in Nazi Germany.)

Civilian defense is, then, the dedication of every person of a country to the use of nonviolent means for bringing about a change in the attitude of a conquering person or country. It is, in Christian terms, (and no matter how impossible it seems) the effort to convert by the power of love, the one who for selfish gain, tries to hold thrall over another.

How would civilian defense work in a country like Czechoslovakia today? Military resistance seems to be out. Most elements of the population seem to be agreed on this point. They do not want to have their beautiful country with all its men, women and children, deluged by the destructiveness of modern warfare. Neither do they want to appeal to other countries to come in and "save" them by a destructive war. A conflagration of measureless proportions might be the result. What then is left as an effective means of nonviolent resistance? Someday the tale will be told, but we can only speculate as to what things are being tried. A contact with peace-oriented elements within Russia to try to win their support, is doubtless one way. An appeal to the humanitarian instincts of all nations should bring results.

Then, as they may be led to do so, some will openly disobey unjust laws, march into forbidden areas, and refuse to recognize the authority of an illegal government. If these acts bring about punishment, they have the example of Peter and John, who would obey God rather than man. Such was the revolt of

Martin Luther King against unjust rules barring blacks from restaurants, busses, etc. Those who died became martyrs to the cause and are enshrined in the hearts of those who have followed in their train.

Civilian defense involves all parts of the population, not just the young men. It is based on truth, not on lies and deceit. If once it is defeated, the task of liberation is to be taken up again—and again—and again. I don't want to be like King Joash who did not smite enough times on the ground with his arrows to suit Elisha. If one believes in God, or at least believes that the universe is based on truth, and rewards the searcher for truth, then any course that is based on the use of falsehood and deceit will fail. All the highest values that men are seeking for—all the kindness, faithfulness to home and friends—all that men are willing to die for, are bound up in a few words of the Christian gospel,—“Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free,” and “You shall love one another.”

On the other hand, perhaps Christians do not have a monopoly on these ideas. If I find a Buddhist, or a Hindu, or a man of any other faith who holds true to these ideals, I shall not deny him a place in the Brotherhood of Man. Shalom.

Tax Exemption of Churches

In defending tax exemption of church buildings used for religious purposes Americans United in its brief prepared for the Supreme Court draws some sharp distinctions. The organization freely agrees that the First Amendment does not require tax exemption of churches as a religious liberty right. The argument for exemption rests on other grounds. It rejects the contention that exemption constitutes the “establishment of religion.”

The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs argues that constitutionally guaranteed religious liberty “requires, by right, the freedom from taxation of property used for religious purposes.” It states further, “If such governmental agencies attempt to turn churches into a source of revenue for state purposes those attempts constitute restraints on the free exercise of religion.”

Christ-Power for the Individual

By Betty Cobb

(The radiance of a new love for the Lord showed in the face of this young woman as she took part in the Sabbath afternoon meeting of Eastern Association with the testimony summarized here)



I was brought up in church, took Christ as my Savior at age nine. I have always loved people and tried to show a Christlike love to them. Then at age of thirty-five I had a mountaintop experience and that started a period of spiritual growth which

I hope will continue. I went to Faith at Work two years ago and became aware that there was much more to the Christian life than I had experienced until then. The Holy Spirit came into communion with me so that I could communicate a Christlike love to others which was deeper than I had ever felt before.

What is Faith at Work?

It is discovering, small groups, conferences, action!

We go through life learning to play a variety of roles, but wondering who we really are and what's the purpose of it all. And when, in desperation, we venture out in search of love, too often we find only the facades behind which others are hiding. We go to meetings but seldom meet. Traditional forms lose their meaning, and we grope for a reality that seems beyond our reach. Faith at Work is people making exciting discoveries and passing them on. It is going somewhere to speak and to listen, not alone, but with one or two others so that your witness for Christ can reflect your openness with one another. It is a moving of the Spirit for renewal in the church, crossing all barriers of race, status, and denomination. It is a catalyst, bringing people together in all kinds of situations where "the breeze of the Holy Spirit" is free to blow. It is the organized conviction that the only religion relevant to our times is one

that enters deeply into common life.

Lives take new directions as a result. New prayer and nurture groups are formed, and the timid are launched into more articulate witnessing for Christ. Just imagine what can happen when one hundred, two hundred, or five hundred people, old and young, from a cross section of churches, gather for this kind of open exchange. God can and does do surprising fresh things, and a new kind of leadership is being trained for local situations.

Faith at Work is a challenging reminder that the Kingdom of God is a kingdom of right relationships: that if a person is to find freedom, fulfillment and purpose he must be in right relationship with God, with himself, with others, and with the world. Whenever two or three would gather together in the name of the Lord, there they would expect to find their once crucified, now risen Lord present in the midst of them. They would also expect the Holy Spirit to work in each of them and share with each other what was thus revealed.

I was attracted to Faith at Work after reading the list of workshops to be presented on that weekend. On the list was, "Generation Gap," and as I would like to keep the best communication between my daughters and myself, I decided to go. I learned enough from that workshop to make the weekend very worthwhile. Small groups play a big part of Faith at Work and they are for growth. A fellowship of sinners drawing together people who have a story to tell and those who are eager to hear. In openness and honesty they find courage to shed their masks, to share their growing edge and to move forward to new levels of effectiveness.

When I came home I felt motivated to get into every home on our street. It was easy for me to do this across the street or next door when a new neighbor moved in but not so easy farther than that. So I called the head of the cancer collectors and shocked him by asking for a job. I was amazed at the opportunities for witnessing and stayed at several of the homes for an hour or more. Friends were made and they found out some of

WOMEN'S WORK—Mrs. Earl Cruzan

Baptists in Tokyo, Japan

July 8 - 18

By Gladys Drake

During this past year plans have been developing for women associated with the North American Baptist Women's Union Executive Committee to hold their meetings in Tokyo during the week prior to the sessions of the Baptist World Congress. For those of us who are eligible and privileged to attend, the greater proportion of the cost for travel, room and meals is being met by the NABWU and the Women's Department of the Baptist World Alliance.

Now, as I write this four weeks before departure, the necessary details have been completed such as immunization shots, updating my passport, securing a visa, and making plane reservations to San Francisco where I will join a group of other Baptist women for the remainder of the trip. I can scarcely believe that this is happening for me!

You too, each and every Seventh Day Baptist woman, are affiliated with the North American Baptist Women's Union and you can be a part of this gathering

their needs could be met by Christ through me.

I have also experienced the Holy Spirit's leading in three small groups. Four couples in our church formed a small group and felt God's leading. I joined another group asking for ten brave Christians and we ended up with a group of twenty-one. We committed one month to God in the following ways: 1. Met once a week to pray and share together. 2. Gave two hours time each week to God. 3. Gave one-tenth of earnings during that month. 4. Spent 5:30 - 6:00 each morning in prayer and meditation. 5. Witnessed for God our experiences to others. Two healings took place during this month.

I belong to a housewives' group which meets every other week for two hours during the day. We are studying the book called "The Abundant Life." My

in spirit and in your prayers. You will be very much in my thoughts as I seek to represent you in these executive sessions.

For many Baptist women of the world this is their every-five-year's reunion and women this year will have the double thrill of participating in the Baptist World Congress and in the Women's Department meetings. It is hoped that it will be possible to have a Baptist woman member present from virtually every country in which Baptists are at work.

While in Tokyo I will attend the meetings of the Baptist World Congress as a representative of our General Conference. It is expected that Duane Hurley, president of Salem College, and his wife, Shireen, will be attending part of the sessions also and will likewise be serving as emissaries from our denomination.

The growth of the Christian church is slow in Japan. Less than one percent of the total population of Japan is Christian. Let us pray that this gathering of Baptists from around the world will be a blessing to those who attend. Let us also pray that in a land where few are Christians, our presence may be a witness and that lives may be touched by the power of the Holy Spirit.

sister-in-law and I took an hour's instruction for six weeks on how to start and sustain a small group. We have eight girls from different denominations and I believe by fall we'll have to split into two groups as others have asked to join.

Leland (my husband) and I have agreed to be a part of a lay witness team that goes to other churches where you live in the homes of the congregation for a weekend, witnessing honestly, with current accounts of both failures and successes at breakfasts, coffee hours, luncheons and meetings. One pastor whose church participates in sending out such teams calls this the Macedonian exchange.

It is exciting, this new dimension of God's love I have discovered lately and I pray for God's leading for my family and me to be true, honest witnesses for Christ.

An Appreciation as Burdicks Leave Malawi

By Fedson F. Makatanje

Journalist for Central Africa Conference

A Seventh Day Baptist missionary doctor, Dr. Victor H. Burdick and his family, left Malawi for the United States of America on May 12, 1970.

Dr. Burdick, who came to Malawi in 1957, had been serving the Lord as a missionary doctor at Makapwa Seventh Day Baptist Station Hospital. His wife, Mrs. Beth Burdick, came into the country in 1953, four years before her husband, to serve as a missionary nurse. While in the country these two American missionaries fell in love and married each other in 1959. Since then God has blessed them with three children — Victor, Joan, and Mark.

Dr. Burdick is leaving Malawi for the United States to refresh his mind in medical work. In the States he will enter a hospital where he will be working and at the same time studying for three years. Asked when they would come back to Malawi, Dr. Burdick said, "Wherever the Lord will lead us we shall go. If he leads us back to Malawi or any other country in Africa we will go. If He tells us to stay in America and work, we shall stay."

The people of Malawi who loved the Burdicks, were very very sorry to lose them, because they had been so helpful. At the hospital, Dr. Burdick and his wife were attending serious patients quickly with a loving spirit. When a patient was to be taken down to the hospital by a car, Dr. Burdick was very willing to go over to help, no matter what time it was and how rough the road was, he had to go and get the patient to the hospital. If the patient was so serious that he could not treat him better due to lack of medical equipments, he quickly took him to Cholo Boma Hospital, Malamulo Mission Hospital or Blantyre Central Hospital. This humble-minded doctor even carried the patients in his arms from the garage to the hospital which is about two hundred yards away. He also carried the dead

people back to their villages in the Land Rover, most of the time he was here.

Doctor and his wife have often lost their sleep because of very serious patients. Because of their great love for the sick people at Makapwa, it was very hard for people to see them in bed, sick. This does not mean that they did not get sick, but because they were mainly concerned about the people's sickness. The surgical work which was a great step forward towards the improvement of our hospital, has helped a great many people in this country. I remember one patient who was operated on said to me, "This hospital is a strong hospital." He said this in the local language. Now that there will be no surgery, because of doctor's leaving, many people here are very very sorry.

As an evangelist, Dr. Burdick has visited many churches throughout the country. He made many trips to the Northern part of Malawi for evangelical meetings in our churches there. He has visited almost every church in this country. Truly, he was not only a physical doctor, but he was also a spiritual doctor.

In all the trips Dr. Burdick made, he identified himself with the people of the country by eating the African food called "nsima and ndiwo." He used his hands not spoons and forks to eat this food. He drank the same water people used to drink, using the same cup. He slept with the people on the same mat made of reeds called "mphasa." Yes, his evangelism was unique. And truly many have come to Christ through his ministry even though he did not see them personally.

Before Dr. Burdick left Malawi, he and his family visited three churches to bid farewells to people. On April 25 he went to Nolo church where he was given farewell gifts of fifty-one eggs, a basketful of nuts, six sugar canes, a bundle of casava and a hen, presented by the women's group. On May 2, 1970, he went to Mphangala church with a new missionary family, the Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Conrod. At Thembe church on May 9, the Burdicks were impressed by the love expressed by the people in giving about forty eggs, two hens, about a basketful of nuts, a Malawian cooking stick for nsima

and three doves.

During the farewell service held at Makapwa Station in the church on May 10, 1970, Dr. Burdick and his family were given wonderful and meaningful gifts. These gifts were mostly African, and they meant a lot to them and to the people who saw the gifts. The shield, which went along with doctor's first name Victor which means conqueror, meant that without the invisible shield which was his great faith in God, he would not have overcome difficulties he faced while at Makapwa. Because of their great interest in African food, as a demonstration of appreciation and love, the Burdicks were given a pair of small flat baskets and clay plates which were used for nsima and ndiwo before the white man brought in his plates. The Malawi women showed their love for their fellow woman, Mrs. Burdick, by dressing her in a blue chirundu and malaya (blouse). "Put it on when you arrive in America, for your people to see," she was told. How beautiful Mrs. Burdick looked in this Malawi women's national dress. Other gifts presented were one wooden spoon, one wooden bowl, a paper knife for opening letters and a fountain pen which they were to use in writing letters to Malawi.

To prove that Dr. Burdick was greatly loved and needed by Malawi people, Chief Ngamwane in whose area Makapwa is built, with his Village headmen, Beula, Sitima, Khanyela, Misoya and Khave; a Malawi Congress Party area chairman, Mr. D. Makombe and part ward councillor, Mr. G. Phwelemwe, came to bid farewells with Dr. Burdick on May 11, just a day before he left the country. These chiefs brought with them a wonderful and meaningful gift of two doves. "Now receive this small gift of doves which are so kind as you have been so kind, like the Spirit," is a quotation from a letter Chief Ngamwane wrote to doctor. "When you arrive in America, remember us," the letter concluded.

On May 12 1970, Dr. Burdick, his wife Beth and his children Victor, Joan, and Mark left the country for the United States of America in a Super VC 10 Jet

plane. To see them off at Chileka airport were the Rev. J. A. Conrod and family, the Rev. D. C. Pearson and family, the Rev. O. B. Manani and family, the Rev. W. Mataka, Miss S. Becker, Mr. and Mrs. Lemani — Pearson's servant, Mr. F. F. Makatanje and Victor's friends, Smile Mataka and Daison Chiza.

May our God who is everywhere bless the Burdicks all the time they are in the States. We especially ask God's greatest care for their children who will be in a different country with a different environment from Malawi, the country in which they were born. As the chiefs have already said, we would like the Burdicks to remember us here and we shall also remember them in prayers!

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Student Home Missionaries

For many years now the Home Missions Board of the Southern Baptist Convention has accepted and sent out volunteers for home mission work during the summer vacation period — a sort of dedicated service except that there is more financial support than is usually thought appropriate for dedicated service.

This year a record 937 students have been appointed as student summer missionaries to serve in every state in the nation and Puerto Rico and Panama.

More than half the total will be directly or indirectly involved in the inner-city or resort ministries during the summer, reflecting Southern Baptists' increasing interest in Christian social ministries, according to Home Mission Board officials.

The department is concerned but not surprised by the scarcity of men appointees. Of the 741 students appointed directly by the board, only 193 are single men. This is attributed to the pressure of military service and the man's ability to secure a job carrying a larger salary.

Student summer missionaries are usually college upperclassmen, although a few freshmen and seminarians are appointed. They work for ten weeks during the summer, receiving a small stipend from the board.

Drug Abuse Convocation

Number 2

(See article in June 8 issue)

By Rex Zwiebel

Governor Nelson Rockefeller, who called the convocation, began his address with these words: "Every day that has passed in our community finds deeper concern, more widespread abuse of drugs, down in elementary schools as well as in the high schools. This problem has swept the state and the country and has become an item of major concern to parents, communities and government alike.

"We have come to the conclusion that nothing less than a total mobilization of community effort will suffice in meeting this problem."

He proposed expanded education programs designed to bring home to every family and young person the tragedy of drug abuse and addiction. He said that most of us do not want to recognize or remedy the problem. The mayor of one of our small cities said that he received petitions from 3,000 parents who came with tears in their eyes for something to be done about the horrible abuse of drugs in their community. When the mayor received the approval to have a rehabilitation center built in the community, he received threats from 3,000 persons, many of them the same who had complained, who opposed the erection of the center saying — "It will damage the value of our real estate to have that hospital built so close."

The governor acknowledged that corruption of law enforcement agencies has allowed the almost free-flow of drugs.

A rabbi from New York City warned us not to "write off the flower of our youth, who are troubled long before they start the use of drugs." "So many will not face preventive need, they are interested only in the treatment." "Drug use has reached epidemic proportions. There is a terrible idea prevailing that it is all right to use drugs. People need psychiatric help, a place where they can get it that does not cost the fee of a psychiatrist. Ministers must preach patterns

that will show the rewards of stricter adherence to prime values." The rabbi quoted from the Talmud: "He that saves one life is as one who saves the entire world."

Bishop Ward, president of the New York State Council of Churches, who made a fine address, stated, "The church must give the message of hope based on the real worth of spiritual values, not material. Addicts who were raised in poverty when so many have a vast abundance, and who feel that it is absolutely impossible to ever have even the necessities of life, have given in to what they feel is a "sure escape" from their predicament, but have traded their problems for one that is much worse."

Mr. Nyquist, New York State Commissioner of Education, said that problems were coming in so fast that he "was meeting every issue with an 'open mouth.'" He spoke of a "veneration gap" between parent and child. He suggested that many were trying to meet the problems with the attitude of the pompous cleric who told a person who found fault with his way of dealing with a problem: "We are doing God's work — you in your way, and I in His way." There is no one, easy answer. We need to teach our children that ability to achieve and accomplish is limitless, but that inter-discipline education is necessary.

The Commissioner of the New York State Narcotic Addiction Control Commission stated that we do not know all there is to know about marijuana, but this much is known: 1. It comes from hemp; 2. A person's addiction depends on the amount and how often used; 3. That where it is produced makes a difference in the reaction to its use; 4. The amount of active ingredients makes a difference; 5. That a person can get a LSD reaction from strongest marijuana; 6. Marijuana has no medical use; 7. It is a narcotic.

He felt that we need a tough law to deal with pushers. In regard to heroin, an international agreement or law is quite necessary, since most of the heroin is grown in Turkey, processed in France, and smuggled into the United States.

Why I Am in SCSC

On the application form for workers each one is asked to express the reason why he wishes to be involved. Some of the quotes for this year's workers are very revealing. They write in part:

"Last summer . . . I learned how to let the Lord use me, but, most important, I learned to look to the Lord with real faith about my daily problems . . . God opened the doors again . . ."

"I want to do all I can for God and other people."

"A desire to show others the real happiness that can be found in Christ."

". . . Through working for and with others I will be able to help God strengthen others, as well as my own belief in Him, and maybe be able to see what He wants me to do."

Our workers this year include seven who have previously served, and it is also interesting to note that seven of the eighteen volunteers come from ministers' families. These young people also testify:

"SCSC . . . a great way to witness and to strengthen my faith."

Another expresses it, "I think I need to find myself . . ."

"I feel it is the Lord's will for me . . ."

"I love to help people . . ."

The training session was held at North Loup June 9-17 and workers are now involved in their six weeks of summer service from Texarkana, Ark., to Rhode Island; from West Virginia to Colorado.

Your prayers are requested for each one.

—Leon R. Lawton, director of training

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Mass Evangelism in Rural Denmark

We have become accustomed to reading about great crowds at evangelistic meetings in population centers when there is a noted evangelist like Billy Graham, scheduled. It is something different when the little town of Sindal in northern Denmark draws an attendance of 1,300 on the closing night of a five-day campaign. The population of the village is only 2,000 though the sur-

rounding area has perhaps 4,000. The attendance and response to the gospel messages are all the more significant when it is noted that the preaching was by Baptist and Lutheran ministers who had never before cooperated in such services. The pastor of the Baptist church which started the campaign, Ib Rodvig said, "All wanted to proclaim the gospel together." The closing service on Saturday night was held in the new sports hall, the only building large enough for 1,300 people.

VA Aids Millions

Americans not intimately connected with veterans' affairs are probably unaware of the scope and magnitude of the Veterans Administration.

With the largest hospital system and the third largest ordinary life insurance organization in the world, VA is one of the biggest agencies of the Federal government—smaller only than the Department of Defense and the Post Office.

There are more than 27 million veterans in the United States and, together with their families, they constitute more than 51 percent of the nation's population.

Millions of these veterans have attended schools, purchased homes, received hospital or medical care or monthly payments for disabilities; and parents, widows and children totaling millions more have been served in some way by legislation passed by the Congress on behalf of a grateful nation. — Fred B. Rhodes, in Report from the Capitol

Anchors That Hold

Faith in God and trust in the promises of Christ are the strongest anchors we can have against the wind of restlessness which sweeps relentlessly across our day and the strong tide of affluence which erodes the harbors of our society.

—Earl Cruzan

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for June 27, 1970

"THE CHRISTIAN HOPE"

Lesson Scripture: Revelation 21:1-4, 22 through 22:5

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

BATTLE CREEK, MICH.—New officers and committee members were elected at our church's quarterly business meeting held April 5. Among those to take office July 1 are: Dorothy Parrott, moderator; Marilyn Merchant, clerk; Madelene Parrish, treasurer. New trustees elected were: Allie Lewis, Yvonne Brown, Stephen Lawton, Wendell Thorngate, and Randall Palmiter. To facilitate the organizing of our church committees, committee chairmen were also elected by the church for the first time. Two new committees have been formed, Christian Social Action and Finance.

Our Steering Committee continues to work out the details for our one-year, "trial program" to begin July 1—that of a common, once-a-month meeting date for all church committees. A leadership workshop held April 18 by the Steering Committee, was the culmination of the committee's many months of work in developing a booklet on the many facets of organizing, planning, and conducting meetings with ideas to stimulate interest, gain insight, and evaluate effectiveness.

Cottage prayer and Bible study groups have been meeting informally each Friday night for the past several months at the church, two homes, and the parsonage where a program is also planned for the children. On an average more are "getting out" to worship on Sabbath eve than when there was one service at the church.

Our annual Candlelight Communion was held in April around tables in our church's social room. Letters of greeting and meditation were read from absent members and testimonies given by those present.

We entertained fifty-five visitors when the North Central Association met here April 24-26. The Rev. Mynor Soper was the special guest speaker, with the Revs. Wayne Babcock of Dodge Center and Charles Swing of White Cloud, assisting with the services. The meetings were the first since the merger, and were greatly enriched by the contact with the additional Seventh Day Baptist churches represented.

With spring come cleaning-up and money-making projects. The trustees are enlisting help for preparing Camp Holston for the new season to begin June 19 with a Youth Fellowship weekend retreat. Then on June 22, Day Camp for children ages 4-15 will begin. The Ladies Aid has begun its spring series of salad smorgasbords.

It was with regret that we accepted the resignation of our pastor, the Rev. Eugene Fatato. Pastor Fatato, who has been with us for eight-and-one-half years, has no definite plans. As he says, "I am waiting for God's leading." Since his resignation will become effective August 1, a committee to recommend ministers has been formed. The next few months will be busy ones for us as we seek a new pastor.

—Correspondent

DAYTONA BEACH, FLA.—Our pastor's health is improving and he is now very active again in all phases of the church life.

A fellowship dinner was held the weekend of Mother's Day in which the emphasis was on the family as a whole. The proceeds from a freewill offering were sent to the Southeastern Association for the development of Camp Joy.

Another fellowship dinner was held June 13 with the proceeds of the offering to be used to help six of our young people to go to Camp Joy in West Virginia, June 28 to July 5.

At the monthly Church Aid dinner and meeting the program included a discussion of ten questions prepared by the Christian Education Committee on how to improve our Sabbath School. Some of the suggestions have already been put to use with good results.

We congratulate Tim Looney on his graduation from Salem College. He plans to enter military service in the near future. Christie Brossier had a furlough recently following boot training in the Navy.

A new brochure for the church is being published which we hope to be able to distribute at Conference to any who

are interested in hearing more about our community and church life. We think this is a great place to vacation or to live.

—Correspondent

DENVER, COLO.—As one door closes, another opens. We of the Denver church with regret voted to release our pastor, the Rev. Leon Lawton to take over the work of executive vice-president of the Missionary Society. On March 21 his ministry with us closed. God's blessings go with him in the new work so dear to his heart.

We were happy to have the Rev. John Conrod and family with us for a short visit and that he could preside on March 28 at our regular quarterly Communion service. On April 4, the Rev. Elmo Fitz Randolph of the Boulder church gave an excellent sermon. Able laymen Mel Stephan and Dr. Ted Horsley spoke on April 11 and 18. The Rev. Truett Rogers, pastor of the Boulder Southern Hills Baptist Church, gave the sermon on April 25. We observed "Family Life Week" on May 24 with excellent talks prepared by the chairman of the board of Christian Education, Mrs. Myrna Cox. A fine address by our moderator, Daryl White, was also given.

May 9 was a day we all looked forward to with the first sermon by our new pastor, the Rev. Glen Warner. In his pilgrim's robe, he explained to the children about the Ephrata Cloisters and then gave an excellent sermon on "Letting the Church Really Happen" when today we begin a "new thing" in our total commitment to God. After a brief Sabbath School presided over by Dr. Ted Horsley we adjourned to a beautifully appointed brunch planned by Mrs. Ruth Horsley and Mrs. Myrna Cox in the Social Hall. This was a time of getting acquainted and a truly joyous occasion.

On the following Sabbath, May 16, the formal installation for the Rev. Glen Warner was held. The choir, under the direction of Mrs. Jerome Van Dyke, rendered very beautifully "How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place" by Brahms. Welcome talks were given by the following—Sabbath School, Myrna Cox; Advisory

Board, Dr. Ted Horsley; Youth Fellowship, Valerie Steele; Ladies Aid, Frances Stephan; Boulder church, Willard Wells. Pastor Warner was received into membership and he gave us a thought-provoking sermon, "Letting the Church Really Happen—by Celebrating and Sharing Our Freedom Now." He is to give a series of children's sermons, based on *Pilgrims' Progress*, Bunyan's famous allegory of the journey of the Christian life.

On Sabbath p.m., May 23, the Advisory Board called for meetings of all departments and committees. There is a spirit of urgency moving among us to be about our Father's business in this teeming city. May we meet the challenge and give of our time and talent prayerfully, placing God's work first in our lives.

—Correspondent

Marriages

Hallam - North.— Thomas W. Hallam II of Montgomery, Ala., son of Col. and Mrs. Philip G. Hallam, and Virginia D. North daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. North of Plainfield, N. J., were united in marriage at the First-Park Baptist Church of Plainfield on June 6, 1970, by the bride's pastor, the Rev. Herbert E. Saunders.

Powell - Armstrong.— William R. Powell of New York City, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Powell, and Celia May Armstrong, of New York City, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Armstrong, were united in marriage at the Washington Square Methodist Church, New York, New York, on May 20, 1970.

Obituaries

FITZRANDOLPH.— William Pierce, son of the late Rev. Wardner T. and Bertha Pierce FitzRandolph, was born at Hornell, N. Y., Feb. 7, 1923, and died at Texarkana, Tex., April 22, 1970.

He was a member of and, at the time of his death, moderator of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Texarkana. In 1943 he married Jennie Bell Mitchell who survives him, as do a daughter Susan Bernice and a son John Kevin. Other survivors include four sisters: Mrs. C. A. Crow and Mrs. E. J. Smith of Texarkana, Mrs. W. L. Brooks of Frankfurt, Germany, and Mrs. E. P. Speck of Merritt Island, Fla.; three brothers: W. E. FitzRandolph of Texarkana, James H. of Urbana, Ohio, Ronald R. of Norman, Okla., and a number of nieces and nephews. Funeral services were conducted by his pastor, Ralph Hays.

—R. H.

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.

GOD AND NATION

- July 5—Need for Rulers — Ex. 18:21-22; Deut. 1:13; 16:18-20
July 6—Prayer for King — Psalm 72
July 7—Obedience to Rulers — Romans 13:1-7
July 8—Obedience to Laws — 1 Peter 2:13-16
July 9—Nation That Knows God Is Blessed— Psalm 33
July 10—God Greater than Nations—Isaiah 40:1-17
July 11—Prayer for Rulers — 1 Timothy 2:1-6

WORSHIP

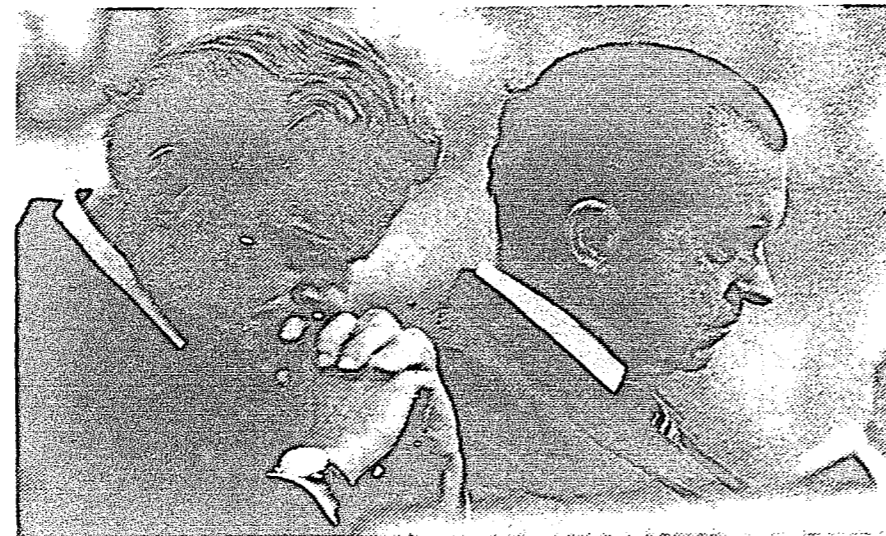
- July 12—Condition for — Psalm 24
July 13—Praise — Psalm 84
July 14—True Worship — John 4:19-26
July 15—Love for God — Psalm 116
July 16—Thanksgiving — Psalm 100
July 17—Exhortation to Worship — Psalm 95:1-7a; 29:1-2
July 18—Commitment Resulting from — Isaiah 6:1-8

GIFTS

- July 19—Our Food — Gen. 1:29-31; 8:20-9:4; 1 Tim. 4:1-5
July 20—To Be Used — Ecclesiastes 3:10-14; 5:18-20
July 21—God's Gifts Greater than Man's — Luke 11:1-13
July 22—Of Christ — Isaiah 55:1-5; John 3:16-18
July 23—From God — James 1:17; Eph. 4:4-8
July 24—From God — Rom. 12:6-8; 1 Cor. 12:4-11
July 25—Of God — Romans 5:15-18; 6:23

WATCHFULNESS

- July 26—Israel Exhorted Through Moses — Deut. 4:1-9, 23
July 27—Israel Exhorted Through Joshua — Joshua 23:6-13
July 28—Need for — Matthew 25:1-13
July 29—For Christ's Coming — Luke 12:35-48
July 30—For Christ's Coming — Romans 13:8-14
July 31—Christians for the Second Coming — 2 Pet. 3:1-18
Aug. 1—The Church Exhorted — Rev. 3:1-3; 16:15



They Bow in Prayer

America's chief executive and America's chief evangelist bow in prayer together. It was a unique event in American history for the President to give a message (13 minutes) at an evangelistic meeting as he did at the East Tennessee Crusade at Knoxville May 28. Evangelist Billy Graham has always emphasized spiritual needs of our nation and has encouraged Presidents to seek the will of God in their administration of national and international affairs. President Nixon, speaking on youth night to a vast audience which had jam-packed the stadium long before 7:30, received fourteen ovations. The President exhorted the young people toward spiritual things when he declared: "And if our young people are going to have a fulfillment beyond simply those material things, they must turn to those great spiritual resources that have made America the great country it is."



American Bible Society Prints Millions of Love Seals

Youth get the love message of this display of blown-up seals at Bible Society headquarters in New York. Over two million of these small seals in sheets of forty-five have already been printed. They are described as "probably the most colorful little stamps of their kind in existence."

Reaction, especially by young people, has been overwhelmingly positive according to the Rev. John D. Erickson, ABS secretary for ways and means.

"They're decorated with designs that suggest stained-glass — not the kind you see in church, but the kind once used on lampshades in the early part of this century. The style is Tiffany glass."

Accompanying the seals is a Scripture selection, a pocket-size folder containing the thirteenth chapter of First Corinthians (Today's English), the source of all but one of the five verses on the seals.

Each seal features a brief motto from Scripture proclaiming that "Love is kind," "Love is patient," "Love is eternal," "Love never gives up," and "God is love."