

The Sabbath Recorder

Sabbath Blessing

Our God has blessed us with a Sabbath beginning and ending (sunset) that comes when we can be conscious of it. This removes the ignorance and the uncertainty of the Sabbath experience. But to approach it in idleness or unconcern or too much hurry is to be unprepared for its blessings. To await its end with impatience is to spoil its hours and its blessing, for Jesus taught that its hours should be filled with joyful, helpful and satisfying relationships.

—North Loup Church Bulletin

25 Years of Youth for Christ

Youth for Christ International with offices in Wheaton, Ill., has just passed its 25th anniversary. Starting in 1944 with just a handful of men determined to help the youth of our country it is still going strong although its great youth rallies do not get as much publicity as before and its methods have changed somewhat with the times.

The president, Sam Wolgemuth, says:

"Now, 25 years later, thousands of teens who met Christ through YFC cover the globe as missionaries, pastors and teachers. They are the young leaders of our churches and communities. Many work in YFC positions all over the world.

"I look back over the year with joy and praise in my heart. Fifteen thousand teens went to local YFC camps this summer. Of these, more than 7,000 responded to the gospel. Our literature program grew. At least one million kids read the gospel of Jesus Christ (many for the first time) in YFC literature.

"The leadership training program, bigger this year than ever before, trained over 100 committed Christian youth

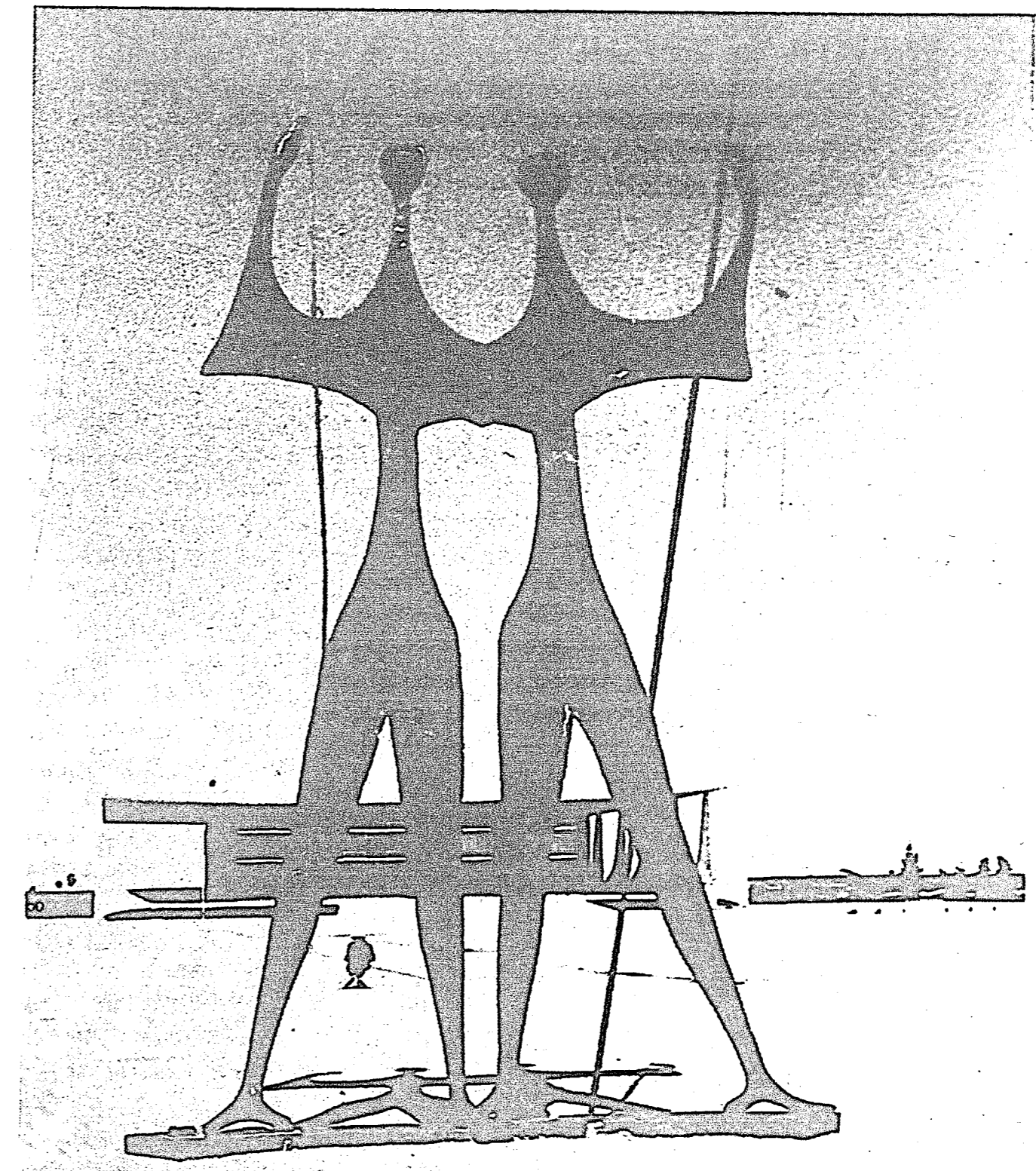
workers for a lifetime of effective and fruitful service. Through seminars all over the country, we helped 7,000 pastors and youth workers better understand today's youth. Our Lifeline Division continues to minister to teens in trouble. The overseas ministry touches teens on every continent. More than two million teens heard the gospel in large and small meetings all over the world. Thousands committed their lives to Christ."

Ministering to Millions

Those who handle inquiries about Seventh Day Baptists and try to answer calls from around the world for literature are thrilled with the opportunity. We are almost staggered, however, by the volume of mail reportedly received by organizations that have an extensive radio ministry. The Far East Broadcasting Company, an outgrowth of ministries started near the close of World War II, can only estimate the number of homes on the islands and continents of the Pacific that receive gospel programs regularly. More than 12,000 letters from listeners are received by FEBC stations each month. Most of these letters have to be translated before they can be answered. It is no wonder that new hope is springing up in the hearts of many who inhabit the lands of the Far East.

There Is Hope

While giving proper attention to the fact that the institutional church is under attack by many strident voices let us give equal note to the fact that young people are dedicating themselves to Christian service and that the enrollment in American theological seminaries continues to be on the increase.



—WCC photo

One can put his own interpretation on this distinctive Henry Moore sculpture in Brazil's capital, Brasilia. In that great country with its striking contrasts of modernity and backwardness these joined figures speak with some eloquence of the nation's dreams of the future and perhaps of the joint efforts of Christians for unity of international efforts.

The Sabbath Recorder

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Seeing the Invisible

or

Man's Space-Age View

Great new vistas of space and time have opened up to man in the last ten years and particularly in the last year. We are reminded of that beautifully expressed thought about Moses in Hebrews 11:27, "For he endured as seeing him who is invisible." Unusual vision is no new thing and, with all our Twentieth Century know-how we can't claim to have outstripped Moses in the matter of spiritual vision or ability to endure because of being better able than he to see Him who is invisible. Our giant steps into space and our new apparatus for looking back at the earth may not create faith but they ought to make faith easier to hold.

A late 1969 book *Space: A New Direction for Mankind* by space scientist Edward B. Lindaman distributed by the Religious Book Club contains many challenging thoughts for man's immediate future. To attempt to give even the highlights of these 158 pages packed with scientific facts and predictions is out of the question, but some things can well make us appreciate the wonder of being able to see what the world has not had eyes to see.

How could the writers of Scripture maintain that God is omniscient and omnipotent — that He is all-seeing? In the days when most people thought of the earth as flat it was possible to imagine God high enough to look down on all of it at once. With the discovery that God had made the earth spherical it was harder to believe that God could see the other side of this 25,000-mile globe. No longer. Man has now artificial satellites with sensory systems that enable us to mount a continuous global survey of all lands and seas. So it isn't very hard to think that God can do as well or better. But if God could see all of the earth all of the time, how much could He see from the remoteness of space?

Our satellites take a close look with their sensory devices at the mineral wealth lying below the surface of hitherto vast inaccessible areas. They can locate schools of fish in the ocean; they can tell the dif-

ference between poisonous and edible plants and can detect whether timber on the mountains is worm infested. The ancient past buried under arctic ice can be brought to view and the irrigation systems of Bible times in the Negev Desert lost through the ages can be seen below the surface of the earth. The desert uninhabited since 450 A.D. is again made to blossom as the rose because man has harnessed infrared and can see what was before hidden. There are no clouds so thick and no darkness so black that they cannot be penetrated at will. Who then, believing in the existence of God, can doubt that He is able to see more than man? Before the end of this decade, says Lindaman, we will have hitched our wagon (farm wagon) to the stars and will be able to produce far more food for the world by use of EROS (Earth Resources Observation Satellite). Man will know the fertility and water supply of previously unused land by gathering data from television cameras 500 miles in the sky. We can steal the march on world famine.

The United Nations found that 95 percent of Southeast Asia was geologically unmapped. Only 7 percent of earth's land surface has been mapped well enough to multiply its yields. We now have the capability, if we had the funds and the political permission, to map the whole world in a matter of months.

Man has this past year for the first time gotten far enough away from the earth to look down at it and see it whole. His great problem in the days to come, as in the past, will be to see the earth as God sees it and think of its resources as belonging to all and not just to a few favored nations. Man now has power and knowledge enough to see the problem as a whole, somewhat as God has always seen it. The earth is like a giant orchestra that must be kept in harmony. Man is doing some things that will break that harmony if he does not view it as a whole. Prayer for wisdom and courage to do the right thing is more needed in this new age of space than ever before.

Editor in Israel

Brief mention has been made previously of your editor's hope to be in Israel the latter part of January. More details can now be given for those who would like to go along in spirit or pray with more understanding for the success of the trip.

The *Sabbath Recorder* since the days of H. C. Van Horn's editorship has held membership in the Associated Church Press, which is now much larger and renders more service for the dues (\$50 for us). This year, for the first time, the office of ACP has arranged a fact-finding conference in a distant troubled spot of the world. It is to be in Israel, the land of the Bible, the new nation built largely of exiles, some of whom want to recapture Biblical values. The excursion is not a tourist's holiday but a concentrated schedule for busy people to make them better able to write on Middle Eastern affairs and life in Israel. It is called a Religious Journalists Conference.

Alfred P. Klausler, ACP executive secretary, in a special delivery letter to participants writes: "Be assured that this will be an outstanding experience for reporters. The various Israeli governmental departments, beginning with the Foreign Office, are personally involved in the planning and arrangements. You will also have the opportunity to do some of your own sight-seeing, visiting, and interviews. The undersigned are using every resource available to assure a memorable journalistic experience."

Day-to-day itinerary (with some free time) is worked out. The El Al flight departing New York at 6 p.m. Monday, January 19, arrives at Tel Aviv Airport at 11 o'clock the next morning. The first night is spent at Haifa, and the second at Tiberias. Headquarters for the next four days will be the Saint George Hotel at Jerusalem. The journalists and editors will make a daytime return flight from Tel Aviv to New York on Thursday, January 29.

This remarkably low-cost trip under such auspices is counted as a once-in-a-lifetime educational opportunity by your editor. It is privately financed.

Where Credit Is Deserved

The past year has been a year of protest against the government although there are indications that the administration has an unusually high majority of citizens agreeing with its policies. Much of the protest has been against the Vietnam war and the induction of men into the military service. The idealism of some of the young objectors is a little suspect when we hear of draft-card burners who refuse the offer of conscientious objector status and of 60,000 others who are living in self-exile in Canada rather than to attempt to take advantage of the legal opportunities for exemption from conscription.

What we hear is a great deal of noise from a relatively small number of people about being drafted to serve in the Army during an unpopular war. This noise may be justifiable; with some it is a matter of high principles. There may be another side of military service that should get a little more noise. Why shout so much about the prospect of getting into the Army and so little about getting out of it?

Have we forgotten the rather generous provisions made by the government for the education and job training of all military men upon their release from active duty? This is designed to compensate to some extent for time lost from school or other training while under military orders. While it may be meant primarily for those serving involuntarily it is extended universally also to the thousands who enlisted. Many of those who are veterans either could not or chose not to improve their education prior to their service. With the incentive for and the availability of training they have flocked to school and greatly increased their earning potential. The general prosperity of our country is due in part to the generous provisions of the previous and the present G. I. Bills.

The Veterans Administration regional office at Newark, N. J., has recently released some figures that prompted some of the thoughts expressed above. The director says that there was a 36 percent

MEMORY TEXT

Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.
—James 1:12

increase over November 1968 in November 1969 of the men enrolled in training under the new G. I. Bill. This includes trainees in programs at the college level, below college level, and on the job training. One of the reasons given for this sharp increase (which is expected to go higher) is the new effort called "Total Outreach" by which veterans and servicemen are informed about the benefits available to them and are urged to apply.

So far, 1,551,000 trainees have taken advantage of educational benefits provided under the latest G. I. Bill since it went into effect June 1, 1966.

A breakdown of trainees by categories includes 65,000 pursuing on-the-job training, 239,000 in programs below college level, and 432,000 in programs at the college level.

The side benefits accruing to servicemen are not a complete justification for uprooting them from their homes and peaceful pursuits, but they are partial compensation in addition to the constantly improving pay scale of military men. It is commonly said to servicemen, "You ain't never had it so good." There is much truth in it, especially for the uneducated and for the minorities who are crying about inequality of opportunity in civilian life. The government tries to look after its men, and there is almost complete equality for opportunity in the service and in further training after release. Where else but in America is there such opportunity?

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for January 31, 1970

GOD JUDGES MEN AND NATIONS

Lesson Scripture: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43.

Announcing February Special

The special issue project of the *Sabbath Recorder* continues to be popular after twelve years (since February 1958). Again there is great anticipation as a new guest editor, Glen Warner of Seattle, Wash., submits his theme and the outstanding articles for the February 2, 1970, issue. Regular readers look forward to these bonus issues, but the purpose is to provide quantities of a relatively undated magazine that can be handed out to people whom we would like to help.

It may be possible for lone-Sabbath-keepers to get orders back before the printing deadline if action is taken as soon as that *Recorder* is received. Copies may be secured at the rate of 10 for a dollar or 15 cents each.

The eight articles in the forthcoming issue are centered around the theme, "Finding a Courageous Hope in a Time of Change." According to Editor Glen Warner there will be something for every age group as follows:

For children, a story by Dr. Kenneth Smith, "Bowed Heads."

For the high school age, "A High School Student's Thoughts About Change" by Judy Parrish.

For college age, "The Gospel Means Inner Change" by Bob Harris of Salem College.

For young adults, an article by Kathy Boatman.

For middle years, two articles, "Change in Profession" by Garth Warner, and "Change in the Diminished Family" by Ruth Sarah Rogers.

For retirement years, "The Change to a New Style of Life" by Dora Hurley.

There is also a lead article by the editor on the theme "Finding a Courageous Hope in a Time of Change — a Study in 1 Peter."

As an added feature the Rev. Elmo Randolph contributes a fable, "How the Mountain View Seventh Day Baptist Church Changed."

Personal orders may be sent in to the *Sabbath Recorder* individually or grouped together through the home church (by telephone) to take advantage of the 100-copy rate (\$8.50).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Paul B. Osborn, Stewardship Chairman

"For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?"

Luke 14:28



Actual receipts for the interim budget (Oct. - Dec., 1969) were only 66% of what was anticipated. That looks bad compared with the December, 1968, figure of 71% raised, but in that month 45 churches and groups reported, with a three-month total of only \$17.23 more than the interim budget, with only 33 churches or groups reporting in December, 1969. So, per capita giving must be higher!

But the interim budget still remains—and must forever be—unfinished business, since the money was not all raised. The Scripture text above also speaks of unfinished business, the context later indicating that we consider carefully lest we find folks laughing at us.

With *Our World Mission*, however, it is the Lord's work that is mocked. Our boards and agencies are criticized at times for not being visionary in programs . . . yet they try to be careful lest the Lord's work become scandalized by our failure to complete the tasks assigned to us. Either way we must note that *Our World Mission* is *Unfinished Business*, whether it's because of our lack of starting or failure to complete.

I was trying to think of some way to impress upon you the importance of raising the money in full needed for *Our World Mission* programs, but since I am running out of type (lead costs money, you know) I'll just have to let you figure something out for yourself.

Message to Jamaicans
from
Jamaica Conference President

(Note: The Rev. Albert A. Black, pastor of the Wakefield, Jamaica, church since August 1960 is now president of the Jamaica Seventh Day Baptist Conference. He has written an appeal to his brethren which ought to stir the hearts and giving of all Seventh Day Baptists. Pastor Black's letter dated December 15, 1969, is addressed to the Jamaica Seventh Day Baptist Conference.)

Dear Brethren in Christ:

"Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, according as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue; whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises; that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust" (2 Pet. 1:2-4).

It's a real pleasure of mine to send you these few lines, hoping they will find you striving together in love, especially in this festive season when we should all think of the love of God who so loved us that He gave His only begotten Son to redeem us from our sins.

"Beloved, if God so loved us, we should love one another." Your Conference president has each one on his heart and is praying for each one of you. He would like to visit each one of you, but is unable to do so, through multiple amount of work in his circuit and also largely through lack of funds. It is quite apparent that it is the worst it has ever been. Although from past experience, the first part of the Conference year has never been so good, yet notwithstanding it could be much better.

Your president cannot close his eyes to the hardships of the times—the unemployment in many circles, and the soaring cost of living. But God knows no hard times, and I do strongly feel that if we will do our part, God will do His part.

Read Malachi 3:8-10. Let us not rob ourselves of the blessings that He has

promised because we fail to believe His word. "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom" (Luke 6:38). Remember the widow of Zarephath with her little meal and her little oil in a cruse? As she was willing to give to the man of God, she was amply rewarded (1 Kings 18:8-16). So you may not have very much to give, but give as the Lord blesses you and watch the result. God will give you more.

But remember, money is not all! We will not find it difficult to give of our monies when we practice the other Christian virtues. Let us first give ourselves to the Lord who loved us, and gave His very life for us (2 Cor. 8:5). Let us give love, and love will come back to us in abundant measure. "When love dies out, gifts stop coming. Only as we walk in love do we magnify giving." Let us give of our prayers. Oh, what it would mean if we gave freely our prayer life — our prayer time! We do not bear people's burdens as we ought. We do not carry loads as we should. It may be easy to give a dollar or so, but to give our time, our love, our wisdom is blessed.

So brethren, see that you abound more and more in the grace of giving (2 Cor. 8:1-7) and "my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:19).

Do we want a large harvest as Seventh Day Baptists, both temporal and spiritual? Then let us practice the above admonition, for "he that soweth sparingly shall reap sparingly; but he that soweth bountifully shall reap bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; for the Lord loveth a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9:6-7).

What about the Conference meeting for July 1970, if the Lord tarries? Up to now there is no certainty of a meeting, as up to now no churches have applied. It would be too bad if we were unable to meet. There are a few things that must be ratified, including our constitution, without which our Conference will not be able to run smoothly. So think it over, especially those who have adequate facilities. Don't be afraid! Come together and

make your plans with the help of the Conference Planning Commission. Don't think of the giants! Send in your application to the corresponding secretary between now and next month.

To the Pastorless Churches—

We hope you are in no way discouraged. Don't forsake the assembling of yourselves together. Carry on still! The Lord is still with you! Remember the action of Conference—that you are quite free to call the pastor of your choice to serve you.

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world" (1 Pet. 5:8-9).

Brethren, the Lord bless and keep you. Keep looking up to Jesus "the author and finisher of our faith." May the Christmas bring much joy and happiness and every rich blessing for the coming year to us all as a people.

"Forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, let us press forward toward the mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus (Phil. 3:13-14).

Let me hear from you.

**"Adopt" Poor Family Plan
Presented at Texarkana**

(Note: The following article is reprinted from a Texarkana, Arkansas, newspaper. It has been learned that there were several responses to the plan.)

The Rev. Ralph Hays, pastor of the Seventh Day Baptist Church, 24 Pleasant St., Texarkana, announced plans for a "people to people" program that will hopefully make Christmas a time of joy for underprivileged Texarkana families.

The Rev. Mr. Hays appealed to more fortunate Texarkanians to adopt a poor family for Christmas.

"We want families who have the financial ability — \$15 to \$25 — to adopt a family for Christmas, a family that doesn't have the financial ability to provide toys

and a decent Christmas meal for its children," the Rev. Mr. Hays said.

He explained that those in a family adopting another will take them out shopping for food and a few inexpensive toys.

"What I don't want," the Rev. Mr. Hays explained, "is someone just sending, say, \$25 to me. We've got to start talking to one another as human beings. We've got to make contact by communicating with each other."

Mr. Hays requested that those interested in helping a needy family write to him in care of his church, giving their name, address and telephone number, and in return he will send a card with the particulars of the family to be helped. Contacting the family will then be entirely up to those who wish to help.

Our Prayer Corner

**Suggestions for Prayer This Week
Pray for:**

1) The quarterly meeting at Alfred on January 18 of the Board of Christian Education, that the members may have wisdom for the work ahead.

2) The quarterly meeting at Shiloh on January 18 of the Board of Trustees of the American Sabbath Tract Society that it may be led to make such plans as will further the cause of Seventh Day Baptists throughout the world.

3) The adults in our churches that they may narrow the generation gap by setting a good example in the Sabbath convictions they profess.

4) The impatient young people that they may show consistency in striving for personal as well as social reforms.

Make Your Own Prayer

A mother of four children, the proud possessor of a doctor's degree, came to her pastor for help in praying. He discovered that she was limited to the nightly routine of "Now I lay me down to sleep." She learned to put more in and thus get more out.



Faith for a New Decade

By Rev. Herbert E. Saunders

Pastor of the Plainfield, N. J., S.D.B. Church

Man has just passed through a most dramatic decade. Search in the history of mankind and you will find few ten-year segments of human history that record such a wide range of human emotion and change. Creativity has been matched by destruction. Hope has been shattered by fear. Progress has been equalled by regression in human values and purpose. Life lived to the utmost has been marred by the lonely faces of people existing in a state of slow death. The bearing of new life and the healing of the chronically sick has been matched by death through war, famine and assassination. Those of us who have lived through this decade of the sixties find it hard to believe that anyone could find a decade to match it.

And perhaps, as we anticipate the 70's we see little hope for our new decade. Two weeks ago on the TV program "Laugh-in" one of the sarcastic comments made was that if the seventies were anything like the sixties, we wouldn't have to worry about seeing the eighties. But I have more confidence in the life of man on earth than that. And I hope that we all do. We are living in the most creative era of man's life, and to question the whole thing, just because some of life is not as creative and alive as we might hope it to be, is being unrealistic and defeatist. Life can be lived to the fullest, and the message of the Christian hope is that in Jesus Christ every man can find peace and hope and joy in living. The seventies are upon us, not to destroy us, but to bring us to a new hope in the future of life as lived according to the will of God. Peace can come in our time. Joy can pervade the whole of humanity in our time. Hunger and pain can be re-

lieved in our time. And love can be made manifest in our time. But it will require a new faith and a new purpose on the part of all of us.

If we have any faith at all, it must be in the fact that on the cross, Jesus Christ gave His life in order that all of us might know the hope of eternity and realize the life abundant. The message of this hope is for all men—the redemption of life is for every man, woman and child that walks the face of this earth. Such faith ought to bring us to the seventies with new vision of what we can be and do for the world in need.

Faith in Our God

We need faith — in God — first of all. At a time when men need God more than ever there has been a conscious and determined move away from Him. Perhaps the awesomeness of our technology — that scares us to death on one hand—has been the culprit in turning our faces away from God. At the very time that we need faith in something besides ourselves the very success of our enterprises has given us a feeling of individual ability that rejects help. We call out to be on our own, and God can only sit back, weep, and keep us in His love.

My friends, let's find a new faith in God. Let's believe, once again, as we did when children, that God is good and determines that we will have the best life has to offer. When things go bad, and life becomes tragic and destructive, we question God's sanity in creating the world — not our own sanity in destroying it. When God created, He looked around and saw that everything He had created "was very good." And it is still "very good." It has only been our own selfish-

ness and bungling that has brought evil into the world. Today we need a faith in God—a deep, lasting, heart-feeling faith that, as Jesus said, "can remove mountains." We need to believe that God is with us, keeping us, directing us, pointing us to the way of His purpose in the world. But we need to exercise the freedom God gave us to see that His will is brought into play in all the human circumstances that bring life to man. And God will help us, if we will only let Him.

The message of the cross is that God came to help us be what He wanted us, at creation, to be. And the seventies will record whether or not we have been aware of what He has done for us, and what we can do for Him. Have faith in God, and life will be much more blessed.

Faith in Our Fellowmen

Secondly, we need to have faith in our fellowmen. How difficult this is as we reflect on the sixties. Assassination, murder, war — all the horrendous acts we can think of, paint a black picture for us to hang on the walls of the seventies. But there needs to be a new awareness of each other, the kind of awareness that transcends the barriers that only we ourselves have erected, and instead brings ties that bind brother with brother.

I made a mistake on New Year's Day. I went to Philadelphia and saw the Mummers Parade. Never in my life have I seen such a spectacle of obscenity, drunkenness, and outright mockery of life. One man, obviously crooked, noting the looks of disgust that must have been on our faces, leaned on the police rail and insisted to some of the ladies in our company that he wasn't like all the rest.

Thank God, I don't have to judge all of mankind on the basis of what I saw there — if I did, I could not suggest that we have faith in our fellowmen. One thing stands out from all the rest — several people walked through the crowds passing out portions of Scripture. I still have faith in my fellowmen!

I think that today we need to look beyond the questionable things in life, pick out the good things, and build a faith in the basic decency of man that can eventually wipe out the indecency

and immorality that seems to be so much part of twentieth century living. Faith in others is even harder than faith in God. They disappoint us so dreadfully. How often, during the sixties, have we heard someone say "I don't trust anyone any more." But, if life is to really be lived to the fullest we must learn to trust—to believe in — and to have faith in others. God's purposes are for eternity and He needs those of us who can make the best of today, to build a world of faith and hope for tomorrow.

I'm sorry I attended the Mummers Parade, but I'm glad that I can put up against it my memories of sitting with my feet in the gutter in Pasadena all night waiting to see the creative qualities of man being expressed in the gorgeous floats produced for the Rose Parade. Here, the beauty God gave man — the creative genius God gave man — and the appreciation God gave man for the good in life all seem to converge to bring one to a moment of hope for a world in need.

And my friends, set against the tragedies of the sixties, is the face of Jesus Christ on the cross praying, "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do." As we anticipate the seventies and our part in bringing to them a redeeming quality, let us look, not at the sixties and the struggles that have characterized them, but at the cross and that struggle that still gives life to man.

Faith in Ourselves

Finally, with faith in God and renewed faith in others, let us not forget that unless we have faith in ourselves, all is lost. We often lose faith in ourselves. We do such stupid things and often behave so badly. I'm sure that we can all recall today times in the sixties when we would like to have stuck our heads in the sand and kicked ourselves. Being only too human we have failed, creating embarrassment and perhaps even some remorse. But God created us to be free—to be able to try our best and perform according to the abilities that lie within us. He made us useful and creative — He made

(Continued on page 12)

How Does a Child Know?

By Mrs. Dorothy Parrott

(This is another in a series on Family Life sponsored by the Family Life Committee of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education)

If it is true that a child's attitudes are established before school age; if we accept the Bible teaching that to love God is the first commandment and to love fellowman is equally important and that God is love; then the responsibility for developing this concept rests with the Christian home. Just to mouth the words is not enough. To be meaningful to a child there must be demonstration.

I am reminded of a Home Economics class that was discussing family relations. One girl said, "My folks fight all the time." When this remark was related to her parents they were quite shocked that she felt this way about their relationship. Analyzing the situation they realized that the sharp little barbs they tossed at each other had been completely misunderstood by the child. To them this was a game but to the child it was for real. She did not have the benefit of knowing the meaning behind outward appearances.

It may be sufficient expression of love for a man if his wife is kind and considerate, keeps his home and bears his children. It may be enough for a woman if her husband is constant, does not misuse her, and provides well for the family. Perhaps they consider that all demonstration of physical expression of affection should be at a time when they are alone with each other.

How does a child know? Is he able to reason these things out? Does he grow up secure in the knowledge that his mom and dad really love each other and this is what he wants for his life when he becomes a man? Or is it important that he, too, is allowed to witness dad's good morning kiss that is a little different just for mom or a special hug for dad to show him mom is glad he's home. Do adults consider, only for themselves, how they give expression to their love? Is this a very human way of learning the meaning

of love? Does it help a child come to know that in loving others we love God? Is the sexual freedom that is prevalent today the result of children's not being convinced of the beauty of marital love and fidelity? Did *your* child see mommy kissing Santa Claus?

Do You Know . . .

"Do you know that one of the early ecumenical ventures in New York State occurred over a century and a third ago?

In the 1830's the First Day Baptist Church and the Seventh Day Baptist Church in the village of Brookfield (Madison County), New York, joined forces to build a church structure to be used by both congregations. For nearly 140 years the building has been maintained through a joint Board of Trustees. The Seventh Day Baptists use it regularly on Sabbath Day. The First Baptist people have services each Sunday. Other week-day use is guided by the pastors and congregations working together. The relationship has been a happy one and probably represents one of the longest records of inter-church cooperation in the state." —State Council Reporter (NYS) January 1970

Lesson Annual

The Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education, Box 115, Alfred Station, NY 14803, has a few copies of *The International Lesson Annual* for 1970 left for sale. At this date you may purchase a copy for \$2.95 as long as they last. Write to the above address.

Join SDBYF

All Seventh Day Baptist youth are urged to join the National Seventh Day Baptist Youth Fellowship. Membership entitles you to vote for the 1971 officers, gives you a subscription to the *Beacon*, and signals your support of any program the national officers undertake. A challenging project is now under discussion, and we need the encouragement that you can give through your membership support. Send your name, address, and \$1.00 to Miss Catherine Clarke, 10 Church Street, Alfred, NY 14802. To be sure

of getting the *Beacon*, you may send your name at the same time to Miss Alice Rood, Milton, Wis. 53563. Miss Rood is the able editor of the *Beacon*. If you are not receiving it, you are missing news, challenge, and inspiration. Do not delay.

(Older folk are most welcome to become *Beacon* subscribers. Send your \$1.00 to Miss Clarke or Miss Rood. This is one way you can show our youth that you are backing them all the way.)

Participation Covenant

Seventh Day Baptist churches or Sabbath Schools who are using the Participation Covenant plan to increase enrollment and attendance in their Sabbath Schools include Alfred Station, N. Y.; Battle Creek, Mich.; First Hopkinton, Ashaway, R. I.; Lavender Mountain, Mount Berry, Ga.; Lost Creek, W. Va.; Pawcatuck, Westerly, R. I.; Plainfield, N. J.; Richburg, N. Y.; and Shiloh, N. J.

Recognition will be given at General Conference in Milton to the Sabbath School which has the greatest percentage of increase in enrollment of new pupils and in average attendance during a six month period.

Local Workshops

The secretary of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education conducted a series of workshops in the Alfred Station church the first week in January. He is working with a committee setting up a leadership education institute for the churches of Allegany County, N. Y., where most of the Allegheny Association of Seventh Day Baptist churches are located.

Helping Hand

The new editor of the *Helping Hand*, the Rev. Duane L. Davis, will have his first quarter's lessons published for July, August, and September, 1970. He works on a schedule that calls for copy six months prior to the publication date.

Patience is a virtue praised by many, possessed by few, and sought only occasionally.

—Lindsell

"TOGETHER"

Have you read your December issue of "Together" which is put out by the Women's Department of the Baptist World Alliance? If you have, you have seen on the very first page an exciting article by our own Mrs. Arthur Drake entitled "A Christmas Message." I would like to share the last paragraph of her article with those of you who have not read it.

"May the holy season be rich in spiritual meaning for everyone, and as we look forward to a New Year may we, too, pray this 'After Christmas Prayer' written a number of years ago by Irene Hulett, my mother."

*"As Christmas joyousness departs
Stay Thou, O Christ, within our hearts
May humdrum living cease to mar
The brilliancy of Bethlehem's star,
And may Thy manager cradle be
A symbol of humility.*

*Throughout the happy Christmastide
Thy Presence has seemed amplified
Oh, may we never lose the sense
Of comforting Omnipotence,
And lest we miss salvation's cost
'Grave deeply on our hearts thy cross.'*

1969 Bible Reading

It is again time for the societies to send in a list of those women who participated in the Bible readings for 1969 and read the Bible in a year. Please send your lists soon so that they may be published. We have set a deadline of March 31, 1970, and no names will be published after this date. Send your lists to Miss Marjorie Burdick, 611 East High Street, Milton, Wis. 53563.

To Know Him

In these ruptured and chaotic times it means everything in the world to know Him and have not only purpose and help in time of need, but also security about the sovereign movement of history and assurance of life eternal now and at the end of the road.

—Michael Cassidy, African Enterprise

A More Inclusive Church Body

One of the outstanding proposals given to the General Assembly of the National Council of Churches was a complete reorganization plan drawn up by R. H. Espy, general secretary, who was elected for a third term at the Detroit meeting.

The plan, which Mr. Espy says, might take three to five years to implement, calls, among other things, for broadening the structure to include Southern Baptists (largest Protestant church), Roman Catholics, Pentecostals and other religious groups not now involved in the council. It is manifest that there would have to be some changes in the aims and emphasis of the council to make these groups willing to join when some of them have been strongly opposed to membership in the NCCC.

In a telephone interview with Baptist Press (Southern Baptist) following the council's triennial General Assembly, Dr. Espy said that he envisioned emphasis of the new proposed council to be on "fellowship, communication and dialogue" rather than creation of a super-church ecumenical organization.

"My real concern is for communication and dialogue and fellowship and understanding and collaboration," Espy said in the interview. "As such, it would become more natural for a religious group not now in the NCCC to consider membership." He added that it was not a ploy to increase membership in the council.

He explained that the new body would still be comprised of the "top ecclesiastical bodies" of the various denominations, but would also consist of "autonomous units," committed to such specific tasks as education programs, social action, theological matters, worship and liturgy and communication.

Dr. Espy pointed out that the proposed new council would have no authority to enforce priorities except in broad policy terms, and that the annual meeting of the board would only make those decisions which reflected agreement of the constituents.

The changes in emphasis are not fully

spelled out. It is reasonable to think that such changes as would make the new council acceptable to conservative Pentecostals and Southern Baptists might also make it easier for some denominations already in to soothe their members who object to some of the present emphasis. The council has been criticized for its liberalism, its church union promotion and its claims to speak for the whole church. Usually the General Assembly adopts a message to the churches. This time it did not approve such a message.

On the final day of the General Assembly meeting, the delegates adopted a resolution authorizing its General Board to explore the possibility of the Espy proposal for a broader, more inclusive fellowship.

There was not immediate response from Southern Baptist Convention leaders, since no official or informal contact had been made with them by National Council leaders, concerning the proposal.

Faith for a New Decade

(Continued from page 9)

us prosperous and talented. He gave to each of us the power and ability to be something that blesses others and brings honor to Himself. And we must have faith in that which is within us.

I am often stricken by the lack of logic on the part of those who have rejected God in favor of individual initiative. They cry out for freedom — for the ability to be themselves and "do their own thing" but at the same time they deny the Creator who gave them the power and character to be free. Part of the freedom that we have as individuals—part of that which makes us creative and alive is the right to let God take us and use us for purposes far beyond anything we can accomplish by ourselves. With God on our side, fully capable of working through us, anything is possible—even the redemption of the world. The tragedy of today's Christian community is that we have never really given God the chance of working through us to redeem society. If we would believe in God and have faith in our own ability with God

working through us, all of life would be changed. The interesting thing about the *Mission Impossible* force on television is that they are always accomplishing that which seems impossible. The interesting thing about the *Mission of the Church* is that with God all things are possible. All we need to do is believe in God and in ourselves. When Jesus died on the cross He was indicating to us that death is not the end of life, and that all of us have a task to perform for the bringing in of His kingdom. This decade, let us resolve to show to others how blessed it really is to be a follower of Jesus Christ and how easy it is to do God's will and bring a revolution in society.

Yes, this has been a decade of change and uncertainty. But this new decade can become the decade of decision — decision for Christ and for God's plan. The writer of Hebrews defined faith as "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." What do we hope for? What is there that is a certainty among the things that are not yet seen? Have faith in God — His purpose will prevail. Have faith in your fellowman — he deserves it because he has been created in the image of God. And have faith in yourself — Jesus Christ died because of your worth. If there is anything that brings hope for the future it is faith — faith in those things which God promised and which we, by His power, can make real as we live in the decade of the seventies.

EXTREMISM

Henlee H. Barnette, professor of Christian ethics at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, told a nationwide Baptist conference on "Extremism — Left and Right," that both left and right extremists are actually "twin brothers whose mother is frustration and whose father is fear."

Barnette predicted that unless Americans who stand for peace and progress through democratic means enter more vigorously into the struggle for a more just society, the extremists — both left and right — will continue to flourish.

Ordination to Diaconate at Salemville, Pa.

On October 25, 1969, the Salemville Seventh Day Baptist Church held special services with representatives of sister churches of the Southeastern Association present, for the ordination of Mr. Warren Lippincott and Mrs. John H. (Linda) Camenga to the diaconate. Sabbath morning worship was led by Pastor John H. Camenga of Salemville and Rev. Delmer E. Van Horn of Washington, D. C. Pastor Camenga gave the morning message which called all of us to follow Christ with our deepest dedication, pointing out that we should demand the same depth of dedication and service from ourselves as we expect from our diaconate.

The ladies of the church served a noon meal for those present. At 2:30 p.m., the ordination council was called to order by the host pastor. The Rev. Francis Saunders of Lost Creek, W. Va., was selected as moderator and Mrs. John (Frances) Kagarise of Salemville as clerk of the council. Churches represented were Lost Creek, Ritchie, and Salem in W. Va.; Salemville, Pa.; and Washington, D. C. Following the reading of the action of the church in calling the candidates for consideration of ordination, the Rev. Leslie Welch of the Ritchie church led the congregation in a season of prayer. Warren Lippincott and Linda Camenga made their statements of Christian experience and religious beliefs. The candidates were excused and the council then deliberated and unanimously called the candidates to ordination.

Pastor Camenga led the congregation in a devotional period. The charge to the candidates was given by Mrs. Leslie (Henrietta) Welch, deaconess of the Ritchie church. Deacon Leland Bond of Lost Creek, gave the charge to the church. The laying on of hands was preceded by "Come, Spirit, Come," sung by Delmer, Arnold, Darwin, and Robert Van Horn of the Washington church. Following the prayer of consecration, offered by Pastor Van Horn, the new deacon and deaconess were welcomed to the diaconate by Deacon Sherman Kagarise of Salemville.

Denominational Headquarters Hums with Activity

The Seventh Day Baptist Building and the Publishing House at Plainfield hummed with activity the first week of January after some absences during the holiday week.

General Secretary Alton L. Wheeler was back from Florida. The president of the Historical Society and the dean of the Center for Ministerial Education were back from visiting relatives in New York and New England. The influx of people began Sabbath night, January 3, when Commission members arrived from California, Colorado, Kansas, West Virginia and Rhode Island for the week-long, hard-working session that started at nine o'clock the next morning.

Guests of Commission the first day were the theological students, who normally come to the training center one weekend a month. Back from a brief vacation in Philadelphia was extended dedicated service worker, Steven Crouch, to resume his many duties. A visitor for four days was Bob Harris, who offered to spend part of his Christmas vacation doing extensive cleanup jobs around the publishing house.

Normal activity continues at the publishing house except for legal holidays since weekly deadlines have to be met. The extra activity and the dedication of regular and visiting workers makes life interesting around the Seventh Day Baptist headquarters.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

SALEMVILLE, PA.— The following are some of the highlights of the past quarter. October began with a Ladies Aid meeting in the form of a surprise "stork shower" for the John Camengas. Communion was served on Sabbath, October fourth, and taken to one of our older members in the afternoon. Sunday the fifth found our church members at a quarterly business meeting in the evening. The Youth Fellowship and Junior Christian Endeavor met every Sabbath afternoon for interesting programs and outreach. On October 25 the church held services ordaining Warren Lippincott and Mrs. John (Lin-

da) Camenga to the diaconate.

On November 12 the ladies held a Community Day project of collecting clothes and mending them for "bundle days" at school. The Youth Fellowship attended a retreat in Salem, W. Va., over the weekend of the eighth with ten in attendance. Joe Boyd represented our church at an Executive Council meeting on Sunday, November 16. The ladies served the annual Harvest Home dinner on Sabbath, November 22. The Youth Fellowship provided the community with a Thanksgiving Eve service in the German Seventh Day Baptist Church.

The diaconate met on December 6 to discuss plans for the church program. The Ladies Aid held its special Christmas meeting on the tenth of December at which time gifts were gathered to be taken to Rice's Nursing Home in Everett. The Junior Christian Endeavor and Youth Fellowship had a special Christmas devotions on Sabbath eve, December 19 with various numbers of special music and Scripture reading.

The Junior C. E. under the direction of Mrs. Joe (Beth) Boyd sang carols at the Rice's Nursing Home on the Sabbath before Christmas. The Youth Fellowship went caroling on Sunday night, the twenty-first ending up at the parsonage for some warm refreshments.

The church's regular appointments are: Sabbath Welcoming Service on Sabbath eve at 7:30; Sabbath School at 10:00 a.m., and Worship at 11:00 a.m., Sabbath morning; Junior C. E. and Youth Fellowship meet at 2:00 p.m., Sabbath afternoon.

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.— Eighty attended the Youth Fellowship winter retreat. Quite a number were non-Seventh Day Baptists. An inspiring program was presented and planned by the youth under the direction of Jack Jensen. Several made commitments to Christ. Some asked for Bible correspondence courses. Much interest was shown in the Bible by the questions asked during the open forum. We want to follow up the contacts now.

Church bulletin
Note: The retreat was a joint project of the Los Angeles and Riverside churches at Pacific Pines Camp. It began on Tuesday, December 30, and closed on Friday, January 2, at 10:30 a.m.

OUR WORLD MISSION

OWM Receipts for December 1969

	Treasurer's December 3 mos.	Boards' 3 mos.		Treasurer's December 3 mos.	Boards' 3 mos.
Adams Ctr NY ..	146.00	333.00	Metairie LA		
Albion WI	26.80	111.80	Milton WI	779.84	1,923.73
Alfred NY		771.15	Milton Jct WI ..	95.90	229.90
Alfred Sta NY		685.12	New Auburn WI ..	68.06	109.56
Ashaway RI	182.50	627.50	New Milton WV ..	50.00	150.00
Assns. & Groups		60.31	New Orleans LA ..		
Battle Creek MI ..		1,035.08	North Loup NB..	250.00	750.00
Bay Area CA	5.00	130.00	Nortonville KS ..	148.01	791.26
Berea WV		55.00	Ohio Fellowship..		75.00
Berlin NY		210.00	Paint Rock AL ..		60.00
Boulder CO		171.32	Plainfield NJ	878.00	1,717.59
Brookfield NY ..		45.50	Richburg NY	92.00	243.50
Buffalo NY		125.00	Riverside CA		515.83
Chicago IL			Roanoke WV	1.00	1.00
Daytona Beach FL	100.00	300.00	20.00	Rockville RI	80.00
Denver CO	257.85	772.90	Salem WV	250.00	1,009.50
De Ruyter NY ..		140.50	Salemville PA	55.00	225.00
Dodge Ctr MN ..	220.84	489.79	Schenectady NY ..		26.00
Farina IL	26.25	61.75	Seattle WA		
Fouke AR			Shiloh NJ		1,113.85
Hammond LA			Stonefort IL		66.00
Hebron PA	70.00	210.00	10.00	Syracuse NY	22.00
Hopkinton RI	25.00	48.00	Texarkana AR		20.00
Houston TX			Verona NY	284.84	545.64
Independence NY	144.50	249.00	15.00	Walworth WI	220.00
Individuals	100.00	300.00	175.00	Washington DC ..	247.00
Irvington NJ		500.00	Washington		
Jackson Ctr OH ..	500.00	500.00	People's DC		
Kansas City MO	40.00	120.00	36.60	Waterford CT	118.00
Leonardsville NY		66.00	10.00	Westerly RI	500.00
Little Genesee NY	116.35	387.05	30.00	White Cloud MI ..	75.32
Little Rock AR ..	25.29	76.49			
Los Angeles CA..	350.00	1,050.00		Totals	\$6,526.24 \$22,293.96 \$1,168.52
Lost Creek WV ..		500.00		Non-Budget	37.50
Marlboro NJ	372.21	995.51		Total	
				To Disburse	\$6,563.74

DECEMBER DISBURSEMENTS

Board of Christian Education	\$ 466.94
Historical Society	3.92
Ministerial Education	459.10
Ministerial Retirement	291.98
Missionary Society	2,229.05
Tract Society	724.67
Trustees of General Conference	39.24
Women's Society	70.25
World Fellowship & Service	297.76
S. D. B. General Conference	1,945.83
S. D. B. World Federation	20.00
Salem College	15.00
Total Disbursements	\$ 6,563.74

S U M M A R Y

October 1, 1969 - December 31, 1969	\$35,208.25
Receipts for 3 months:	
OWM Treasurer	\$ 22,293.96
Boards	1,168.52
	<u>23,462.48</u>
Budget Arrears	\$ 11,745.77
Percentage of interim year elapsed	100%
Percentage of interim Budget raised	66.6%
Gordon L. Sanford	
OWM Treasurer	
December 31, 1969	

The Sabbath Recorder

Late Mails

Sometimes we feel like writing an open letter to the postmaster or to anyone who can do something about the late delivery of second and third class mail. The editor and all those who work at getting the *Sabbath Recorder* out on time are distressed when subscribers tell us that they missed an issue — that they got the January 5 issue but had not yet received the one dated December 22 or 29.

People can more easily put up with a few days delay caused by the Christmas rush than this leapfrogging and delay of two or three weeks. Supposedly all of us are responsible for late delivery because we glut the mail with Christmas cards and packages. But the Post Office Department puts on a great number of extras to maintain service. It does seem as though they could render better service by revising the rules that allow mail handlers to throw second class mail in the corner until a more convenient time. It appears that once a bag of mail is set aside there is no telling when it will be picked up and set in motion again. We get the impression that a little better supervision of employees would be in order. We have a right to expect efficiency and devotion to duty, including reasonable speed.

The frustration of being unable to keep a weekly coming through on time must be felt more keenly by those who get the news late and find that announced programs and concerns are long gone by. There is little consolation in knowing that others are having the same problems. In our office we have received numerous magazines and church bulletins in mixed-up order this month.

It is an inconvenience when our mail is three weeks late, but it is more than an inconvenience to some. Our hearts go

out to those missionary and relief organizations whose very life depends on answers to their Christmas appeals. They ask us to pray for their work and make a special gift before Christmas so that they can render their intended service. Literature of this kind in red or green ink with an early December date and arriving two weeks after Christmas cannot produce as many gifts as hoped for. Of course we cannot respond to all the appeals that come, but we do think that a greater effort could be made to get the mail to its intended readers on time.

What can any of us do about this late mail problem? Perhaps not much more than to express ourselves and exercise patience. Let's be Christian about it. Furthermore, we might remember that the needs of our denominational work and the needs of other worthy causes are not just Christmas needs; they continue, and our support should be steady. Again, let us remember that some of us must make up for those who only respond to special appeals. Most of us could give a little more.

Prosperous and Plagued

The United States today is both prosperous and plagued. We are plagued by a war we can neither understand nor find our way out of; black demands which society cannot deny and is willing only slowly to meet; disintegration of city life; fear of crime; and confusion about our real goals. One of America's great achievements has been the growth of the middle classes—which today are plagued by inflation, clogged schools, and an unprecedented generation gap. America's self-assurance has been shaken. The end of complacency may be the beginning of hope.

—Eugene L. Smith, WCC Secretary



Photo by John Taylor of the WCC Photo Department

Dedication Knows No Race

Vera Lee, a specialist in child care from Hong Kong, gives a little Vietnamese refugee her first lesson in writing under Asian Christian Service.