

The Sabbath Recorder

Thoughts from the Bible Cheated by Fear

Uzzah had touched the Ark and died, and David and all Israel were afraid. So, instead of taking the Ark of the Covenant on home, they left it in the house of Obed-edom for three months. Finally, after observing that his home was greatly blessed during these three months, David decided to finish the job of bringing home the Ark.

But for those three months David was *cheated by fear*. He was afraid of the Ark (God's presence), but the fault was in him, not in God. It was not the Ark that was to be feared, but the improper handling of this sacred thing from God.

Likewise, many today are afraid of the Holy Spirit in his fullness and various manifestations. They have seen the evil results from a wrong handling of the gifts of the Spirit, and have been distracted by the clever counterfeits put forward by Satan. So only a small "household" has been enjoying the blessings of the deeper things of the Spirit.

We look for the day when "all Israel" will realize what blessing they are missing, and will decide to "bring home the Ark with joy."
—W. A. B.

Not Hands but Heart

When sick and spent, I needs must draw aside;
"Why should this befall me, Lord?" I cried;
But quietly He answered, "Thou must rest."

Oh, there was work I thought that I must do for Him;

But now He said in accents mild,
"Nay, rather, still thy heart, thy vows renew,
And intercede for precious souls, My child.
Just now, 'tis not thy busy hands I need;
It is the quiet heart to intercede."

And in the stillness of this time apart,
His Word has searched and purified my heart;

My soul has seen the shining of His face,
And glimpsed new glories of His
matchless grace.

Ah, now I know it is His Spirit which alone
Can move with power to soften hearts of
stone,

And touch the prophet's lips with holy fire,
The Word of life to quicken and inspire;
Just now, 'tis not my busy hands God needs:
It is a quiet heart that intercedes!

—Unknown

What Makes a Day Holy?

☞ The Fourth Commandment does not command us to set aside any day! It tells us to remember the day that God has already set aside!

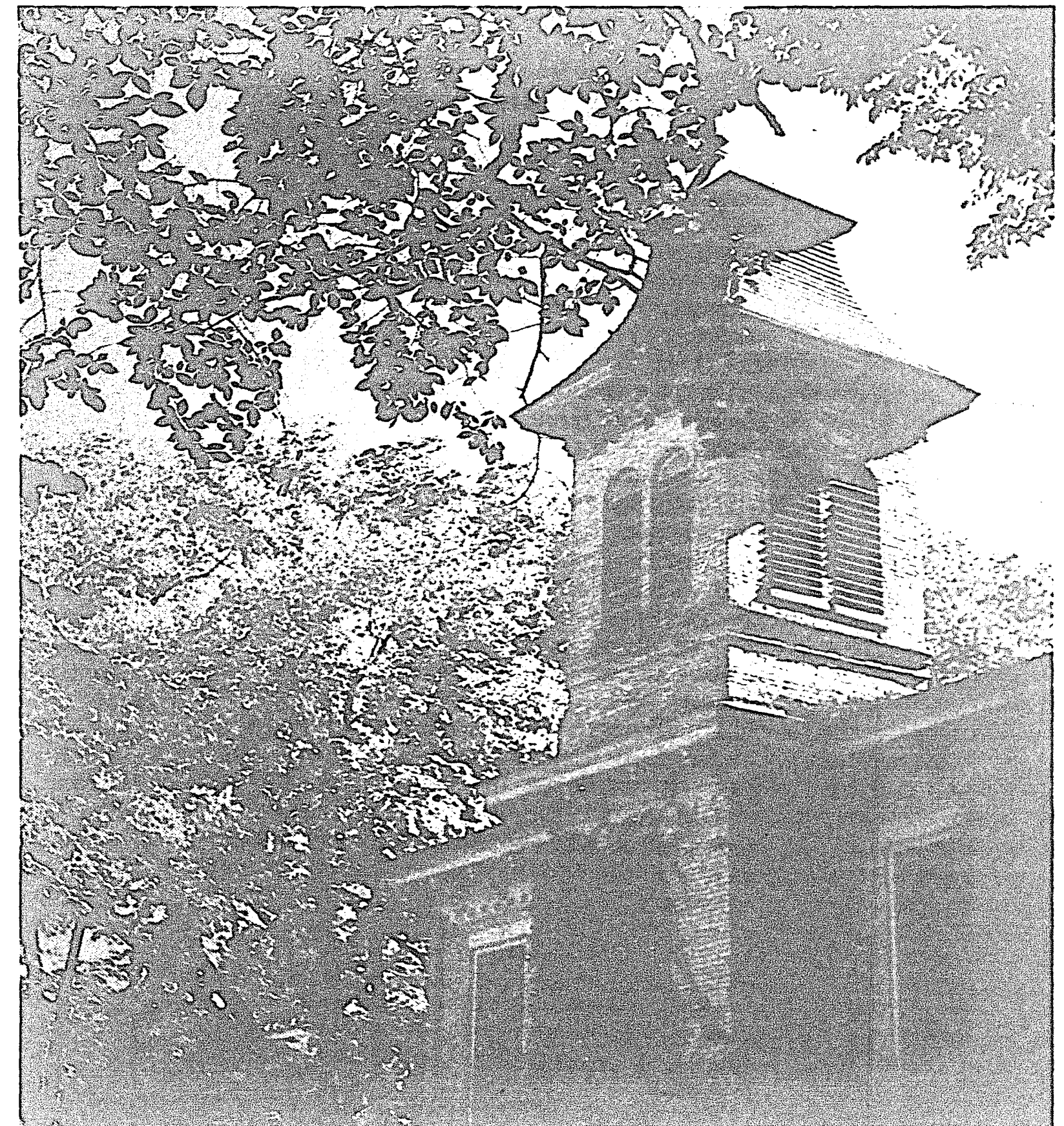
Man is not holy, and he cannot make any day holy. God alone is holy (in an absolute sense), and He alone can make a day holy. The Fourth Commandment tells us that God *did* make a day holy at creation, and it clearly tells us it was the seventh day of the week. The preponderance of evidence clearly shows that the day we call Saturday is this original seventh-day Sabbath. We are commanded to remember the Sabbath Day to *keep* it holy, but we cannot *make* it holy.

Basically, the Sabbath would still be God's holy day even if all men were to ignore its sanctity. But God, in His goodness, wants it to be *our* holy day, too.
—W. A. B.

LOVE

Love ever gives
Forgives — outlives—
And ever stands
With open hands.
And while it lives,
It gives.
For this is Love's prerogative—
To give, and give, and give.

—John Oxenham



GENERAL CONFERENCE HOSTED AT MILTON COLLEGE

Although it is the church people rather than the college people most involved in entertaining Conference, the buildings clustering around Main Hall will have significance to the delegates. Pray for an inspirational gathering.

The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

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

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Terms of Subscription

Per Year \$4.00 Single Copies 10 cents

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

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

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

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

PLAINFIELD, N. J. August 3, 1970
Volume 189, No. 5 Whole No. 6411

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Muslims Against Medicine

It may not be quite fair to imply by the above title that all Muslims are against medicine. It might be more factual to say that some Indonesian Muslims are against hospitals and medicine when they suspect that they might be "tainted" with Christianity. We generally assume that doctors, clinics, and hospitals connected with a missionary program are sought after even by governments that are not friendly to evangelists. When other missionaries are excluded from countries like India, the medical missionaries are allowed to stay on. Physical healing is accounted as more needed than spiritual healing.

A story comes out of Bukittinggi (meaning "High Hill"), Indonesia, a city of 50,000 that lies seventy miles inland from the coast in Western Sumatra. Although there was no hospital facility there, Dr. Owen, a Baptist missionary, encountered opposition to the purchase of land for a fifty-bed clinic. The opposition came from the Muslim faction, according to Baptist Press. They said that the site was too close to one of their mosques. Another piece of land was substituted later but the opposition of this group continued. It is said that some Muslims welcomed the prospect of a hospital, but the more conservative elements were suspicious and continued their stiff opposition to the project even after a permit was secured and the construction started. The supervising missionary, Ross B. Fryer, states that the distrust of the Muslims was to some extent exploited by the Communists.

It is hard for us liberal-minded westerners to follow the thought processes of Mohammedans who object to having a Christian hospital in the same area as a mosque when the medical need is so great and the doctors serve faithfully, making no distinction as to race, creed, or culture. It is to be hoped that Christian love can break down the stubborn barriers of suspicion raised up by Muslims. Can the same medicine of love reach the scheming Communists? We can hope so. It takes dedication to serve Christ when even our good deeds are evil spoken of. There is an approval that is more important than human praise.

Any Rivers To Cross?

Most of us do not have to concern ourselves about getting across the rivers that lie between us and our normal destinations because the roads we follow include bridges over the streams we need to cross. Someone else has built the various types of bridges we need, sometimes at the cost of millions of dollars and even some lives lost in the process. But we are well aware in our sober moments that life has some streams to cross that are not bridged and we wonder if we will be equal to the task.

There are times in the experience of military men in particular when their mission, if safely accomplished, requires them to cross rivers at points where there are no bridges or where the enemy has destroyed the structures. Engineers have developed various types of portable bridges to meet the different needs. The Army trains and equips whole companies of men to help the rest of the Army get over the rivers that must be crossed. The Army engineers frequently render a great service to the civilian population at home or in other countries in times of natural catastrophe. Most of us have at one time or other benefited from their knowledge and available manpower. I recall a small flood at Bridgeton, N. J., when a lake broke loose and the bridges were swept away. The Army engineers were sent in to construct temporary wooden bridges that served for a year or two. Many are the occasions in war-torn countries where life depends on the ability to build bridges quickly.

What brings all this to mind and starts us thinking again of Christian responsibility? It is the story that has just come to hand of some new bridge-building equipment developed for the Army. It is almost unbelievable what can be done by a few men and one two-and-a-half-ton truck. The truck carries an inflatable bridge which in thirty minutes can be extended ninety feet and will support a twenty-ton tank or a whole convoy of vehicles. The truck backs up near the river, lifts off the folded fabric, inflates it, and pushes it across the stream. The air pressure is only fifteen pounds per square inch. The compressor can keep it inflated

even if it sustains some small punctures. Engineers say that when the bridge has served its purpose it can be repacked in half an hour ready to take to the next place where a crossing needs to be made.

The amazing thing about this bridge is its miniaturization and its great strength. We marvel at the strength of an ant dragging objects many times its weight. God has endowed that tiny creature with unbelievable power and a measure of wisdom (even in the building of bridges, we are told). Now at last one might look down from a helicopter at a truck the size of an ant that had pushed out a bridge five and a half times its length—a bridge supporting a twenty-ton tank or several trucks its own size. We are reminded of the only two Bible verses where ants are mentioned, "Go to the ant thou sluggard; consider her ways and be wise" . . . (Prov. 6:6) and "The ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their meat in the summer" (Prov. 30:25). Perhaps we now match the ant in strength by our scientific advances, but we have been losing out in personal initiative, it appears. Too few men are willing to work hard.

Such a bridge would have been suitable for crossing the Jordan in the days of Joshua. It would have been a long wait, and history would have been quite different if God had not intervened to provide another quick way for the people of God to cross over Jordan. Our hymn writers remind us that regardless of our scientific accomplishments, such as this, we do not have within ourselves the strength needed to bridge life's streams or to make a successful crossing over that last Jordan into the promised land. God pushes the bridge across from His side so that we can come to Him. But we must come in faith to the brink of the swelling tide.



AUGUST 3, 1970

Closing the Gaps

Many of the problems of local and world society can be solved by "closing the gaps" — if we can find ways to do it and devote ourselves to the task.

We have heard much about the generation gap and sometimes wonder if it is as wide a gap as many of the polarization-prone people make it out to be. With a little more love and understanding we could hasten the merging process that we have left to Father Time in previous generations. Individual youths quite quickly emerge from the chrysalis student age to the greater freedom and responsibility of adulthood. The problem we face is that this student age is not so much individual as it is a bloc or a wave, drawing up the younger as those who are older drop out. Some would like to narrow down the "now generation" to those within the youth age group—those who have not yet learned that experience has a voice worth listening to. We who are older must show love and tolerance even as we pray for a little of it on the other side of the generation gap.

William Lawson, black pastor of Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church in Houston, in a feature spotlighting youth during the 12th Baptist World Congress had something constructive to say about the generation gap. He spoke in place of Mrs. Coretta Scott King, widow of Martin Luther King.

Lawson said that youth and adults must combine efforts in trying to change the world from its emphasis on big business, government and militarism, to an emphasis on love, peace and justice for all mankind.

After citing faults of the older generation, Lawson gave this warning: "Do not laugh young person—if you live long enough, you will become a prisoner of your environment too."

"In your simple honesty," he said to youth, "you need us (adults) as much as we need you.

"We (adults) do not have your quick mind, your clear visions, your still-pure ideals. But you do not have our patience

and our knowledge of unseen dangers and the signs of human weakness."

Lawson urged youth and adults to bridge the generation gap beginning in their own homes and then to respect the strength of each other in dealing with the divisions of men beyond their doors.

"You have said that we need more active passions of mercy," he reflected. "Help us to learn compassion. But you will need our experience and skills in implementing that compassion

"You may need to point out to our dull eyes the hungering brother, but we must draft the plan and gather the finances to build the station of mercy—to feed the hunger of many," he said.

There is another gap that has come to our attention as we have read about the hunger that stalks the world beyond the range of our normal acquaintances. A report of the International Food Congress that met recently for two weeks at the Hague in Holland used this expression in a summary of the deep discussions, "Closing the protein gap to achieve better nutrition is the highest priority."

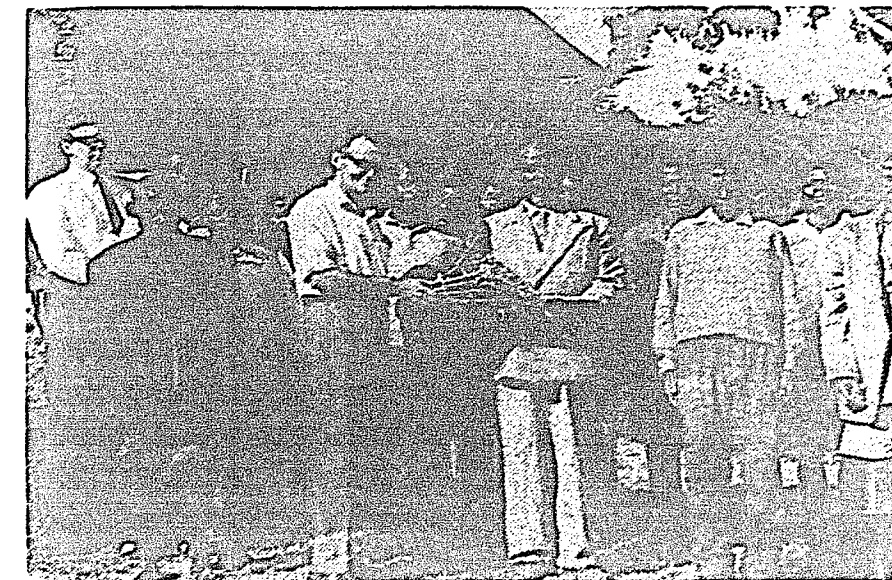
War-torn Nigeria is not the only place in the world where there has been and continues to be this protein gap. This ought to be a much easier gap to close than the generation gap for it can be done in a material way by international cooperation and sharing. But here, too, Christian love and understanding play a major part. Without Christian motivation relief programs can fail. They may become nationalist tools and political footballs. It takes love to go the extra mile, to fill the cup full, or to deny oneself for the sake of others.

There are many other gaps that ought to be closed, cultural, racial; you name it. The greatest gap of all is that which was observed millenniums ago—the separation between man and God resulting from sin. Some 2,000 years ago God made provision for the closing of that gap by sending His Son to take upon Himself the penalty of our sin. We have experienced that gap-closing. It now behooves us to help close those gaps that can be narrowed by Christian love.

MISSIONS—Leon R. Lawton

Meaningful Gift to Departing Doctor

A picture has come to the Missionary Board office from Malawi that is highly interesting. It needs a little explanation because, in the nature of the case, it cannot show the detail of what made the occasion so meaningful.



When Dr. Victor Burdick and his family were ready to return to the United States after many years of loving service at the Makapwa station and throughout Malawi, there were numerous gifts and expressions of appreciation. All of this was told in an article by Fedson F. Makatanje in the June 15 issue of the *Sabbath Recorder*. We quote the paragraph again:

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.

We would not want to detract from the spiritual lesson taught by this thoughtful act but would remind ourselves that in simple things there can be a great

MEMORY TEXT

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

—James 1:17

expression of love. Somehow the gift means a little more when you see that the little cage in which the two doves were carried was made of twigs bound together with natural fibers in an ingenious way that helped in the symbolism of love and closeness.

At the extreme left and on this occasion in the background is the Rev. John Conrod, the new missionary who is now winning his own, though a different, place in the hearts of the people he seeks to serve. It is noted that the missionaries are in their shirt sleeves while the chiefs of the villages and the native pastors proudly wear coats with dignity.

Did You Know —

That the Rev. Leroy Bass and family arrived home a day earlier than had been announced? They were met on Wednesday, July 22, at Kennedy Airport, New York, by Executive Vice-President Leon R. Lawton and by Mrs. Bass' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Darrow of Flanders Road, Niantic, Conn. They will visit at the Darrow home for a few days before moving to the parsonage of the Rockville, R. I., Seventh Day Baptist Church.

That the Rev. and Mrs. Grover Brissey, returned missionaries from Jamaica, arrived safely at their home in Laurel, Md., on Monday, July 13? It is expected that they will be attending General Conference at Milton, Wis.

That the two recently returned missionary families, the Besses and the Brisseys are to be honored at a reception at Milton to be held Sunday evening, August 9? This will provide an opportunity for all to visit and renew acquaintances as well as to receive recent news from the Guyana and Jamaica mission fields.

That the Rev. and Mrs. David Pearson and family will be returning to the States on furlough in about one year, coming soon after their two daughters Deborah and Joan finish their school year at Blantyre on July 16, 1971? In looking ahead, Pastor Pearson is considering the possibility of attending the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation meetings and General Conference in August, 1971. He hopes also to attend the second semester at Eastern Baptist Seminary near Philadelphia. —E. T. H.

Samuel Peters

Serving Churches in Guyana

Nearly two years ago Samuel Peters left his homeland, Guyana, and entered training at Jamaica Theological Seminary, Kingston, Jamaica. Through the special gifts received from individuals and Sabbath Schools it has been possible for him to return home this summer, arriving early in July.

A letter from the president of the Guyana Seventh Day Baptist Conference, George L. Bowen, tells of the first Sabbath, July 11, when Sam spoke at the Georgetown (Kitty) church:

"A man that was halting for some time cried out and made a full surrender for the Lord."

Brother Bowen also shares the arrangements for a full summer of service for Sam Peters:

"God willing, Sam will be preaching on the following dates and places: Uitvlugt, July 18; Kitty, July 19; Bona Ventura on the Pomeroon River, July 24-28 for special revival meetings; Kitty, August 1; Berry's Memorial on Wake-naam Island, August 3-5; Dartmouth, Essequibo Coast, five nights of special services, August 6-10; Peter's Memorial, at Parika, August 14-16; Kitty (Georgetown) for V.B.S., August 24-28. A special week of crusade meetings is also scheduled at Kitty in September."

Your prayer support of these special services in our sister churches in Guyana is asked. Pray that Sam may be used of the Lord in a special way and praise the Lord that he is able to work among his own people.

Baptist World Congress Summary

From press release forwarded by Gladys Drake, S.D.B. representative

The 12th Baptist World Congress, after hearing a score of speeches on the themes of racial equality, peace, justice, hunger, disease, evangelism, Christian unity, and reconciliation between people and nations, adopted a manifesto, a message to its churches, and a half-dozen resolutions dealing with the same basic issues.

The six-day Congress ended July 18 with a message by Evangelist Billy Graham of the United States on the roles and responsibilities of youth, while about fifty Japanese young people protested the prominent clergyman's presence on the program.

Theme for the congress was "Reconciliation Through Christ," with most of the speakers repeating and amplifying the topic again and again.

The 8,556 Baptists from seventy-six countries, though voicing their unity repeatedly in sermons and the resolutions, frequently displayed their differences.

While the 15,000 seat Budokan Hall, built for the Olympic judo matches, was filled with as many as 10,000 persons on the opening and closing nights, many of the 8,556 registered delegates plus guests went sight-seeing in Tokyo, Osaka, Nikko, Hakkone, and other scenic Japanese spots during the daytime sessions.

On the subject of peace, the congress urged world statesmen to intensify efforts to find world peace by strengthening the United Nations and making it representative of all peoples. The resolution adopted by the delegates declared: "We cry out against the continued tragedy of the conflicts in Indochina and the Middle East and urge that the killing be stopped."

In two of the strongest speeches during the congress, United Nations General Assembly President Angie Brooks-Randolph of Liberia and former Minnesota Governor Harold Stassen, now an attorney in Philadelphia, Pa., called for

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for August 15, 1970

THE DIVISIVENESS OF PRIDE

Scripture Lesson: Genesis 11:1-9

THE SABBATH RECORDER

strengthening the United Nations as a means of reaching world peace.

Stassen, a several-time candidate for the U. S. Presidential nomination in the Republican Party and one of the original signers and drafters of the U. N. Charter, told the congress he believed the U. N. Charter should be rewritten to include both Chinese governments, both German governments, both Korean governments, and both Vietnam governments.

The president of the United Nations General Assembly, Mrs. Brooks-Randolph, of Liberia, said that while the world's masses want justice and peace, world government leaders show by inaction they really don't want this, and the church, by its silence, is failing to prod government leaders to obtain peace.

If the church does not speak out on the issues of peace, poverty, war, human environment and others, the church might ultimately find it is not able to be a positive influence in the world, she said.

In the related subject of race relations, a black pastor from Second Baptist Church in Los Angeles, Calif., Thomas J. Kilgore, hit hard at racism in the church and in America, saying the North American church is the worst offender in racial injustice.

"The churches have more to repent of than anyone else," said Kilgore, former president of the American Baptist Convention. "They have failed to fulfill their role."

Another Negro Baptist pastor from America, John W. Williams of Kansas City, Mo., said in the congress sermon that Christians cannot permit, without protest, a divided world that pits brother against brother because Christianity proclaims that "every homicide is a fratricide and every war a civil war."

A resolution on reconciliation and racial discrimination called racism a "repudiation of the teachings of Jesus Christ." It also lamented that the presence of racism in "our own places of worship and in some of our respective communities and nations." The resolution pledged efforts toward "the total elimination of every vestige of racism" in the church and said "we repent of the sins of racism."

Our Prayer Corner

Suggestions for Prayer This Week

Pray for:

1) That the Holy Spirit may make our hearts tender toward others who may be more weak than we are.

2) A burning love that gives us no rest when we see friends and loved ones not yet committed to Christ.

3) Certain new leaders who feel the need of a firmer grounding in the Sabbath truth and have asked an interest in our prayers.

4) The Conference president as his leadership for the year comes to a climax at Milton.

During a commission's report on religious liberty and human rights, an American seminary professor, Culbert Rutenber, said "It is an act of love to feed the hungry, but it is also an act of love to attack the roots of poverty. It is an act of love to bind the wounds of a soldier but it is also an act of love to attack the roots of war," he said.

A call for Baptist churches around the world to participate in a world evangelistic effort of reconciliation between 1973-75 was presented by Rubens Lopes, of Sao Paulo, Brazil, president of the Brazilian Baptist Convention.

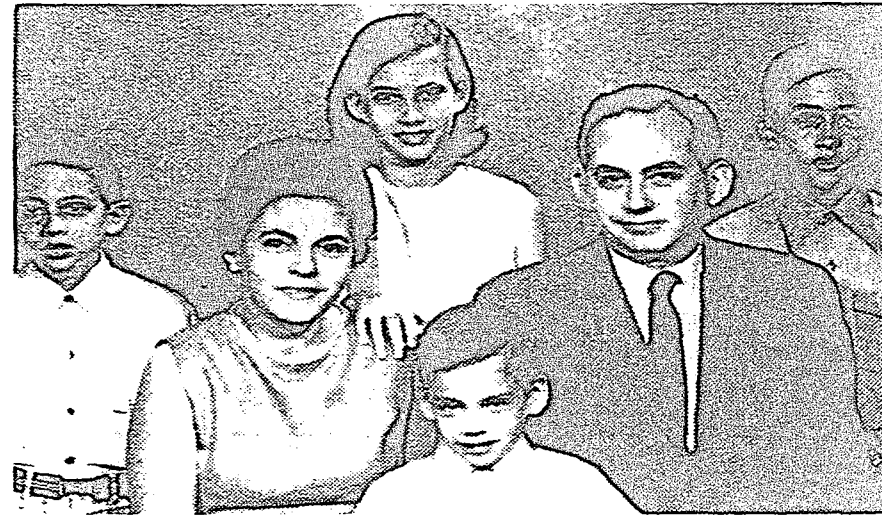
For the first time, a commission on Cooperative Christianity presented a report on Christian unity, discussing ways Baptists can relate closer with those of other denominations. Unity among Christians is one of the burning issues of the times, said George Beasley-Murray of Spurgeon's College, London. "We should spare no effort to restore unity in the church, but how to achieve this is one of the great issues of our day."

A resolution urging more participation and representation of youth in the Baptist World Alliance was adopted, calling for youth to be involved in the planning process for the organization and congress sessions every five years.

Graham concluded the congress with a sermon on youth, saying that adults are both in danger of ignoring youth and worshiping them. "Youth has become an obsession with the older generation," Graham said.

**God's Call to Christian Service
As Seen in the Lives
of One Christian Family**

By Leo Floyd



The basic Bible text used in describing Christ's call to Christian service is His Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20). All Christians are commanded to seek His guidance through the Holy Spirit and to dedicate their lives in service to Christ. In many instances this is easier said than done as most individuals are reluctant to answer the call to go into what is to them an unknown area or field. We are in most cases satisfied to try and do God's will in our lives in accordance with our own desires, in our own time and place. And, of course, this is not always what Christ would have us do.

When one hears the call there is usually the tendency to start asking questions about how the call is going to affect the individual concerned. Such questions as, "What will this mean to my family and me? What will I have to give up to do this? How much hardship is going to be involved? And, is Christ really calling me to do this?" seem to come to the forefront. These basic questions came up in our lives as quite unexpectedly we were confronted with the possibility of going to Brazil in some form of Christian service. I had arrived at the point in my life where I was faced with retirement from the Navy and with a decision to make in regard to what I should do in seeking a future career which would be beneficial to God, my family, and me.

I had thought and prayed about seeking some kind of full-time Christian service and considered the possibility of returning to school, utilizing the benefits from the GI bill which I have coming. Also, since we are living in the Canal Zone and like it here, we decided it would be nice to remain here, seek employment with the government, and possibly endeavor to establish a Seventh Day Baptist group in the area. We also considered at this time the possibility of going to Brazil to live, but then decided against it as we had no firm commitment for employment, and did not know the present overall situation existing there. We then decided that we would take a trip to Brazil, whether we gained employment in the Canal Zone or not, to visit my wife's family and to look over the situation; all the while praying for God's guidance. At this point I mentioned in a letter to the Rev. Leon Maltby that we were considering a possible trip to Brazil. I did not know if there were any Seventh Day Baptists in Brazil and queried Editor Maltby if he knew of any.

This letter in turn brought a very heartening and, I must say, enthusiastic reply. It turned out that there are Seventh Day Baptists in Brazil and Editor Maltby thought that such a trip as I had mentioned would be very beneficial, and that possibly we could discover some means of service there. Of course, this opened up all kinds of thoughts and discussions between my wife and me as well as many prayers seeking God's guidance. We were very reluctant to go to Brazil permanently because of the uncertainty that such a move would hold for us. Even though my wife was born and reared in Brazil and I had served two years in the Navy in Rio de Janeiro, it has been thirteen years since either one of us has been there. Also, neither of us has ever been to the area of Brazil where the majority of Seventh Day Baptists are located. We have four children of school age and were concerned about how this would affect their schooling. My concern for employment was strongly considered. With my large family I wanted to make sure that I didn't become a burden on

the people I was supposed to help in going to Brazil. And, was the Lord really leading in this possible move? Or, did my wife and I have such a strong subconscious desire to go to Brazil that we were mistaking our own desire for God's leading? These thoughts were relayed to Editor Maltby as well as the news that I had been made eligible for a good position with the government in the Canal Zone about this time. In the interim, we took Christ up on His promise of Matthew 8:7. "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you," and prayed for His guidance in the matter.

Editor Maltby in turn forwarded some literature relating to the Seventh Day Baptists in Brazil. All this, of course, gave us much food for thought; particularly the thought that if the Lord is calling us at this time and we do not respond to His leading, we will no doubt forego forever any future chance for Christian service. The same questions that I mentioned earlier kept cropping up with no apparent answers. Doubts kept creeping into our minds and we began to wonder whether we were really doing what God wanted us to do. At this time, we decided that we would step out on faith and let Christ lead the way as He said He would in Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." We prayed that if this was really what the Lord wanted us to do, that He open up the way and show us His will. We then wrote to our Brazilian brethren who in turn have been most cooperative and have given us much help and encouragement.

Ever since we decided to seek the Lord's guidance and started depending on Him entirely, everything has worked out so perfectly that there is no doubt in our minds that God is leading us in this decision. He has taken over the preparations for the trip so that the least minute detail is not overlooked. We have had no major problems arise in our preparations and those problems that did appear were taken care of so swiftly that they haven't seemed like problems at all. We learned that the government would cover

all transportation costs relating to the move since we had chosen Brazil as our place of retirement. Also, we were informed by our Brazilian brethren that my retirement pay would be very adequate for living a reasonably comfortable life in Brazil without even considering employment. All this then, along with the fact that the children will not have too much difficulty in adjusting to the schools in Brazil, has certainly eliminated all of our doubts and fears concerning what is obviously the Lord's leading.

At the present time we continue with our preparations for the trip, departing the Canal Zone July 21, knowing "that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose" (Rom. 8:28). We thank God that He has given us the strength and wisdom to see and answer His call. We also thank the Revs. Maltby, Lawton and Alton Wheeler for their encouragement and much appreciated advice during this preparation period. We now solicit the prayers of all our brethren in Christ for God's continued guidance in enabling us to meet in full this call to Christian service.

Conference Business Items

Commission through its chairman, Leland Bond, has listed a number of items which will probably be presented for action at General Conference convening in Milton, Wis., August 10-15.

1. Conference Bylaws for final approval.
2. Report of Commission study on our relationships to ecumenical groups such as the National and World Councils of Churches.
3. Proposal for broadening clergy and laymen's retirement plan for denominational workers.
4. Possible combination life insurance and hospitalization plan for pastors and other denominational employees not covered under other plans.
5. Plans for celebrating 300th year anniversary of Seventh Day Baptists in America.
6. Plans for second meeting of the

Seventh Day Baptist World Federation.

7. Recommendations for our participation in the NCC Mission in the '70's.

8. Plans for helping new and developing churches.

9. A policy statement pertaining to listing of churches which might be considered weak or inactive.

10 Preliminary results of Introspect and Prospect Conference held for the purpose of activating and expanding of the Seventh Day Baptist witness.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION—Sec. Rex E. Zwiebel

World's C. E. Convention

Delegates from around the world will participate in the 16th World's Christian Endeavor Convention August 19-23 in Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. Included will be tour groups from Australia, Germany, Great Britain, Hawaii, and Jamaica, plus numerous bus and train parties from the United States mainland and Canada. The 50th International Christian Endeavor Convention for North American Endeavors is being held concurrently with the World's Convention.

A party under the direction of Rev. Frederick J. Nile, national director of the Australian Christian Endeavor Union, leaves Sydney August 1.

British Endeavorers fly directly to Toronto for the convention; on Aug. 24 they begin ten days of travel in the United States. German Endeavorers have chartered a plane to bring them to Canada in advance of the convention for a week of camping in Northern Ontario. Jamaican Endeavorers fly to Toronto on August 18 for the convention; they will spend several weeks in independent travel before returning home. Hawaiian Endeavorers led by William Donlin plan to tour the United States, with visits to Columbus Headquarters and to Portland, Maine.

Many groups are coming from the United States and Canada by chartered bus; Oregon Endeavorers will travel by train in a private car; hundreds will journey in auto caravans. A group of ten is expected from Samoa. Among other countries to be represented are Austria, Cayman Islands, Guatemala, Guyana,

India, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Sierra Leone, Spain, and the United Arab Republic.

The convention opens Wednesday night with a mass meeting at the University of Waterloo, where most activities will center, and continues through the crowning public meeting Sunday night at Kitchener Memorial Auditorium. Outstanding leaders include Dr. Clyde W. Meadows (U.S.A.), Rev. Arno Pagel (Germany), Dr. Myron S. Augsburg (U.S.A.), Dr. Leighton Ford (U.S.A.), Dr. E. H. Johnson (Canada), Dr. J. A. Leo-Rhynie (Jamaica), Dr. F. Rupert Gibson (Northern Ireland), and Bishop Solomon Doraisawmy (India). The program includes mass meetings each night; a daily schedule of Bible study groups, conferences for all ages, and a general assembly; and many special activities. A highlight will be the music, with the famed Kawaiahao Church Choir from Honolulu, Hawaii, and a number of other units participating.

CWS Relief in Peru

Cash contributions to Church World Service in response to the disastrous Peru earthquake in which 50,000 lives were lost, had reached \$182,000 as of July 10, according to James MacCracken, CWS executive director. CWS material aid shipments to Peru, including those already arrived, in transit and scheduled, as of July 10 amounted to 297,104 pounds, valued at \$236,837, Melvin B. Myers, CWS material resources director, said. Included in the cargo were drugs and medical supplies; water purification tablets; protein foods; blankets; tents; clothing; construction tools; building materials and walky-talky radios for field communication.

In addition to the above, five million pounds of Food for Peace, PL 480 foods, is being shipped to Peru over a three-month period for distribution by CWS in food for work projects.

Most of the 70,000 inhabitants of the Huarmey-Aija area where CWS is working are Quechua Indians, with their own language and culture; the rest are Spanish-speaking Peruvians.

LETTING THE CHURCH REALLY HAPPEN

By Celebrating the Discovery of Life's Meaning

(A sermon about Christian Education)

By Glen W. Warner

(Continued from last week)

It would be a mistake for us to declare that a spiritual awakening must happen in one way or another. And it is a mistake to think that a young person's awakening should or must take place in the church. The responsibility for setting the stage or creating the atmosphere for this to happen should begin in the home. It was a secret of Israel's strength, that the younger generation was clearly instructed in the Scriptures. "And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up" (Deut. 6:7). Loyalty and strength were developed by a sharing of the Scriptures, not as though they were an appendage, but rather an integral part of life.

4. *Jesus increased in favor with man . . .*

I was recently asked why I call the sermon a "proclamation." In the early church two functions were considered greatly important. The kerygma and the didachae (the proclamation and the teaching), were indispensable to the life of the Christian community. Perhaps you are a Sabbath School teacher now, or have been, or will be. Dr. Wayne Rood has a word for us about the creativity that can be a part of teaching. "Making lesson plans is the transition between thinking about teaching and actually teaching. It is part of an artistic process of contemplation and construction, so crammed with awareness and concentration that it literally bursts into communication, throwing off the covers that hide the expressiveness of experienced things, enabling the viewer to forget himself in the delight of experiencing the world about him for himself. Teaching Christianity is just such a creative act. In the background lie the throbbing ebb and flow of life, the dynamic thrust toward response to an eternal address. There has been, for the teacher, an awareness of

the living content of Christianity, the needs of learners and the responsibility to be a participant in the offer of dialogue God makes to all men. There has been a concentration on the materials with which he might work, producing a design for sharing" (*The Art of Teaching Christianity*).

In 1847, Col. Sutter bought a farm in California. One day, he noticed that his small daughter was playing with mud from the millrace. In that mud he saw the first shining scales of the Sutter's Fort gold rush. To date, 38 millions of dollars have been taken in gold from that place. Sutter was one-third owner for years and years. \$120 of gold was produced every fifteen minutes, waking or sleeping, tax free. Such is the role of good Christian teachers, to be able to discover that gold mine, that self, that lies within the person, perhaps asleep, but nevertheless there. The authentic self is waiting only to be discovered and turned on to the abundant life.

Our Scripture refers to the ultimate encounter in life. Historically the encounter or the moment of truth was the time when an accused party could prove his guilt or innocence in a matter by putting his hand into boiling water and withdrawing a red hot iron from it. If he burned he was guilty. If he did not, he was innocent.

In our time, an encounter is that experience when the absolute truth is spoken. When we have carefully answered the three questions of life, then remains for us the moment of truth. When we are confronted with the truth, it can set us free. I once knew a young person who discovered something about his family that had been hidden for years. When he learned this, it did not make him angry or embittered. Instead, it was the missing piece of the puzzle that answered so many questions! The truth really set him free.

I remember another kind of encounter, an encounter with another person. Dr.

Harvey Cox told once of carrying contraband medicine through the Berlin wall for a family in need. The guard who checked him discovered the medicine, and for "one awful moment of truth" they looked into each other's eyes, the guard knowing full well that perhaps Cox would be checked again by the other guard stationed there. Then he waved him through.

The ultimate encounter is with the divine, and it is this encounter that we are responsible for in our Christian education work. Ephesians 4:22-24 says, "So get rid of your old self, which made you live as you used to — the old self which was being destroyed by its deceitful desires. Your hearts and minds must be made completely new. You must put on the new self, which is created in God's likeness, and reveals itself in the true life that is upright and holy" (TEV).

It is the experience of sharing and mutual discovery which makes the Christian community a rich experience. It is the moment of truth between persons and the Divine which helps to discover life's real meaning. It is the awareness of our own need to be straight and forthright that causes us to pray for self-understanding and understanding for others.

Work of Baptist Laymen

By David Y. K. Wong, Hong Kong

Portions of an address at Tokyo

A part of our program this evening deals with the work of the layman, his role and importance as a follower of Christ and minister of the gospel in his own right. I estimate that approximately seventy-five percent of all the delegates here are laymen. By laymen it is meant to include men and women — old, middle-aged and young.

As Christian laymen, we must not limit our attention to inside the walls of our church. We must extend our services, our fellowship with and our concern for our fellowmen.

During the past few years, it was my privilege to visit the different countries in Asia and the South Pacific area. I saw some of the work of our Baptist men. I read about their organization and pro-

gress all over the world. To mention some of their work:

In Hong Kong where I myself participate in the work, the laymen formed small preaching groups to do evangelistic work in the out-of-town territories of Hong Kong and Macao, thirty miles away. They sent money to the Malaysia-Singapore Baptist Association to extend their Christian fellowship abroad and to show their concern in the work there. In response to the Asian Baptist Evangelistic Crusade, they held a fellowship dinner in a big hotel for 350 people, over half of whom were their non-Christian friends. They joined the visitation groups to distribute tracts and the Gospel of John to 1,000,000 people in Hong Kong.

In Australia, I read about their prison visitation and rehabilitation program; their work of installing an electric power plant in New Guinea.

In the Philippines, I attended the annual meeting of their Baptist Men's Organization and I was deeply moved by their dedication and the ability of the individuals to give testimonies, and their talent to preach the gospel and serve their fellowmen.

We read about the "Impact Plan" of the Argentine Baptists in 1966 that accounted for thousands of professions of faith.

From these reports, we are reassured that a layman is a communicator of the gospel in his daily Christian living with his fellowmen. His witness is the result of the Holy Spirit working in him.

As we enter the new decade of the 1970's let us face our tasks with a full confidence

a deeper concern, and with a greater commitment and involvement to the glory of our Lord.

Inner Change Needed

The organized Church that ought to have been burdened for the evangelization of the earth has been too busy either powdering her nose to preserve an attractive public image, or powdering the revolutionaries and reactionaries who need rather to be remade in Christ's image. — Carl F. Henry

Tract Board Reviews Work Plans Future Service to Cause

The Board of Trustees of the American Sabbath Tract Society held its quarterly meeting in the Marlboro Seventh Day Baptist Church in South Jersey instead of in the Board Room of the denominational building at Plainfield, Sunday, July 19. There were sixteen members and two visitors present for the afternoon meeting. Some of the members were unable to attend because of duties at the nearby Jersey Oaks Camp.

Committee meetings prior to the board meeting filled the weekend and made possible constructive action by the assembled board members. The Publications and Advisory Committees met late Sabbath afternoon and evening with overnight housing provided in Shiloh homes. Morning meetings beginning at nine o'clock were called by the chairmen of the Audio and Visual Services, Supervisory, and Finance Committees. The Executive and the Sabbath Promotion Committees had met previously in Plainfield.

In the way of new publications, the committee reported the completion at a cost of about \$3,000 of the new book *The Sabbath; Symbol of Creation and Re-Creation* by Herbert E. Saunders who is now chairman of the Sabbath Promotion Committee. A new tract written largely by the same author: "Have You Made the Wonderful Discovery of a Spirit-Filled Sabbath?" was reported, along with reprints of several others. Upon recommendation of the committee the board voted funds for printing tracts in the Chichewa language in Malawi and the Telugu language in India, although the amounts available in the budget were much less than the declared need.

Matching-fund appropriations for the rental of fair booths in Arkansas and New York were announced by the Sabbath Promotion Committee as well as similar support of advertising in the *Washington Post* for a six-month period in the future.

The board saw for the first time two of the three cabinets with intricate circuitry constructed mostly by the chair-

man of the Audio and Visual Services Committee. This equipment which is to be used first at Conference for the public address system and tape recording will later be used for studio work for the denominational program when the system is completed. The board voted to contribute to the Conference expenses of Fred Ayars and Calvin Babcock to operate the equipment. Others being helped with Conference expenses include the president, the secretary-editor, and a person to promote the sale of Publishing House books, supplies, and literature.

The Supervisory Committee reported a study of the publishing operation, recommended cost-of-living increases in wages and a slightly higher charge for shop cost of printing, which will enable the Publishing House to maintain itself. The walling up of half of the basement windows for protection was announced as having been done during the previous week.

The secretary reported interesting correspondence, some of which had resulted in new members and new leaders both in our U.S. Conference and in foreign conferences. As editor he called attention to the service rendered by the *Sabbath Recorder* and the continued support of the denominational organ.

The Tract Society and committees of the board are scheduled to meet at Plainfield, September 20.

Special Information About Conference

Special events at Conference will include:

Sunday night, August 9, a reception in Milton church

Wednesday night, Youth Banquet at St. Mary church and Women's Banquet at Milton College

Evening coffee hours

Sabbath morning, Communion at 9:00 a.m., Milton Bell Choir, Worship Service

There will be a nursery for children age five and under during meetings.

Reparations and National Priorities

Black and white religious leadership should not permit "the relatively futile debate over reparations" to distract them from seeking to establish national priorities in spending, a prominent rabbi has declared.

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, national director of the Interreligious Affairs Department of the American Jewish Committee, speaking on radio station WINS, stated:

"One of the authentic traumas that seized the religious communities over the past year has been the impassioned confrontations between minority groups and leaders of the Christian and Jewish institutions over demand for reparations for the injustices black and brown peoples have suffered in this country. While no person of sensitive conscience would deny that religious institutions have a primary moral obligation to combat injustices, a balanced analysis of the consequences of the reparations struggle justifies a conclusion that it was in many respects a major misfortune.

"A number of black friends have argued that the reparations demands have sensitized in unprecedented ways the consciences of white people, and have in fact unlocked several millions of dollars for support of vital projects in minority neighborhoods. Nevertheless, the fact remains that those achievements have been won at exorbitant costs. These costs have involved the deep polarization within every major religious group in the United States, and in some cases the actual paralysis of social justice work. The most unfortunate consequence of all — indeed, the real tragedy — in my judgment, has been that the reparations struggle has sidetracked both black and white religious leadership from directing their attention toward the main target—namely, the re-allocation of our national spending, our national priorities.

"The vast and pressing human needs of our minority groups, including the badly neglected low-income white working families, in such areas as housing, jobs, education, medical care, and the reconstruction of our economy, call for expenditures

ranging from an estimated \$70 to \$100 billion a year for at least the next ten years. Such amounts can come realistically only from the budgets of our federal and local governments to whom we pay taxes for such purposes."

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Negro Evangelical Association

A news release issued by the National Negro Evangelical Association (NNEA) tells of the seventh annual convention of that body, of the resolutions passed and the direction it plans to follow under its new president, the Rev. William H. Bentley, Chicago pastor and social worker.

The NNEA president looks forward to the organization expressing itself through a coalition of various Christian ministries known as the umbrella concept. The association has five commissions: Evangelism, Social Action, Missions, Christian Education, and Youth. Commission heads are: the Rev. Charles E. Williams of Portland, Oregon, (Missions), the Rev. Tom Skinner (Evangelism), the Rev. George M. Perry (Social Action), the Rev. Melvin Banks (Christian Education), and Mr. Henry Greenidge (Youth).

The newly elected president states that he does not conceive of NNEA in terms of strict negatives of color concepts. Positive acceptance of black identity need not be construed as negation of white identity. But black identity that accepts itself positively, paves the way for being accepted on equal terms with others and therefore is psychologically and emotionally healthy.

Therefore, NNEA will endeavor not only to keep abreast of what is happening in America as it relates to the black man, Christian and otherwise, but will also seek meaningful interpretation of the gospel message of redemption to the residents of the black community. It thus conceives of itself as a bridge between the two communities, espousing neither absolute separation or absolute integration, but a truly open society.

See You Sunday in Milton!

Conference telephone number to call for transportation or other assistance the week of August 9 is 608-868-2970. Conference registration beginning Sunday, August 9, will be taken in the Campus Center building at Milton College on High Street at Campus Drive from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Dinner will be served in the same building at 5:30, followed later in the evening by a reception at the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church. Safe journey!

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

BERLIN, N. Y.— Our pastor was hospitalized for nearly two weeks in June from injuries sustained when his auto was hit by a tractor trailer and pushed off the road overturning on its side. Dale Rood was our guest speaker on June 27. On July 4, we entertained the Schenectady church for a joint communion service. Sam Studer of Schenectady brought the morning message. Assisting in the service were the Rev. David Clarke of Alfred and Pastor Maxson. Following the service a covered dish dinner was served in the balcony. At this time, we honored Pastor and Mrs. Paul Maxson for their thirty years of service in the Berlin church. It was a complete surprise to them. A summer floral arrangement made an attractive centerpiece and a special cake was made by one of our members. Following dinner, several members of both churches were asked for remarks on things they remembered about the years our pastor had been with us. Nick Fatato of Schenectady opened his remarks with a poem entitled "Helping Hands" by Frona Hodges.

He said this poem described Pastor Maxson. Howard Ellis, church moderator, presented Pastor and Mrs. Maxson with a chest of stainless steel silverware from the Berlin church. Sam Studer presented an attache case to Pastor Maxson from the Schenectady church. Several pictures were on display showing the Maxson family through the years. Their two daughters and families were also present to share in the celebration.

—Correspondent

Accessions

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

By Letter:
Mrs. Francis Barber

Marriages

Dickinson - Ayars.— Everett C. Dickinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Everett H. Dickinson, Shiloh, N. J., and Linda Lou Ayars, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Ayars, R.D. 3, Bridgeton, N. J., were united in marriage in the Cohensey Baptist Church, Roadstown, N. J. by the groom's pastor, Rev. Charles H. Bond.

Births

Tuck.— A daughter, Karina Lenee, to Lt. Kim Alan and Marylene (Deland) Tuck of Lowry AFB, Denver, Colo., on May 26, 1970.

Obituaries

BOWERS.— Elizabeth, daughter of Mrs. Robert E. Greene, was born June 4, 1915, in Milton Junction, Wis., and died March 10, 1970, in Norton Memorial Infirmary, Louisville, Ky.

The former Elizabeth Greene was graduated cum laude from Milton College. After moving to Hanover, Ind., in 1949, she was secretary to the president of Hanover College for many years and then served on the college library staff starting in 1967. She was a member of Milton Junction Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Survivors are: her husband Dr. Robert Bowers, chairman of history department of Hanover College; three sons, Bruce of Minneapolis, Minn., Brent of Columbus, Ohio, and Robert Jr. of Syracuse, N. Y.; a grandson; and her mother, Mrs. Robert Greene, Milton Junction, Wis.

Services were March 13, 1970, in Hanover Presbyterian Church with burial in Hanover Cemetery, Hanover, Indiana. —A. A. A.

HERBERT.— Bessie Babcock, daughter of Benjamin and Maria Babcock, was born in Nebraska, July 6, 1885, and died in Riverside, Calif., April 30, 1970.

As a child of ten years, she moved with her parents to Colony Heights, near Riverside, where the family was active as charter members of the church which soon became the Riverside Seventh Day Baptist Church.

On Aug. 12, 1922, she was married to James Herbert who died in 1931. To this union was born a son, Ben, who with several nieces and nephews survives.

Funeral services were conducted by her pastor, C. Rex Burdick, from the church, and interment was in Olivewood Cemetery.

—C. R. B.

The Sabbath Recorder

President's Column

Conference — 1970

Worship and Business

What will Conference be like in 1970? In some respects it will be different from other sessions. It will be held at a different location. There will be a different president and a different theme. On this point, we hope that previous themes will be remembered, remembering that the themes year by year are intended to be complementary to one another in order to lead us into a growing spiritual maturity. There will be some new faces on the program and among others in attendance. A few details of the program will be new.

In general, however, this year's Conference sessions will follow a pattern that is familiar to those who have attended before. There will be prayer sessions, Bible studies, youth activities, worship, music by the choirs, banquets, reports—and business. We want to speak about this matter.

There are those to whom Conference business seems uninspiring at best, and at worst a waste of time. Why not spend all the time in the fellowship of prayer, study and worship? To this question we would add two others: May not carrying on the business related to the Lord's work be in itself a means of rendering

devotion to God? And is it possible for us to carry on the widespread and complex work of God without business procedures that are carried on "decently and in order"?

Our history shows that one of the primary reasons for instituting the annual sessions of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference was to conduct the business of our denomination. These sessions give us all a voice in shaping the policies and determining the direction our denomination shall take.

Business sessions can actually be exciting and inspiring as we recognize that it is the Lord's business that we are conducting. This is groundwork for our united effort in spreading the gospel, in causing God's will to be known, in working for the carrying out of His purposes in all areas of society and the world. Let each of us who will be in attendance at Conference this year pray for God's personal guidance and His direction for our assembly, and then consecrate his best understanding and faithful support to the making and implementing of those decisions that must be made.

We ask those who cannot be in attendance to be praying likewise that God's Holy Spirit will fill and instruct those who are so engaged, and consecrate themselves to the faithful support of our work.

Seventh Day Baptists
in General Conference
Milton, Wis., Aug. 10 - 15



Edgar F. Wheeler, President

Meeting with the Challenging Theme:

"Called Apart - To Be a Part"