

The Sabbath Recorder

A Commission Member
Found Time To Write on

The Future of Seventh Day Baptists

The future for Seventh Day Baptists is extremely challenging, exciting and even vital. In a nation of 200,000,000 people we have unlimited opportunity to witness for Christ and God's Kingdom. If one-half the population is churched, there would still be 100 million that need to hear the "good news." With 5,300 Seventh Day Baptists in our body, each member needs to witness to 18,850 unchurched. And this needs to be done *now!* Isn't this a thrilling opportunity for Seventh Day Baptists?

From time to time the future for Seventh Day Baptists may be somewhat confused and dimly lighted. As pressures from society gouge and leave deep wounds in our flesh and as internal eruptions and grievances threaten to break the "silver cord" that keeps us to vitally joined to Christ and His wondrous work, the question is often and honestly asked, "What is the future for Seventh Day Baptists?"

In times like these we need to turn to the Word, the Bible, and search for the description of God's plan and then pray for direction.

At the center of Christian faith is Jesus Christ. He came from God, and rose from the dead; He was born of a woman, and died on a cross. He lived in human flesh. He hungered, thirsted, suffered, sorrowed, and talked with little children. He shared the concerns of His people, weeping over the city, warning of suffering to come, and disrupting the exploiters.

In John 10:10 He states that I am come that men should find abundant life.

In John 13:15 and Luke 9:23 He asks men to follow His example of humble service and daily cross-bearing. He calls men to the way of eternal life through their faith in God and their service to the needy (Matt. 25:35-40).

God's purpose is to unite and reconcile *all mankind* to Himself and to each other in Christ (Eph. 1:9, 10). In the cross man finds a pattern for reconciliation with each other (Phil. 1:27 - 2:11). Jesus pointed out that human reconciliation is incumbent on those who celebrate reconciliation with God (Matt. 5:23, 24).

There is an urgent, pressing need to nurture, strengthen, and renew the life of the Church. Men and women, young or old, must respond individually and then as a church to God's plan.

Finally for those who do respond to God's plan, there is a *future* as described by John in Rev. 21:1-22:5. John saw a new heaven and a new earth. The old heaven and earth passed away. There shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light.

—Warren F. Brannon

Joy on the Road

I like the imaginative thought of the writer who was walking very rapidly down a country road one day, his mind full of anxious thoughts, when he seemed to hear a slow, drawling voice come up from the road itself, asking "Why don't you saunter along? Why don't you take it a little easier? Maybe you think there is nothing worthwhile on the road but the end of it? Believe me, there is something more. If you do not find love, joy, and goodness on the road, they will not be waiting for you at the end."

—Reuben Gomitzka



Professional Guilds at Conference

In a successful attempt to show how one can serve Christ through his daily work, Conference President Wheeler asked delegates to group themselves according to their lifework or major interest and to have daily discussions. Many such groups or guilds were formed. Above is the Nurses' Guild; below is the Business Guild.

The Sabbath Recorder

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Editorials:	
Unusual Testimony Meeting	2
Sidewalk Gleanings	3
Population Explosion Fizzle	4
Features:	
One Race, One Gospel, One Task	4
Dedicated Service Program 1970	5
On Being Late to Church	6
Youth Discussions at Conference	7
The Responsibility of Maturity	8
Junior Conference	10
Deacon Frank Langworthy	14
Missions:	
A Closing Word	11
Furlough Residence Changed	11
Worldwide Communion Observance	11
Christian Education:	
Excerpts from Resolutions of the World's C. E. Convention	12
World C. E. Convention in Canada	13
News from the Churches	13
Accessions.— Marriages.— Births.— Obituaries	15

Unusual Testimony Meeting

"People don't testify like they used to; you can't have a good testimony meeting anymore." Such statements would have to be qualified considerably by those who attended the Sabbath Eve service of General Conference at Milton, August 14.

During the week all the meetings had been held in the Fine Arts Auditorium with its soft, theatre-type seats, its splendid acoustics, its sloped floor, and its feeling of togetherness (in spite of its large capacity). Because of the increasing attendance the meeting was moved to the huge gymnasium for the first time on Sabbath Eve. It was strange, flat, bare, acoustically poor, and no more physically conducive to a worship atmosphere or a testimony meeting than any other gymnasium or stadium. To be sure, an organ was moved in and the Conference choir presented a short concert of sacred music. The public address system was well controlled. The devotions and the preaching made people remember God and forget the steel chairs and unchurchly building. It was a meeting place for a congregation willing to praise the Lord.

Could there be a good testimony meeting after the sermon? It was doubtful. People were asked to come to the microphones to speak. It was a long way and meant passing empty seats as well as row after row of people. A person had to have a real urge to testify before venturing down those long aisles.

Rev. Donald Richards of the Marlboro, N. J., church had been asked to lead. There were a few moments at the beginning when others, and perhaps he, wondered how it would go if he would have to urge the faithful veterans of such meetings to come forward. It did go, and there was no stopping the heart-felt, gripping testimonies for an hour and a half. It was good to be there; hard seats didn't get uncomfortable and the time just slipped by as some forty-five young people and a few older ones spoke of new found faith and recent experiences with an occasional exhortation. A few ministers spoke, but most of them held their peace in order to let the young folks use the microphones.

There have been good testimony meetings at other Conferences. The editor was

thrilled two years ago to play the tape of the testimonies in his hospital room. It is his opinion that the tape of this meeting (which can be made available) could be a tremendous blessing to people at home who would like to catch the spirit of this Conference and specially the spirit of the youth.

There was something different about many of the testimonies this time. It was not that the most anxious to speak were young people fresh from a summer of dedicated service. We have come to expect that in the last few years. It was the nature of the experiences and feelings of which they spoke. One after another told of learning something new in their training period — about being filled with the Holy Spirit. They did not call it baptism and did not mention any special manifestations, but when they told of what it meant to them to be filled with the Holy Spirit, those who had observed during the week their outgoing love and deep-seated smiles understood a little of the reason for their joy.

Among the first was the young man from the West Coast who had been a Seventh Day Baptist only two months and had come to Young Adult Pre-Con. He had never given a testimony before, but he just had to say something about what all this meant to him. Others spoke with feeling, but so far as we could see, he was the only one who returned to his seat with eyes momentarily blinded with deep emotion.

There was the clear-ringing testimony of Mrs. Mynor Soper which, in our opinion, was even more dramatic and effective than the testimony of Anita Bryant at the Billy Graham Crusade in Shea Stadium.

A Milton girl who had been in SCSC for the first time said she doesn't get up and speak for Christ, "but He is here, and I am here."

One cannot describe a testimony meeting adequately. Fortunately for those who have access to a tape recorder, this meeting can be heard by those who would like it. Write to Calvin Babcock, RD 6, Box 173 A, N. Little Rock, Ark. 72118.

Sidewalk Gleanings

By Mary Goodrich

It's amazing how time changes things as well as perspectives. Milton College — an auditorium where once many a heartbreak or happiness prevailed, depending upon the outcome of the basketball game; a parking lot where a house once stood; beautiful new dorm and a field house where Burdick's woods once graced the edge of town; a library where there was once a field where football games were won or lost.

The hills — how much more difficult they are to climb than "yesterday" when we went up many times with sled in hand. The place — everything so well arranged and located, and facilities so clean and handy that Milton makes an excellent place for Conference to be held — and from the overflow attendance it seems others agree. The hosts — how can we ever thank them enough for many hours spent in behalf of our comfort. Ushers finding seats for all and needing a shoe-horn at times; registrars finding rooms for all and keeping track of meal tickets; the cafeteria crews turning out excellent meals; and Rev. and Mrs. Earl Cruzan, very gracious host pastor and wife.

The meetings — well attended; Secretary Bond's sense of humor (and needing it); President Wheeler's patient leadership — his ayes and noes; men confusing issues in Woman's Board matters; committees working hard to keep Conference business smoothly running. The specials — "Profiles" well executed with meticulous art work and written script — sound effects so real it brought a few nostalgic tears when the "Glee" sang "The Song of the Bell"; Soper family singing enjoyed at the Woman's Board banquet and missionary wives telling their side of the story; the robe of achievement given to very deserving women.

The youth — commendable in meeting attendance; well presented Tuesday night cantata, thrilling the audience with their talents; keeping Conference well informed and rolling with spies on all committees and dedicated efforts in keeping the *Crier* accurate and punctual; the typing pool in hours of arduous copying of reports to

meet deadlines in getting them back to Conference business meetings.

The choir — beautiful praises sung under a capable director. Everyone working together, being called apart to be together here, and accomplishing the things that the Lord desires of us and being led by the Holy Spirit to be a part of the work of His Kingdom.

—Crier

Population Explosion Fizzle

Some developing countries have a population explosion problem; the United States does not. So says Dr. Thomas C. Jermann, professor of history at Rockhurst College, Kansas City, Mo. Some of us have been saying the same thing for several years without being able to convince some of the adherents of the population explosion theory that they could use their time for something better than tilting at this windmill. Dr. Jermann quotes figures. He calls attention to the decelerating birth rate. In 1957 there were 308,000 babies born or 25.3 per thousand population while in 1968 with 3,470,000 born the rate per thousand was down to 17.4. The death rate, at 9.6 per thousand population, has remained almost unchanged in the last twenty years.

Why make an issue of this? For the simple reason that with their scare tactics the population explosion alarmists reduce the greater problems to numbers of people. It isn't the number of people that society should worry about but the kind of people. It would be a simplistic solution to our ills if all we needed was just to cut down the number of births or persuade the old people to die a little faster. Christians know that society is suffering not from the number of people but from the sins of the people. They know also that by the power of the gospel of Christ these people enslaved by evil can be delivered from evil.

Dr. Jermann probably was not intending to preach a sermon — he may not even be a Christian — but there is a sermon in his concluding words, "It is time to deflate the 'population bomb' rhetoric so that we can have a clear view of the real problems."

ONE RACE

ONE GOSPEL

ONE TASK



In July of 1966 a World Congress on Evangelism was hosted in Berlin, Germany, and the theme was "One Race, One Gospel, One Task." That Congress was attended by some 1200 delegates from 100 countries, and in the keynote address Billy Graham declared:

"In many circles today the church has an energetic passion for *unity*, but it has all but forgotten our Lord's commission to *evangelize*. One of the purposes of this World Congress on Evangelism is to make an urgent appeal to the world church to return to the dynamic zeal for world evangelism that characterized the World Missionary Conference organized by John R. Mott back in 1910 and convened at Edinburgh, Scotland, with a similar number of persons in attendance. That conference was adjourned with the stress being made on evangelizing the world . . ."

Coincidentally, John R. Mott had confronted his audience with a similar challenge because back in 1886 he had attended the launching of the Student Volunteer Movement for Foreign Missions at Dwight L. Moody's Northfield Conference. At that time the delegates had adopted A. T. Pearson's proposed motto: "The Evangelization of the World in This Generation!"

In July of this year, 8,556 registrants attended the twelfth Baptist World Congress in Tokyo, Japan, and Seventh Day Baptists were represented by Mrs. Arthur M. Drake and by Dr. and Mrs. K. Duane Hurley. The theme "Reconciliation Through Christ" was demonstrated time and time again during the Congress. In fact, the delegates voted before being adjourned to urge Baptist churches around the world to participate in a world evangelistic effort of reconciliation between 1973 and 1975.

At the very time, however, when we call attention to conferences and congresses on evangelism being well attended, etherial mottos being adopted, and resolutions made, we have to note that Christian conversions are not keeping pace with population increase.

All too often we have heard it "proven mathematically" that if *one* person would within *one* year's time persuade *one* other person to commit his life to Christ, and if in each of the subsequent years each of those persons would convert one other person, within less than thirty-five years the entire world would confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord! The fact remains that even with the passing of nearly 2,000 years since the time of Christ that has not happened, and the observation that the entire world has not been won to Christ should come as no surprise when in a recent survey of professing Christians, ninety-five percent reportedly confessed that they had never knowingly led one single soul to a full commitment of his life to Christ.

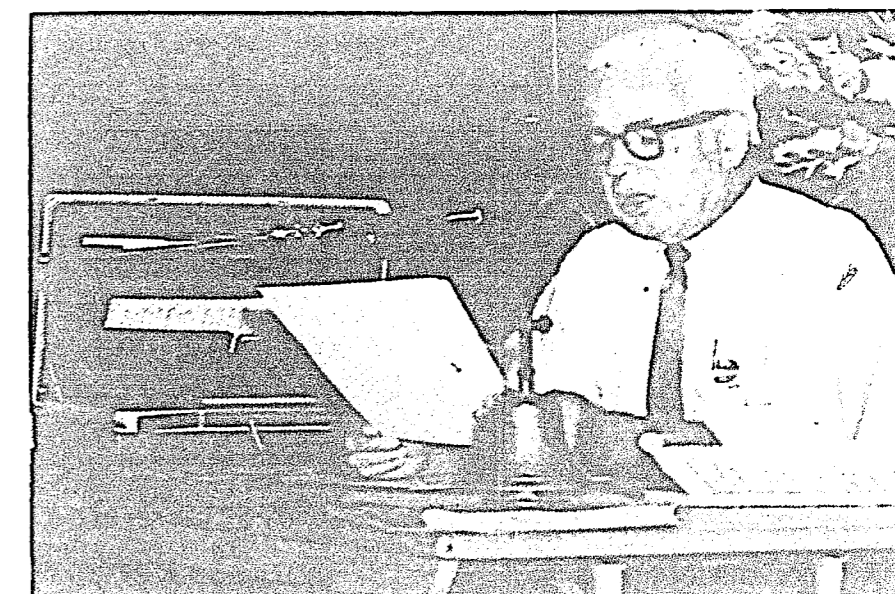
During the next several issues of the *Sabbath Recorder* a series of articles will appear sharing the conviction that knowing Jesus Christ as one's personal Savior and Lord and proudly introducing Him to others are essential, exciting and rewarding experiences!

We will confront ourselves anew with the observation that the same Christ who said, "Come unto me . . ." and "Follow me . . ." was later to say to the same disciples, "Go . . . Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

Are you interested? Do you want to get involved as a jubilant, radiant witness for Christ? Do you dare say to the Lord, "I'll be what you want me to be . . . I'll go where you want me to go . . . I'll do what you want me to do?" If so, let us ponder the far-reaching implications of One Gospel, One Race, and One Task!

—Alton L. Wheeler

"He who dares to teach must never cease to learn" is a wise saying. Those who teach young people to evangelize and to pastor churches feel the force of this saying as well as the science teachers.



Conference minutes must be recorded. They were kept up-to-date each day by Ernest Bond, recording secretary, who had his personal microphone — and used it not only for reading the minutes, but also for a few humorous comments.

Dedicated Service Program 1970

This year's dedicated service report was opened by Ralph Mackintosh with a short introduction and orientation on SCSC and their training session. Next Ralph continued by introducing the teams and their areas of service. He explained that since there were seven teams, it seemed appropriate to choose names beginning with the seven letters in SERVICE.

Sincerity — Lynne Skaggs, Donna Sanford, serving Westerly, R. I.

Expectations — Ralph Mackintosh, Geneva Wells, Robert Cartwright, Shelley Austin, Sally Hays, serving Texarkana, Ark.

Reach-Out — Carol Soper, Sally Hays, serving Lost Creek, W. Va.

Victorious — Karen Osborn, Patty Lawton, serving Paint Rock, Ala.

Impact — Chris Pederson, Cynthia Brissey, serving Salem, Berea, and Crites Mountain, W. Va.

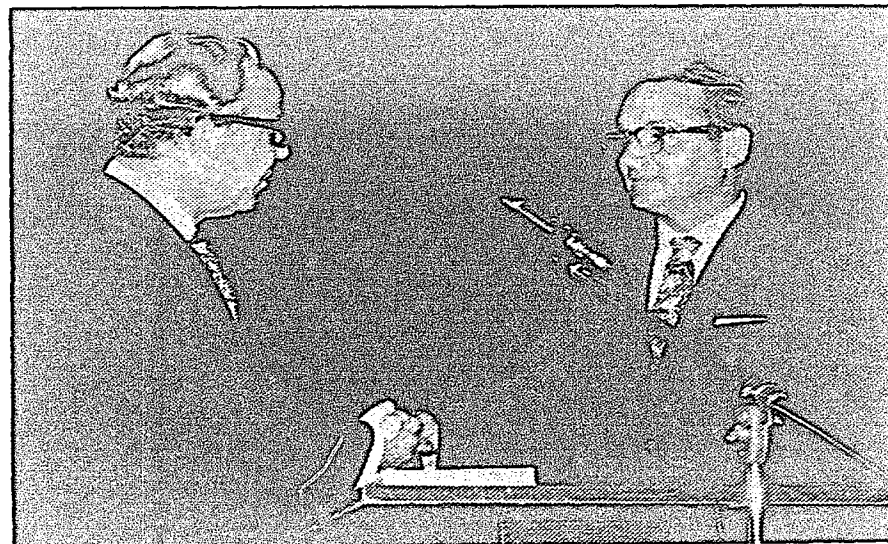
Concern — Ed Page, Cynthia Welch, Peter Morris, Mary Sue Davis, serving North Loup, Nebr., and Boulder, Colo.

Envoy — Linda Davis, Patti Jo Pederson, serving the Allegheny Association.

The program continued with the reading of excerpts from statements written by the SCSC'ers as to their purpose in life and why they had joined SCSC. This was followed by the whole group's sing-

ing the haunting words of "Lonely Voices." Chris Pederson then brought a few words in relation to her faith and work this summer. A skit presented by Team Concern on the "Four Spiritual Laws" followed. Shelley Austin and Geneva Wells (female half of Team Expectations) gave their witness in the beauty and harmony of song. Linda Davis presented a few thoughts on her summer and how she had grown in faith and witness this year. Karen Osborn and Ralph Mackintosh then narrated a few slides showing examples of the work they engaged in during summer 1970.

The presentation was concluded with a special recognition of the moving force behind much of the SCSC program, Mrs. Lucille Todd. Also recognized were former SCSC'ers. Thank yous were extended to Ralph on behalf of the SCSC to the Rev. Leon Lawton, the Rev. Rex Zwiebel, the Rev. Mynor and Marion Soper, Miss Florence Bowden, and all those persons from North Loup and Milton who contributed to making this summer a success. —*Crier*



President Receives Bible

The American Bible Society sent to Conference a nice display of its work and recent Bible publications. They also sent a representative, Mr. O'Kale, from the New York office to explain the display and to speak briefly to the delegates. In connection with his talk he presented to President Wheeler a beautiful copy of *Good News for Modern Man* bound in white leather. Mr. Wheeler, who has conducted a number of Bible study courses in his New England church, promised to read the new Bible.

Yearly Meetings of Eastern Churches

The yearly meeting of the New England Seventh Day Baptist churches, as is the custom every fifth year, will be held this year at Newport, R. I., in the historic building of the first Seventh Day Baptist church in America (1671) on Sabbath Day, October 3.

The yearly meeting of the New Jersey and Eastern New York Seventh Day Baptist churches will be hosted by the Schenectady, N. Y., church on October 2 and 3. The theme chosen by the committee in charge is "Prepare To Meet Thy God."

These two yearly meetings are the oldest gatherings of Seventh Day Baptist churches in America, going far back of the organization of associations and the General Conference.

On Being Late to Church

By Martha Soper

There are advantages in being late to church sometimes. You have to go way down front; you are close to the preacher, the music, etc. You become quiet instantly when you sit down and don't have time to think about how everyone else is dressed. You immediately become absolutely and completely interested in studying the meaning of the Scriptures.

So you lone-Sabbathkeepers who can't always attend church and may have to drive 200 miles or more to get there—take heart. Our brothers and sisters in the congregation understand why we are ruffled or forget to remove our sunglasses. Yes, we are too busy in worshiping to care about worldly things. They love us and know the hunger we have for a good old-fashioned sermon that will hit us hard right in the pit of the stomach.

You can feel so good after you've had the rude awakening to the fact that you had been slightly slipping off the straight and narrow path. You can thank God when some wonderful minister awakens you and makes you want to grit your teeth, gird up your loins, and work full heartedly for the Lord.

Youth Discussions at Conference

It has become a well-established custom for the Conference president to provide a leader for a noontime discussion open only to youth. When nearly one-fourth of those registered are young people and many of them are anxious to understand the business of Conference and to equip themselves to participate, the half-hour discussion period at one o'clock can be quite helpful. The leader this year was the Rev. J. Paul Green of Salem, W. Va.

The writer for the *Conference Crier*, expressed one of the concerns discussed on the second day in these words:

"There was a lengthy rap concerning the alarming shortage of pastors in our denomination. Several pairs of churches, Little Genesee, New York, and Hebron, Pa.; Milton Junction and Albion, Wis.; First and Second Hopkinton and Rockville, R. I., are served jointly by one pastor, and at least fourteen churches are pastorless. Seventh Day Baptist young people might seriously consider the ministry as a field of endeavor."

Various denominational leaders were called in to answer questions or to present some special program or item of business. The reporter on the *Crier* staff picked up the discussion on the Washington Project as represented by the Rev. Delmer Van Horn, pastor, and Don Chroninger, youth member of the Washington church. This is the way the youth reporter tells it:

"The Washington Project seems to be a very vital part of today's living Christian witness. Although the church is in a predominantly black area, the congregation is made up of white commuters. A main concern seems to be in the development of a Christian attitude among the children of the area. This is being corrected through tutoring classes in the language arts and math for fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students. A Discoverer's Club will meet the need of Christian teachings in young lives.

"The Washington Project is a pilot project. In other words, it is an example or experiment, whose degree of success will determine the future of similar pro-

MEMORY TEXT

"But where shall wisdom be found? and where is the place of understanding? Man knoweth not the price thereof . . . It cannot be gotten for gold, neither shall silver be weighed for the price thereof." Job. 28:12, 13, 15.

jects throughout the denomination."

It was natural for the youth to discuss the employment by the Board of Christian Education of a youth field worker (which has been urged by Youth Work Committees and previous sessions of General Conference). Since no one has been found and adequate funds are not available, the project was dropped for the present. The unofficial group discussion is reported as follows:

"The idea of an alternate program to replace a youth field worker was again brought up. Another suggestion seems to be something along the line of a touring musical group (The Youth Pre-Con Choir?) which would be prepared to do witnessing and would be capable of training others to work on a one to one basis. Dreams *can* become realities—all it takes is realistic dreamers."

Our Prayer Corner

Suggestions for Prayer This Week

Pray for:

1) Ourselves, that we may give evidence of the "Responsibility of Maturity" to which our new Conference president calls us in his theme for the year.

2) The proper balance between local evangelistic outreach and the worldwide outreach of Seventh Day Baptists to which we are called in our "Frontiers of Faith" emphasis this year.

3) A greater tenderness of heart as we learn of the physical needs of brethren of like faith in other countries, some of whom are laboring for the Lord under trying circumstances.

4) The healing of broken hearts, broken bodies, broken homes, and our fractured society where the Great Physician is not called upon.

The Responsibility of Maturity

Inaugural address on the 1970 - '71 theme at the close of Conference, August 15, by the new president, Dr. Stephen Thorngate of Monterey, California.

*Let us celebrate the glorious things he has for us in the future!
Let us even celebrate our trials and troubles! We can do that
now because we know that difficulties train us to endure, and
endurance in turn develops a mature character, and character
of this sort gives us the right to hope. — Romans 5:2-4*



In late December 1971, give or take a few days, Seventh Day Baptists will be three hundred years old. By Judaism or world Christianity standards this is not impressive. But by modern American standards we rank among the first. Now make no mistake. I do not and shall not equate age with maturity. But since the beginnings we have stepped forth and taken responsibility as leaders, as individuals demonstrating Christian witness in secular as well as ecclesiastical endeavors, collectively as a church in the community and as a denomination in America and the world. If we feel called apart it is, as has been emphasized this past year, to be a part.

Seventh Day Baptists have a proven maturity. We were on the ground floor of congregationalist Protestantism, exhibiting the vision of not only the truths to which we as Baptists, along with other Baptists, still adhere and which were so influential in shaping the United States into the democracy which we know and take for granted today, but also the Sabbath truth which was entrusted to our forebears and ourselves to keep alive and to share.

Never a large communion, we have weathered the storms of changing religious thinking, action, and emphases over the three hundred years, responding sometimes independently, or more often shoulder to shoulder with larger and perhaps more influential groups.

We have been long on leadership. Not only has it required persons of strong character and ability to maintain our own distinct purpose, but also—as

American historians will attest—Seventh Day Baptists have provided leaders and visionaries at each epoch; the colonial, the revolutionary and organizational, the period of growth and missionary outreach (so called “manifest destiny”), the development of institutes for higher learning, harnessing the power of the press as a force for good, accepting a world military responsibility, and, of course, never underestimate the power of our Seventh Day Baptist women.

It would serve no purpose to eulogize here by name those Seventh Day Baptist individuals and institutions who have influenced the course of Christianity, our nation and the world, to say nothing of the thousands who have left their influence stamped on our culture without record of their deeds or thoughts. Only, however, I would emphasize that each acted by faith, a faith which must have been confronted with all the problems which affected the development of all Protestant Christianity through the past three hundred years, and problems similar to those which we today find taxing and seemingly insurmountable. We might gain much insight by reviewing their approach to these problems, whether successful or not. Long before our time Seventh Day Baptist churches have been born, waxed, and waned to fade into obscurity.

I am told we lack a distinct purpose anymore, a rallying point. Some months ago I heard a rabbi on the radio preaching a sermon (or whatever such an address would be called in that faith) decrying the new attitudes toward tolerance,

live and let live, let bygones be bygones, and even social intercourse between Jews and Christians. It has had a stultifying effect on his people who have lost the fervor with which they held to their traditions and religion with loyalty and unity, and buoyed them up in stormier seas. The moral fiber is eroded by love!

Pity we have never been persecuted! There is nothing like a good purge, banishment, excommunication, or forbidding of ideas, teaching, and associations to stiffen the backbone and sound the call to rally!

We have never really even been poor, that is as a denomination lacking in material wealth. Nor have we been saddled with the opposite extreme which, I'm told, can offer serious and divisive problems for an organization to solve.

Maybe this lack of tribulation is tribulation enough. Is it a tribulation that we can glory in and use to mature our own character?

Do Seventh Day Baptists have a moral fiber to be eroded? Certainly any moral fiber worth its salt can be eroded! We can point with pride to our A. H. Lewises, Samuel Wards, and Edward Stennetts. They were “Giants in the Earth” in those days, fulfilling the work of Christ to the glory of God, but in a mold and context peculiar to their era. Let us not mistake nostalgia for mature character.

At this point, let me put forth one basic assumption in order to keep in perspective what I later say. That is, no matter what is *your* definition of a Christian, or *my* definition of a Christian, that we—you and I, and the most obscure member of the church you and I are representing—are Christians. We have accepted Christ or are preparing and expect to do so.

Thus any persuasive value of my words will not be directed toward the fact of Christianity, but only that of degree. A little muse that was making the rounds last year might illustrate what I mean: The chicken and the pig were strolling down the road together and noticed a large billboard in glorious color picturing a tempting (to us) breakfast of ham and eggs. The chicken said proudly, “Doesn't it give you a good feeling all over to

know that you can serve humanity and bring such joy and fulfillment to the inner being of man?”

“Well, I don't know,” said the pig thoughtfully studying the picture. “That may be all right for you. You're only involved. Me, I'm totally committed.”

Now total commitment to Christ and His teaching is an ideal which I will leave to the preachers to expound at least for tonight. But it is the *application* of this teaching in our day to day, year in and year out activities, decisions, and aspirations which concerns me. I'll call this application Christian responsibility, or, to be more specific, that portion of Christian teaching that has to do with responsibility to our fellowman. This brings Christianity right down to that mundane level that Jesus Himself put in the Sermon on the Mount, and when He would illustrate by parables the principles and concepts of what then was a brand new approach to God and life, both personal and social.

This gospel was more than mere worship of an almighty God and differentiating between right and wrong. The Jews had that much given them 2,000 years earlier, polished and poetized into their literature and culture. Nor was the new gospel designed to change that law by even a jot or tittle. It wasn't even legislatable, since it had an open end. Although strange and foreign to the traditional legalists of the day, the gospel was beautifully simple, so much so that it fell to the unencumbered Gentile mind and spirit to take up the responsibility of its propagation. Its greatest drawback, and I use the word drawback advisedly since some may say it is its greatest strength, is that it does not arise spontaneously, does not “come natural.” *It has to be taught, learned, accepted, and imbued.* Herein perhaps lies the first Christian responsibility.

(Continued next week)

Stewardship IS Involvement

Stewardship means that grace is transformed into service and used in everyday life. To witness and to share Christ with others does not absolve us from the stewardship of money; to support the Lord's work financially does not free from the obligation of personal involvement.



Robe of Achievement Presented

During the nine years that the Women's Board was located in the Milton, Wis., area, there were three presidents who rendered outstanding service to the board and to the denomination. With the board about to move to the Denver, Colo., area, it seemed fitting to the women to honor those three presidents with a Chinese robe, which has come to be known as the Robe of Achievement. This was done, as usual, at the annual banquet attended by nearly all the women in attendance at Conference. At the left is Caroline Gray wearing the robe. In the center Charlotte Whitford is draped with the symbol of service rendered. At the right Gladys Drake, who has held the office for the past several years, smiles happily at the unexpected recognition given her.

Junior Conference

Junior Conference was held in the balcony room of the Milton church. We met from 9:00 to 11:50 a.m., and 1:00 to 4:30 p.m., each day except for Friday afternoon which was free time.

During the week thirty-eight children were in attendance. The average daily attendance was twenty-seven. These were



children who had completed third to fifth grades — bright, alert, pleasant, responsive children, every one.

Each morning Pastor Carlos McSparin gave a Bible message in the "Upper

Room" chapel following which the children had Scripture memory work. Faye Bond, Kathy Greene and Shelley Austin took over the daily music period with zeal and inspiration.

The Juniors had the privilege of hearing the testimonies of visitors. They heard Editor Leon Maltby tell of "walking where Jesus walked." Pastor Leroy Bass showed slides and articles from Guyana and told of his work there. Also, Mr. Brissey talked to them about his traveling in Jamaica, and Mrs. Donald Richards brought "Sarah Beth Simpson" to give a lesson to the Juniors.

Our group toured the Milton Junction and Albion churches and visited the Albion Museum. One day the tour through the Milton House was enjoyed—especially the Country Store which was rushed with business as the children purchased candy and other items.

—Crier

MISSIONS—Leon R. Lawton

A Closing Word

"Where there is no vision the people perish" (Proverbs 29:18).

This is true of Bible club work. It could be done by people in the local church and I feel would be most effective if carried on by them.

It has been my privilege these past two years to do the initial work under the Missionary Board, but I can envision a tremendous impact on local churches if several caught the vision to go ahead on their own with the Lord leading.

Perhaps the church where I worked that showed total commitment to the project and greatest results as far as numbers were concerned was Riverside, California. Pre-planning and prayer preparation I am sure played a most important part in its success.

My prayer is that each church might catch the vision to evangelize whether through Bible clubs (working with young people) or door-to-door visitation where older people might be reached for Christ.

We are compelled to "go" and preach the gospel.

Connie Coon

Note: Miss Connie Coon completed three years of service in our churches (the first under extended dedicated service) on August 31. Seventeen of our churches were blessed by her ministry in organizing Bible clubs and helping individuals understand how children and youth around their church could be effectively reached with the gospel. In some cases the clubs continue under local leadership, but most have been allowed to "die" for lack of dedicated willing local leaders.

Furlough Residence Changed

After nearly two months of living out of suitcases, the Leroy Bass family settled into their "furlough" home the first of September. Original plans called for their use of the empty parsonage of the Rockville, R. I., Seventh Day Baptist Church, but they have chosen to live near his parents in Massachusetts. Their address is now: R.F.D. 1, Northampton, MA 01060.

Following General Conference at Milton, Wis., Brother and Sister Bass went

to Nortonville, Kans., to visit the church he served just prior to going to the Guyana, S. A., mission field. They were welcomed by members and many from the community who came to renew fellowship and become better informed on the Seventh Day Baptist witness in Guyana. A brief visit was also made in South Jersey where stored possessions were picked up, but a public service was not held at this time.

It is hoped that following a time of relaxation and rest, Brother Bass may be able to visit several of our churches, at their request, to share information on the mission work. Those wishing to have him visit should write to the Missionary Society office so that the schedule can be coordinated.

In January 1971, Elder Bass plans to enter study, perhaps at Eastern Baptist Seminary, to better prepare for his future service. Plans for a second term of service in Guyana are now under consideration by the Missionary Board and Elder Bass.

Worldwide

Communion Observance

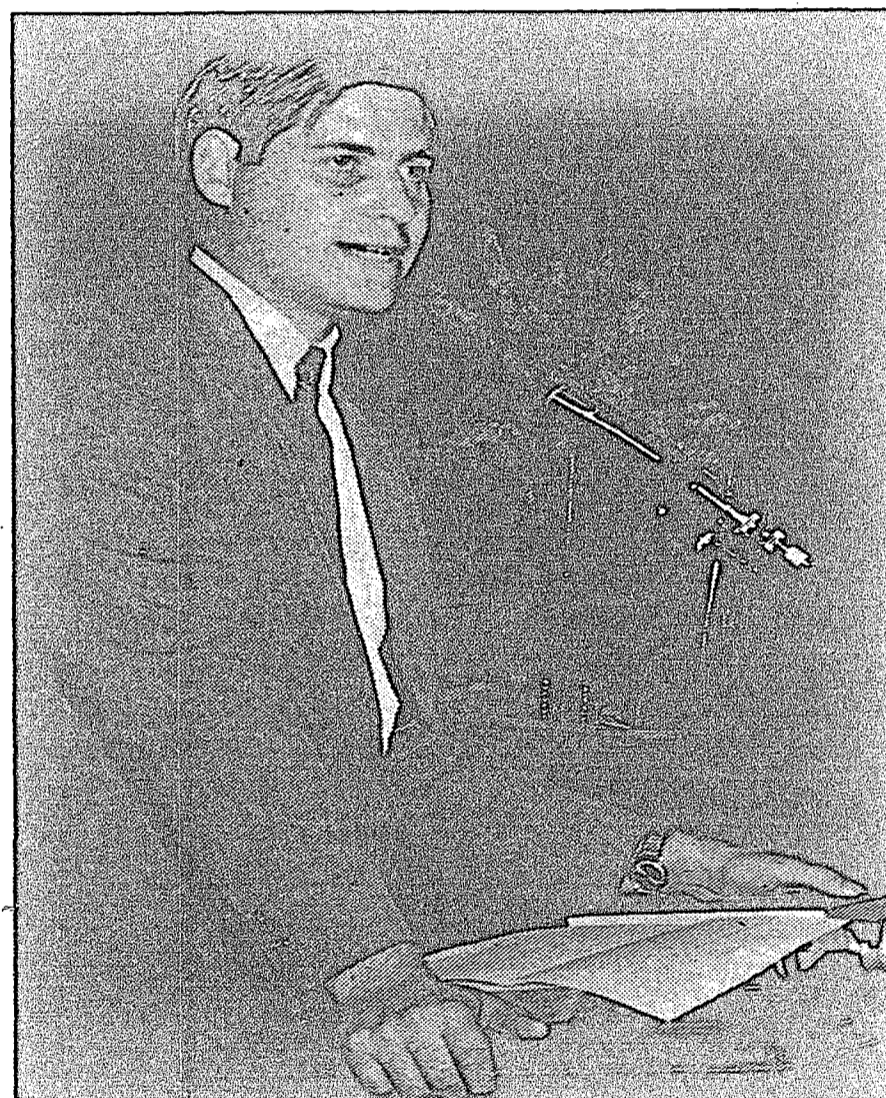
Seventh Day Baptist churches of the U.S.A. are invited to observe Worldwide Communion on the first Sabbath of October. Other Seventh Day Baptist Conferences and churches are invited to participate in this observance on the same date, strengthening the ties of fellowship and love that bind us to each other and to our Lord.

Many other denominations will be observing Worldwide Communion the same weekend. Seventh Day Baptists take joy in fellowship with all who love the Lord Jesus Christ. It is the Lord's Table and He invites all to come. He has said, "Behold I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him and will sup with him and he with me."

Many churches precede the Communion service itself with an opportunity given for church members to renew their covenants with God and His people. A

special effort may be made to have all church members "present or accounted for." If a member finds it impossible to attend he may be encouraged to write a letter to the home church to be read at the covenant meeting.

A letter has gone to all the churches of this country containing a leaflet from "Tidings" which lists various materials which may be ordered from them for use on Worldwide Communion Sabbath. Such materials may make the observance even more meaningful.



Devotions Leader

Evening devotions conducted for the assembled delegates are as important to Conference as are private devotions in home or office. Harold King, one of our youngest pastors, a long way from completing his advanced education for the ministry, led the people on the second evening in a dignified and forceful way. He came into the pastorate of the Little Genesee, N. Y., church by way of extended dedicated service a few years ago.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION—Soc. Rex E. Zwiobel

**Excerpts from Resolutions
of the World's C. E. Convention**

Our fellowship and discussions of these days serve to convince us that the inspired objective and purpose of the movement remains unchanged. Whilst changing times and new problems call for new methods and appropriate measures to meet them, we believe that the real need of youths for a purposeful life can still be met as they come to know and serve the living Christ

In addition, we affirm our belief, as an interdenominational, international, and interracial movement, that people of all races, color, and creed are equal in the sight of God and that their dignity as human beings should be respected and safeguarded. Whilst making our plea for governments of the world to give more help to developing nations and underprivileged countries, we pledge ourselves to do all in our power to aid those organizations which are engaged in relief work.

We also view with grave concern the worldwide restlessness of youth, which is often seen in open revolt against a democratically elected authority. We are convinced that this is frequently fermented by subversive elements which take advantage of any situation of dissension arising, whether it be political, religious, racial, or educational

We denounce those individuals and groups which seek to exploit in any way the spirit of adventure and quest in youth, and we further call upon governments and local authorities to deal very firmly under their laws with any who are caught so taking advantage of young people. We on our part, as committed members of Christian Endeavor, pledge ourselves to renewed efforts to bring young people into an atmosphere conducive to their own spiritual, mental, and physical well-being, thus becoming responsible citizens.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for September 26, 1970

WHAT LOVE WILL DO

Scripture Lesson: Genesis 44:18-34

**World C. E. Convention
in Canada**

More than 5,000 Endeavorers and friends from many countries around the world at Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario, participated in the sixteenth World's and fiftieth International Christian Endeavor Conventions, August 19-23. Theme for the concurrent meetings was "Christ Calls . . . Advance!"

In his keynote address on opening night, Dr. Clyde W. Meadows of the United States, president and general secretary of the World's Christian Endeavor Union, said, "God has used men to accomplish His purpose and save mankind from itself, and He will do it again. In these troubled and uncertain times God can use you to save the world."

Dr. Meadows also stated, "God never intended that His cause would be a weak, sickly thing. He said, 'I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it' (Matthew 16:18). It is evident that the Lord expects His Church—the cause of Christ in the world—to be a growing institution."

Dr. Meadows closed his keynote address with a stirring challenge to the delegates to advance in prayer, in use of the Bible, and in Christian witnessing. He gave specific challenges to Endeavorers on a worldwide basis to organize at least five new national unions in the next quadrennium, to national unions to organize at least 1,000 new societies each year, to societies to work for an annual ten percent increase in membership, and to individuals to witness for Christ to at least one person each week and to be daily in prayer for a specific person whom they are seeking to win.

The delegates experienced wonderful Christian fellowship reaching beyond the bounds of race, color, and denomination and realized anew their oneness in Jesus Christ. The days were filled with Bible study, conferences, sight-seeing, and opportunities for personal confrontation in small groups. The messages were warm, evangelical, and Bible-centered.

At business meetings of the World's Union an invitation was accepted to hold

the seventeenth World's Christian Endeavor Convention in Stuttgart, Germany, in July 1974.

The World's Union includes approximately three million members in over eighty-three denominations in seventy-six countries or island groups around the world. Headquarters is located at 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43216.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

BATTLE CREEK, MICH.— The treasurer reports that with the August offering our new organ is paid for in full. Congratulations to all who helped to complete this project in less than a year.

A reception was scheduled for Sabbath night, September 5, in the social room to welcome our new pastor, the Rev. S. Kenneth Davis and family.

Sabbath Eve meetings under the leadership of the new pastor were announced to begin again September 11.

—Church Bulletin

NORTH LOUP, NEBR.— During this interim between pastors we have had ministers of neighboring churches as guest speakers. Also, we were privileged to have the Rev. John Conrod as guest minister when he and his family stopped here for a weekend before leaving for Malawi. Other out-of-town speakers were the Rev. Elmer Mundy of Nebraska Council on Alcoholic Education, Rev. Darrell Barber of New Jersey, and Harold King, pastor of Little Genesee, N. Y., church. Rev. Mynor Soper has been serving us almost every Sabbath day since May beginning with a heart-warming love service with communion.

June was a busy month beginning with eighteen SCSC youth in training here with the Rev. Leon Lawton of Westerly, R. I., as director. Three of our youth were in Dedicated Service this summer, Lynne Skaggs, Carol Soper, and Bernard Keown.

June and July were camping months. Mid-Continent Association Camp was held at Camp Riverview, June 21-28, with the Rev. Mynor Soper directing. Assisting were Pastor Glen Warner and Mrs. Jack Hunt, both of Denver, and the SCSC team: Mary Sue Davis and Peter

Morris, both of Los Angeles; Cynthia Welch of Berea, W. Va.; and Ed Page of Shiloh, N. J. There were thirty campers, including one exchange camper, Barbara Carter of Riverside, Calif. Baptismal services were held at the North Loup River for six youth. A fitting climax was the communion service around the campfire.

The Rev. Paul Osborn of Nortonville directed the Junior High and Junior Camp from June 28 to July 5. He was assisted by Mrs. Osborn and the SCSC team. Twenty-one young folks were enrolled. At the conclusion two boys were baptized in the river.

Primary Day Camp was held July 5-10 with eleven children attending. The staff consisted of Mrs. Erlo Cox and the SCSC team.

Much of the success of the camping program was due to the efforts of Mrs. Erlo Cox, SCSC project director, and Mrs. Udell Williams, camp business manager.

Church officers for the coming year elected in July include moderator, R. Clare Clement; clerk, Mrs. George Maxson; treasurer, Sheldon Van Horn; heading the Sabbath School is Rollie Davis.

A service of baptism was held at the church, Aug. 1, with four candidates. They were received into church membership along with two previously baptized and eight by letter.

Newcomers at our church are the Ira Soper family of Ogallala, Nebr., the D. C. Lippincott family of Dodge Center, Minn., and the John Williams family of New Jersey. We are glad they all decided to make their homes in this community.

—Correspondent

Tract Society Annual Meeting

The annual corporate meeting of the American Sabbath Tract Society for the election of members and officers of the Board of Trustees and for transacting such other business as may properly come before the society will be held in the Board Room of the Seventh Day Baptist Building, Plainfield, N. J., Sunday Sept. 20 at 2 p.m.

Deacon Frank Langworthy

Franklin Augustus Langworthy, second son of Daniel L. and Agnes B. Langworthy, was born on a farm in Lanphear Valley, Alfred, N. Y., March 9, 1879. He died August 13, 1970 at the John E. Runnells Hospital, Berkeley Heights, N.J.

Educated in the district school and Andover High School, Andover, N. Y., Frank served an apprenticeship as a machinist and was employed for some years at the Rogers Machine Tool Co., Alfred, N. Y. Later he moved at Plainfield, N. J., where he worked for the Spicer Universal Joint Co., and the Walter Scott Co. For a time he was also custodian of the Seventh Day Baptist Building and the Plainfield Seventh Day Baptist Church.

On August 7, 1901, Mr. Langworthy and his brother Bert were married to the Misses Lena and Fannie Brundage of Andover, N. Y., in a double ceremony. Although Frank and Lena had no children they took into their home two nieces for periods of several years. Mrs. Langworthy, who had served on the staff of the *Sabbath Recorder*, died October 5, 1963.

During World War I Mr. Langworthy served with the Y.M.C.A. in France and began a friendship with a Belgian family with whom he corresponded until he was nearly ninety years of age. He also kept a diary and cultivated a wide circle of friends in many states.

Choosing to be a Christian at the age of fourteen, Frank was an active Seventh Day Baptist in Andover, Alfred, and Plainfield. He was a deacon of the Plainfield church for more than forty-three years, preparing the Communion table many of these years. He constantly worked for the Lord in many ways. He was president of the American Sabbath Tract Society from 1945 to 1960 and president emeritus at the time of death.

Services were held at Memorial Funeral Home, Plainfield, the Rev. Albert N. Rogers and the Rev. Leon M. Maltby officiating. The Rev. Hurley S. Warren, Almond, N. Y., conducted the committal at Alfred Rural Cemetery, Alfred, N. Y.

—A. N. R.

Accessions

LITTLE GENESEE, N. Y.

By Baptism:

Stephen Sanford
Teresa Sanford
Philip Traver
Tami Kuhn

MARLBORO, N. J.

By Letter:

Donald E. Richards
Edna Ruth Richards
Timothy Richards
Betsy De Richards
Diane Cruzan

Marriages

Bennett - Muth.— Roger Bennett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Bennett of RD 5, Rome, N. Y., and Jean Alice Muth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Muth Jr., of RD 1, Verona, N. Y., were united in marriage May 22, 1970, at Saint Peter's Lutheran Church, Churchville, by the bride's pastor, the Rev. Emil Hein.

Broglin - Gilson.— Roger Dale Broglin, son of Glen Broglin and Betty Roderick, Morgantown, W. Va., and Margaret Y. Gilson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Gilson, Cedarville, N. J., were united in marriage July 5, 1970, at the Marlboro Seventh Day Baptist Church by the bride's pastor, the Rev. Donald E. Richards.

Psota - King.— Duane Psota, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Psota, of North Loup, Nebr., and Darlene King, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Victor King, of North Loup, were united in marriage at the North Loup Seventh Day Baptist Church. June 6, 1970, with the Rev. Mynor G. Soper and Pastor Harold D. King officiating. They are now residing in Grand Island, Nebr.

Williams - Eddy.— John Williams of RD 2, Oneida, N. Y., and Hazel Eddy, Oneida, were married June 12, 1970, at the Southern Baptist Church, Waukegan, Ill., by the groom's son, the Rev. David Williams.

Births

Bozarth.— A daughter, Sharon Nicole, to Graylon and Mary (Kimbrough) Bozarth of Paint Rock, Alabama, on July 29, 1970.

Marzahl.— A daughter, Heidi Lynne, to Mr. and Mrs. Leslie (Virginia Smitley) Marzahl of Milton, Wis., on August 19, 1970.

Planer.— A son, Matthew Ehren, to Mr. and Mrs. Robin (Deborah FitzRandolph) Planer of Milton on August 20, 1970.

Roeneburg.— A daughter, Dawn Rena, to Mr. and Mrs. Richard (Janet Lippincott) Roeneburg of Janesville, Wis., on August 7, 1970.

Snow.— A son, Kenneth Sylvester, to Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth (Penny Heinig) Snow of Milton, Wis., on August 4, 1970.

Obituaries

LANGWORTHY.— Franklin A., died August 13, 1970—extended obituary elsewhere in this issue.

HOWARD.— James, son of Junius and Nanny Kivett Howard, was born Feb. 5, 1890, near Cumberland, N. C., and died Aug. 18, 1970, at The Annex in Winchester, Kans.

The Howard family moved to Nortonville during World War I. Junius was ordained a deacon of the Nortonville Seventh Day Baptist Church in 1929, but Jimmy did not join the church until Oct. 17, 1964. He had been baptized and joined the church in North Carolina in 1905.

He is survived by two sisters, Sarah Meritt and Margaret Sharpe of New York State, and one brother, Kivett, of California. A grave-side memorial service was conducted by Pastor Paul Osborn at the Nortonville Cemetery on Aug. 20.

—P. B. O.

NIDA.— Elizabeth Eleanor, daughter of Melvin Gordon and Jeanett Dickinson Nida, was born in Hornell, N. Y., Dec. 29, 1949, and died as the result of an automobile accident near Wurtsboro, N. Y., July 10, 1970.

She was a member of the Salem, W. Va., Seventh Day Baptist Church, where the family resides. She had studied at Salem College, West Virginia University at Morgantown, and Montclair College in New Jersey. Her special interest was music.

She is survived by her parents; a sister, Sylvia Marie at home; a brother, Laurence Harmon, in England after discharge from the U. S. Air Force; her paternal grandmother; ten aunts and uncles; and many cousins.

There was a committal of her ashes at the Shiloh, N. J., cemetery July 15 and a memorial service at the Salem church July 25 conducted by her pastor, the Rev. J. Paul Green.—J. P. G.

TRUMAN.— DeForest Warren, son of George Warren and Mae Davis Truman, was born in Alfred, N. Y., Sept. 12, 1892, and died at Bethesda Community Hospital, North Hornell, N. Y. Aug. 7, 1970.

He joined the Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church May 30, 1912, and at one time was a member of the Board of Trustees.

On May 27, 1918, Mr. Truman was united in marriage with Miss Hazel Stillman of Alfred, who preceded him in death on July 7, 1963.

On November 6, 1964 he married Marian C. (Mrs. David Charles) Gardiner of Atlantic City, N. J., formerly of Alfred, who survives. He is also survived by a daughter, Lucymae Truman (Mrs. Paul) Atwell of Bolivar, N. Y., a son, DeForest Warren Truman, Jr., of Caledonia, N. Y., and seven grandchildren.

Memorial and committal services were conducted at the Landon Funeral Home, Hornell, N. Y., Aug. 9, by a former pastor, the Rev. Hurley S. Warren. Following cremation, the ashes were interred in Alfred Rural Cemetery.

—H. S. W.

The Sabbath Recorder

Gospel Goes to World's Fair

One of the greatest distributors of Scriptures around the world is the Pocket Testament League which sends out teams with specially equipped vans to do evangelistic work.

The leaders of this organization rejoice that their representatives had done a great deal of work in 1961 in the portion of Peru where the earthquake struck this year. They say, "We can only marvel and give thanks that God in His providence has led us once again to proclaim the message of hope in Jesus Christ well ahead of the time when people would face their greatest need for hope and salvation."

PTL was also in Tokyo this summer to meet the need of as many as possible of the 350,000 per day who visited Expo '70. They distributed their Testaments for fifteen days in the Christian pavilion, handing out 68,000 copies. A liberal church in Japan protested distribution in the Christian pavilion because the PTL Gospel has a decision page in the back. Moving out was a blessing in disguise—they were accepted in the booth of the American Park Complex and also gave out Gospels just outside the North Gate at the rate of 6,000 to 8,000 per day. Mr. J. Edward Smith, International Director of PTL, explained that the team consisted of three missionaries assisted by five trained Asiatics who could contact people in five languages. They speak of the finest cooperation on the part of guards and police who themselves were often observed reading the Scriptures given to them.

The readers respond. PTL has been getting about 500 letters per month from

people who received Gospels. "Within a single year," Mr. Smith summarized, "we will have placed a Gospel of John in the hands of one out of every hundred Japanese in a thriving nation of 100 million souls. PTL's mission is to distribute and preach the imperishable Word wherever there are people to receive it — and there are plenty of people at Expo '70."

Vietnam Servicemen Build

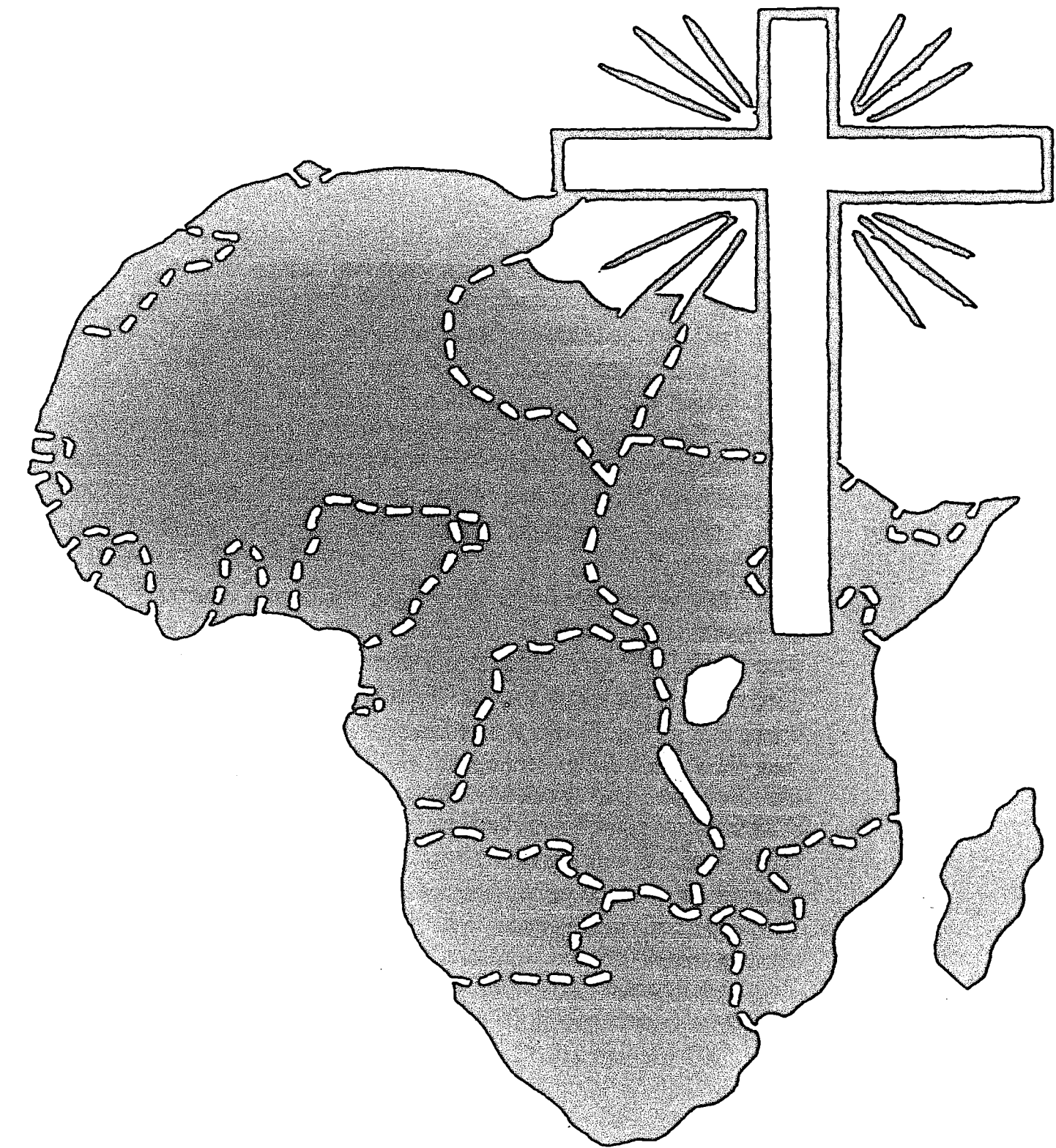
Americans in Vietnam are building faster than they tear down, the director of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's Chaplaincy Commission said after returning from a tour of military installations in Vietnam.

"The road our servicemen are blazing in Vietnam today is paved with new hospitals, new orphanages, new homes—all built by our American servicemen," said George W. Cummins of Atlanta.

"For any house they are accused of destroying, they have built hundreds; for any innocent they are accused of hurting, they have ministered to tenfold others; for any one life they are accused of taking, they have saved others, a thousand times over," Cummins declared.

Cummins described the American soldier in Vietnam as "a young man who hates war and fears it, but fights it because he knows that there are worse things."

Newsmen covering the war in Vietnam overlook many positive stories because they lack "sensationalism and dissent," Cummins claimed. He explained that on his visit, he encountered many positive stories about the war that have not been told.



Africa Needs Christ

Seventh Day Baptists are helping plant the cross of Christ in Africa. Our greatest contribution is in the little country of Malawi in East Central Africa where church membership has more than tripled in just a few years, where ministerial training is going strong and native evangelists are taking the gospel and the Sabbath to countries to the south. Most of our churches planned a special mission emphasis on Malawi on September 26.