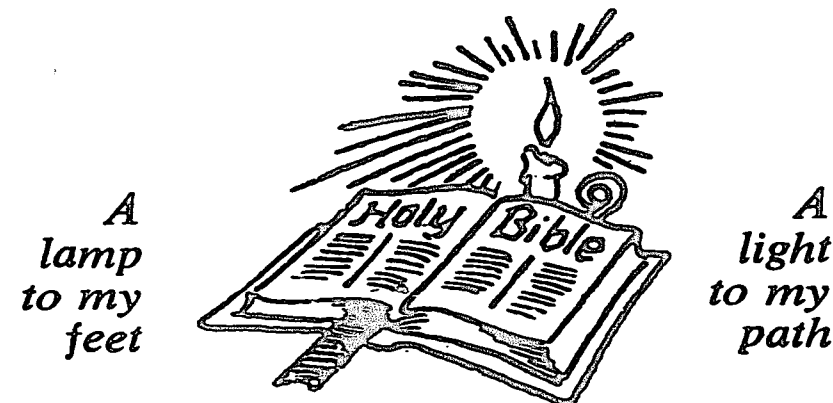


The Sabbath Recorder

DAILY BIBLE READINGS For June 1971



(Including and supplementing the daily Bible readings of the Uniform Series of Bible Lessons published in "The Helping Hand.")

God's Call to Faith

- 1—Tues. Trust the Lord, Not Men. Isaiah 31
- 2—Wed. A World Renewed. Isaiah 32:1-8, 15-20
- 3—Thurs. Hezekiah's Prayer. Isaiah 37:5-20
- 4—Fri. The Life of Faith. 1 Timothy 6:11-21
- 5—Sabbath. Outsiders and the Sabbath. Isaiah 56:1-8; Deut. 5:12-15.

The Coming Messianic Kingdom

- 6—Sun. The King of All the Earth. Psalm 148
- 7—Mon. The Lord's Universal Reign. Isaiah 2:2-4; Micah 4:1-5
- 8—Tues. The Messianic King. Isaiah 9:2-7; Luke 4:16-21
- 9—Wed. The Hope of the Future. Isaiah 11:1-10
- 10—Thurs. "New Heavens and a New Earth." Isaiah 65:17-25; Rev. 21:1-7
- 11—Fri. A Time of Thanksgiving. Isaiah 11:11-12:6
- 12—Sabbath Restraint. Exodus 20:8-11; Romans 7:13-25

God Requires Economic Justice

- 13—Sun. The Lord Judges. Micah 1:2-16
- 14—Mon. More Woe. Micah 2:1-9; 3:1-4
- 15—Tues. Slavery. Nehemiah 5:1-13
- 16—Wed. God Demands Justice. Psalms 82 and 76
- 17—Thurs. Divine Help for the Needy. Psalms 113 and 111
- 18—Fri. False Leaders Bring Destruction. Micah 3:5-12; 5:10-15
- 19—Sabbath. Profaning the Sabbath for Profit. Nehemiah 13:15-22; Jeremiah 17:19-27

God Requires Personal Righteousness

- 20—Sun. What Is Required? Micah 6:1-8; Deut. 10:12-15
- 21—Mon. Punishment for the Unjust. Micah 6:9-16; Deut. 25:13-16
- 22—Tues. Evil Leads to Distrust. Micah 7:1-7
- 23—Wed. Forgiveness by the Lord. Micah 7:8-20
- 24—Thurs. Prayer for God's Guidance. Psalm 25:4-15.
- 25—Fri. God's Approval. Isaiah 33:5-16
- 26—Sabbath. The Sabbath, Made for Man. Mark 2:18-3:6

Set Free To Serve

- 27—Sun. Greatness Through Service. Mark 10:35-45
- 28—Mon. Set Free by Truth. John 8:31-59.
- 29—Tues. Limits in Christian Freedom. 1 Cor. 6:1-12; 9:13-23
- 30—Wed. Walk by the Spirit. Galatians 5:13-26

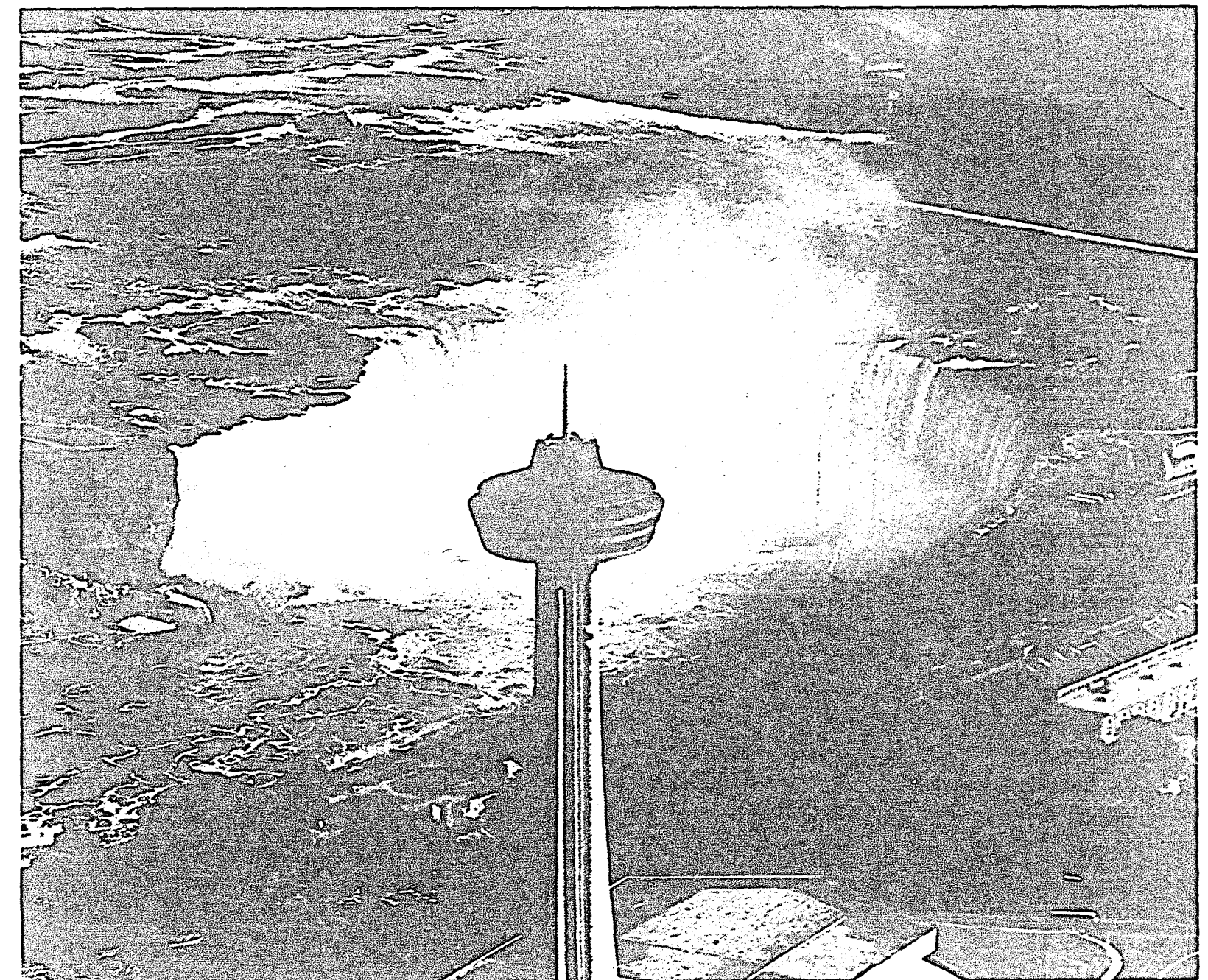
Pointing Up the Year

By Leon R. Lawton

A recent letter from a business corporation had a unique method of showing that this was their ninety-first year of operation. At the heading of the letter the date was given "May 4th of—91st year - 1971."

Since this is the 300th year for Seventh Day Baptists in America the thought immediately came: Why not use a similar method in our correspondence? The words would be a bit longer but would be a constant reminder to those with whom we correspond, as well as to those who write, that this is the 300th anniversary of Seventh Day Baptists in America.

Why not consider changing your letter headings in this way? Instead of just putting down May 10, 1971, write it this way: May 10 of Seventh Day Baptists' 300th Year - 1971. It may be that this would help others understand and enter in with us in the joy of our tercentennial celebration.



Niagara Falls from a Different Viewpoint

The aerial photograph of what some have called the world's most spectacular view improves on that view from the Skylon Tower in the center foreground—a view not possible when we older folks first visited Niagara Falls. We see in one glance the American and Canadian horseshoe falls, the river above and the river below with the perpetual mist rising up from the pounding of the water on the rocks. Here we appreciate the creative hand of God that fashioned the Great Lakes and caused the waters to move over this precipice emptying Lake Erie into Lake Ontario and on through the picturesque island-dotted St. Lawrence River to the ocean. Would that man had done as well in using God's spiritual resources as in harnessing the power of such natural resources as Niagara Falls.

The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

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Member of the Associated Church Press

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The Fear of Death

A workshop held recently in the auditorium of the largest hospital in the Plainfield area drew together the clergy of the city and the hospital staff — as many of each group as were able to attend and were interested in a better ministry to terminal patients. It was opened up by the head of medical services who read portions of the very perceptive book *On Death and Dying* by Dr. Elizabeth Kubler-Ross in which she pointed out the failures of our present system of rushing the dying to the hospital and treating them so impersonally that death is more lonely and traumatic than it used to be.

The panelists included the head nurse of the intensive care unit, the home service nurse, the social service representative, and the patient relations staff member in addition to the young chaplain recently added to the staff. Many of the doctors and the clergy entered into the discussion of what more could be done for those who face death. The doctors freely admitted that they were not doing enough and needed the supportive role of the clergy.

Doctors and clergy observed that one reason that they did not spend more time in the room of the terminal patient was that they had not come to grips with their own fear of death. One physician suggested that perhaps many doctors chose the profession because of their fear of death. There was general agreement among members of the panel and the participating audience that one of the best things that can be done for the person who is dying is to treat him as a person rather than a case — to find out where he is and then to show genuine interest.

The head of the hospital appealed for help from the clergy in developing a new ethic in regard to prolonging life when the life would be seriously impaired. These are questions that are broader than a single hospital or the clergy association of a single city.

Quite a little discussion is in order as to whether the dying patient should be told of his condition. One of the doctors quoted studies showing that treatment was easier and the response better when pa-

tients were told. Difficulties arise when both the family and the patient have common knowledge of the situation and try to hide it from each other. The panelists who had a good background of reading and experience noted that in our modern society the taboo of discussing death was beginning to break, a hopeful sign on the way to making the last days more meaningful and more normal.

The church as well as the clergy and the hospital staff could do better in the matter of facing death for themselves and for their loved ones. What can be done to give abiding hope to a person who has given no thought to God and eternity during his life? Perhaps not much when the pain of dying and the medications of the hospital have conspired to cut off clear thinking. However, the Christian relative, the minister, and the Christian doctor should have something more to impart than just their physical presence. Faith and certainty can replace role playing and can put the dying in touch with God in simple and effective ways. We must come back to the basics of our faith and demonstrate that we trust in Him who died for us and rose again. We have a message that takes the sting out of death. So wrote the Apostle Paul who faced death so often himself and encouraged others who faced it.

Postal Rate Increases

Everyone is aware of the increases in first class and airmail postage that went into effect the middle of May for we all use this kind of postal service. We have accommodated ourselves to paying more for stamps in the past and can do so again since most of us do not spend a high percentage of our income on letter postage.

The magazines and newspapers that are in the mailing business are much more seriously affected by the thirty percent increases in their mailing rates. That is why the religious and secular journals did their best to keep the rates from taking such a jump. Some publications operating close to the line between financial success and failure may not be

able to continue. In the case of the *Sabbath Recorder*, the amount spent on second class postage each week even under the new rates is not very many dollars because the rate is based largely on weight and our journal is not very heavy. However, every increase in cost is felt.

The subscription price increase that went into effect April 1 was long overdue and was designed to help offset rises in printing costs that had been climbing for several years. The new price did not provide a cushion for future cost increases such as the rise in postal rates. We are dependent on new subscribers, loyal renewals and a large Tract Society and denominational subsidy to provide the service we render.

Sabbath Renewal Day Challenge

Church bulletins and letters coming to the office of the American Sabbath Tract Society indicate that the packet of materials sent out by the Sabbath Promotion Committee for use on Sabbath Renewal Day (formerly Sabbath Rally Day) May 15 was widely used by our churches and Sabbath Schools. Some 6,000 specially printed bulletin covers were mailed free to the churches in addition to Bible studies and other usable materials.

This special day was the occasion for most of the pastors to preach a Sabbath sermon, which many do not do more than once a year, in spite of the fact that it is our principal distinctive as a separate church. Most of the sermons were apparently related to the theme "Responsible Sabbathkeeping, a Sign of Maturity." There is reason to believe that pastors did their best either to present the Sabbath truth from the Scriptures or to challenge their members to a more sacred and profitable use of the day. Evidence is not yet at hand for an evaluation of the local preparation and execution of plans to make the day all that it was intended to be.

How does one judge whether or not any gathering of our people, either on a special or a regular Sabbath is all that it ought to be? A popular sentence on church bulletins is "Enter to worship, depart to serve." The success of the hour

spent together might be measured to some extent by the percentage of worshipers who are so stimulated that they go out to serve that day and in the days to come.

Whether we call it Sabbath Rally Day or Sabbath Renewal Day is not the question. More important is whether or not it produced any results. Did it engender in us a greater desire to do the will of God and to live up to the Great Commission? Would it be fair to ask if the service made the Sabbath vital enough to us so that we went to the church tract depository and carried home a supply of Sabbath tracts to share with others who have not yet found the joy of a "Sabbath well spent"? Again, did we follow out the annual suggestion that this day be the occasion for distributing the May special issue of the *Sabbath Recorder*? These are but two of a number of questions we could ask ourselves. Are we mature enough to question ourselves on how we live up to our profession?

Anti-Semitism Coming Back

There are evidences that anti-Semitism, long under taboo in the United States, is becoming permissible and common, said Norman Podhoretz, author and literary critic, in an address before the 65th Annual Meeting of the American Jewish Committee.

Anti-Zionism, though different from anti-Semitism, makes a cover for expressing the latter, says the social analyst. This has been on the upswing since the Six-Day War of 1967.

The black revolution is also seen as contributing to a freer expression of anti-Semitism. The reasoning is that militant separatism shows a readiness to purchase civil peace at the expense of the Jews. There was a call for replacing the merit system in civil service employment and university admissions by a system of proportional representation according to race or ethnic origin — which would seriously affect Jews, according to Mr. Podhoretz.

The third area of recent change mentioned is "the grumbling in the American literary world over the prominence of

Our Prayer Corner

Suggestions for Prayer This Week

Pray for:

1) The work of the Women's Board, especially their responsibility for SCSC (Summer Christian Service Corps).

2) The preparations being made for young people to depict history and to serve New England churches this summer.

3) The world work of Seventh Day Baptists being fostered by bringing together delegates from mission and non-mission countries at SDBWF, Aug. 4.

4) Our tract ministry and the Sabbath witness of all who have opportunities to meet people during vacation travel.

Jews in the national culture — a grumbling which has grown louder and louder, more and more brazen, less and less ashamed of itself in the last three or four years, and which so ominously resembles the bitter complaint against Jewish cultural 'dominance' in Berlin and Vienna in the 1920's."

There was a time when anti-Semitism was fostered in this country and abroad by the radical right — the KKK and other ultra-American organizations. Now it is the far left that is spearheading anti-Semitism. This, of course, is true of the Soviet Union. It is also noted that it is not the Arab conservatives like King Hussein but Arabs of the revolutionary left like George Habash who are most anxious to destroy the Jews. In the United States the most virulent attacks on Jews also come from the radical left rather than the radical right, it is claimed.

While our Jewish friends are likely to see anti-Semitism in places where we cannot see it, it behooves us to be watchful so that we do not inadvertently get caught in non-Christian attitudes toward these non-Christians of another ethnic background.

The great use of life is to spend it for something that outlasts it.

—William James

Conference Publicity

The Ways To Travel

How to get there is usually one of the primary concerns of delegates attending General Conference. As outlined in previous articles, it pays to plan ahead—plan to attend and then plan on how you're going to make the trip. Fortunately, Amherst, Mass., although seemingly isolated in the middle of New England, is easily accessible by nearly every means of transportation, or combination, that exists.

Amherst is located in the Connecticut Valley ninety-two miles West of Boston and twenty-seven miles North of Springfield. By air, it is served at Bradley Field, Windsor, Conn., by several of the major airlines, including American, Allegheny, Northeast, Mohawk, TWA, and United. Bus service to Amherst and direct to the campus is available at the field, as well as air field service limousine to all points in Amherst.

If you travel all or part of the way by bus (remember — leave the driving to us?) you can reach Amherst by Greyhound, Trailways, Blue Lines, Peter Pan and Vermont Transit into Springfield, then by Trailways and Peter Pan to the campus.

Railroad service into Springfield is regular with transfer to bus for the remainder of the trip to Amherst at that

Enroute to Conference

Seventh Day Baptists on their way to Conference are cordially invited to stop and worship at the Berlin, N. Y., church, the closest Seventh Day Baptist church to Amherst. Sabbath worship is at 10:30 a.m. with Sabbath School for all ages following.

Visitors are also welcome to stop and see the church anytime — the doors are unlocked. Copies of a brief history of the church, which was organized in 1780, will be available. The church is located just off Route 22 in Berlin, N. Y., east of Albany and near the Massachusetts border.

—Roberta Ellis

point. New York Central and the N. Y., N. H., and H. railroads run into Springfield.

It is presumed that most of the delegates will travel in their own automobiles, and will converge on Amherst from all points of the compass. Excellent highway systems exist in New England now, and Amherst is right beside the "main road" to many places. The Massachusetts Turnpike runs East and West just 25 miles to the South, so arriving on that superhighway, you leave it at Exit 4 (West Springfield), take U. S. 5 North to Northampton then East on State 9 to Amherst — then North on Route 116 to the campus. That's simple enough — more devious and interesting routes can be mapped out, and each traveler will want to acquaint himself with the best routes for his situation. Plan for the trip.

Youth Pre-Con 1971

By Linda Davis

Have you ever thought how the disciples felt after their Lord was crucified? And then their joy at His resurrection? What was it that made these followers of the Way band together to spread the good news? Did they have a secret?

A good place to find answers to these questions is at Youth Pre-Con 1971. But don't expect these answers to be handed to you. You'll have to listen, ponder, discuss, search, and come up with your own answers. But maybe that's the only way to learn how to be responsible disciples for Christ in the 70's.

Youth Pre-Con will be held at the "U Mass" campus August 4-8, 1971. Any youth between fifteen and twenty may attend. Garth and Mayola Warner from the Verona, N. Y., church will be directors. A variety of staff members will be available to provide different points of view on several subjects taken from the lives of the New Testament Christians.

You might call Youth Pre-Con this year an experiment — a new discovery of an old secret. But whatever you call it, it promises to be an exciting experience. Won't you give it some thought?

Quarterly Meeting of Missionary Board

There were several new members among the eighteenth Missionary Board members present when the quarterly meeting of the board was called to order by President Loren Osborn on Sunday afternoon, April 25. These new members had been elected along with other board members at the annual Missionary Society meeting on March 21, 1971. Two visitors were also among those gathered around the tables in the vestry of the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church. The meeting began with prayer for divine guidance offered by the Rev. Leon M. Maltby.

The reports of the treasurer, Karl G. Stillman; the executive vice-president, Leon R. Lawton; and of the consultant, Everett T. Harris were all received, approved and ordered recorded. A verbal report on the work of home field evangelist, Mynor G. Soper, was given by the executive vice-president. A formal report will be included in the minutes and published in the Missionary Reporter. It was reported that Mr. Soper and four dedicated service workers have been carrying out a successful "beach ministry" in cooperation with the Daytona Beach, Fla., Seventh Day Baptist Church. Mr. Soper was concluding a Witness in Missions program in Battle Creek and a weekend mission at White Cloud.

Among other home field interests considered by the board was the request of the Paint Rock Seventh Day Baptist Church for aid in support of a pastor. This request was approved. Missionary Board support will begin upon Pastor Leslie Welch's arrival at Paint Rock around July 20, 1971.

The chairman of the American Tropics Committee, Paul Johnson, noted that Pastor Leroy Bass and family are expecting to return to Guyana, South America, for a second term of service, leaving this country on June 30, 1971, and stopping off enroute for a brief rest period in Barbados. The American Tropics Committee will meet soon with Executive

Vice-President Lawton who has been serving as "American released worker" for three weeks in Jamaica. While there he visited and spoke in twenty-five churches/groups, took part in the first Ministers Seminar and the fifteenth Spiritual Retreat at Maiden Hall, conducted Bible studies and counselled with leaders of the Seventh Day Baptist churches and of Crandall High School.

Growing out of Mr. Lawton's report of a meeting with the Crandall High School Board of Education and Long-Range Planning Committee the Missionary Board took the following action: "Voted that the Missionary Board support the preliminary plans for new classroom space at Crandall High School—approx. 27 ft. x 27 ft.—and ask Commission for permission to make this a special appeal project with immediate need (noting that construction should begin in July in order to provide needed space for use in September 1971) such appeal not to be started until full plans and cost estimates are in hand and approved."

The African Interests Committee report was presented by Chairman Edgar F. Wheeler. Of particular interest was the agreement that Pastor and Mrs. John Conrod and family would live in the mission home in Blantyre during the furlough of the Rev. David Pearson and family. It is expected that the Pearsons will begin furlough in the States in July 1971. It was voted upon recommendation of the Executive Committee "that the Rev. John Conrod be appointed the society representative in Malawi during the furlough of the Pearsons and that power of attorney be issued in his favor." Miss Sarah Becker, R. N., has been taking a two weeks rest period from her intensive labors as head of the medical services at Makapwa. She expected to spend a few days in Durban and Johannesburg, South Africa.

President Loren Osborn was empowered to appoint a committee as needed for presenting missionary interests at General Conference. He was also authorized to appoint the standing committees for the ensuing year. Of particular interest was the appointment of the

Rev. Francis D. Saunders as chairman of the Home Field Committee.

Because of the serious illness of Mr. Andrew L. Prely, C.P.A., elected as auditor at the annual meeting of the society in March, the treasurer was authorized to negotiate with Christiansen and Company of Providence and Woonsocket, R. I., to serve as auditors for the current year.

SCSC Training Session

The Marlboro, N. J., Seventh Day Baptist Church will be the site for the Summer Christian Service Corps training session this year. Workers and staff will arrive on Tuesday, June 8, and will have an evening of fellowship and orientation before the classes begin on the morning of June 9. Leon R. Lawton will be the training director and will be assisted by Florence Bowden, David S. Clarke and Mynor G. Soper. Pastors Don Richards of the host church, and Charles Bond of the neighboring church at Shiloh, will share in the morning chapel hour. The training sessions will continue through Wednesday, June 16. Travel to the various projects will be on Thursday, June 17.

As of the date this is being written (May 18) we have ten workers for the summer. We hope that this number may be enlarged because applications from churches for projects call for up to nineteen workers. Some of these are being cut back and others will of necessity have to be eliminated. But, we hope to have as many projects as possible.

The support of SCSC is given through the Women's Board. Their Christian Social Relations Committee, chaired by Mrs. Gary Cox, has been coordinating and assisting in the program as did the previous committee when the Women's Board was located in Milton. We do appreciate the many individuals, churches and groups that have already contributed to SCSC and would encourage others who have been considering such to so designate their gifts.

The evaluation session, following the six weeks of work in projects, will be

Maturity and Responsibility or Are We Retarded?

Just think—300 years! But let us not be so overwhelmed with the past that we fail to take seriously our theme for the year, "The Responsibility of Maturity"! When we see a child who is old chronologically but still an infant mentally, we say he is "retarded." All kinds of emotions are manifested, some good and some selfish.

But what sort of emotion do we have for ourselves? As Seventh Day Baptists we are about eighty-two percent right now in our financial stewardship. By the time you read this it probably won't be any better.

Do we really think it is a sign of "The Responsibility of Maturity" to vote at General Conference, and to be real excited during August, and then the rest of the year to let our financial obligations lie dormant? Honestly now, have all you who read this accepted your *responsibility* in Our World Mission? Have you checked to see that your church is presenting the claims and needs of Our World Mission to all of its members?

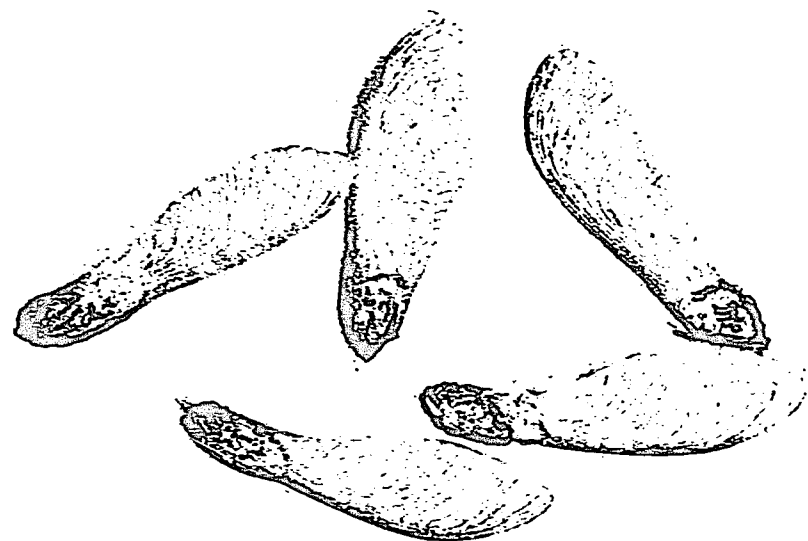
"Seventh Day Baptist cherish liberty of thought as an essential condition for the guidance of the Holy Spirit." Let's use our *maturity* now to ask Him what our part is in *Our World Mission*.

—Paul B. Osborn,
Stewardship chairman

held at Lewis Camp (near Ashaway, R. I.) beginning Monday evening, August 2, and closing following breakfast August 3.

Please remember the training session and the workers in your prayer. These are: Ruth E. Burdick, DeRuyter; Katherine A. Greene, Dodge Center; Dale R. Harris, Milton; Marion L. Jones, Battle Creek; Patricia G. Lawton, Salem; Peter Morris, Los Angeles; Helene M. Nelson, New Auburn; Karen Osborn, Nortonville; Tom C. Pederson, Milton; and Martha S. Welch, Berea.

Scattering Precious Seed



There is not much to see outside the editor's windows on the ground floor of the Publishing House for the office is hemmed in by the three-story Seventh Day Baptist building in front and three-story YMCA at the side, with some thirty feet of pavement, sidewalk, and lawn in between. But there is also a maple tree of eighteen or twenty inches in diameter that rises a little higher than our front building. It blooms and leafs out a little earlier than some maples and drops its winged seeds about the middle of May. This is the time one really notices our tree.

I am not much of a naturalist and less of a mathematician, but I have done a little observing, counting and pondering each year as this maple tree scatters its seeds. At the moment of writing the maple looks as if it might still be holding one-third of its seeds dangling below the five-pointed fresh green leaves. But the ground is literally covered with seeds that still shift their position with every gust of wind. For days those small, pink veined, single-winged seeds have been spinning like helicopter rotors and fluttering down upon all the available space more than 150 feet in length and from thirty to fifty feet in width. They fly around the corners of our front building and on out into the street. They seem to defy all principles of flight, travelling so far on one wing like a one oar gondola on the canals of Venice. The provident hand of God enables them to fly as well with one little feathered wing as the

larger, more symmetrical double-winged seeds of most maples.

I counted the fallen seeds on a square foot of sidewalk and conservatively estimated that they averaged one hundred per square foot. They seemed to be quite evenly spread out over some 7,500 square feet. This would figure up to 750,000 seedlings next year if all of them had landed on good soil and the conditions were right for germination. Of course, conditions are not right when much of the area is paved, some is trodden hard, and the remainder is well-tended lawn. Not many seedlings came up, but some do.

We are reminded that nature is profligate. Since there are so many adverse conditions and since so much is left to chance in the spreading of seed, a tremendous margin of safety has been built into the system for propagating the species. If man did not interfere with this tree's efforts to propagate its kind, thousands of the seeds might make a start of new life — as happens in some places.

It is perhaps meaningful to note that every year 750,000 winged seeds fall beside a Sabbath-truth publishing house whose business it is to produce tracts, which have been aptly called white-winged messengers. Just outside the office that supplies tracts to distributors throughout America and the world one tree scatters more than ten times as many seeds as we do of tracts. Fortunately we do not have to depend on the wind or bottles bobbing in the ocean to get our little folders to their destination. They can be personally carried and therefore much of the waste avoided. But scatteration also has its place, as the pamphlet-dropping military planes have proven. We cannot always put the tract directly into the hand of the person who would be benefited by it.

Lessons can be learned from the maple tree. It performs the will of its Creator and does not stop producing seed just because such a small percentage takes root. We have been commissioned to go into all the world with the gospel. If it

(Continued on page 15)

Church Attendance and You

An article prepared for *Sabbath Recorder* readers

by Rev. J. D. Hall of Cleveland, Ohio

It is well known to church goers that there is considerable comment on church attendance. Periodicals of all denominations have examined the matter from many standpoints. The public press everywhere has written of it. A comprehensive coverage of the subject would easily use all the pages of this magazine and not be done with it. Conscientious Christians are concerned about this but often feel a certain amount of resignation in the face of it.

Notwithstanding, the good people in the pews of this country stand second to no other in conviction and faith. It is difficult, in this society, to be dedicated to a single loyalty. There are all sorts of options and choices which compete for our philosophical loyalty. Uninformed fanaticism can easily be brought about in undeveloped nations. But an enormous, overdeveloped nation like the United States is made up of a fabric of myriad threads of competing concepts. In the origins of its people, in their educational differences, their cultures, their tempers, even the foods they prefer and the style of abodes they live in, every kind of idea competes for America's attention. And with all this, Americans are acknowledged as a church people.

Is it logical, then, in spite of all this, that interest in religion should be declining? That godlessness is waxing stronger? Yes, for Jesus said that the love of many would wax cold, and Paul repeatedly warned against rising apostasy. Who will stand against the work of Satan? How can we stop the stealing away of one of the flock here and another there? Jesus went out afar for the one lamb that was lost and so set us a direct example. This then is our inspiration! Or do the faithful arise from their pews after services, go home for another week, and leave the preacher to do all the hunting for the lost?

Who has ever said to a friend, "Well, if you don't want to come to church,

that's your business, I guess." Is it? I suggest to you, my brother and sister in the pew, that it is *your business* too! At this point the reader might feel a slight discomfort at these suggestions. Should one "push" his religion on another? Should you coax all your acquaintances into coming to church at all opportunities? Are you afraid that your friends will think you a religious "fanatic"? Let's face the nitty-gritty question concerning the man and woman in the pew: "Just what can I do about church attendance and how do I do it?" One fact must be considered before that can be answered.

There is a confusion in America between the private and the secret aspects of religion. A person's faith should be private in the sense of choosing which church, if any, to attend. On the other hand, nothing in the law says a person must keep secret the fact that he is a church member. There are no laws against presenting your religious views to another. (It is a sad fact that in certain Catholic nations this is branded as proselytizing and offenders are promptly jailed.) Once we absorb the impact of our common error we can advocate solutions.

The Scriptures tell us clearly that we have a mission to witness for the Lord: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" (to His disciples; Matt. 28:19). How can we consider the problem of witnessing in the light of modern communication? I hope the following analysis will help.

People are often shy and inhibited about expressing their faith — for the simple reason they don't know how to go about it. Many have had no guidance or counsel on this point. They know little of the technique of religious communication. They have never participated with others in discussions of how best to disseminate the faith. Does witnessing mean solely that a saved believer testifies

before a dozen or so other saved believers and makes an expression of gratitude? Worthy — holy — as it is, is this all? Does one contribute money to a mission fund so that ministers can take the Word to peoples in faraway Central America? Worthy as it is, is this all when one cannot walk home from church without tripping over a dozen lost sinners?

The writer does not propose that all church members be trained to be evangelists or coached on how to become recruiters for churchly interests. Any such program would be formidable and foolish. Instead, I submit a simple plan. The record of observation has proved that the best plans are the simple plans. The men and women in the pews can make a team effort. They can support a modest publicity campaign. They can pool a little time, energy, and money for advertising. An important fact of life in American society is that advertising is effective.

Try to get a dozen or so enthusiastic, positive-minded people together in a committee to think of ways to publicize their objectives. It need not be elaborate or expensive. It is heartening and astonishing to observe the ideas that can come forth! Furthermore, in any community there are businessmen who understand advertising and publicity. They might well contribute valuable advice, whereas they might charge a business for similar consultation.

Perhaps the reader feels that this is not involved or unique enough to arouse his enthusiasm. Allow me a moment to defend the point and also to reveal something. If churches are presently adequate in presenting themselves to the society at large, then the rest of the community could be run the same way without ill effect. Or could it? Let your imagination go for a moment. Let's see how your town gets along without advertising. Begin right in your own church.

Your address in the newspaper religion page is enough. People are mostly against sin anyway, so why mention the details all the time? The city can save electricity by turning off intersection traffic lights. Most everybody knows the

MEMORY TEXT

"Praise ye the Lord. Sing unto the Lord a new song, and his praise in the congregation of saints" (Psa. 149:1).

corner is there. The school teacher should not go back over last week's lesson. Telling kids once should be enough. Police ought to stop cruising in traffic. Drivers know the law or they could not have obtained a license. Sears Roebuck should stop publishing catalogues. They are wasting their money. People can go to the store and ask the prices. Westminster Cathedral has stood for hundreds of years. But they don't know what they're doing. They ring the bell every day to let the world know they are still there!

"Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are within the house." And so the conclusion of my thoughts should be left here, I think. For if a thought is good or helpful it might be measured better by what it brings about, as a seed is measured by the flower. I hope this will inspire one and all to speak up for the Lord.

New Features Coming

"If I Had One Sermon To Preach" is the general caption for messages that will appear about once a month in this journal. A number of Seventh Day Baptist ministers have volunteered to select or prepare such messages. It is hoped that readers will benefit much from the sermons. We must recognize that it is hard for a minister to pick out the one message he would preach if he only had one more to preach. If he is growing in grace and in his convictions he doubtlessly hopes to preach a more effective sermon later. But this is a challenge that can come to the reader as well as to the writer. The reader may well resolve that if he could never hear another sermon to get all the good possible out of this one.

The first sermon under this topic was submitted by the Rev. J. Paul Green of Salem, W. Va., "Don't Do Anything Rash."

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION—Rex E. Zwiebel

Need Ministerial Students Now

We conducted another one of our quick surveys at the recent Seventh Day Baptist Ministers Conference held in Battle Creek, Michigan. We asked twenty-six of the ministers and denominational workers present at the time how long they thought that they would be in active service. Twenty-three of the group felt that they would be active five years from now. Eighteen expected to be serving ten years hence. Eleven thought that they would still be on the job twenty years from now. Only seven felt that 1996 would find them serving.

We have a total of forty-nine men working today, and we feel that the same ratio would apply to all.

That would indicate that we will need six workers in five years, sixteen in ten years, thirty in twenty years, and thirty-eight by 1996.

When we realize that a senior in high school needs seven years of higher education to prepare for the ministry and that about a dozen of our churches are pastorless at this writing, the challenge that faces us is much greater than we have imagined.

And all this is based on just barely holding on to what we have. Is that all that God expects of us? Who will lead out in the establishment of new churches? We do not dare to think only of just keeping even. The growth of the Kingdom of God is assured. Our question is, "Will Seventh Day Baptists be found doing their share?"

Let each church, each pastoral relations committee, each individual Seventh Day Baptist consider the fact that there is something that must be done, and that each can do something to improve our outlook. Let us single out our youth (both male and female) who show Christian leadership aptitudes, offer spiritual guidance, discuss the possibilities of service, offer to license those who may agree, and help all take advantage of the educational opportunities by guaranteeing financial aid.

Let us test our faith. Has God failed us? Will we fail Him?

The Center Library

We are anxious that the books in the Center for Ministerial Education Library be used by ministers and other Seventh Day Baptists. It seems to be quite impossible to list all of the books (we have 5,900), but we will list new ones that come to us now and then. If you want to study in a particular area write the Center, Box 868, Plainfield, NJ 07061, and we will pick books that we believe will be helpful. General Secretary Alton L. Wheeler also is offering books for loan from his extensive library. They may be secured through the Center.

Give us a try. Home study is a real part of "Continuing Education." In fact, it is the most realistic for all of us.

The Gospel Knows No Gaps

The pastor of our Battle Creek church, S. Kenneth Davis, was writing in "The Friendly Guest" a story of the joy some of his people had found in winning people to Christ after receiving some special training by Evangelist Mynor Soper. Here is one paragraph from the article in his church paper:

"Where the Holy Spirit is in action there is no generation gap. We can testify to that personally. Where the Holy Spirit is in action there is no racial barrier. We can testify to that personally. Where the Holy Spirit is in action economic status and social ladders are no hindrance. We can testify to that personally."

The experiences prompting the above statements are more than interesting. There was the white fifth grader who brought a black college student to Christ after she herself had prayed for Christ to come into her life. Then there was the retiree praying with a fifth grader who has made his initial decision for the Lord. There were more. In a brief span of time the Holy Spirit used laymen to bring seven souls to Christ. As the pastor says, in this area there are no generation gaps or racial barriers.

Berlin Pastor Resigns

After 31 Years

By George Burdick

The resignation of Pastor Paul Maxson to be effective at the end of July was received by the Berlin church with regret. Terminating more than thirty years of service in which his philosophy that the church should be interested in youth, people, and their problems not only within the church but in the community, the area, and the region led to his active participation in many service and betterment programs and organizations. His involvement in added time and effort would not have been possible without the support and understanding of his wife Ruby and the other members of their family.

In his first year (1940) he started a Youth Center, dedicated to the physical, mental, and spiritual development of our youth. Obtaining a state certificate in water safety and lifesaving, he assisted in training about two hundred young people each summer in these skills. The center organization has been expanded into a Youth Commission now under supervision of the Town Board.

Also in 1940, with the assistance of Wayne Rood, he succeeded in reopening Lewis Camp after several years' closure. Since that time he has been active in the support of the camp in whatever capacity he could be most helpful. In emergency, Ruby has also contributed time and effort in support of camp operations.

After Pastor Wing's health failed, Pastor Maxson also preached to the Schenectady congregation each Sabbath. During this period the church and parsonage were built. He has also served pastorless churches throughout the valley from Hoosick Falls to Lebanon — some for nearly two years.

He was also active in organizing the Berlin Men's Club of which he was president for some years and was able to induce J. C. Penney to address them. Twenty years after its foundation the club meets each Wednesday at the Lamp Post for discussion, business, and a dinner. The average attendance is twenty to twenty-five men.

His activity in serving on the town Planning Board enabled the town to eliminate the problem of car graveyards and dumps while many other areas still are vexed with the problem — even before the environment, beautification of roadsides, and aesthetics had become key words.

When the "new road" went through Berlin, he was given the Frank Crandall house by the state, contingent on his moving it from its former location. At that time it was moved to its present location north of the parsonage. After building a foundation and locating the house on it, he gave the property to the Berlin church. In commemoration it was named "Max Hall." It houses Sabbath School rooms for some classes and frequently harbors overnight guests, for which it is also equipped.

He has been a scoutmaster, has taken a clinical training course at Albany Medical Hospital in which he was required to work as an orderly one day a week for three years. This assisted in qualifying him for a chaplaincy and community counseling. He has visited hospital patients regardless of church affiliation, requiring long hours of driving to scattered hospitals in the tri-state area (Bennington Pittsfield, Troy, Albany, Schenectady).

As a member of the SDB New York State Council of Churches, he has served on the Legislative Commission. This requires attending meetings at least one day a week, often two or more, when the legislature is in session to establish policy in support or opposition to legislation. Composed of about thirty ministers and laymen, their activities do not cease there. Frequently they assist in revision or disapproval of a bill, or work actively for or against its passage. Their stand on lotteries, drugs, blue laws, etc., has been helpful, even when blocking of passage may not have been possible. Pastor Maxson also represents the Central Association on this Commission.

In denominational affairs, he served for some time on the Tract Board and is presently a member of the Missionary Board.

People throughout the area turn to

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION—Sec. David S. Clarke

Youth Pre-Con Retreat

High school guidance teacher, Garth Warner, of the Verona, N. Y., church will, with his wife, co-direct the 1971 Youth Pre-Con Retreat, August 4-8, at Amherst campus of the University of Massachusetts where Conference will be held.

Garth and Mayola say to all youth between fifteen and twenty years of age, "Let's Mass at UMass!" for four exciting days, Aug. 4-8 for just \$30. It's going to be really great as we discover together the secrets of New Testament Christianity and how to *Turn on Now to Jesus Christ* and be responsible SDB's in the '70's responding to Christ!"

Accommodations at Amherst will provide a wide range of activities and the Warners and staff will develop the program capable of giving a broad experience with Christ.

"Watch for further details, but plan now to attend," say the Warners, and the Youth Work Committee of the Board of Christian Education.

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Camp fee for the four-day retreat covers everything for only \$23. A very interesting program of learning and practicing vital Christianity is in store.

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Karl Stillman Honored

The Community Service Award for 1971 was presented to a prominent Seventh Day Baptist, Karl G. Stillman, at the annual banquet of the Greater Westerly-Pawcatuck Area Chamber of Commerce on May 15. A front-page three-column article with picture in the Sunday edition of the *Westerly (R. I.) Sun* featured the surprise presentation of the plaque. The 150 people in attendance gave Mr. Stillman a standing ovation.

Mentioned in the long citation was the fact that the recipient had been president of the local Seventh Day Baptist church, in which he has been active all his life, a former president of General Conference (1948), and for many years (up to the present) the treasurer of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society.

Of particular interest to the Chamber of Commerce was his work with the Westerly Hospital of which he has been president since 1965. Besides holding the position of president of the hospital corporation, Mr. Stillman is treasurer of the Pawcatuck service unit of the Salvation Army; trustee of the Memorial and Library Association in Westerly; trustee of River Bend Cemetery Co.; trustee of the Pawcatuck World War Memorial Association (he is a veteran of World War I); president of the Westerly Savings Fund and Loan Association since 1967; and chairman of the Industrial National Bank advisory board of which he has been a member for twenty-eight years. He was also chairman of the Westerly Hospital Building Fund Campaign in 1964.

Mr. Stillman is a notable example of a man with well-voiced religious convictions who carries over his devotion to church and denominational work to strenuous activity in behalf of the community — a community which has now given him unexpected honor. He took early retirement from the position of secretary-treasurer of the Cottrell Printing Press Co. in 1955.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

June 12, 1971

SHARING THE SABBATH

Lesson Scripture: Philippians 3:3-15

Recorder Subscriptions

Nearly 300 letters were sent out a few weeks ago to people who have been receiving copies of the Mission Notes issues. A New England reader sent this note with subscription:

"Thanks for your letter. Now I'm going to do what I have been meaning to do for a long time. I have tried to keep up with our news by reading a borrowed *Recorder* . . . List me as a subscriber . . ."

Women's Board Issue Coming

The first issue of July will be another of our blue-ink *Sabbath Recorders*. It is expected that the new Women's Board will provide a good share of the articles, which will tell of the great work the board is doing at home and abroad. The SCSC program for the summer, sponsored by the women, will be well under way at that time.

PERSONAL DATA

After publishing in the May 29 issue the article by Gladys Sutton Randolph entitled "Sabbath Belief Strengthened by Exposure to Sunday Belief" we received from her some personal data that fortified her statement that she has been duly exposed to the Sunday arguments in her contacts with church leadership. We quote her letter:

I have been employed in first-day churches as organist over a span of forty-three years, starting as a junior in high school and continuing through the approaching years of retirement. Different denominations served have been: Methodist, Episcopal, Congregational, United Church of Christ, Evangelical United Brethren, United Methodist, and substitute jobs in American Baptist, Scotch Presbyterian, and Christian Science.

She goes on to say that when she was baptized by her father, the Rev. Erlo E. Sutton, at Shiloh, N. J., in 1920, she dedicated her ambition to serve her Savior as a church musician. She has had the opportunity and it has strengthened her Sabbath convictions.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

RIVERSIDE, CALIF.— Approximately sixty-five people gathered on the eve of the Sabbath, April 9, for the annual candlelight communion service. A light meal consisting of foods that would have been used at a passover meal in Jesus' time was served, followed by the Communion service.

The church is sponsoring a thirteen-week broadcasting program from 5:45 - 6:00 with a program called "The News and the Bible."

The Pacific Coast Association met with the Riverside church, April 23, 24 25 with the program theme "Christian Commitment: The Challenge of Change."

The church is in the process of looking for new hymnbooks in response to an offer by Mrs. Opal Jensen and Jack as a memorial to Mr. Julian Jensen.

We enjoyed our annual birthday party early in March. The tables were decorated in keeping with the achievements of the famous people whose birthdays were celebrated for each particular month. Cakes for each month were decorated for the famous birthdays. Pictures from a trip to Mexico were shown by Evelyn Ring and a trip to Egypt by the Dr. May family.

The SDBYF sponsored a "sing-out" consisting of skits and musical numbers, and also have held a cake and cookie sale.

Material on the World Federation of Seventh Day Baptists has been presented through slides and tapes sent from headquarters following the fellowship luncheon the second Sabbath of each month.

—Correspondent

ALGIERS, LA.— According to a letter from the Rev. Mary Craig Johnson, pastor, there are hopes for growth and extension in the New Orleans area. She requested fifty additional Sabbath Renewal Day bulletin covers for use on May 15. Meetings are now being held regularly in Harvey, La. It is hoped, says the pastor, that the group in Harvey can be organized into a Seventh Day Baptist church in the near future. It

would start as a branch of the Algiers church which is known as God's Light-house of Prayer Seventh Day Baptist Church.

HAMMOND - METAIRIE, LA.—These two churches have withdrawn for the present from the missionary pastor plan by which the Missionary Board adds to what the local church can do in support of a full-time pastor. Although this leaves the Rev. Earl DeLand without adequate support, he is continuing to serve as their pastor. He supplements his salary now by secular employment, giving only part time to pastoral duties.

Scattering Precious Seed

(Continued from page 8)

is God's will that we distribute tracts to a larger number than we can reach in a more personal way, we should be willing to do His will regardless of the number of responses. Just as the tree having put wings on its seeds and dropped them in the breeze sees some results, so we can see some fruit from our labor and can rejoice in it. If you and I carry a variety of gospel and Sabbath tracts at all times, we will have the right tract for the right person at the right time. Let us be faithful in scattering precious seed.

L. M. Maltby, Corr. Sec.

American Sabbath Tract Society

Obituaries

PALMER.— Herman J. son of William J. and Mary E. (Witter) Palmer was born in Brookfield, N. Y., Aug. 25, 1913, and died April 21, 1971, in his home in Brookfield.

Herman was a lifelong member of the Second Brookfield Seventh Day Baptist Church. Although handicapped by a crippling disease for a large part of his adult life, he had unyielding courage and fortitude to keep on working when most would have given up.

Surviving are his wife, Frances Langworthy Palmer; two sons, William F. and Clayton; two daughters, Mrs. Barbara Balcom and Mrs. Jeanette Westcott; two brothers, Francis W. and Kenneth M.; a sister, Mrs. Bessie Whitacre and seven grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by his pastor, the Rev. Neal D. Mills, from the church with the burial in the Brookfield Cemetery.

—N. D. M.

The Sabbath Recorder

Precious Prayer Promises

Plead These Promises as You Pray

"Produce your cause, saith the Lord; bring forth your strong reasons, said the King of Jacob" (Isaiah 41:21).

"Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not" (Jer. 33:3).

"And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart" (Jer. 29:13).

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all of these things shall be added unto you" (Matt. 6:33).

"Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you" (Matt. 7:7).

"Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them" (Mark 11:24).

"And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye ask anything in my name, I will do it" (John 14:13, 14).

"If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you" (John 15:5).

"Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full" (John 16:24).

"He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things" (Rom. 8:32).

"Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your request be made

known unto God, and the peace of God that passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:6, 7).

"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:19).

"But without faith it is impossible to please him; for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Heb. 11:6).

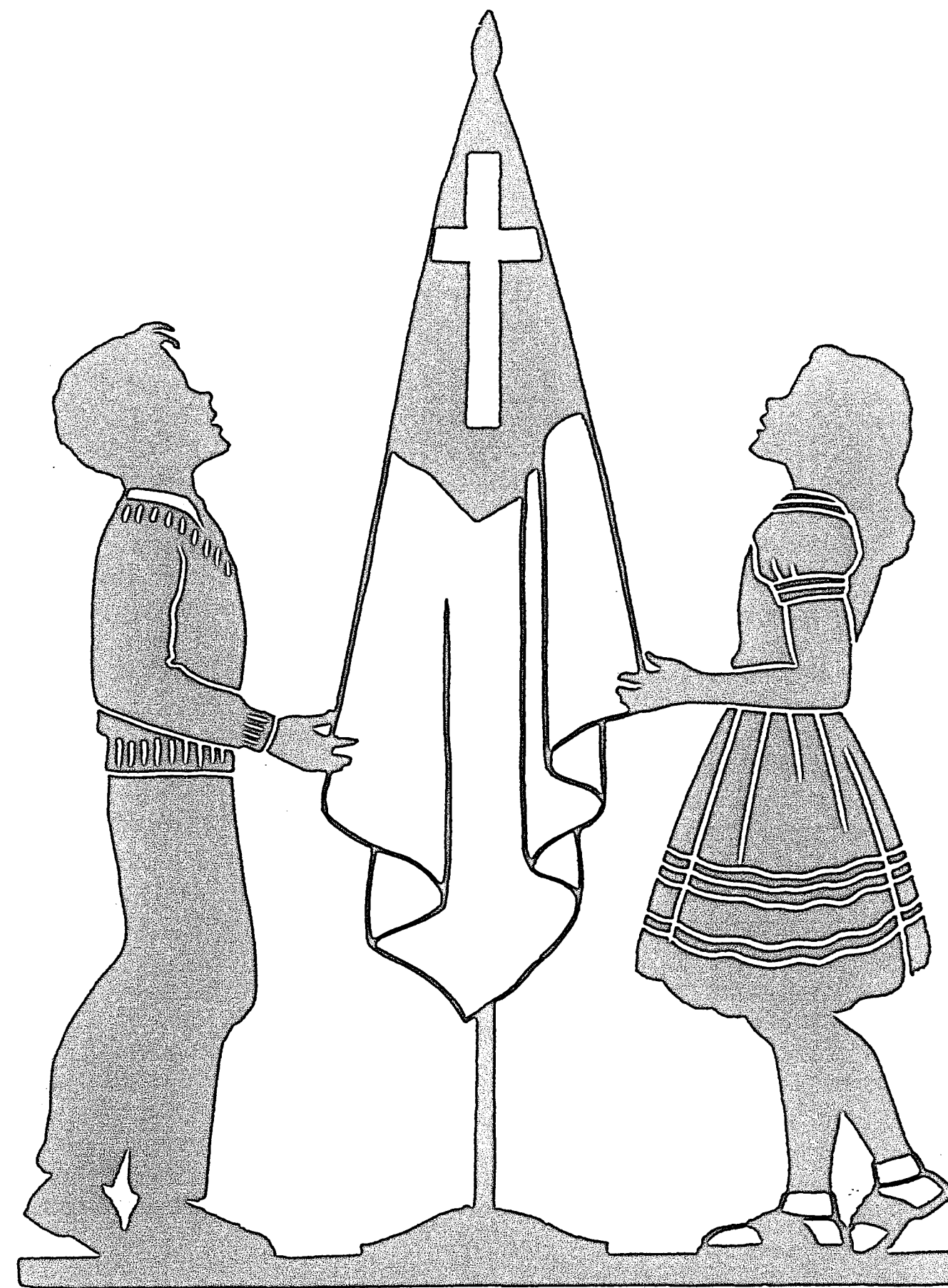
"Ye have not because ye ask not. Ye ask and receive not because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your own lust" (James 4:3, 4).

"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much—and he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain" (James 5:16, 18).

—Crusader Prayer League
Lubbock, Texas

Another Tract Reprinted

The popular Bible study Sabbath tract "Pro and Con" which has not been available in quantity for several months has now been reprinted — in a more attractive color than before. If you do not have a good supply on hand, now is a good time to order. This tract does a good job of comparing the Scriptures for and against the seventh-day Sabbath. It marshals the facts about the Sabbath and the first day of the week. All of the references used to substantiate Sunday are quoted. The reader is asked to apply Acts 17:11. Use this tract with those who want to study the Bible. It is brief and readable.



Learning To Honor the Christian Flag

This is the season of Vacation Bible Schools and camps where boys and girls learn to appreciate the Christian flag with its symbol of Christ dying for our sins.