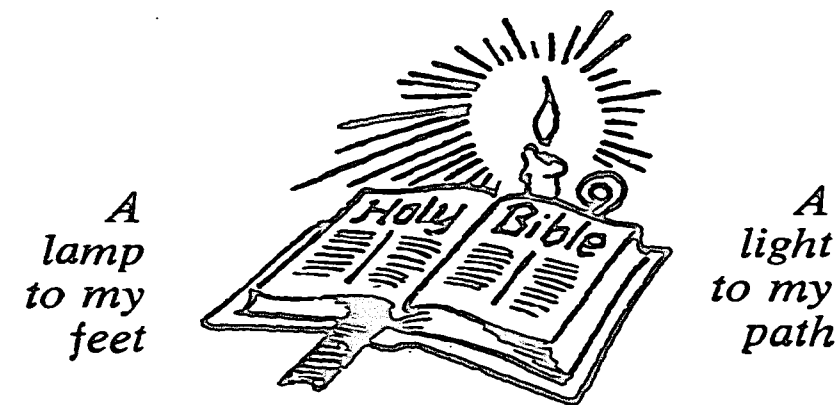


The Sabbath Recorder

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

For August 1971



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

The Family Finding Reconciliation

- 1—Sun. A Dishonest Plot Is Worked Out. Gen. 27:1-29
- 2—Mon. Divisive Results from Deceit. Gen. 27:41-45; Proverbs 12:12-22
- 3—Tues. Strength Through Knowing God's Presence. Gen. 28:10-22
- 4—Wed. Reconciliation Is Begun. Gen. 32:24-30
- 5—Thur. Taking the Initiative in Reconciliation. Gen. 33:1-11
- 6—Fri. The Healing Power of Love. 1 Cor. 13; John 14:23, 24
- 7—Sabbath. The Sabbath Keeps Us Humble Before Christ. Luke 14:1-14

Alcohol and the Family

- 8—Sun. Loyalty to a High Standard. Jer. 35:1-10, 18-19
- 9—Mon. A Father's Counsel. Proverbs 23:1-3, 15-25
- 10—Tues. "Glorify God in Your Body" 1 Cor. 6:1-20
- 11—Wed. "Be Filled with the Spirit" Eph. 5:5-20
- 12—Thur. Appeal for Righteous Living. Titus 2:1-14
- 13—Fri. Greatness Is a Stewardship. Luke 1:5-17; 12:42-48
- 14—Sabbath. The Sabbath Renews Enthusiasm. Luke 23:50 - 24:27

Alcohol and Society

- 15—Sun. Strong Men Stay Free. Daniel 1:1-16
- 16—Mon. Self-Indulgence Brings Woes. Isaiah 5:11-25

- 17—Tues. When Leaders Are Unfaithful. Isaiah 28:1-7; 14-20
- 18—Wed. Sensuality Brings Punishment. Amos 6
- 19—Thur. A Call to Love and True Order. Romans 13:1-14
- 20—Fri. The Sorrows of Alcoholism. Proverbs 23:29-35
- 21—Sabbath. Society Suffers from Sabbath Abuse. Amos 8:1-14

Alcohol and the Christian Community

- 22—Sun. Don't Be a Roadblock. Romans 14:13-23; Luke 17:1-4
- 23—Mon. Christian Sensitivity. 1 Cor. 8
- 24—Tues. The Law of Freedom for Love. 1 Cor. 10:23-11:1
- 25—Wed. Caring for Our Brothers. Gal. 5:16-6:10
- 26—Thur. Transformed Persons for Christ. Romans 12
- 27—Fri. Christ Draws a Sinner to God. John 8:1-11
- 28—Sabbath. God's Covenant Honestly Accepted. Isa. 58:1-14

Thinking About God

- 29—Sun. Thirst for God's Presence. Psa 42 and 62
- 30—Mon. The Need To Seek God. Psa. 53 and 14
- 31—Tues. God's Infinite Knowledge and Power. Psa. 139

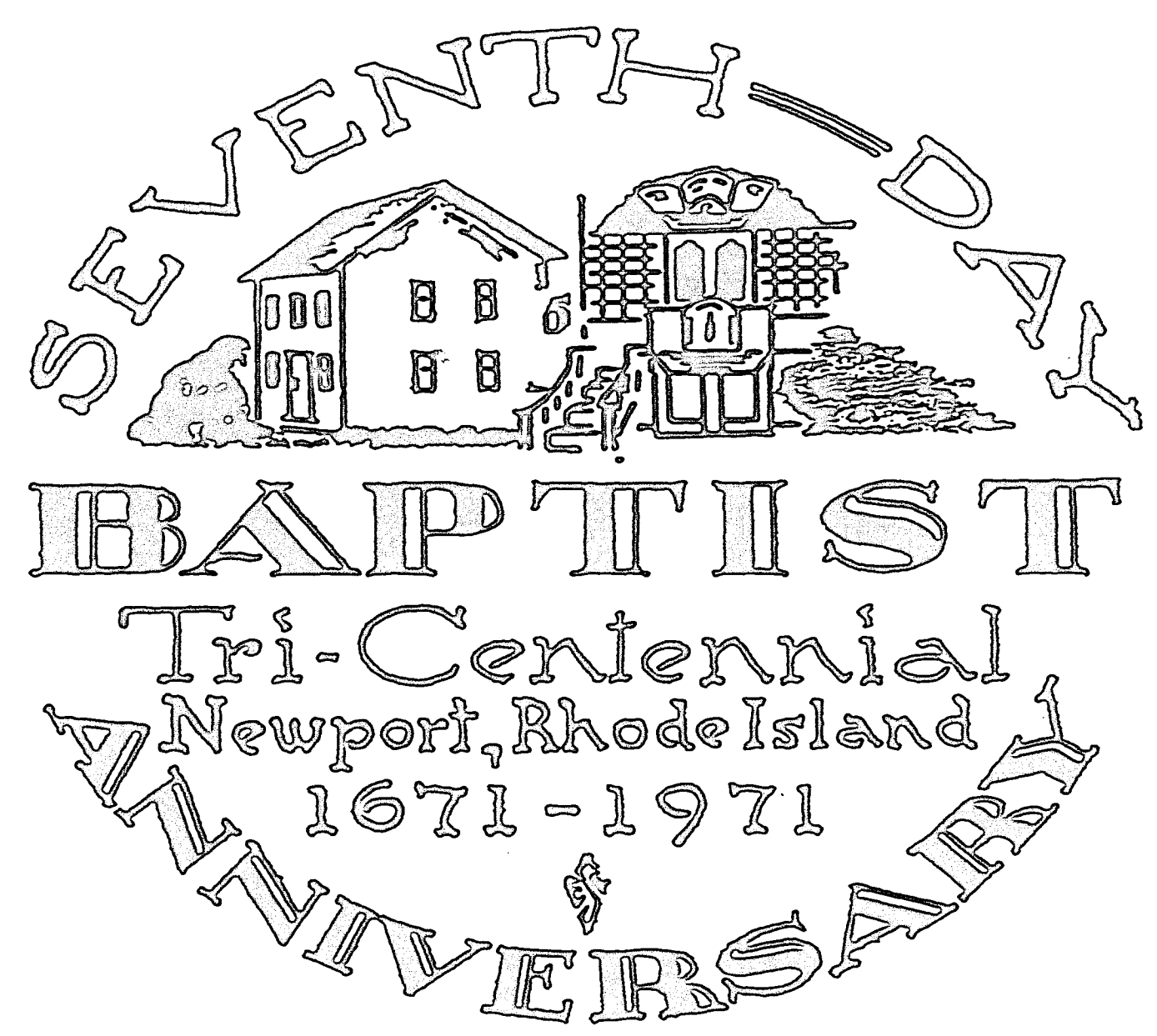
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 GENERAL CONFERENCE
 August 8-14, 1971
 University of Massachusetts
 Campus Center
 Amherst, Massachusetts**

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 (Under 12 — \$1.50)

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The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

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

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Terms of Subscription

Per Year \$5.00 Single Copies 15 cents

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

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

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

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

PLAINFIELD, N. J. August 7, 1971
Volume 191, No. 6 Whole No. 6,461

Editorials:

Events Come on Apace 2
How Much Energy? 3
Campus Ministry 4

Features:

SDBWF Delegates 5
News from Burma 5
My Own Philosophy of the Sabbath 8
Historical Association Honors Ashaway
Church 11
Kansas City VBS 11
Quarterly Tract Board Meeting 13
Richburg Church Ordains Deacons 14

Missions:

Plans for Evangelism Laid by "Key '73" 7

Women's Work:

The Family and I 10

Christian Education:

Educational Leaders — An Appeal 12
Board Assists in Audiovisual Evaluations 12
Marriages.— Obituaries 15
News from the Churches 15

Events Come on Apace

As we prepare material for the *Recorder* dated August 7 well in advance we are aware that events have to be telescoped together in our minds as well as on the pages of our denominational organ. Large scale preparations have already been made by many, especially those in the offices and Publishing House at Plainfield, preparations that have to do with Conference and the events that precede and follow the sessions. We cannot enumerate them all.

Correspondence has been flying to and from many countries around the world to find out just who was coming to the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation (SDBWF) and how. Money had to be sent and travel arrangements finalized. Local transportation and hosting details have hopefully been adequately planned in accordance with information supplied by the delegates.

Telephone and air mail service have been utilized by Dr. Thorngate, Conference president, to alert agencies and individuals as to their responsibilities on the program when Conference is convened at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst August 8-14. Publicity items have appeared regularly in this journal as well as letters of information and special bulletin covers to churches. There has also been a needed emphasis on the Conference offering sent to all members by the stewardship chairman, Paul Osborn.

Commission members made preparations for their important week-long meeting at Plainfield that was to begin almost a week earlier than usual, July 27.

The three major boards held meetings in July with a portion of their time devoted to how they would present their work in a graphic way to the assembled delegates at Amherst. Supplemental reports of their activities from January to June were prepared in mimeographed form for the information of the committees that would be appointed by the president of Conference.

Youth and young adults from churches far and near were making travel plans for the Pre-Con retreats that would be held August 4-8, concurrently with the SDBWF meetings.

Foreign-field speakers coming ahead of

time were preparing messages for the churches where they had been invited to speak. Others were looking forward to the leadership training period at Jersey Oaks Camp in South Jersey following Conference and to other speaking engagements.

The air of expectancy has been running high on the part of all who were hoping to participate in the Conference held 300 years after the organization of the first Seventh Day Baptist church in New England and in the meetings that cluster around this unusual gathering of people of like precious faith. Those who have been praying for the success of all these meetings and are not able to attend also share in the expectancy and will be waiting for the indications that the Lord has been guiding.

There will be another issue of the *Sabbath Recorder* dated August 14. Then after a gap of two weeks reports will be printed as space permits.

How Much Energy?

There are many ways of reminding ourselves that as American citizens we enjoy the good life as far as material things are concerned. One way is to note how much energy is produced and used in this country as compared with others.

With less than one-seventeenth of the world's population we use one-third of the world's energy. More noteworthy is the fact reported by F. N. Ikard, president, American Petroleum Institute, that the demand for energy is increasing four times as fast as population growth, or about five percent per year. That means that we are not satisfied with the energy we now have. We want more and more appliances and vehicles using more and more power to operate them.

Some people have to be concerned with how to supply this added energy and to make it available at times when there is the greatest demand. Some of our cities have had power shortages in hot weather, as many people know by experience. It is not our purpose to offer a solution to the power shortage or to scold our people for being part of the problem when they use more electrici-

AUGUST 7, 1971

MEMORY TEXT

"The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished" (2 Peter 2:9).

ty and petroleum products than they did a few years ago. There is, however, a possibility that we bargain for more than we can afford and have a tendency to cut off some of the power and time that ought to go into the Lord's work.

We might philosophize a little on this word energy. It is a good word having more than one meaning. If we didn't know the difference between human energy and other energy sources mentioned above, we might draw the conclusion that with one-third of the world's energy expended in our country we must be the most energized or energetic people in the world. To be sure, brain and brawn have been used in the past to find or produce so much energy. We have shown the desire, know-how, and physical capability needed to put us ahead of most other nations. But to say that our energy is increasing four times as fast as our population does not imply that we are working harder than before.

Most people are working less hours at easier tasks. As a matter of fact, one of our problems with youth is that they do not have proper outlet for their natural energy and are tempted to use it destructively rather than constructively. I'm afraid the rest of us show a tendency to decrease our energy and become lazy.

The tremendous increase in material energy available to all reminds us that we are not as tired and that we have much more time and energy that could be used for the Lord. Spiritual energy cannot be increased by the methods used to tap natural resources, but God can give us a great deal more of it than we have asked for. Will it be said of us that we are responding to our country's and the world's rapidly increasing need for energy — spiritual output? Some sacrifices of pleasures may be called for. Let's think about it.

COMING NEXT WEEK

1) A portion of the Conference program as worked out by President Thorngate will be included in the August 14 issue for the benefit of the majority of our readers — those who were unable to be present at Amherst, Mass. Readers can know what is going on from day to day.

2) A short sermon by Rev. Paul B. Osborn, president-elect of General Conference. It is one of our series of messages "If I Had Only One Sermon To Preach." The title: "How Do Sabbathkeepers Get to Heaven?"

3) Some reflections by the editor relative to our 300 years of history — a short article entitled "Growth Through the Years."

Campus Ministry

There were changes on the college campus this year, changes that made students more willing to listen to the Christian message. So say the leaders of Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship, who appear to be better able than others to evaluate the campus situation.

A year ago there was much violence and student radicalism in the universities of our nation. This year it was only sporadic. There may be several contributing causes for the significant change in student attitude, but IVCF writers agree that the heart has gone out of the radical movement.

The greater quiet on campus may be partly due to the concessions liberal universities have made to student demands. It is also due to a growing realization that real reform does not come through hate and violence. In either case the fire has run out of fuel or has been dampened down. The radical students may have run out of popular causes.

In any event, the attitude is described by Christian student workers as apathetic or despairing. Into this void the student with the gospel message can step. He has hope to offer. It gets a listening ear though willingness to talk and willingness to make a definite commitment of life

are discovered to be two different things.

The students who have despaired of being able to create meaningful changes in college and society have, in considerable measure, sought as an alternative the finding of "good experiences." Some have resorted to drugs, others to oriental religions or spiritism. Their failure to find the "good experiences" has made the Christian alternative more attractive. Here is where the happy experiences of Christian students and their willingness to testify have been effective. Christian young people have become bolder in their witness. Some have received training through IVCF and other campus ministries so they are better able to express their confidence in truth. It is insistence on absolute truth in the quagmire of relativism that makes these Christian youths able to season campus life and become the "salt of the earth" to which Christ called His disciples.

An article in *Involved* (IVCF) concludes: "The mood is quieter this year. Students are seeking personal experiences and understanding. The issues demanding action have not disappeared, however. In this undercurrent of tension, many Christian students are trying to serve Christ as king and to extend His Kingdom on campus."

An Affirmation of Faith

We rejoice that Christ was not conquered by the cross; that His life, death, and resurrection stand as assurance of God's love for us and as example of what life — lived in harmony with God — can be.

We cannot earn God's favor. Salvation is His gift to those who accept His son as Savior and Lord. But in response to the love He has shown toward us, we will strive to keep His commandments. It was Christ who said, "If you love me keep my commandments."

We would seek guidance from His Scriptures and His Spirit for every phase of our lives, that we might never be guilty of giving lip service only to our Master.

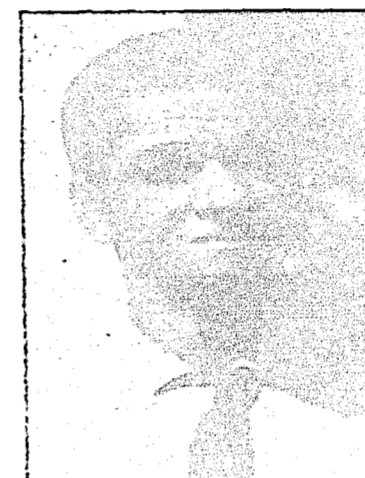
—Dodge Center Church Bulletin

SDBWF Delegates

The Seventh Day Baptist World Federation will be in session at the Pawcatuck church in Westerly as of the date of this issue. It will not be possible to publish any news of the meeting or pictures of the group until the first issue after Conference, which will be several weeks. Ten of the fifteen or more representatives from other countries have never before attended a Seventh Day Baptist meeting in this



Rev. Joseph A. Samuels
Jamaica



Rev. Vincent Smith
Jamaica



Rev. Simeon Lyons
Jamaica



Rev. Otrain Manani
Malawi, Africa



Rev. Antonio Barrera
Brazil, S. A.

country. We do not have suitable pictures of all but fortunately can present some of those whom our readers have met before through these pages.

Expected at the Federation meeting are: two Jamaicans from London and three from the Jamaica Conference; two from Guyana; two from the Netherlands; and one each from Brazil, Germany, India, and New Zealand. The overseas delegates will outnumber by far the United States delegates, which is as it should be for such a meeting.

News from Burma

One of the Conferences not represented at the first Seventh Day Baptist World Federation meeting at Westerly, R. I., August 4-8 is Burma, a Conference that has been active for a number of years although never having had the benefit of missionary personnel from the United States or any European country. The president of the Conference, Lian Ngura, was offered help on his expenses the same as others. He applied for a visa but was denied it. The Burmese authorities allow none to enter their country for religious work and severely restrict citizens from leaving for religious purposes. Mr. Ngura was told that he was working for government (hospital) and therefore could not leave.

A letter from L. Sawi Thanga, secretary of the Burma Conference, dated July 13 closes with the following paragraph:

"The first historic meeting of the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation and the 1971 sessions of your General Conference which are to be held next month at Westerly, R. I., and Amherst, Mass., respectively will be remembered by the Seventh Day Baptists for many years to come. We regret our inability to send a representative due to circumstances beyond our control. As you meet, our thoughts and prayers will be with you."

Letters from Mr. Ngura tell of evangelistic work carried on by some of the pastors in recent months. He himself had to be away from home on govern-

ment assignment from April 26 to May 28. His wife gave birth to a daughter, the fifth child, on the day he left.

Mr. Ngura's father (64) is one of the ordained pastors. His recent work (letter of June 6) is described by Mr. Ngura in these words:

"Now after making a crucial effort in Hmuntha, Khampat, and Kanaan villages he has proceeded to Zohmun village where we have no believers. There they still remain and I cannot tell you the detail of his work. He means to spread the good tidings up to Tamu Town about 200 miles back and forth from Tahan (the center of the church work)."

Another letter dated July 12 adds the following information about evangelistic work: "According to the last report from Rev. C. K. Thanga and Rev. Ro Kunga at the Kanaan village, twenty-nine households were converted into our Seventh Day Baptist belief and about thirty-two men and women were baptized in the name of our Lord . . . Within two days four young men were converted into our belief at the Zohmun village, about nine miles from Kanaan."

These villages are about seventy-five miles from Tahan. The only transportation is two buses on alternate days. There is need, according to the letter, for "an able person every day and night to feed them spiritual meat and help to resist the work of Satan against them."

The Burma Seventh Day Baptist Board Committee chaired by the Rev. C. K. Thanga held an emergency meeting at Tahan on June 24 at which they made a signed request for the support of another leader besides L. Sawi Thanga in these words: "Therefore the committee is praying most fervently that our Seventh Day Baptist church in America may please support the leading president (Lian Ngura) at \$70 (seventy dollars) per month as early as possible."

Mr. L. Sawi Thanga writes that he tries to make three trips per year from Rangoon to encourage the work in the Chin Hills (around Tahan). Quoting again:

"I have been planning a month-long trip but could not make it because of heavy rains. In this country raining season starts in June and ends in late

Our Prayer Corner

We would like to start off our Prayer Corner this week with a prayer quote from J. Raymond Knighton, head of Medical Assistance Program, whose organization does the impossible in meeting medical and surgical needs in mission countries. There isn't always enough money. He writes, "Somehow, even though we are on our knees much of the time, we manage to keep our heads above water." Maybe in our mission program we would do better at keeping our heads above water if we were more on our knees.

Suggestions for Prayer This Week Pray for:

- 1) The financial needs of the work in all the countries in the SDBWF.
- 2) A demonstration to our foreign friends at Conference that we care as much about their work as we expect them to.
- 3) A heightened sensitivity to the people we meet so that we can help each other with our deeper problems.
- 4) A feeling of unity between those who go to Conference for inspiration and those who must remain at home.

October. Also the technical class which I am attending from seven to nine every morning prevented me from leaving the city at this time. I will be free to travel when I complete the six-month course at the end of September. Passage money is also a problem."

Most of the Seventh Day Baptist work is in an area where the Lushai language is spoken—not one of the main languages of Burma. Mr. Thanga, located in Rangoon, can translate and publish literature in that language. He has done such work on a volunteer basis for some other Christian organizations. He is now writing a book on the life of Christ using some of the materials sent to him from his friends in this country.

It is good to have current news from Burma, especially since a representative could not come to SDBWF. The Burma Conference needs our prayers.

MISSIONS—Loon R. Lawton

Plans for Evangelism Laid by "Key '73"

By Mynor Soper
Home Field Evangelist

"Key '73" as an organization met in St. Louis, May 24 and 25, to lay further plans for implementing its purpose, which is to unite many denominations and Christian groups in an effort to saturate North America with the gospel of Jesus Christ in the year 1973.

As an organization we ratified the final draft of the bylaws; adopted a budget; heard reports and challenging messages and brainstormed in small groups and general sessions for ideas that would best dramatize to the world our unity in Christ so that we might more effectively share Christ. We also prayed together for the leading and inspiration of God's Holy Spirit as we seek to familiarize the Church of North America with "Key '73—the movement."

"Key '73" is a movement to help fulfill the Great Commission. "Key '73" is accepting the responsibility of this commission as far as North America is concerned. All Christians are invited to unite with "Key '73" for this concerted effort. (Approximately 75 organizations are currently participating and over 100 are expected.)

At the May 24 and 25 meeting of the "Key '73" Central Committee, seven major "events" were adopted to be carried out on a simultaneous, continent-wide basis. These events are to be a highly visible, over-arching canopy under which all participating denominations and groups can plan a variety of supportive programs.

Event one is actually to be a series of cooperative launching events utilizing mass media to call the nation and the church to repentance, commitment to, and prayer for a year of evangelism. This would take place during the first two weeks of 1973.

Event two is a continent-wide Bible study. Presentation of God's Word would be made through mass media plus encouraging local communities to set up Bible studies utilizing the block plan

and home studies, etc. The schedule for this is the first two weeks of February, 1973.

Event three is a massive interdenominational lay witnessing effort, coinciding with the Lenten season (1973), that will make the gospel come alive through action, teaching and demonstration. This will include the training of laymen for significant witness to Jesus Christ followed by a confrontation with the most difficult social issues for our time such as social justice, racism, war, poverty, hunger and materialism.

Event four is designed to identify with the youth by showing our oneness through music. This would call for new Christian music, hymn sings and popular musical productions at parks, beaches, shopping centers, etc. This focus on youth would be during the summer months of 1973.

Event five is to be a concentrated proclamation of the liberating good news to all elements of society utilizing such innovative evangelistic possibilities as art festivals, state fair ministries, campus programs, creative mass proclamations and fresh literature approaches. This event is scheduled for mid-September through November 1, 1973.

Event six calls for a simple, climactic dramatization of our Christian oneness and a witness to our concern for the needs of the world through a universal call to voluntary austerity as a fresh and more truly Christian celebration of Advent and Christmas.

Event seven deals more with resources, providing denominations and evangelistic associations with news letters, transcripts, evangelistic materials, and whatever may be shared. This is to be an on-going event through the year of 1973.

Seventh Day Baptists will have a part in formulating these events through our participation in the Central Committee and possible appointments to Event Committees.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for August 14, 1971

Alcohol and the Family

Lesson Scripture: Jeremiah 35:1-10, 18-19

My Own Philosophy of the Sabbath

Alan R. Crouch*

I will not go into the issue of the correctness of our Sabbath doctrine. I would rather devote this paper to a consideration of how we keep the Sabbath holy — what we actually do during Sabbath time.

I do not deny the importance of the doctrinal question: many Christians still have not learned, or fully appreciated, the Sabbath truth. We need to know why we observe the seventh day instead of the first, in order that we might be ready to explain our position, and might confidently make known our Sabbath convictions. But I am always disappointed to read an immaculate defense of the Sabbath doctrine that contains not a word about how to put it all into practice.

In the Spirit of James, who wrote "I by my works will show you my faith," I feel the need to demonstrate Sabbath faith by Sabbath works. I wish to discuss some specifics for Sabbath observance, realizing that this is still one step removed from actually putting these things into practice, but feeling such a discussion to be a step in the right direction. I could do this and still give some attention to the doctrinal side of the coin, but I have chosen to leave that out in order to emphasize my primary concern.

Suffice it to say that by a combination of upbringing and personal study, I am satisfied that both Scripture and history verify our belief that the seventh day is the Sabbath. I am confident that we Sabbathkeepers are standing on solid ground. But "don't just stand there, do something!" Let's try to create a Sabbath *experience*, and thereby activate our Sabbath doctrine.

I have borrowed material freely from the following sources:

* This paper, prepared as part fulfillment of the requirements of the Sabbath Philosophy course at the Ministerial Training Center contained Sabbath welcoming and ending services, which have been omitted here. Mr. Crouch has finished his degree work and is now serving his first church — DeRuyter, N. Y.

Sabbath; The Day of Delight, Abraham E. Millgram

The Sabbath, Abraham J. Heschel
The Sabbath Recorder, Nov. 4, 1968, a special issue edited by Elmo F. Randolph.

To a large degree I will be adapting elements of traditional Jewish Sabbath-keeping, centering, of course, on the Messiah who has already come.

Some Basic Considerations

On the Sabbath let us abstain from everyday work, and from concern about it. Set tasks aside in thought as well as in fact.

"We abstain from that labor which—though necessary for our survival the rest of the week—must be seen as subservient to that purpose for which it is worthwhile for us to survive" (—Rabbi Karl Weiner).

The six days of the week point toward the week's climax. "The struggles during the week are but preparation for the finer things of the Sabbath" (—Sefarim).

When our Sabbath experience is what it ought to be, we should find ourselves welcoming the Sabbath with great joy, and watching it depart with sorrow. While the Sabbath is with us, joy and cheer ought to pervade all of its activities.

Friday needs to be used as a day of preparation, for doing ahead of time as much work as possible that would otherwise have to be done on the Sabbath.

Perhaps we ought to deliberately take up again some everyday task after the Sabbath has departed (i. e., Saturday night), to truly mark out one day of rest, six of labor.

Make deliberate plans ahead of time as to how Sabbath time will be used. Looking ahead like this during the week adds to the anticipation of waiting for the Sabbath to come. When the sacred time does arrive, it can be more fulfilling-ly spent than if we just "find something to do" or "see how the spirit moves us." There should be conscious decision to make our rest purposeful.

Deliberately make the Sabbath special

by using Sabbath liturgy in family worship at home. To prevent a lively liturgy from becoming hollow ritual, vary it from time to time, remaining open to new ideas and new materials.

It's not only what we refrain from doing, but what we do, that gives the Sabbath its joy. "It's never enough to make our Sabbaths different by what we exclude from them. The more important differences in the day should come from what we bring to the Sabbath through . . . activities and participation" (—Elmo F. Randolph).

The watchword for Sabbathkeeping: seek physical relaxation and spiritual stimulation.

Jesus: The Sabbath was made for man's good.

Meals

On preparation day the mother should try to prepare ahead of time the Sabbath meals, as far as possible. This would reduce her work load on the Sabbath, that it might be a day of delight for her, too.

Have special food and drink, things not ordinarily eaten during the week, and use a special tablecloth for the Sabbath meals.

Activities

Keep Sabbath activities at the church to a minimum: Sabbath eve worship, Sabbath morning worship, Sabbath School, occasional fellowship meals, occasional special programs (Christmas program, series on social problems, church anniversary celebration, etc.). Do not have committee or business meetings; youth group meetings; choir practice (which should be part of Sabbath preparation). Youth fellowship meetings in particular are decisive to the family, keeping family members apart rather than together.

At church on Sabbath eve we could have a brief welcoming service at the start, regardless of what else is to follow. For many people who attend church on Sabbath eve, it is a Sabbath-welcoming experience, but why not make it explicit every week?

Perhaps the family could have a game-time Sabbath eve, after the Sabbath-welcoming service and attendance at church.

This is customarily done by many families on the night after the Sabbath, but that is when our six days of toil are to resume.

There are numerous activities for the Sabbath hours that are in keeping with the Sabbath spirit:

A children's hour (the actual length of time depending on the children's ages): storytelling, quiet playing, Bible-reading, or just talking things over. The point is to devote some time solely to the children. Also for the children, keep a special toy in reserve only for Sabbath play.

Scripture-reading: at least one-half hour of concentrated attention to God's Word. Reading some other good book in addition to the Bible would seem appropriate.

Go for a walk or hike, make an outing to a park, go for a ride, have a picnic, play light games. Go visiting: relatives, friends, the sick, someone you haven't seen in a while. Invite guests into your home. Write letters (friendly letters, not business). Have a family music hour: singing hymns and choruses, listening to good music.

Watching TV on the Sabbath need not be legalistically ruled out. However, since Sabbath time can be spent in more constructive and enjoyable ways, such activities should leave little or no time for TV. An occasional program — a moon landing, a White House wedding—could well take priority over other things on a particular Sabbath. But by and large the Sabbath will be a greater joy when we actively participate, rather than get our entertainment secondhand as passive spectators.

With regard to events which compete with Sabbath activities (cf. sports events on Sabbath eve), the deeper joys of Sabbathkeeping will simply have to be a stronger attraction. If Sabbath time is unplanned and uninspiring, no case can be made in defense of keeping the kids at home.

We should be willing to allow emergencies to take priority over other Sabbath plans — equipment failure, storm, fire—

(Continued on page 15)

The Family and I

Part III

By Victor Skaggs

From the smallest to the largest, from the youngest to the oldest, each of us holds the key to the lives of others. We open the doors they enter. These doors may lead to love and happiness, abiding joy and useful labor, or they may lead to unhappiness, loss of affection, irritation, sadness and uselessness. It's up to us!

But I serve my family best when I help bring Christ to our home. For He brings the virtues our family needs so much: faithfulness, loyalty, honesty, persistence, patience, humility, reverence, strength, and love. How do I help to bring Him there? It's very simple! I love Him. I hold Him in my mind. I keep Him in my heart.

I know we need Him in my home so that we may all have the joy spoken of in the Scriptures as the "joy of His salvation." I know we need Him in the home so that serving God and doing right will be easier for us all.

If only part of us know and love Him it is very difficult, for, at the best, we are torn in two ways. I know we need Him in the home so that we may live in peace and harmony. What a difference there is when both parents and all the children are lovers of Jesus Christ! For Christ, when we come to Him in faith, is the great Leveler.

I know we need Him in our home so that we may find our proper relation to other families and to the community and to the church and to the nation and to the world. I know we need Christ in our home.

Perhaps this parable printed in the May 1946 *Sunshine Magazine* will serve to point up what we have been talking about:

A Living Presence

"A young mother set her foot on the path of life. 'Is the way long?' she asked. And the Guide said, 'Yes, and the way is hard. And you will be old before you

reach the end of it. But the end will be better than the beginning.'

"But the young mother was happy, and she would not believe that anything could be better than these years. So she played with her children, and gathered flowers for them along the way. And the sun shone on them, and life was good, and the young mother cried, 'Nothing will ever be lovelier than this!'

"Then came night, and storm; and the path was dark, and the children shook with fear and cold. But the mother drew close to them, and covered them with her mantle, and the children said, 'We are not afraid, Mother, for you are near; and no harm can come to us.'

"And the mother said, 'This is better than the brightness of day, for I have taught my children courage.'

"And the morning came, and there was a hill ahead, and the children climbed and grew weary, and the mother was weary. But at last she said to the children, 'A little patience, and we are there.'

"So the children climbed, and when they reached the top, they said, 'We could not have done this without you, Mother.'

"And that night the mother looked up at the stars, and said, 'This is a better day than the last, for my children have learned fortitude in the face of hardship. Yesterday I gave them courage; today I gave them strength.'

"And the next day, came strange clouds which darkened the earth—clouds of war and hate and evil, and the children groped and stumbled. The mother said, 'Lock up; lift your eyes to the light.'

"And the children looked, and saw above the clouds an Everlasting Light, and it guided them, and brought them beyond the darkness.

"And that night the mother said, 'This is the best day of all, for I have shown my children God.'

"And the days went on, and the weeks, and the months, and the years, and the mother grew aged, and she was little and bent. But the children were tall and strong, and walked with courage. And when the way was hard, they lifted her over the rough places. At last they came to a hill, and beyond the hill they could

see a shining road and golden gates and they were flung wide.

"And the mother said, 'I have reached the end of my journey. And now I know that the end is better than the beginning, for my children can walk alone, and their children after them.'

"And the children said, 'You will always walk with us, Mother!'

"And they stood and watched her walk through the golden gates, and the gates closed after her. And they said, 'We cannot now see our mother, but she is with us still—she is a living presence.'"

Each person is an "I" in the family. Each person is an ego. Each person is an individual. Each person has a part to play—a responsibility—in family life. Children, youth, adults, parents, grandparents—each one is an "I" in the family. Each one is responsible to the family. Each one is responsible to God for the lives which are entrusted to His care.

Historical Association Honors Ashaway Church

A plaque in recognition of the long history of the First Hopkinton Seventh Day Baptist Church in Ashaway will be presented to the church by the Old Buildings Committee of the Hopkinton Historical Association, Nathan G. Kaye, chairman, has announced.

The plaque will be presented to the Rev. Edgar Wheeler, pastor of the church, during the 300th annual meeting of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference Aug. 8 through Aug. 14 at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.

The oldest known religious organization in Hopkinton, the First Hopkinton church was founded in 1708.

The original church building stood on the northeasterly side of the Pawcatuck River on the site now occupied by the First Hopkinton Cemetery. A stone monument reviewing the history of the church stands nearby.

The church site was later changed to its present location in Ashaway.

Many of the founders of the Town of

Hopkinton were members of the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Hopkinton, Kaye said. Among them were the Lewis, Maxson and Clarke families.

In 1757 when the Rhode Island General Assembly voted approval of the incorporation of Hopkinton, the elder John Maxson was appointed to call the free men to the first town meeting which was held in the home of Joshua Clarke of Tomaquag.

—A. N. Rogers

Kansas City VBS

A simulated Vacation Bible School interview in front of the Seventh Day Baptist parsonage at Kansas City

Q.—Is this the place where Vacation Bible School was held?

A.—Yes, we had the largest and longest school ever held here. We started with 39 and ended after two weeks with an enrollment of 94 and an average of better than 65.

Q.—Where could you get teachers for a school when, I am told, you only have an average of 23 in church attendance?

A.—Eight teachers and assistants came from our group and, after an appeal was made to North Loup, Nebr., three high school girls came from there. Of course, seven out of the eleven were young but they were very good helpers.

Q.—Where did you put your classes in this small building?

A.—The nursery class met in the auditorium which also served for the opening and closing assemblies. The kindergarten met in a room 15 feet square. Twenty primary children were crowded into the parsonage living room.

Q.—That just about uses up the rooms you have. Where was your junior class?

A.—We have a shed 35 by 15 feet. We divided this in half using one part for classroom and the other for crafts used in rotation by classes.

Q.—It looks like you did the impossible.

A.—If we are willing to work, God will make all things possible.

Educational Leaders — An Appeal

The annual publishing of the *Seventh Day Baptist Yearbook* involves the securing of statistics from hard-working Christian leaders, many of them on a purely volunteer basis. We salute the valiant achievements of all Christian volunteers. Your "other vocation" of leading in Christian maturity for yourself and others is highly appreciated by many persons—most of all, by God Himself. May God continue to renew your energies for the service you give in Christ's name.

We appeal to Sabbath School superintendents, camp leaders, vacation church school leaders and pastors to assist us in compiling a statistical study that will accurately put into the 1971 *S. D. B. Yearbook* the persons and groups which are involved in S. D. B. Christian education. Please fill out and return the statistical forms as soon as possible when they come to you from the Board of Christian Education. And thanks!

Board Assists

in Audiovisual Evaluations

The editor of the *Audio Visual Resource Guide* requested assistance from the people of the Alfred area after informally conversing this past spring with the executive secretary of the Board of Christian Education. Because a large number of new films of all sorts have been produced which the Audio Visual Resource Guide wishes to include in its ninth edition this next winter, an overload of review assignments had developed.

There are about fifty interdenominational evaluation groups spread across the United States which have evaluated films and records, etc., for the past fifteen years or so. Two groups are needed for each film in order to give opportunity for independent reactions to develop. Each group observes the resource material and records both individual and group reactions to the content and quality according to an established pattern of evaluation.

Our board was asked to review six

films during the last half of July. The executive secretary invited representatives of several local churches, audiovisual specialists, and board members to meet for three separate evaluation sessions of two hours each.

The written evaluations will be sent to the National Council of Churches Department of Educational Development which edits the "AVRG," as it is commonly known. Our evaluations will be matched with reactions of one other group. The editors of the AVRG will then prepare a synopsis, availability statement, evaluation and classification. This will appear in the alphabetical listing of audiovisuals. A title listing will also be printed in the subject indices which the local groups felt would be most helpful for users to discover resources to achieve their purposes in Christian education, worship or discussion.

The subject index provides a constructive perspective from which to view the world's needs, and is recommended for Christian educators in efforts to identify points of contact for Christian teaching.

Dealers and producers are listed in the AVRG and include commercial, denominational, foundations, etc. Over 125 producers of films are happy to provide viewing copies of their materials to two NCCC groups in order to be included in the AVRG listings. This resource stands as a key tool but is supplemented by listings which schools, service clubs, foundations or educational departments of many corporations provide. Winter publication date for the ninth edition will be announced soon.

The service which our board is rendering is considered valuable experience for those who join the evaluation sessions, as well as helpful to the important ecumenical effort of the Department of Educational Development.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for August 21, 1971

Alcohol and Society

Lesson Scripture: Amos 6:1-8

Quarterly Tract Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees of the American Sabbath Tract Society covers many areas of service to the denomination as was evident when the committees reported on plans and projects at the quarterly meeting held in the Marlboro, N. J., Seventh Day Baptist Church, July 18. Attendance this time was about equally divided between Plainfield and South Jersey members, with some absent because of involvement with camp and other projects.

The corresponding secretary reported heavier than usual correspondence of various kinds. He spoke of new contacts and developing interests at home and abroad, noting that many who write in desire a discussion of Scriptural doctrines and a little more information on some points than is available from our short tracts. The number of inquiries during the quarter was good, but there were not many large quantity orders from churches for tracts.

The Publications Committee reported the production and partial distribution of a large quantity of Tri-Centennial post-cards selling at five cents each. A youth song book in mimeographed form was produced. The demand within a few weeks was so strong that a second edition had to be run — which also was disappearing rapidly. Another edition of the *Sabbath Manual for Youth*, a workbook, was also produced quickly to meet a request. The reprinting of two tracts in English and one in Spanish was ordered. Some consideration was given to helping Filipino leaders with publication of our literature in their languages. A new directory of churches in booklet form was authorized and is expected to be distributed at Conference.

The Sabbath Promotion Committee at a recent meeting reviewed the good response to the materials sent out for Sabbath Renewal Day. The committee had authorized help in advertising and fair booth rental. The board heard a recommendation for a special Sabbaths-in-red calendar for 1972 that had grown out of art work submitted to the committee, but

felt that the time was too short for this year.

Much of the time of the board meeting was devoted to the service that could be rendered to Conference by way of program, photography, sound and recording system, and personnel largely through the Audio and Visual Services Committee. Ethel Wheeler was named photography coordinator to work with Arthur Brayman, official photographer. Calvin Babcock of Little Rock, Ark., and Frederick Ayars of Lansdale, Pa., are again engaged to operate the increasingly efficient sound and recording equipment provided by the board. Continuing progress was noted on the construction of a recording studio in the Seventh Day Baptist Building. Authorization was given for beginning a cassette tape ministry to our churches with the initial emphasis on youth materials.

Publishing House matters under the Supervisory Committee came to the attention of the board. Work is coming out on time and with increasing efficiency, although production costs of necessity are increasing. It was reported that metal had been salvaged from commercial work done in years past in an effort to provide more space in the basement for denominational use. The board has engaged in long-range planning and has sought information on the costs and advisability of an eventual change in the printing process, but no recommendations as to change were made.

Old Soldiers

A superannated General of the Armies some years ago coined the phrase, "Old soldiers do not die, they just fade away." How about old doctors? According to a suggestion published by a Christian doctors organization, MAP (Medical Assistance Programs), Box 50, Wheaton, Ill., old doctors need not just die or fade away; they can do something to perpetuate their good work. The suggestion is that they will their instruments to this missionary organization for use by doctors on foreign fields. They are also encouraged to remember MAP in the financial terms of their wills. Many are doing this.

Richburg Church Ordains Deacons and Deaconesses

By C. Harmon Dickinson

The day of the ordination service for new deacons and deaconesses was a red letter day for the Richburg Seventh Day Baptist Church. The date was April 24. Not since May 18, 1929, had the church had another service like this. At that time two deacons, Jesse Burdick and Hal Drake, and two deaconesses, Mrs. Jesse (Victoria) Burdick and Mrs. Floyd (Blanche) Clarke, were ordained. A fortieth anniversary service honoring them was held July 5, 1969. Since then Mr. Drake and Mrs. Burdick were called to their eternal home with the Father.

The church felt a need for additional deacons and/or deaconesses to assist those in office. At the annual business meeting of the church last October, it was voted to call worthy persons to the office. The diaconate was asked to receive nominations and to ask those with the most votes to consider a call from the church to serve as deacons or deaconesses.

At a special meeting held February 20, 1971, Mrs. Floyd Clarke presented the names of Mrs. Francis (Ruth) Bucher, Miss Onnalee Saunders, Wesley McCrea, and Robert Stohr. They were approved by the church with no dissenting votes.

The service of ordination was set for April 24, with invitations being sent to the churches of Allegheny Association to name delegates. In the morning of that day, Pastor C. Harmon Dickinson presented the ordination sermon. In the afternoon, delegates were present from the seven churches of the association, and most of the seats were taken. Maurice McCrea conducted the meeting, and Mrs. Don (Thelma) Stearns acted as secretary. The action of the church in calling deacons and deaconesses was read. Delegates were recognized. Pastor Harold King of Little Genesee and Hebron read the Scripture. Pastor Floyd Aldrich of Independence offered prayer.

Statements of Christian faith and experience were given by the ordinands. Each showed a depth of personal faith, a loyalty to Christ and the Church, and a

heartfelt desire to serve the church humbly and well.

Mrs. Leland (Margaret) Burdick sang, "God Is Ever Beside Me," accompanied by the organist of the afternoon, Mrs. Harry (Nina) Wilson, both from the Little Genesee church. The Rev. David Clarke of the Alfred church gave the charge to the candidates, and Pastor Edward Sutton of Alfred Station gave the charge to the church. Pastor Dickinson called all the deacons and deaconesses and ministers present to the front of the church for the prayer of consecration and the laying on of hands. A welcome to the deacons and deaconesses newly ordained was extended by the Rev. Hurley S. Warren of the Alfred church.

Deacon Mark Sanford, lay minister at Little Genesee, who had pronounced the benediction at the Richburg ordination service forty-two years before, gave the benediction. Everyone left the service deeply moved by the Spirit of God.

Thank God for the Firefly

God made the little firefly that adults marvel at and children take for granted and delight to take captive.

For countless centuries the firefly has turned on its amazingly bright light. Man has produced other kinds of light that has served some of his purposes well but not all. At last man has caught up with another aspect of God's creation and has a light patterned after that of the firefly.

Chemical light wants which harness the type of cold light produced by the firefly are being marked for industrial and mining safety use.

This fall will mark their consumer debut. Called Cyalume Chemical Light, the new system produces a yellow-green light which requires no oxygen or batteries and is bright enough for reading. The light can be seen for long distances and each one lasts more than three hours.

Packaged as clear plastic cylinders weighing less than one ounce, the wands contain two liquids separated by a glass vial. When the cylinder is bent slightly by the finders, the vial inside breaks, allowing the liquid to mix. The result is instant light.

My Own Philosophy . . .

(Continued from page 9)

any disaster or accident which puts people in a crisis situation. "It is lawful to do good on the Sabbath" (—Jesus).

Miscellaneous

Greet one another on the Sabbath with Sabbath greetings: "Good Sabbath," "Sabbath peace," etc.

Wear better clothes for Sabbath eve; keep your "Sabbath best" on throughout Sabbath day (unless the nature of your activities makes this unwise).

My emphasis upon doing things together as a family on the Sabbath is not intended to leave out single people or others who do not have an immediate family. Perhaps such persons could spend at least part of the Sabbath in the home of Sabbathkeeping friends. Or they could have friends in their home and adapt the liturgy and activities to suit the circumstances.

In a familiar vein I would note that lone-Sabbathkeepers, who are unable to meet with a church, and in some cases unable to join together with any other Sabbathkeepers, are often among the most creative and inspired users of Sabbath time. They turn their adversity into a blessing by deliberately seeking a true Sabbath experience.

*** Have a Happy Sabbath! ***

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

SEATTLE AREA.— Four Bible clubs continued their meetings in different locations up to Friday, July 23. The fourth club, recently started, added to the total of fifty children who had been enrolled in the first three clubs. Several children indicated that they had asked Jesus Christ into their lives as Savior and Lord.

Pacific Firs Camp, the first in the Northwest, began July 26 for boys and girls up to junior high age with the pastor, Duane Davis, as director. Teachers and counselors were Peter Morris (summer assistant), Ray and Kathy Boatman, Dave and Dixie Inabit.

The church service on July 31 was held at Camp McCullough in Kent, Wash., instead of the usual meeting place in

Des Moines. Adults were invited to use the camp for the weekend.

Pastor Davis planned to fly to Massachusetts on August 3 to be the Bible teacher at Youth Pre-Con beginning the next day at Amherst.

—Church Bulletin

SALEMVILLE, PA.— *The Morrison's Cove Herald* of July 8 carried a picture of student pastor Melvin F. Stephan and a story of the beginning of his ministry at Salemville. He and his family moved into the parsonage June 28 and he preached his first sermon July 3. The article gives a little story of his life, his education and military experience. He has completed one year of training at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D. C., where he will continue his studies in the fall while maintaining his family at the parsonage and continuing to serve the church.

Marriages

Snyder - Winseck.— Paul Lewis Snyder, son of Mr. and Mrs. Steven D. Snyder of Coudersport, Pa., and Catherine Jo Winseck, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carroll M. Winseck of Roulette, Pa., were united in marriage in front of the First Hebron Seventh Day Baptist Church, June 26, 1971, with the Rev. T. Lee Bennett officiating, assisted by Pastor Harold D. King.

Obituaries

IVES.— George W., son of James White Ives and Elizabeth Linden Ives was born Feb. 5, 1886 in Providence, R. I., and died in Plainfield, N. J., March 14, 1971.

Mr. Ives lived in Rhode Island during his early life, leaving the home of Deacon James Saunders in Westerly to live in the home of the Rev. E. A. Witter in Salem, W. Va. He attended Salem College, and became a member of the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church, of which he was a member until his death. He transferred to Milton College where he received his degree in languages and science in 1913. Mr. Ives was a Linotypist at the S.D.B. Building for a time. He later transferred to Little and Ives Book Publishers in New York City. He was active in the Plainfield church for many years.

He is survived by a half-sister, Mrs. Merrill Walker of Newport, R. I., and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at Plainfield with the Rev. Herbert E. Saunders officiating. Interment was at St. Mary's Cemetery, Portsmouth, R. I.

—H. E. S.

The Sabbath Recorder

Best Drug Cure Is Christ

Addiction to drugs has become so widespread as to cause great concern to the better elements of society. While the main endeavor is to give such instruction to the young as will keep them from starting the use of addictive drugs, attention must also be given to the cure of those who have been caught in drug habits. What type of cure has been found most effective?

The founder of Teen Challenge, the Rev. David Wilkerson, declared, "There is no other drug addiction program in the nation that can approach the success of this program. I say this in all humbleness, for we who work with the fellows and girls never take the credit—that belongs to God for He effects the total cure. We merely have made ourselves available to be instruments God can use in giving hope to the hopeless. We're here today to say thanks to Jesus for the miracles he has wrought in the lives of so many."

The roll call of alumni revealed that the former addicts are now pastors, church and social workers, state narcotics workers, college and Bible school students, roofers, printers, etc. A number of alumni are working with drug addicts in Teen Challenge centers across the country.

Portuguese Missions

One of the most interesting examples of missionary work is the sending of missionaries from Brazil to Portugal. Years ago Portugal colonized Brazil replacing the Indian dialects with Portuguese much as English became the language of our country. Traditionally Brazil has been a Catholic country with priests originally

Which Disturbs You Most?

A soul that may be lost in hell, or a scratch on your new car?

Missing a worship service, or missing a day's work?

A sermon ten minutes too long, or a lunch an hour too late?

The church not growing, or your garden and flowers not growing?

Your Bible unopened, or your newspaper unread?

Your offering decreasing, or your income decreasing?

Your children late for Bible school, or late for public school?

Church work neglected, or housework neglected?

Missing a Bible lesson, or missing your favorite TV program?

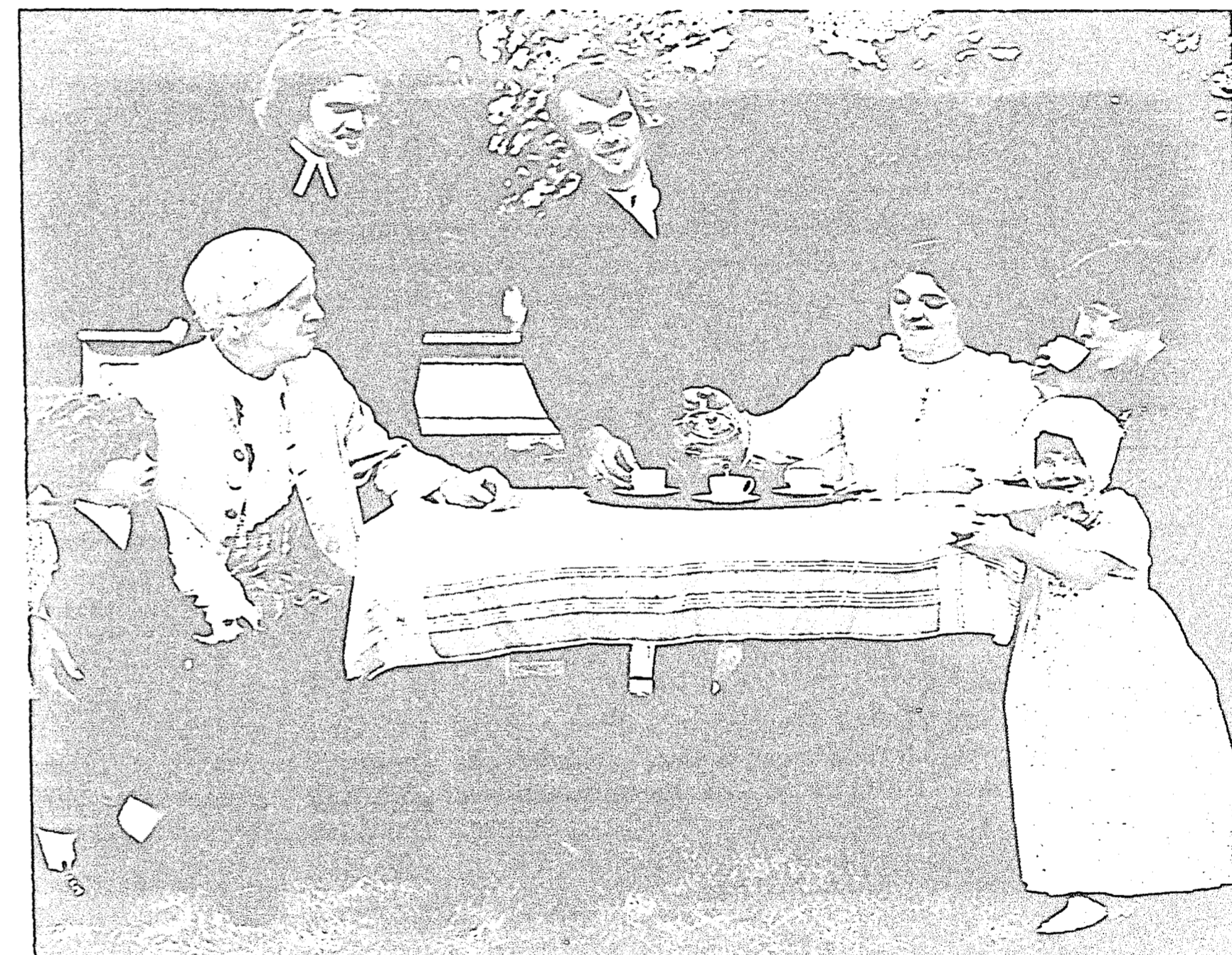
Low attendance at the worship service, or low attendance at a party you have planned?

By noticing what disturbs us most, we perhaps can understand why we do or do not take a big interest in the church.

—The Leader

being sent by the mother country.

This year Brazilian Baptists appointed Miss Lucy Gonclaves Guimaraes to teach in the Portuguese Baptist Theological Seminary. This is coming full circle. Portugal needs missionaries, and who could more naturally serve there than properly trained Brazilians whose native language is Portuguese. As a matter of fact, this is no new thing; Portugal has been a mission field of Brazilian Baptists (on a small scale) since 1908. Earnest new Christians use their language to serve the Lord.



Freedom for Faith

(Sun Photo)

The historical play, "Freedom for Faith," presented by a Summer Christian Service Corps team under the direction of the Rev. A. N. Rogers, president of the Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society, and pictured here in a churchyard setting at Ashaway, R. I., is a part of the Conference program when a pilgrimage is made to the meeting house at Newport, R. I., the Seventh Day Baptist church organized 300 years ago.

The players (above from left) are Ernest Wheeler of Ashaway; Rev. A. N. Rogers of Plainfield, N. J.; Tom Pederson of Milton, Wis.; Dale Harris of Euless, Tex.; Ruth Burdick of DeRuyter, N. Y.; Martha Welch of Berea, W. Va.; and Esther Wheeler of Ashaway. Ernest and Esther Wheeler are the children of the Rev. and Mrs. Edgar F. Wheeler.