

**The Sabbath Recorder**  
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March 25, 1972

# The Sabbath Recorder

## *Know the Truth*

Do you know how Seventh Day Baptists compare  
with Seventh-day Adventists?

You can know if you study the tract,

## SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS and SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS COMPARED

This tract is authenticated by leaders of both denominations. It is published by the American Sabbath Tract Society. Inform your friends and your community with confidence by sharing it with them. People want to know.

### Learn — Then Share

Get your supply, without charge, from the  
American Sabbath Tract Society, Box 868,  
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### The Law as a Straight Edge

No one can find salvation by the Ten Commandments, for the better one understands the meaning of the Ten Commandments the more clearly he sees that he has fallen short of the righteousness demanded by them. He sees his efforts as insufficient. Thus the law drives him to seek salvation by grace rather than "by the deeds of the law."

Leighton Ford has commented on Romans 3:30: "Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in

his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin." Evangelist Ford puts it this way, "The Commandments are the straight edge to show where we're crooked."

Although it is true that the law does not save, it is equally true that without the law no one is aware that he needs to be saved. That is the first reason for the giving of the law. The second reason is to provide a standard with which the Christian compares his life and, with the help of Christ, keeps it straight. Every Christian knows his continuing need of that divinely-given straight edge.



"And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he steadfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem" (Luke 9:51).

There is a green hill far away,  
Outside a city wall,  
Where the dear Lord was crucified,  
Who died to save us all.

# The Sabbath Recorder

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Member of the Associated Church Press

REV. LEON M. MALTBY, Editor

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## Give All You Can

When we were in theological semi-  
nary years ago we were instructed  
in the construction of sermons in the  
good old Presbyterian form. Maybe it  
would have been the same in a  
Methodist seminary, for John Wesley  
held that a sermon should have three  
main points so that it could be easily  
remembered.

Wesley is said to have once delivered  
a three-point sermon, the first two points  
of which were, "Get all you can" and  
"Keep all you can." To these thoughts  
everyone could say, "Amen." But when  
he came to the third point, "Give all  
you can," there was at least one man  
who remarked, "What a shame to spoil  
a good sermon!"

What is our attitude toward the shep-  
herds of the flock when they urge us to  
give all we can? Do we resent it or do  
we begin to glow inside at the prospect of  
giving more than we thought we could?  
Our reaction ought to tell us something  
about ourselves. We can get by with  
giving a lot less if we give primarily for  
show. It is not hard to exceed the average  
church-goer and make our giving look  
good. I expect we all have a tendency to  
seek human credit for our benevolences  
and our missionary contributions.

It is not wrong to keep accurate rec-  
ords. The Bible calls on us to tithe—  
which involves a little figuring—and to  
give as the Lord has prospered us. That,  
too, involves a little mental arithmetic.  
In this day of income tax records it is  
for the good of God's Kingdom that we  
keep sufficient records so that the U. S.  
treasury does not take money that could,  
in accordance with tax provisions, be  
posited in the Lord's treasury.

When we do not give ostentiously or  
for the record, but out of love for the  
Lord's work, we are happy to be re-  
minded of new and greater needs. Our  
only twinges of pain come when we  
want to give more, but really cannot.  
Most of us however, are not as close to  
the point of inability to give as we at  
first may think. We might be happier  
with a little lower standard of living or a  
little less savings laid by for the pro-  
verbial rainy day. It is a joy to "give all  
you can."

## China's Freedom To Believe

More news is filtered back by radio,  
television, and periodicals from the cor-  
respondents who accompanied President  
Nixon on the trip to China. Bits of in-  
formation from other sources are being  
fitted together by Christian writers as  
to the probable situation of the under-  
ground and the visible church in that  
Communist land of some 850 million  
souls.

Forrest J. Boyd, a White House cor-  
respondent, prepared for *Christianity To-  
day* an interview with a young Catholic  
priest in a Catholic Church in Peking.

This is an indication that at least one  
church is open in that capital city. The  
priest affirmed that there were also some  
Protestant churches open but was unable  
or unwilling to be specific. We are told  
by other correspondents who appeared on  
television recently that whenever they  
tried to mention religion, they drew a  
blank; nobody wanted to comment on  
the situation — which might imply that  
they were conscious of the repression of  
the Church and perhaps agreed with it.

Another article appearing in the March  
17 issue of *Christianity Today* is entitled,  
"Chinese Evangelism: Checking It Out."  
The information is based largely on a  
listening post in Hong Kong. Moses  
Chow, head of a Washington-based or-  
ganization "Ambassadors for Christ,"  
whose purpose is to evangelize the 25  
million Chinese outside China, tells of a  
recent meeting he had with a Chinese  
Communist official in this country. The  
Communist insisted that his nation al-  
lowed religious freedom — "freedom to  
believe, freedom not to believe." Evange-  
lism, he conceded, is thus disallowed.

It is to be noted that there is a differ-  
ence in Chinese thinking between free-  
dom of religion and freedom of belief.  
Their constitution gives them the right  
to believe as they wish but not the right  
to express their religion. As can be  
seen in the above quotation, they seem  
to put more emphasis on the freedom  
not to believe. No persuasion can be  
permitted. We look at freedom different-  
ly, contending that there is no true free-  
dom unless there are valid choices pre-

sented. China does not allow "equal time"  
after the Communists have presented  
their atheistic views.

## Balanced Giving

In one of our oldest and, incidentally,  
best attended churches the Sabbath bul-  
letin carried these figures for the pre-  
vious week showing what was received  
as compared with the budgeted needs:

	Given	Needed
Local church	\$388.40	\$393
Church Building Fund	199.75	192
Our World Mission	171.00	170

A glance at bulletins since January 1  
showed that although receipts and needs  
were not always as closely balanced they  
averaged out pretty much the same. As  
a matter of fact, contributions to Our  
World Mission for ten weeks came to  
exactly the amount aimed for — \$170  
per week. The local church budget re-  
ceived \$410 per week as against an aver-  
age need of \$393. The Building Fund  
(paying for construction already com-  
pleted) was only a little below the stated  
need.

What does such a constant level of  
giving say to us? It seems to indicate  
that giving is more consistent and more  
steady in this church than in many others.  
It seems to be closely related to weekly  
or monthly income. It says also that  
interest in the things of the Lord is not  
falling off.

The church has a comparable amount  
of sickness to other churches. Some of its  
faithful members spend the winter in  
Florida, but the church people and pro-  
gram do not go into hibernation during  
the winter months.

The moral of this story — if not al-  
ready apparent — is that more churches  
could have a record like this one. Love  
for the Lord results in faithfulness to the  
local church and the denominational  
work. Such faithfulness is expected of  
me. It should spread from me to others.  
Our giving is ordinarily a pretty good  
test of the strength and steadiness of  
our love.

—Editor

MARCH 25, 1972

## Planning Committee

### Urges Reconciliation Thrust

As members of the Planning Committee joined in a week of intensive sessions recently at Plainfield, N. J., the usual procedure of reviewing, coordinating and projecting board and agency programs led to concerted agreement that especially through 1975 Seventh Day Baptists should be urged to stress ministries of reconciliation.

The Commission as the policy making body for the United States Conference had been meeting in the same Board Room at the denominational headquarters the previous week, February 20-26. The two bodies (CPC) met together on Sunday, February 27, to consider matters of mutual concern and items that Conference had referred to both for joint study. The Planning Committee (PC) continuing February 26 to March 3, was confronted with some thirty items on its agenda.

### Personnel Included Consultants

Planning Committee members included the Rev. David S. Clarke, as executive secretary of the Board of Christian Education, Rev. Leon R. Lawton, as executive vice-president of the Missionary Society, Rev. Leon M. Maltby, as corresponding secretary of the American Sabbath Tract Society, Mrs. Gary Cox, as a representative of the Women's Board, Rev. Paul B. Osborn, as Conference president and Rev. Alton L. Wheeler, as general secretary and chairman of the committee.

Added stimulus came to the committee through consultants who were called in for several sessions. These included the Rev. Mynor G. Soper, as home front evangelist, who had just come from a highly successful lay-training program in South Jersey, and the Rev. Rex E. Zwiebel, as dean of the Center for Ministerial Education.

### Packet Use Urged

When the "ERA OF ACTION" Suggestion Packet was distributed to the churches and their leaders last year, it was announced that the same packet would continue in use over a three-year

period. As stated at that time, the Planning Committee will send additional sheets from time to time, and such a mailing is planned to be made later this spring. This will include another section titled "Seeds and Sprouts." These resource sheets will include numerous examples of programs, projects, activities, and witnessing endeavors which have proven effective and fruitful in churches and regional groups of our denomination and others. While the basic mailing list includes all pastors, church clerks, and Sabbath School superintendents, others may feel free to order additional copies or may request that they be included as future mailings are made.

### Programs and Travel Plans Coordinated

A revised church coordinating calendar for the coming year beginning October 1, 1972, will soon be distributed. This lists the various special events and days of the church year and indicates resource materials which will be mailed by denominational agencies to the churches or which may be ordered.

At least every six months a revised list of travel plans of the various denominational leaders will be published, and churches and associations are urged to take cognizance and to invite the sharing of their resourcefulness as opportunity permits. Leaders are continuing in their effort to have some denominational representative visit every church sometime during each Conference year.

### Shared Ministries Encouraged

A "shared ministries" concept was further developed by which representatives of the various boards and agencies may be of assistance to one another, representing each other while making field trips, and sharing related ministries. The continuing development and expansion of this concept has been urged by the Commission during recent CPC sessions.

### Announcing Special Lesson Series

For some time the Planning Committee has envisioned the publication of a series of special age-level lessons to instruct children and youth in our distinctive history, beliefs, and witness for Christ. These are to be known as lessons on "RENEWAL OF FAITH," and each year there is

to be written and published a series of five lessons on primary, junior, and senior age levels. Miss Florence Bowden has consented to be editor-in-chief of the extended series to be written under the sponsorship of the various boards and agencies.

The first series dealing with the history of Seventh Day Baptists has been written by the Rev. Albert N. Rogers, as president of the Historical Society, and sample copies will be mailed to the churches early in April. Sets in quantity may be ordered from the Publishing House at a cost of 15 cents each including postage. These lessons are being designed to be used in Bible Schools, Sabbath Schools, camps or on other occasions.

### Witnessing Stress Continued

For a second spring, plans are under way to send an evangelistic team to Daytona Beach, Fla., to assist with a penetrative witness for Christ on the beach, in homes, and through services at the church. Mynor Soper will serve as a leading and training evangelist and several dedicated and experienced youth will join in the ministry of sharing their faith in Christ, March 27-April 5.

The Planning Committee members agree that the Ambassador Plan as described in the "ERA OF ACTION" Suggestion Packet has great merit and can foster individual dedication and involvement. This plan differs from the Missioner program in that through this plan the church is encouraged to seek out, to recommend and to commission qualified persons to render given services on a temporary or continuing basis in other churches or situations at home or abroad. Leon Lawton has been asked to explain this plan further and to communicate with the churches.

Seventh Day Baptists through former Conference actions have voted heartily favoring active participation in two evangelizing thrusts: a national witness known as Key '73, which has attracted the involvement of over one hundred denominations and groups and an international witness to be known as "World Mission of Reconciliation Through Jesus Christ"

which is being sponsored by the Baptist World Alliance.

A committee was appointed to correlate the seasonal thrusts and local adaptation being advocated through the Key '73 and BWA evangelistic efforts, and to suggest financial support plans. This core group includes Leon Lawton, Mynor Soper, and Alton Wheeler, with several consultants named to assist them.

—Alton L. Wheeler

## God's Guidance

Eugene Lincoln

*"When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you . . ."*—John 16:13 (RSV)

Several years ago, while traveling late at night in Tennessee, I noticed through half-awake eyes that the road had become narrower. I drove on, however, at a rather fast clip, feeling that I knew where I was going.

Just in time for me to skid to a halt, I saw a sign which said, "Boat Ramp Straight Ahead." When the car stopped, it was just a few feet from where the pavement went down into the water.

What would have happened had I blinked my eyes at the wrong time and missed the sign? No doubt the car would have gone right into the lake at a speed of sixty or so miles per hour.

The Lord has guided men and women, boys and girls, for countless ages, stopping them from going the wrong way to their eternal downfall. The apostle Paul, blinded by a heavenly light, was guided to the house of Ananias, where he received his sight back.

Many of us want to rush ahead of the Lord, turning our heads occasionally to shout back, "Here I am Lord! Are you with me?" Only when we get into situations from which we find no escape do we realize that we should have followed the Lord's guidance.

Don't push the Lord, but let Him do His will  
In working out your life; learn to be still  
And not to question Him about His way.  
Our vision cannot see beyond today;  
And if it could into the future scan,  
We then would understand the Master's plan.

—Eugene Lincoln

**Another New Book  
By Robert Coleman**

Many of our people were intrigued several years ago with Robert E. Coleman's book *The Master Plan of Evangelism*, which was purchased in quantity and sent to all Seventh Day Baptist ministers for study at their spiritual retreats. Another of his books on evangelism, *Dry Bones Can Live Again*, was reviewed in these columns. Dr. Coleman, Professor of Evangelism at Asbury Theological Seminary, is definitely worth reading because of his spiritual insights, careful research and popular, clear style.

It was then with keen anticipation that your editor read Coleman's newest book, *Written in Blood*, the day it came, fresh from the publisher, Fleming H. Revell Co.

This one is not on methods of evangelism, but is a 128-page devotional and scholarly study of references to blood in the Bible. The emphasis in the many very short chapters, well interspersed with hymn poems, is on the spiritual significance of the blood — particularly the blood of Christ. It is more than devotional; it is a thorough study of a fundamental Bible truth that leaves the reader with a greater appreciation of what the Bible is all about.

In a chapter on "Perfect Love" the author begins: "The whole validity of the sacrificial system was in the way one understood and identified with the blood." He says that the shed blood of God's son on the altar of the cross is the only way that His love could be disclosed in terms consistent with His justice and holiness. He concludes that chapter with: "Behold the love of God! It's in the blood. And when you look at Calvary, you see that it is the blood of God's own Son."

In reading this book the thoughtful Christian appreciates how the Bible speaks to us in terms of heart and blood, but soon forgets the physical aspects and realizes that blood is soul language. One of the concluding statements (p. 126) is: "But those who have come to the end of all human resources will hear of Christ's blood with tears of thanksgiving and shouts of joy. It is the witness of divine grace. When our hearts are broken

and mercy is our only hope, then the blood of Christ is seen as the wisdom and the power and the glory of God."

## Successful Evangelism

By Charles Bachman

The key to successful evangelism is elusive simply because if one finds it he becomes within his own person "the key to successful evangelism."

The key takes the form of "personal conviction." In the same manner that keys come in all forms and shapes in order that they may perform the functions they are designed for, so also the manner in which one will use his own "personal conviction" for the glory of God is varied.

But the very basis of successful evangelism is an absolute personal conviction. How can any person or any group of persons, commonly called a church, become successful in winning others to Christ unless they first are absolutely convicted of the truths they represent? It would appear on this basis, that the lack of results in soul-winning testifies to the lack of conviction on the part of those evangelizing.

How many times in our everyday life are our decisions concerning some appliance or automobile affected by the enthusiasm (or lack of it) on the part of those selling the commodity? So also the commodity the church is selling, the gospel, is either decided against or in favor of pretty much on the basis of the personal conviction of the salesman.

A person in the church who is absolutely convicted of the truths held in common by the body does not have to be told about his money, his time, his relationship to God or the church. A convicted person wants of his own volition to do the very best because he *is* convicted and feels the Christian burden to share all of this with others.

Denominational budgets are no problem to convicted people because they realize that the job has to be done and this is the way to do it.

Witnessing to others is no problem to convicted people because they believe absolutely these truths themselves and

do not want others to perish.

Children in the church will never leave the church *if* they are convicted of the truths the church holds. There is in everyone that little thing called conscience; and when it is convicted it will eat away at the mind day and night giving no rest because it is convicted and knows right from wrong.

The early church was a convicted church. When they were scattered they "went everywhere preaching the word" (Acts 8:4). They were convicted in such a manner that men knew they had something even without preaching, church services, or Sabbath Schools. Even in jail as Paul and Silas prayed, the jailer was so convicted in his heart that he asked without instruction, "What must I do to be saved?" (Acts 16). Imagine your prayers convicting someone! But you say, "Remember there was an earthquake, and the prison was falling apart!" That is true, but ask yourself this question: Have my praying or songs of praise caused any earthquakes lately? If not, perhaps your convictions are slipping a little and a return to the place you once held in the sight of God and the church is in order.

It is a very poor salesman who is not convinced that his product is the very best of its kind. He will sell very few products. He will suffer financially and become very disgusted and demoralized. On the opposite side, a salesman who believes in his product can convincingly persuade his customer with the result that he prospers and is happy. This would reveal that perhaps the main reason evangelism is so unsuccessful is that the ones who are supposed to be doing it are not convicted people. They are not convinced that what they are selling—the gospel—is the truth. The result is that they are unhappy, demoralized, miserly and reluctant. If this is the case it will take no great effort on the part of those who know the product you are relating to to decide that if it does so little for you of what value will it be to them!

"Conviction!" That is a beautiful word. Being convicted of the truths of Scripture, the blessing the Sabbath brings, the

joy of fellowship with other convicted people! What happiness and peace it can bring to troubled people. But how can they be convicted unless *you*, the messenger, are first convicted? *You* are the successful evangelist who is to go everywhere preaching the gospel.

In an age when people are willing to sacrifice principles by the score for the sake of tranquility and peace, wouldn't it be great if a group of people would be so convicted that they would rather go to jail for their convictions and even sing hymns of praise and do their praying in jail than be agreeable and take the easy way out?

Evangelism begins with one person—you! Whether or not it is successful depends on whether or not you are so convicted that you have something to share.

The word "church" is a tired word. What it really means in definition is either an active, convicted, witnessing group of people or a tired, lethargic, self-centered group of people. In any event it is made up of individuals, of which *you* are one.

How are your convictions? Caused any earthquakes lately?

### ONE GREAT HOUR

Seventh Day Baptists in most of the churches of our U. S. Conference together with several million other Protestant and Orthodox church people gave attention on the weekend of March 11 to the annual appeal for worldwide relief of One Great Hour of Sharing, a program of Church World Service.

The magnitude of the need is shown by the goal of \$20,000,000. The amount contributed by the people of our churches may seem small in comparison to the total, but it is hoped that the response to this humanitarian relief call proves to be proportionally large. Though many other Christian relief agencies are helping to meet the world need and are worthy of support this is one of the most inclusive and best recognized throughout the world. Previous support enabled CWS to cope with many emergencies in 1971, according to James MacCracken, director.

### 1972 THEOLOGS

Three Seventh Day Baptist theological students are participating in the Center for Ministerial Education program this semester.



Melvin Stephan is a full time student in his second year at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D. C., and is gaining his field education as student-pastor for the Salemville, Pa., Seventh Day Baptist Church. He is a native of Denver, Colo.

Elaine "Jinx" Kuehn is taking a complete course in her first year at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. Attending Union through use of a Rockefeller Foundation grant, Miss Kuehn plans to continue study in preparation to serve as a Seventh Day Baptist minister. Her home is in Orange, Conn., and she is a member of the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church in Westerly, R. I.



The Rev. David Pearson, Malawi Seventh Day Baptist missionary home-on-furlough, is studying full time this spring semester at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, Pa. This will complete Mr. Pearson's requirements for the Divinity degree.



He will graduate in June.

All three of the students participate in the weekend learning experience provided at the Center for Ministerial Education at the Seventh Day Baptist headquarters

in Plainfield, N. J.

Both Mr. Stephan and Miss Kuehn plan to attend the Summer Institute at headquarters next May. Mr. Pearson has completed all three courses taught at the Summer Institutes.

### Substitute Sabbath Not Just as Good

"Why keep the seventh day of the week as the Sabbath; is not the first day just as acceptable?" you may ask. The answer is that God has commanded us to keep the seventh day. Who are we to change God's commands?

If you told your child to do a certain piece of work in a certain way and he did it some other way, would you be pleased with him even if he thought it was just as good?

God gave Noah instructions as to how he was to build the ark. Suppose Noah had thought that following God's instructions was just too much work and he had taken some short cuts which would have made the ark less sturdy. If the ark had not stood the storm and the flood and its occupants had been lost, would it have been "just as good"?

Suppose other key figures of olden times had done things in a way that was "just as good" in their sight, what would the history of the world have been?

If anything is important enough for God to give a command concerning it, is it not important enough to obey the command?

Search the Scriptures, for, "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." Is it? for you?

T. S. Springer

### Cassettes in Indonesia

It is reported that twelve new churches have sprung up in Indonesia as a result of the distribution by *World Vision* representatives of Christian programs on pre-recorded cassette tapes.

### SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for April 1, 1972

THE CHURCH OF THE RISEN LORD  
Lesson Scripture: 1 Cor. 15:3-19.

### Good Work Done

In reporting on the January Missionary Board meeting in the February 19 *Sabbath Recorder*, a short paragraph stated: "Pastor and Mrs. John Conrod, having requested for personal reasons a termination of their services in Malawi in July 1972, it was voted to grant their request with regret and with an expression of gratitude for the work they have done." More must be said.

Many will remember that on the return of Dr. Victor Burdick in 1970 there was a vital need for a replacement to carry on the many administrative duties at Makapwa station. These included the financial accounting and the office of treasurer of the Central Africa Conference of Seventh Day Baptists. This need was met in that Pastor John Conrod was also a certified public accountant.

In his two years of service, Missionary Conrod has accomplished much. The books of the CAC were reorganized and training has been given to local leaders so they could assume some of the responsibility. A station management committee at Makapwa station carried on the ongoing decisions with missionary personnel playing a minor role.

The Rev. Otrain B. Manani received a scholarship grant from the World Council of Churches and completed, in 1971, an intensive course in Church Administration in the neighboring country of Tanzania. The Rev. Mataka was trained to assist in the financial work at Makapwa as well.

At the Central Africa Conference sessions in September 1971 these two pastors were appointed to assist the treasurer—Pastor Manani at the Blantyre station and Pastor Mataka at Makapwa station. Since then they have proved their capability.

On the return of the Pearsons on furlough in July 1971, the Conrods moved to the Blantyre house though spending regular periods at Makapwa. Their partial absence from Makapwa station allowed responsibility to be carried more by local leadership.

Thus when it was learned that Joyce

Conrod's parents needed their help because of illness, they requested that since much of their work had been completed they be allowed to return before the end of their full term. While there is much the Conrods could do in Malawi, their return to meet the family need seemed important and the action was taken to allow such, with deep appreciation of their vital role in the Malawi witness.

### Giving Remains High

The statistics are now in hand for the second month of our new year (See March 18 Recorder). While both undesignated (through OWM) and designated receipts fell from the January level, they were much better than a year ago. They came within \$550 of meeting the budget goals set. For this we are most thankful. But we need to do better!

The major portion of designated receipts were voting membership renewal fees. Another thirty memberships in February would have caused us to meet our goal as we were \$300 short. OWM undesignated was \$250 short for our work.

When you receive this, the month of April will be nearly here. During April we suggest your designated gifts be for the work of home front evangelist, Mynor G. Soper. As you read this he is involved with the special team of youth in the outreach project in Daytona Beach, Fla. Not only will there be a ministry to youth on the beach, but special services are planned for the Seventh Day Baptist church and a calling ministry, door-to-door, in the neighborhood of the church.

In February Evangelist Soper held a second series of lay training sessions with the Shiloh, N. J., church. Average attendance ran about forty with over fifty individuals participating. Many caught a new vision of how the Lord could work through them in witness to others and many lives were changed.

April 15 is the deadline set by our government to pay income taxes. Let us be faithful to our Lord as we week by week receive income and are challenged as His followers to be faithful stewards. Do not let up on regular giving through

your church to Our World Mission. Also give something special, designated for the work of your Missionary Society.

### Christ-Centered

#### Not Program-Centered Approach

Getting students into church taxes the ingenuity and dedication of pastors all across the country. The Rev. Ron Minor (First United Presbyterian, Cambridge, Mass.) over the last few years has remade his approach. Located in the area that draws students from both Harvard and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, his church has begun some new things that have worked.

The program is built around preaching ("It must be positive, authoritative, Scriptural and personal") and fellowship ("They come to meet excited, expectant Christian people"). He cautions that you will not get college people if you are too eager for them. Briefly, this is what has happened:

1. The traditional church program was scrapped. The new approach was not program-centered. Young people are not interested in program. There are no young people's groups. The coffee hour after church is the most important time to them.

2. The new approach is not church oriented. It centers instead on what life in Jesus Christ is supposed to be and how Christians can share that life together.

3. It is spontaneous, immediate. The evening service is completely unstructured. The morning service is more immediate than it used to be. There are testimonies from new converts. "The organist is loose." Sometimes the pastor, on the spur of the moment, will call a layman and ask him if he has something to share with the congregation.

4. "We don't water things down Scripturally."

5. The mission of the church is allowed to develop naturally without any preconceived methods or goals. "We stopped trying and just let it happen." The church is seen as a resource place, an enabling base. One couple started a ministry to street people.

6. Be flexible. Be creative. If something is not working, kill it. A 9 a.m. family worship service was introduced.

7. Get involved in small groups. Life in Christian fellowship is not geographical. There are picnics, coffees, etc., after church, plus seminars during week nights.

8. Sunday school was retained for children up to eighth grade. Each class is taught by a couple. Classes are divided not only by age but also by levels of spiritual commitment.

—*Youth Today*, James W. Reapsome, editor.

#### Picturesque Speech

A report on agricultural mission work in Ecuador told of a considerable number of animals contributed by American farmers for breeding purposes. The missionaries saw the need for improved strains if the people they served were to make a decent living. The plane load of stock included Jersey and Brahman calves, quarter horses, and purebred pigs. The heading of the news story read, "Cows, Horses, Pigs Donated to Beef-Up Ecuadorian Stock." Some of our "clean-meat" brethren would not have imported the pigs and would not speak of "beefing-up" stock with such a variety of non-beef, but the farmers of Ecuador are no doubt grateful for the "beef-up" with porkers.

### Our Prayer Corner

#### Suggestions for Prayer This Week

##### Pray for:

1) The students of Salem College and the Southeastern Association as they are on tour as far as Daytona Beach witnessing and singing to the glory of Christ under the direction of Professor John Bevis.

2) The evangelistic team mentioned last week which comes together at Daytona Beach under the leadership of Mynor Soper during the Easter season.

3) The field work of the board secretaries and the Conference president during the spring months.

4) More zeal in the use of our tracts and periodicals for evangelism and Sabbath promotion.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION—Sec. David S. Clarke

### Genesis and Jesus Spots

Genesis and "Jesus spots"—readings from Scripture and TV one-minute presentations of Scripture—might be said to mark respectively the beginning of uniform lessons for Sunday schools, an idea whose time had come in 1872, and a contemporary style of Bible teaching relating to the Uniform Lesson Series in 1972.

The uniform lesson plan was launched at a Sunday school convention in the Second Presbyterian Church of Indianapolis on April 18, 1872. A centennial celebration is to be held in the same church building on April 18, 1972. Invitations to several hundred religious educators have been issued.

Participants will hear a reading by actor Raymond Massey of Genesis 1, text of the first uniform lesson in 1872. Chosen not solely for the sonorous voice of stage and screen, Mr. Massey also will give his recollections of his uncle, Methodist Bishop John Heyl Vincent, one of the two founders of the Uniform Lesson Series. The memory of Bishop Vincent and Baptist layman Benjamin Franklin Jacobs, Chicago Sunday School teacher and a superintendent and co-founder of the Uniform Lesson Series, will be honored at the centennial.

Some of the hymns sung — and marched to — by banner-carrying state delegates at the national Sunday school convention of 1872 will be sung by the Inspiration Singers of Anderson College, Anderson, Ind.

Centennial participants not only will honor founding fathers of the uniform lessons, and sample contemporary fare—the New Testament lesson will be "Luke in new media" — but also will look to the future through an address by Dr. James Smart on "The Bible in Christian Education for Tomorrow."

A writer of renown, Dr. Smart's most recently published is *The Strange Silence of the Bible in the Church*, 1970. Other titles include *The Quiet Revolution*, *The Teaching Ministry of the Church*, and *A Promise To Keep*.

Following celebration of the centennial, Dr. Turner will call his committee together for their annual week of work meetings on the Uniform Series. Working ahead in six-year cycles, the committee this year is mapping plans for a Scripture study block for the year 1975. David Clarke, executive secretary of our Board of Christian Education, is a member of this committee. Approximately sixty persons serve on the committee.

The Scriptural study outlines, blocked out for each year on a quarterly basis, after publication go to various denominations where they are used as basic materials in the development of specific materials according to denominational needs.

#### Clothing Appeal

One of the largest and best known agencies for meeting relief needs is Church World Service. The clothing appeal of CWS is renewed at this time of year. Note how much is needed and consider what you can do for this and other Christian relief agencies. A letter addressed "To the Fellowship of the Concerned" states:

"For the year 1972, we will need nearly four million pounds of clothing and three hundred thousand blankets to fill the requests from our relief and rehabilitation workers in the various areas of the world as well as to meet emergency requests in cases of disasters. We never know when or where a major disaster will strike; therefore, it is imperative that the various categories of clothing be in the centers and warehouses around the world—processed, baled, and ready to ship on a moment's notice.

"Our greatest need at present is for baby garments—all kinds—both new and used. Children's clothing is extremely high on our priority list. Children need clothing for protection from the elements, but they also need clothing so they can attend school. Blankets and men's clothing both are greatly needed as well as fabric parcels. We still take women's clothing although the bulk of the garments coming in is for ladies."

Last year CWS secured three million pounds of clothing and 100,000 blankets.

"What this church needs is . . ."

### A Lot More Prayer

By Ben Hartley

The story goes that Martin Luther, faced with what he knew would be an unusually long or trying day, would spend proportionately more time in his morning devotions.

A young businessman cornered his minister after a civic club luncheon one fall day to explain a dilemma he faced in dealing with one of his most efficient and valuable employees whom he suspected of stealing. "I've spent hours every day for the past two weeks worrying about this," he said.

"How many hours have you spent praying about it?" the minister asked.

The expression on the businessman's face suggested that he considered the question grossly unfair but his response a second later came honestly from the heart: "I guess not enough, preacher. Not nearly enough."

Ask any churchman how much he prays, and he would probably confess, if he were thoroughly honest, "not enough." Why don't we pray more? A sophisticated, usually articulate matron in a big city church falteringly suggested: "It's not that we don't believe and not that we feel it's unnecessary and not that we couldn't make time — oh, I guess we really don't believe enough."

To some modern Christians formal, verbalized prayer seems presumptuous in the presence of an omniscient God. "Your smile for a stranger, the poem expressing love for your wife, the sincere thank you for the postman who brought an important letter — aren't these forms of prayer?" a young teacher suggested.

Maybe. But surely something must be said in favor of conscious confrontation of God with our praise, confession, intercession, and thanksgiving. One of the most memorable testimonies to the necessity of more prayer was uttered by an old sergeant in World War II when a bomber pilot caught him on his knees just before take off on a particularly dangerous mission over Germany:

"Sergeant, you should have done that

last night before we were assigned to this mission."

"I did, sir. But when I heard where we were going, I figured we needed a little more help than usual if we expect to get back."

Would it help you and your church if you prayed more? Try it! —ACP

### FRANCES HUNTER'S NEW BOOKS

*Praise the Lord Anyway* is the title of one of two 96-page paperbacks by Frances Gardner Hunter published by Warner Press in February. Those who are familiar with the author's previous books and her extensive conference and soul-winning work may be thrilled with this new book of meaningful experiences. She previously wrote a book on prayer titled *Hot Line to Heaven* and another *God Is Fabulous*, which titles may give an inkling of what she means by the often repeated PTLA (Praise the Lord Anyway).

The publisher rightly describes the book as a warm revelation of God's simple truth: Life's rocky road can mean a never-ending trip of joy. Whatever the circumstances if we can discipline ourselves to say, "praise the Lord anyway," we will find things going much better and will find that God has a glorious purpose even in the things that seem bad. It is a way of applying the promise of Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God."

The author was not converted until she was forty-nine years old, but then she became so enthusiastic about living completely for the Lord that she devoted her life to speaking, writing, counseling and soul-winning. Apparently she is able to communicate her love of people with great effectiveness. Her experiences in travel are told with real warmth. Her directness in talking to all sorts of people stimulates others to be more outgoing and to meet the salvation needs of young and old with such simple tools as "The Four Spiritual Laws" of Campus Crusade.

It is frustrating to try to convey the free-flowing message of PTLA in a few

words. The little book will warm your heart even though you can't imagine yourself doing everything that she describes or praising the Lord quite as often as she does. It is not a Pentecostal book, but it has all the fervor of Christian witness that is claimed by Pentecostal people.

*Hang Loose with Jesus* is not a book title that would appeal to everybody. Some of us more staid Christians would perhaps have preferred that Frances Gardner Hunter choose a more conventional title for her very Scriptural new book on explicitly doing the will of God as it is discerned.

The rich experiences of the author, so warmly told in this new book, are challenging. Just as we do not find an apple tree "straining and grunting and groaning all over the place saying, 'I'm growing apples,'" so we can also "hang loose" and do what we are supposed to do in bearing fruit for the Lord. Miracles, little and big, will happen to us, says Frances Hunter, if we really follow the leading of the Spirit day by day.

There is a good deal about prayer and divine healing — spiritual and physical — in this Warner Press book. It makes good reading and costs only a penny a page (95 cents). Some of the answers to prayer may be a little beyond the experience of most of us, but they were her experiences, and who can argue? The following bit of philosophy about divine healing is given after recounting one such experience: "May I say at this point that I do not understand divine healing at all. I only know that God does heal in a miraculous way today, if we will just ask. I don't really know the requirements of asking, whether we must have faith, or whether someone else must have faith for us, or whether it depends on the degree of faith we have, or what."

"What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" is a question which the menace of drug abuse poses anew to all of us. —President Nixon

### LET'S THINK IT OVER

ANERA Director

#### Comments on Zionism

James F. Sams, director of ANERA (American Near East Refugee Aid), an international lawyer in Washington, D.C., recently returned from the Middle East. While in Beirut he discussed the current political situation with many people—Palestinians and Lebanese businessmen, educators, and government officials. A portion of an interview with him gives his view of the future of Zionism and is quoted here for what it is worth. It may be observed that the people he talked with were not Zionists. Here is his thought-provoking opinion:

I do not believe that Zionism can survive more than one generation of peace in the Middle East. I have too much respect for Judaism to believe that the values of that religion will be perpetually subverted by an essentially negativist political ideology. Zionism thrives on the political instability which is present in the Middle East and the constant threat of war. Once those threats are removed, anti-Zionism will grow within Israel, as well as without, and the basic character of the State will change to be in harmony with the region as a whole.

#### Baptist Increases and Decreases

C. E. Bryant, associate secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, reports from the office in Washington that the membership of Baptist churches of the world now stands at 31,432,130, an increase of 390,493 over the report of a year ago. It is assumed that Seventh Day Baptist figures are included since our U.S. Conference is a member of BWA.

The report states that there were increases in every continent except Asia and Europe. The drop in Asia is a bookkeeping arrangement by which the 132,000 of Red China, a figure that cannot be updated, are no longer counted. It is not the same in Europe where there has been an actual drop of 9,508. It is said that this is in keeping with a general decline in the membership of all free churches in Europe. This explanation is in line with the lack of progress of Seventh Day Baptist European work in Europe. Changing that trend is a matter of concern.

## NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

**SEATTLE AREA.**—Our congregation got off to a good start in 1972 by observing "Week of Prayer" and ending with a special day of "Prayer and Fasting." We felt a blessing from this observance and a closeness with one another in Christ.

Diana Lamoreaux has been bringing our Sabbath morning children's messages each week and is very capable in reaching the children with the gospel.

We gave a special gift of money to help print and distribute Bibles in the Chichewa, Tumbuka and English languages in Malawi.

David and Dixie Inabnit attended a Lay Institute for Evangelism sponsored by Campus Crusade for Christ the last of January. They took the advance course on leading Bible studies.

The Youth Fellowship attended a meeting at which Nicky Cruz, former New York street gang leader, was the speaker. Also, they have been on snow outings and roller skating. The young people now meet regularly on Sabbath afternoons for "Youth Training Hour," leading their own lessons. Jerry and Diana Lamoreaux are their new sponsors.

Beulah and Francis Hathcoat had a very successful "Mexican Dinner" for the adults, with games and fellowship after the enchiladas.

We welcomed five new adult members into our church in February. We thank the Lord for each one and pray we may all help each other in our spiritual growth together.

Eight ladies of our church attended a Women's Seminar Workshop. Also, some of our teachers were able to attend the Greater Seattle Church School Convention.

Justin Camenga has been employed by the Pacific Coast Association from February to September and will be in our area until May. Justin and Pastor Davis made a trip to Vancouver, Canada, making several calls on people in that area.

Pastor has joined Operation Night-watch which is a night-time ministry to

persons in need on skid row in Seattle. He stays up all night one or two nights a month for this ministry.

Ray Boatman is giving eight weeks of his time on Saturday nights to kids who gather at the Renton Drug-Drop-In Center. So many ways exist for God's people to reach out a helping hand to those in need in our present day wherever we live. We want to be ready to serve our Lord in these ways as well as in our own churches and communities.

—Correspondent

**INDEPENDENCE, N. Y.**—Some of the friends of our church having heard that the building was sold, have concluded that we are disbanded as an organization. We are not; we just sold the building to the Mennonites, who have recently settled here.

They are a fine group of people who have been using our church building to hold their worship services. Since we are small in numbers and had difficulty keeping up the repairs they offered to buy it. The trustees of both organizations drew up a satisfactory contract and we have free use of the building for three years. After that we can use it on a rental basis. Our Seventh Day Baptist Church of Independence plaque still hangs on the front. They are putting up one also.

Our attendance has increased since this arrangement was made. As the oldest living member (seventy-five years a member) I pray that the church will be active for many more years.

—Grace C. Spicer

### Coming Next Week

The April 1 issue will bear the name *Mission Notes, a Special Emphasis Issue of the Sabbath Recorder*. Edited as before by Leon R. Lawton, executive vice-president of the Missionary Society, it will contain up-to-date and unusual articles from our three main mission fields. It will go to a larger mailing list. Readers are urged to send in addresses of additional people who would appreciate this copy. Though sent free it is supported by faith and contributions are gratefully received.

**BIRMINGHAM, ALA.**—Under the leadership of John McGuire there was a public panel discussion of the Sabbath-Sunday question involving three Church of Christ representatives, two Seventh Day Baptists and a Seventh-day Adventist growing out of some newspaper advertisements placed by the Seventh Day Baptist group of Birmingham.

One of the results reported is that the pastor of the Gospel Assembly Church where the "Sabbath Discussions" were held, 4609 Debardeleben Ave., Fairfield, Ala., opened his church for regular Sabbath Eve services beginning February 25. There are no reports yet of how the public is responding to the invitation to attend.

Pastor Leslie Welch and others from the Paint Rock church leadership have lent encouragement to the Birmingham witness, which is still struggling for stability as an organized group.

### Accessions

MARLBORO, N. J.

By Letter:

Leora Pinder  
Carol Pinder  
Nellie Chann

### Births

Hiles.—A daughter, Shea Joy, to Howard and Joyce (Franklin) Hiles of Bridgeton, N. J., March 4, 1972.

Field.—A son, William Edward, to Robert and Jean (Wright) Field of Milton Junction, Wis., Jan. 26, 1972.

### Obituaries

**SATTERLEE.**—Herbert Newton, son of Charles M. and Anna N. Stillman Satterlee, was born in Brookfield, N. Y., Oct. 2, 1882, and died in the Chase Memorial Nursing Home, New Berlin, N. Y., Feb. 6, 1972.

He joined the Brookfield Seventh Day Baptist Church by testimony, May 25, 1935. He also belonged to the Brookfield Grange. He worked for many years on farms and was known as a faithful and efficient worker.

He is survived by a brother, Clifford, of Dryden, N. Y.

The funeral service was conducted by his pastor, Neal D. Mills, in the Brookfield church. Burial was in the Brookfield Rural Cemetery.

—N. D. M.

**CRANDALL.**—Miss Bernice, daughter of John and Addie Whitford Crandall, was born in Utica, Wis., Nov. 3, 1888, and died Feb. 24, 1972, in Fairhaven at Whitewater, Wis., where she had made her home since 1965.

Bernice graduated from Green County Normal School, Monroe, Wis., and taught for a few years in the Milton area rural schools and in the state of Wyoming. Later she was employed in the office of Burdick Corporation until retiring.

She was baptized in 1901 by Elder George Crandall and joined the Milton Junction Seventh Day Baptist Church.

She is survived by one sister, Mrs. Homer (Flora) DeLong of Eau Claire.

Funeral services were held in Albrecht Funeral Home by her pastor, Rev. Addison A. Appel with burial in Milton Junction Cemetery.

—A. A. A.

**KREHL.**—Peter William, was born in Germany, March 9, 1890, and died at his residence in Ormond Beach, Fla., Feb. 16, 1972.

He was a retired bookbinder. For a second wife he married Glenice Welch of Leonardsville, N. Y., in 1956. He survived by his wife Glenice and a son Harry of Beachwood, N. J., and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by his pastor, the Rev. Marion Van Horn, in the Baggett-McIntosh Chapel in Daytona Beach, and interment was in the Tappan Reformed Church Cemetery, Tappan, N. Y., Feb. 21.

—M. C. V. H.

**MEAD.**—Henry Walter, son of Henry Stevens and Coral (Hull) Mead, was born Feb. 21, 1909 in Terra Ceia, Fla., and died in Ormond Beach, Fla., Jan. 14, 1972.

He had been a fishing tour guide until severe injuries incapacitated him, when he became a net maker. He was friend to everyone, especially to children whom he always tried to teach some worthwhile lesson. He never married.

He is survived by two brothers, Norris, of Port Orange, Fla., and Daniel, of Valdosta, Ga., one sister, Mrs. Mary L. Snyder, of Lancaster, Calif., and two aunts, Miss Edna Hull, and Mrs. Elsie (Hull) Matthews, of New Smyrna Beach, Fla.

Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Marion C. Van Horn, and interment was in Bellevue Memorial Park in Daytona Beach.

—M. C. V. H.

**WILLIAMS.**—Nancy Ong, daughter of Herman and Lucile Ong, was born in Clarksburg, W. Va., Dec. 4, 1935, and died in Clarksburg, Feb. 7, 1972.

She is survived by her mother; her husband, T. Dane Williams; her son, Richard Keith; one brother and two sisters.

Nancy served in the Lost Creek Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Ferewell services were conducted by the Rev. R. Russell Riethmiller in the Davis-Weaver Funeral Home. Interment was in the I.O.O.F. Cemetery in Salem, W. Va.

—R. E. Z.



## Remember Jesus Christ

By V. Carney Hargroves

President, Baptist World Alliance

*"Remember always, as the center of everything Jesus Christ . . . raised by God from the dead . . ." (2 Timothy 2:8 Phillips).*

One day on a church bulletin board I saw these words, "A man's real possession is his memory." Later I called the minister of the church to ask him about it. He said the full quotation, from an essay written over one hundred years ago by a man named Smith, was "A man's real possession is his memory. In nothing else is he rich, in nothing else is he poor."

Sir James Barrie once said, "God gives us memory that we might have roses in December." Someone else put it this way, "Memory is the cabinet of imagination, the treasury of reason, the registry of conscience, the council chamber of thought." A child said "my memory is the thing I forget with."

Since all of us at times have a tendency to remember the wrong things, the words of Paul are much in order—"Remember Jesus Christ as the center of everything." In the church in Philadelphia, of which I was the minister, there was a large rose window twenty feet in diameter. The colors, predominantly red and blue, were magnified when the sun shone brightly through them. At the center of the window there was a figure of Jesus Christ. Often we called attention to the symbolism of the Master being at the center of our lives and in the total life of the church and we urged that we never forget Him.

Under many circumstances it is important for us to remember Jesus Christ. One of these is when we are tempted to do wrong — to neglect duty, to be unfaithful, to take what does not belong to us, to be immoral. Temptation itself is not something of which we should be ashamed. The shame comes when we fall before it. Jesus, too, was tempted and most severely — in the desert, in the garden, perhaps many times between these events. He overcame them all by His dependence on God and by seeking to do His will. Remember Jesus Christ and His mastery of temptation.

Another circumstance is when we are hurt by our friends, neglected by them and misunderstood by them. This was the experience of Jesus. His friends denied Him and deserted Him. They were men He had trusted, men with whom He had traveled, with whom He had shared His resources and to whom He had given the best effort of His mind and heart.

The human reaction is to repudiate those who treat us badly whether they be friends or enemies. This Jesus did not do. Rather He measured up to His own divinity in the fullest way. When hanging upon a cross and seeing before Him those who had hurt Him, He said "Father, forgive them."

Whatever the circumstance, a duty that demands faith, a danger that requires courage, a temptation that calls for strength, a hurt that asks for forgiveness — remember Jesus Christ. With Him at the center we shall have the faith, the courage, the strength, and the will to forgive.

"WHERE THERE IS NO VISION THE PEOPLE PERISH"



# MISSION NOTES



IN THE INTEREST OF SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST MISSIONS

A Special Emphasis Issue of

## The Sabbath Recorder



Missionary Leroy C. Bass and family prior to return to Guyana in September 1971. Gordon, the oldest son, remained in school in America. (See page 4)