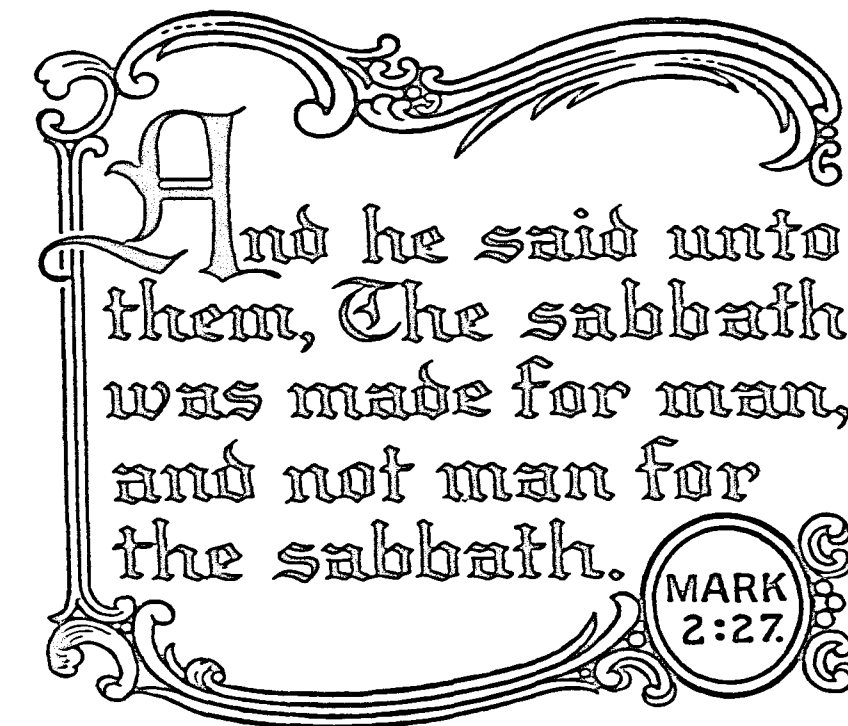


The Sabbath Recorder

ANNOUNCING

SABBATH RENEWAL DAY



"LET YOUR SABBATH
GLORIFY GOD"

For many, many years Seventh Day Baptists have set aside the third Sabbath in May for an annual emphasis on Sabbath observance. Promotion materials are sent to all U. S. churches by the American Sabbath Tract Society.

Maybe they are here, unrecognized. The downward spiral produces defeatism and more men move out of the supposed impossible positions of leadership. More move out and less move in. How many men and women of great potential are available but are needing the miracle of the Damascus Road?

A call to arms is needed—a rallying call of a people who are ready to close ranks, lock arms and follow the Spirit-filled men and women who will accept the mantle of leadership. We need—God needs—persons who are dedicated, close to Him, capable, trained and ready to give everything they have every hour of every day to God and to His church. The resulting upward spiral would bring a host of new leadership potential as young people, and not so young, would catch the vision of God's purposes and see fulfillment going on all over this country and the world.

IV. STEWARDSHIP

The various phases of church work are intermeshed like Ezekiel's "wheels within wheels." Every aspect is dependent upon every other part of the program. *Programs wait for funds but funds wait for worthwhile programs.* It has been noted for years that worthwhile projects, especially those related to outreach, produce a financial response even beyond the need. Bricks for Blantyre, Crandall High School, etc., demonstrate that Seventh Day Baptists stand ready to support programs which show leadership and vision. Retrenchment and withdrawal do not stimulate financial support. Again the downward spiral is self-defeating. An aggressive, visionary but well-planned denominational program with dedicated charismatic leadership will not lack funds.

V. FAITH

Gamaliel's advice is still pertinent—Acts 5:38, 39. If we are to look to ourselves, to trust entirely in ourselves, our work "will collapse of its own accord." "But if it should be from God, you cannot defeat it." Only when the power of the Spirit came upon Christ's followers did the success of the church associated with Pentecost begin.

It is God's work, God's program, God's power that will fulfill His purpose for His Church. *But—it is God's power working through His people that accomplishes His tasks.* It is God's people—dedicated people, trained and organized and led by His ministers—who are "laborers together with Him" to accomplish the work He has given us to do.

The final question remains—Can He count on us? You have, you are, the answer!

PREACH the GOSPEL

THE CELESTIAL SURGEON

If I have faltered more or less
In my great task of happiness;
If I have moved among my race
And shown no glorious morning face;
If beams from happy human eyes
Have moved me not; if morning skies,
Books, and my food, and summer rain
Knocked on my sullen heart in vain:—
Lord, thy most pointed pleasure take
And stab my spirit broad awake;
Or, Lord, if still too obdurate I,
Choose thou, before that spirit die,
A piercing pain, a killing sin,
And to my dead heart run them in!

—Robert Louis Stevenson

the attacking forces is a matter for conjecture.

Hanoi now admits (which it has previously denied) that it is invading South Vietnam and trying to end the war by complete victory. We may rightly long to see the long war stopped, but how can we assume that the carnage will end when we withdraw our support? Can we feel virtuous when our almost complete withdrawal encouraged the mass invasion and the killing of 1,000 men in one week? North Vietnam is seeking a military victory which could mean "unspeakable carnage" in battle and probably more slaughter of civilians after victory.

Aside from the moot question of whether our country was justified in trying to stop the lava-flow of Communism in Indochina by military support of those who were trying to resist it; we have to consider whether or not our immediate withdrawal will be as good as so many seem to think it will be. History will record the results and perhaps not long hence.

Our point is that the political advice that so many are freely giving to the President ought to be labeled as that. To say that we are acting out of Christian motives when we encourage a military victory for North Vietnam in preference to a standoff such as has existed may indeed backfire on us and cause us some day to hang our heads in shame. The slaughter of the South Vietnamese and the overlordship of Communist North Vietnam is hardly a completely Christian solution to the war.

Veteran Benefits

The Government has made extensive educational and job training benefits available to those who have served voluntarily or involuntarily in the military. A considerable number of eligible veterans have not availed themselves of these benefits, some of which expire in 1974. The VA announced that a total of three million have received training under the current G. I. Bill. Veterans with no dependents attending school full-time are entitled to \$175 per month for one and a half months of benefit for each month served.

President's Column

Seventh Day Baptist Church
Daytona Beach, Florida
Dear Fellow Glorifiers:

The term "glorifiers" applies to all who have accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. I have found this expressed so many ways in the Bible, but the most recent find is 2 Corinthians 4:15, (Living Bible) ". . . And the more of you who are won to Christ, the more there are to thank Him for His great kindness, and the more God is glorified." Previously Paul had commented, ". . . the amazing message we preach about the glory of Christ, Who is God. . . it is the brightness of His glory that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ." Read 2 Corinthians 3 and 4 from several versions! I'm sure you'll be blessed.

For the past ten days I have been privileged to live among some West Coast "glorifiers," traveling in the Pacific Coast Association of Seventh Day Baptists from Seattle to Los Angeles. This fellowship in Christ included the association meetings in Riverside April 14-16. By the time my seventeen-day stay is over I will have preached three times, conducted five Bible studies, and shared Conference concerns many times. Perhaps the greatest sharing of plans for Conference came in Seattle, where they were so involved in personal evangelism and commitment that the sharing was done through prayer requests. Several from Seattle are planning to be in Denver August 6-12, only "if the Lord allows, and doesn't return before then!" This same spirit is found up and down the coast and I can only say, "What a great way to replace Conference!"

In the meantime planning continues. You will want to begin praying specifically for the three evening revival services. Topics and speakers are:

Tuesday night: "Creation" — Duane L. Davis, Seattle area, Washington.

Wednesday night: "Salvation" — S. Kenneth Davis, Battle Creek, Michigan.

Friday night: "Sanctification" — John A. Conrod, Makapwa Mission, Malawi, Africa.

The next event coming up will be the Western Pastors' Spiritual Retreat to be held at Nortonville, May 1-9. I'm happy to be able to enjoy that and stay at home, too! Then, May 12-14 is Allegheny Seventh Day Baptist Association in Little Genesee, N. Y. I know you will continue to hold these plans and me personally before the Lord in prayer, that in all things we can say, *To God Be the Glory!*

In His Service,

Paul B. Osborn, President

Parochial Aid Loses Again

By Leon M. Maltby

The U. S. Supreme Court has decided another parochial school aid case and decided against such aid.

Missouri parents who chose to send their children to nonpublic institutions lost their argument before the U.S. Supreme Court that their constitutional rights are violated by prohibitions against tax aid to private schools.

The U. S. Supreme Court has affirmed a federal court's opinion that the Missouri Constitution prohibiting state funds for private schools does not violate the religious freedom of parents who want their children to attend nonpublic schools.

When some of us were in college debating societies we were told that a recording secretary does not need to write down the motions that are lost—just the ones that pass. But sometimes arguments that are lost are instructive to those who might advance them again. What the Supreme Court says about the arguments in this case may be helpful.

The parents had a number of arguments. They claimed that Missouri laws against state aid to religious schools prevented, or at least seriously impaired, the free exercise of their religion because the state does not subsidize religious schools. This, they claimed, is in violation of their guaranteed rights under the First, Ninth, and Fourteenth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

On September 23, 1971, a three-judge district court ruled against the parents. The judges cited a number of U.S. Supreme Court decisions and said that a parent's right to choose a religious private

school for his children may not be equated with a right to insist that the state pay for such an education.

The parents asked the court to "compel" the state of Missouri "to extend the benefits of gratuitous instruction, free schools, free transportation, free text books and other resources in training to all students, regardless of race, creed or color."

The appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court complained that the Missouri laws prohibiting parochial aid have the effect "to establish secular humanism as the official religion of the state of Missouri in violation of the establishment clause of the First Amendment."

The parents contended that though their taxes helped to support public school programs, they were "compelled" by their beliefs to choose religious education. They said they were free to choose public schools for their children "only if they disregard their conscience."

The Supreme Court upheld the decision of the district court that the First Amendment does not require the state to help a parent educate his child religiously with the use of tax-raised money.

From what is reported of the arguments advanced by the lawyers for the parents it should not have been a very hard decision for the highest court.

In spite of the continuing number of such decisions efforts are still being made by the White House in behalf of the Catholics to dodge the clear intent of the Constitution and to mix church and state — which might turn out to the detriment of both.

NOTE:

A few days after this article was written another parochial school aid law was struck down by the courts (April 27). The 1970 law which gave \$28 million to parochial schools in New York State was declared unconstitutional. The challenge was brought primarily by PEARL and was argued by Leo Pfeffer, who has been successful in similar Supreme Court cases.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for May 20, 1972

THE CHURCH'S TEACHING MINISTRY
Lesson Scripture: 1 Tim. 4:6-12; 2 Tim. 2:1-2.

Tract Board Looks Ahead

The quarterly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the American Sabbath Tract Society was held in the Board Room of the Seventh Day Baptist Building at Plainfield, N. J., Sunday afternoon, April 16, with seventeen members present. The full meeting had been preceded by meetings of three committees and a hot lunch served by the Plainfield ladies.

The corresponding secretary reported on the requests for information and literature and the mailing of 11,600 tracts of which nearly 3,000 went to foreign mission fields. Special mention was made of a new 14-page mimeographed paper started in February in the Philippines and made possible by equipment provided by the board in January. The work is tentatively organized as a conference and shows a great deal of vigor. Correspondence comes from two principal leaders but also from several others. All of the members of the Cebu City church are familiar with English.

The Publications Committee at its April 16 meeting recommended the publication of a major revision of the tract "Has the Original Sabbath Been Lost?" under the title "The Seventh Day of the Bible is the Seventh Day of the Calendar." Results of a survey on printing the words of the hymns used in the worship services of our anniversary Conference last August did not indicate enough interest to justify the expense. At the Committee's recommendation the board voted to contribute \$100 each to the Burma, Philippines, and India Conferences to assist them in mimeographing or printing tracts in their languages. In the case of India that amount is increased to \$300 by gifts designated for that purpose.

The Sabbath Promotion Committee noted that its major work, just accomplished, was preparing materials for Sabbath Renewal Day, May 20. The chairman, Herbert E. Saunders, noted the forthcoming advertisements of his Sabbath book in three publications. Other proposals for the coming year include solicitation of short Sabbath articles for the *Sabbath Recorder*, the possible publication of a book of ideas on ways to keep

the Sabbath and the possible publication of bimonthly colorful bulletin inserts regarding Sabbath observance with such titles as "The Sabbath for Rest," "The Sabbath for Worship," "The Sabbath for Instruction," "The Sabbath for Fellowship," and "The Sabbath for Service."

The Audio and Visual Services Committee, now divided into six subcommittees, reported working on various evaluations and forward-looking projects. A beginning has been made in a cassette ministry which can be further expanded with the use of a new piece of equipment that will copy three cassette tapes at a time. Other equipment is also being added to the sound studio which is now nearing completion. The problem of transporting the amplification and recording equipment to Conference at Denver was considered.

The publishing house work was reported by the Supervisory Committee. It was noted that the printing deadlines were being met for denominational publications though there have been delays. Volume III of *Seventh Day Baptists in Europe and America* is now paged and indexed and the paper purchased. *A Manual of Procedures for Seventh Day Baptist Churches* was recently sent to the printer with delivery promised by August 1.

The editor of the *Sabbath Recorder* gave an encouraging report of that publication and noted that study by a denominational committee on our future periodical needs was authorized by Commission and Planning Committee. The secretary-editor again stated that he would like to retire as soon as practicable. A committee of the board headed by Owen Probasco of Shiloh will seek a replacement.

MEMORY TEXT

"If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me" (Psa. 139:9-10).

Guest Speaker

Eastern Association

John H. Noble of Muncy, Pa., will be the featured speaker at the meetings of the Eastern Association of Seventh Day Baptists, to be held in Westerly, R. I., May 19-21. Mr. Noble spent nine and a half years in a Siberian slave labor camp, and speaks out today in behalf of those still enslaved in Communist Russia. He was taken, even though an American citizen, by the Russians, at the end of World War II from the family home in Dresden, Germany, enslaved at several prison camps in East Germany, then sent for nine and a half years to Vorkuta, near the Arctic Ocean.

In his camp — one of some 200 in the area — were prisoners from some seventy nations; some kidnapped out of their country, others arrested as they were travelling, many from armed or diplomatic services. In the first prison camp where he was detained, he was one of only 22 or 23 out of 700 prisoners who survived. The rest either committed suicide, died of starvation, or were executed. This typifies his experiences during his nine and a half years in captivity. He speaks out now on behalf of many other Americans that he knows are still captives in the Soviet Union.

When he and his father were first imprisoned, in Dresden, they were each put in solitary confinement for seven months. As this confinement began, and starvation was used along with it, he spent much time in reflection. He realized that God was his only hope — perhaps through prayer he would survive. As he prayed at first with uncertainty, but with ever increasing conviction and certainty, he saw his prayers being answered. He prayed, "If there is to be life, Lord, it will not be mine anymore, it will be yours."

With this complete commitment, his strength returned — he was able to stand on his own feet, and to speak. He concludes that you have to walk hand in hand with the Lord, otherwise you can't have such an experience.

In Mr. Noble's view of things we have two choices — either we serve the Lord or we aid the Communist cause.

National Council Jewish Relations

When the General Board of the NCC met recently in Charlotte, N. C., Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, director of the American Jewish Committee Institute of Human Relations, was invited to attend as an observer. He was impressed with the action taken regarding Jewish relations and set forth his reactions in a news release.

"The council adopted unanimously a resolution condemning the denial of religious freedom and human rights of Soviet Jews, Christians, intellectuals and other dissidents in Russia," Rabbi Tanenbaum said, "and urged continued Christian support nationally and internationally of efforts to secure those rights."

The council also accepted for study a report on Jerusalem which, Rabbi Tanenbaum said, "sought to harmonize the interests of Jews, Christians and Muslims in Jerusalem. The report's most dramatic conclusion was its recommendation that the National Council of Churches reject any proposals for the internationalization of the City of Jerusalem."

In our "far too polarized society," Rabbi Tanenbaum said, "such bridge-building should be welcomed as a positive good."

Our Prayer Corner

Suggestions for Prayer This Week

Pray for:

1) The pastors and other leaders preparing messages and witnessing programs for Sabbath Renewal Day.

2) The Eastern Association meetings at Westerly, May 19-21, and the ministry of the forty-five visiting musicians and guests from Victory Tabernacle in New York who are expected.

3) The strengthening of the convictions and the work of leaders who have recently come to the Sabbath truth from their study of the Bible.

4) The new leaders in the Philippines and other countries who have requested prayer.

Ponderings

of One Woman's Liberation

Those of you who have suddenly been swept from the secure setting of the home to a man's world, may share some of my discoveries or have some contributions of your own.

Today I am responsible for a business. Yesterday I was a mother, part time employed.

Yesterday I had no need to face legalities or business decisions alone.

Today each decision must be mine.

Thank you, Lord, for being my partner.

Yesterday I could follow 1 Peter 3:1 explicitly.

Today I am still the same person but I do not fit.

I think and feel what my friends of the old days cannot share. Yet I crave to be understood by a woman.

With my background for homemaking I do not easily make the adjustment, nor do I enjoy matching wits and fitting into a man's competitive planning.

Keep me a lady, Lord, for all of that.

Thank you, Lord, for seeing me through this one and giving me the courage to wear the poker face.

Keep me alert and thinking clearly; but it would be nice to again be solving problems together in our home. Guess that's asking too much. Intimate sharing doesn't go hand in hand with liberation. Where, Lord, are the passages in your Word which apply to my new situation, for I need guidance.

I don't find the way clear cut.

—from a reader

*These ponderings from one of our women who prefers anonymity must find an echo in many hearts.

Do note that while they are called "ponderings" they are really beautiful poetry.

We will welcome any comments, or any answers to the questions that are raised.

In addition to this contribution, the women's page editor has received a lovely poem which would have been rewarding to print, except that we find it is copyrighted.

Westerly Women Working

It's that time of the year again. April has brought us to the close of a very busy year, and the start of another.

We have continued to prepare and serve food at an amazing rate — for: World Federation meetings, camp retreats, traveling food baskets, wedding receptions, Christmas parties, musical presentations and family film nights, to say nothing of all the tea cakes and sandwiches, which would easily pave any roadway to Weight Watchers and back.

Our Christmas sale was once again a rousing success, showing the results of many weeks of hard work, cooperation and fun at work meetings.

Recycling our rummage remains one of our top money-making endeavors — we all bring a bit and take home a lot.

—Barbara Barber, president

Seven Thoughts Concerning Holy Writ

By John L. Waggaman

- 1—Does a black, grain-leather binding of tissue thin gold-edged paper impart holiness to a book?
- 2—Perhaps sacred writings should be in the form of a scroll?
- 3—Which of the current translations of holy works is the holier?
- 4—What do you mean by "Holy"?
- 5—Must each of us spend a lifetime learning ancient Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek that we may read the original text ourselves? Or can we trust the scholars, in their knowledge, not only of the languages but also of the times and customs, have translated them for us?
- 6—Is the translation you were brought up with the "only translation" for you? Is it "the Bible" and all other translations false or merely interesting sidelights on how someone else has interpreted the original?
- 7—Who said, "You can't judge a book by its cover?"

TO: All Seventh Day Baptists and Friends

SUBJECT: S.C.S.C.

The year 1972 will long be remembered by twenty-one young people as one of the most outstanding and rewarding summers in their lives. On June 6 the following young people will arrive in Euless, Texas, to begin extensive training for their summer's works Christine Ayars, Deborah Barber, Ruth Burdick, Leon Clare, Paul Davis, Jim Goodrich, Jim Gardner, Larry Graffius, Daniel Greene, Gareth Hemminger, Francis Hathcoat, Bob Kagarise, Patricia Lawton, Sylvia Nida, Margaret Pederson, Patricia Pederson, Earl Soper, Valerie Steele, Ida Vaught, Martha Welch and Janice Williams. June 6-12 will be spent with our own training staff consisting of Florence Bowden (counselor/teacher), David Clarke (teacher/summer coordinator), Dale Harris (site/arrangements), Leon Lawton (training director), Mynor Soper (counselor/teacher) and Doris Van Horn (cook). June 12-17 will be spent in attendance at Explo '72 with a short evaluation session from June 18-20. The following churches have requested workers this summer and the workers will leave June 20 for these assignments: Dodge Center, North Loup, Paint Rock, Pawcatuck, Plainfield, Salem, Seattle, Battle Creek, Little Rock, and the Allegheny Association.

Because of the extended training time, each worker has been asked to contribute \$35 towards his/her registration at Explo '72 and expenses while in training. Due to the large number participating this summer, the geographical location of the church projects, and due to the training session being located in Euless, we anticipate our program to run as much as \$7,000. To date the Women's Board has received approximately \$2,000 in contributions. This program operates entirely on contributions from churches, organizations, and individuals. We cannot function without YOUR help. We think this program is an effective outreach for our denomination and will be one of our most vital efforts in future years if we can continue to support our young people. Please give your support to this program and send your contribution to Mrs. Bobby Wright, treasurer, Seventh Day Baptist Women's Board, 1010 South Street, Louisville, Colo. 80027.

Yours in Christ,
Myrna Cox (Mrs. Gary)
Chairman, S.C.S.C. Committee
Boulder, Colo.

CONTEMPORARY THEOLOGY

"Evangelism requires a theology and all theology should be evangelism in some way." With these words Pieter De Jong begins to conclude his remarkable evaluation of evangelism in the light of six important theologians of our day. His book, *Evangelism and Contemporary Theology* (Tidings, Nashville, Tenn., 1962), reviews the basic theological position of Reinhold Niebuhr, Paul Tillich, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Emil Brunner, Karl Barth, and Rudolph Bultman, and tries to share a method of evangelism that would meet the needs of men today. Used as a guide for small group discussion on contemporary theology and evangelism it would offer the students a glimpse of what great theologians are thinking and at the same time lead them forth to offer the message of salvation to the world.

Chapter I discusses Niebuhr's "Doctrine of Man." The whole man ought to be the Christian's concern. "Evangelism . . . is . . . the expression of genuine concern for the whole man." As we serve God we must realize that every man is a child of God and needs to be physically fed, clothed, sheltered, and spiritually sustained. "Evangelism," writes De Jong, "is a matter of God's grace and human responsibility—a paradox which is incomprehensible from the merely logical point of view, but which has profound meaning for faith."

Tillich's "Method of Correlation" constitutes the basis for chapter two. We all have questions and seek for answers. The purpose of evangelism is to face the questions people ask with concern and faith, live the answering of those questions with them and bringing to new light the hope that is expressed in Christian experience. "Evangelism requires solidarity. It means entering into other people's lives as Christ entered them in the spirit of compassion and sympathy." We seek people out and share their concerns and bring something to fill their void.

In chapter III the author discusses Bonhoeffer's attempt to find the answer

to what the gospel has to say to the world of men. It is the search for identity in others that ought to compel Christian evangelism. As men search for the ultimate answers to the inevitable questions, the Christian fills the void and shares his unique relationship with God. This offers others the way.

Chapter IV discusses the "Point of Contact" between God and men offered in the theological position of Emil Brunner. Regardless of what God does in salvation, man remains responsible to himself and to others as he relates to God's work in his life. ". . . we approach everybody in the awareness that each person stands in responsibility to God. When we proclaim God to a nonbeliever, we are not introducing a completely new factor. God may be unknown in that person's life, but He has been there all the time without the person knowing it." Evangelism, then, approaches man in his unique and individual responsibility to God and other men.

Karl Barth and his theology of the "Uniqueness of the Christian Faith" constitute the basis for chapter V. The emphasis is upon whether or not our evangelistic effort has been true to the faith we embrace. "Not Christianity," writes De Jong, "but Christ, is unique; and He judges all human religion. This implies that we do not bring Christianity in evangelism, but Christ. We must point away from ourselves to Him whom we bring." The tragedy of most modern Christian evangelism has been the "church oriented search" rather than the "person oriented search." It is people, in relation to the unique person of Jesus that are our primary Christian concern.

Finally, De Jong discusses "Decision" in relation to the gospel presented to space-age man, as reflected in the theological insight to Rudolph Bultmann. The real message of Christian faith—the gospel—is a space-age theology. "The plain truth," he writes, "is that the world is not offended at the Cross but at the wrong representation of the Christian faith which requires a sacrifice of intellect where no sacrifice is necessary. Our first responsibility as Christians is to give a responsible picture of the content

of our faith." If we are honest and offer the "gospel" in its total reality and meaning, there is no need in our modern technological world to be ashamed of what it is, for it reaches every man equally. "We merely allow the Spirit of God to make the Christ a reality in our lives. God in Christ has decided in our favor. This is what the gospel proclaims. There is really only one choice left for us: to decide for him through the grace of God."

This book offers deep insight, not only into the theological position of men whose lives have changed many a Christian experience, but also into the needs of our modern age for a new approach to evangelism, the sharing of our unique faith. Its use in small groups would do much to enliven the thinking and witnessing of most Christians. No matter what way you consider to be the best to witness, something of truth and wisdom can be gleaned from his unique and thought provoking book.

—Herbert E. Saunders

LET'S THINK IT OVER

A Relevant Church

The problem of the church's finding ways to relate to or be relevant to the community is much the same in Europe as America. The Baptist Union of Scotland held a conference in Edinburgh last month with some outstanding speakers.

Dr. Nelson Gray, head of religious broadcasting, Scottish Broadcasting, led a panel discussion on the role of the church and then summed it up by giving four principles of a relevant church:

- (1) No church can serve or conduct outreach unless its members know the community;
- (2) The members must seek out and track down the hidden need in the community;
- (3) The church must create a relationship of trust;
- (4) It must win men and women for Christ outside the usual program of the church.

Councils Too Conservative?

Dr. Cynthia C. Wedel, president of the National Council of Churches, gave an address recently at Toledo at the U.S. Conference for the World Council of Churches. She spoke of two contradictory trends developing in church life which will continue to effect ecumenical relations.

"Many of us in leadership positions have lived with the conviction that the majority of lay people were conservative and opposed to the strong social stance of many churches and councils," she said, "But there are indications that—if this was ever true—it is changing rapidly."

In the past five or six years, she noted, both the WCC and the National Council of Churches have found that "while earlier criticism was almost always from the conservative side, today there is as much, or more, from those who view the councils and churches as too traditional, establishment, and unconcerned with the real issues of the day."

"At the moment we can't win, no matter what we do, but indications are that the American people — and perhaps people everywhere — are moving toward a more liberal stance. This will be of major significance to the ecumenical future."

Whether or not you agree with the last two sentences may depend on what you have observed from your vantage point. Does her statement imply that in the future only those who are committed to an increasingly liberal position will feel at home in the NCC and WCC?

Alcohol Fact

It is an outstanding but little known fact that thirty-two percent of the adult population of this country chooses not to use alcoholic beverages. Morris E. Chafetz, M.D., director of NIAA (National Institute on Alcohol Abuses) says:

"I respect that right of the individual who chooses not to use alcohol, and I think we have to come up with social parameters that allow these people to feel that they are not queer, different, unsocial, or dehumanized because they don't go along with the crowd . . ."

Council on the Ministry

The Seventh Day Baptist Council on the Ministry is the new name for the Council on Ministerial Education by act of General Conference, 1971.

The council held its annual meeting, beginning, on the night after the Sabbath, April 15, and continued through Sunday afternoon, April 16, 1972, in the parsonage of the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church, Milton, Wis.

The entire council was present. Members are the Rev. Earl Cruzan, chairman; the Rev. Don A. Sanford, secretary; Mr. J. Leland Skaggs, treasurer; Dr. Kenneth Smith; all of Milton; the Rev. Glen Warner, Denver, Colo.; and Dr. K. Duane Hurley, Salem, W. Va. The dean of the Seventh Day Baptist Center for Ministerial Education, Plainfield, N. J., the Rev. Rex E. Zwiebel, also was in attendance.

Center activities for the past fifteen months were reviewed. These included: weekend seminars with students enrolled in the program, the annual Summer Institute for the enrolled students and pastors who are working toward accreditation by our denomination, efforts in continuing education for our pastors, and areas where the dean shares in related denominational programs.

The dean reported two enrolled students shared in the Center program the first semester of 1971-72: Miss Elaine Kuehn, a junior at Union Theological Seminary in New York, and Mr. Melvin Stephan, a middler at Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, D. C.

At the start of the second semester Mr. David Pearson, a senior at Eastern Baptist Theological School, Philadelphia, Pa., was enrolled. He will receive his Master's degree in Missions on May 21 at Eastern.

Guidance was given by the council in regard to the continuing education for ministers, requests for specialized help, ministerial support, ministerial retirement, and areas into which the dean is moving.

A report from the denominational Committee on Ministerial Support was considered and accepted.

A vote of confidence was extended for the work of the dean.

Proposals and recommendations are being sent to commission and General Conference.

Ministerial Student Weekend Seminar

The final session of seven weekend seminars for Seventh Day Baptist theological students was held, April 21-23, at the Center in Plainfield, N. J.

Joining the three regularly enrolled students were Mrs. Melvin (Yvonne) Stephan, Mrs. David (Bettie) Pearson, and Mr. Peter Stonestrom.

The theolog wives met for two sessions with Miss Florence Bowden. Others who joined with them included local Seventh Day Baptist ministers' wives: Barbara Saunders, Janette Rogers, Iris Maltby, Ethel Wheeler, and Jaunita Zwiebel.

Mr. Stonestrom joined the theologs under Dean Rex Zwiebel.

The main topic for both groups was, "The Minister's Wife as Counselor." On Sunday morning the men joined the ladies in reporting and discussing the findings from the previous sessions.

We are very grateful for the help of Miss Bowden who gives her time and abilities in this important endeavor.

CHRISTMAS

A Boy was born at Bethlehem
that knew the haunts of Galilee.
He wandered on Mount Lebanon,
and learned to love each forest tree.

But I was born at Marlborough,
and love the homely faces there;
and for all other men besides
'tis little love I have to spare.

I should not mind to die for them,
my own dear downs, my comrades true;
But that great heart at Bethlehem,
He died for men He never knew.

And yet, I think, at Golgotha,
as Jesus' eyes were closed in death,
they saw with love most passionate
the village street at Nazareth.

—Edward Hilton Young

Delinquent Churches

A new phrase was coined by the Race and Minorities Task Force at the White House Conference on Youth held at Estes Park, Colo. In one of the recommendations to the President this task force spoke of "delinquent churches" rather than delinquent youth or parents. Churches in the inner-cities which do not open their facilities to community groups serving the poor should lose their tax exempt status, declared this group. Scores of other recommendations aimed at eliminating racism and discrimination against minority groups were prepared, many of which were not acted upon by the full conference of 1,500 delegates.

The task force recommending taxing "delinquent" churches was one of ten groups meeting simultaneously. The adult chairman of this 146-member group with 97 young people was David Eaton, senior minister of All Souls Unitarian Church in Washington, D. C.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

PLAINFIELD, N. J.—Our Passover Seder on Sabbath Eve, March 31, was a unique and meaningful experience. Sixty-two members and guests sat at candlelit tables in a large circle all around the Sabbath School room and alcove. Pastor Saunders, who planned the service, was the celebrant, or leader, and the Rev. Alton Wheeler was the narrator. The celebration was as near like that of Jesus and His disciples at the Last Supper as possible. It included Scripture, hymns, the first, second, and third cups, eating the matzoth and the bitter herb, and the Passover feast. This delicious meal, prepared by the ladies, began with boiled eggs and included roast lamb, vegetables, matzoth (unleavened bread), and cake. The Lord's Supper concluded the celebration.

Our 134th annual meeting was held the afternoon of April 9 with the Rev. Albert Rogers as moderator. The clerk reported a total of 103 members, of whom five are associate. The average Sabbath School attendance during the year was up from 52 to 57. It was voted to continue the Master Plan Committee,

which reported that the new rest room would soon be finished.

The treasurer's report indicated that we were in a satisfactory financial position. Total giving had amounted to \$18,638, compared with \$17,683 in 1971 and \$11,152 in 1968. New endowment amounted to \$9,769. A budget of \$21,590 for local expenses was adopted.

Our pastor's report revealed a great deal of denominational and community work done besides his regular responsibilities. One extra job was conducting thirty-five hours of lecture and discussion on the Sabbath at the June ministerial institute. He has prepared monthly calendars containing church appointments and birthdays, written birthday letters to the members of the congregation, and prepared a filmstrip on the Holy Land for distribution.

It was voted that the Rev. Albert Rogers be Minister of Stewardship and the Rev. Rex Zwiebel be Minister of Christian Education. The following officers were elected: Alton Wheeler, moderator; Albert Rogers, vice-moderator; Anna North, clerk; Charles North, treasurer; Phillip Van Horn, assistant treasurer; Thomas Curtis, trustee; Janette Rogers, Etta O'Connor, and Jean McAllister, Sabbath School superintendent, secretary, and treasurer.

The covered-dish supper was in charge of the Fellowship Committee, which had served nine covered-dish dinners during the year, or a total of 340 meals.

Future plans include our participation in the neighborhood vacation church school, with the help of four SCSC young people, who will be with us for six weeks and will also assist in visitation. We look forward to a year of further outreach and growth.

—Correspondent

BATTLE CREEK, MICH.—Lay leaders conducted our Sabbath morning worship services and delivered the sermons during the month of January while our pastor, the Rev. S. Kenneth Davis, and his family vacationed in Jamaica, Kingston, Jamaica, is, of course, where Pastor Ken's mother, Mrs. Courtland (Frankie) Davis,

makes her home. Our pastor's vacation began after his bi-monthly visit with the Ohio Fellowship on January 8. The family, including daughter Susan Bond and children, drove to Daytona Beach, where Pastor Ken delivered the sermon on Sabbath Day, January 15. Arriving in Jamaica after a flight from Miami, they spent a week visiting and touring the island. That Sabbath the pastor gave the sermon in Kingston. The family stopped in Salem on the trip back North, where the pastor also delivered a Sabbath Day sermon on January 29.

"Scout Sabbath" was held February 5 in honor of our church-sponsored Scout troop, which includes an average of seven neighborhood and church-associated boys. The service emphasized the fact that the Scout laws are based on many of Christ's teachings. A Meal of Sharing followed the service, with an offering being taken for the troop. Then, a "Court of Honor" was held, and five Scouts received their Tenderfoot Badges. The troop's scoutmaster is Donald Beatty.

Various churches in the area have sponsored the Fish organization; and, this year, our church has voted to do so. Our pastor is the coordinator for this group of Christians of many denominations which provides temporary and emergency help to people in need. At the present time one-third of the volunteers are Seventh Day Baptists; but, as the program becomes better known, it is hoped that many more churches will take part.

We are looking forward to having the Rev. Paul Maxson with us this summer as our assistant pastor. He will be arriving in June and be primarily in charge of our camping program at Camp Holston.

Plans for insulating and heating the camp for yearlong use are now being considered by our trustees. Bids are also being received for the construction of a camp recreation court. A major portion of the funds for this paved, multi-purpose recreation court will come from the Rev. Eugene N. Fatato Memorial Fund. Any remaining funds in the Fatato Memorial will be applied towards the purchase of a church bus for camp, church, and Scout use.

An overhead projector and thermo-

duplicator have been purchased with the funds given in memory of Dorothy Green, and a scholarship loan fund for higher education is to be established in memory of Bessie Aurand.

Our church's first pictorial directory is to be published shortly. The directory, printed by a photographic company specializing in church pictorial directories at no cost to the church, will contain pictures of church activities, church members, and have a complete listing of church members and friends. There was no obligation to members to have their pictures taken for the directory, but many did purchase prints of the pictures for family and friends.

We held our annual Candlelight Communion Service April 7 in the church's social room. In an atmosphere reminiscent of the Last Supper, we heard letters of greeting from absent members and testimonies from those present.

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SHILOH, N. J.—In early March we had a very well-attended series of deeper life and evangelism studies led by Home Field Evangelist Mynor Soper. The program included evangelistic visitation. Many of our people received a blessing.

Following several weeks of study with the pastor twelve young people were baptized and received into the church recently.

Our candlelight communion service held in the Fellowship Hall was a time of sharing and preparation for Easter Sabbath. The pastor has asked several who have had deeper experience to give their testimonies in the morning service.

An Easter Sunrise Service at Jersey Oaks Camp was arranged by the Tri-C Sabbath School Class. Pastor Donald Richards of the Marlboro church brought the message.

On Sabbath night, April 15, the New Christian Minstrels, a singing group from Salem College which has been touring the churches of the Southeastern Association, gave an inspiring program of singing and testimony in our church. Their theme was "To Know Him and Make Him Known."

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On April 15 we dedicated the upstairs of our Parish House. We have been working toward this for nearly twelve years. Now it will be used by our young people for parties and get togethers.

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Marriages

McNally - Halterman.— Thomas L. McNally of San Bernardino, Calif., and Lucille Ruth Halterman of San Bernardino, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Leon M. Maltby, were united in marriage by the Rev. Duane L. Davis, April 14, 1972, at the Seventh Day Baptist Church, Riverside, Calif.

Obituaries

SANFORD.— Elmer Hurley, son of Carl L. and Gertrude Hurley Sanford, was born at Gentry, Ark., March 16, 1903, and died at Kent, Wash., April 14, 1972.

He attended Milton College from 1921 to 1927. He was baptized and joined the Welton, Ia., Seventh Day Baptist Church in 1915. He later held membership in the Marlboro, N. J., and the Milton, Wis., churches. The funeral services were from the St. James Episcopal Church in Kent.

Mr. Sanford is survived by his wife Beryle; his sons: Richard of Kalamazoo, Mich.; Ronnie of Shelton, Wash.; and Robert of Newport Beach, Calif.; and daughters: Robin Anderson of Ellensburg, Wash.; Lynette Calkins of Seattle, Wash.; and Barbara of Battle Creek, Mich.; a sister, Talva Wulf of Dodge Center, Minn.; and a brother Paul of Anaheim, Calif., and sixteen grandchildren.

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SHAMU.— Delores E., daughter of George and Margaret (Maak) Shamu of Hungary, was born Sept. 10, 1928, at Sharon, Pa., and was killed by a passing truck April 6, 1972, at Riverside, Calif.

She was baptized and became a member of the Riverside Seventh Day Baptist Church in June 1969. She was faithful in attendance and helped in any way she was able.

She is survived by three brothers and three sisters, only one of whom lives in Riverside.

Graveside services and interment were in Olivewood Cemetery, Riverside, with the Rev. Donald I. Phillips officiating.

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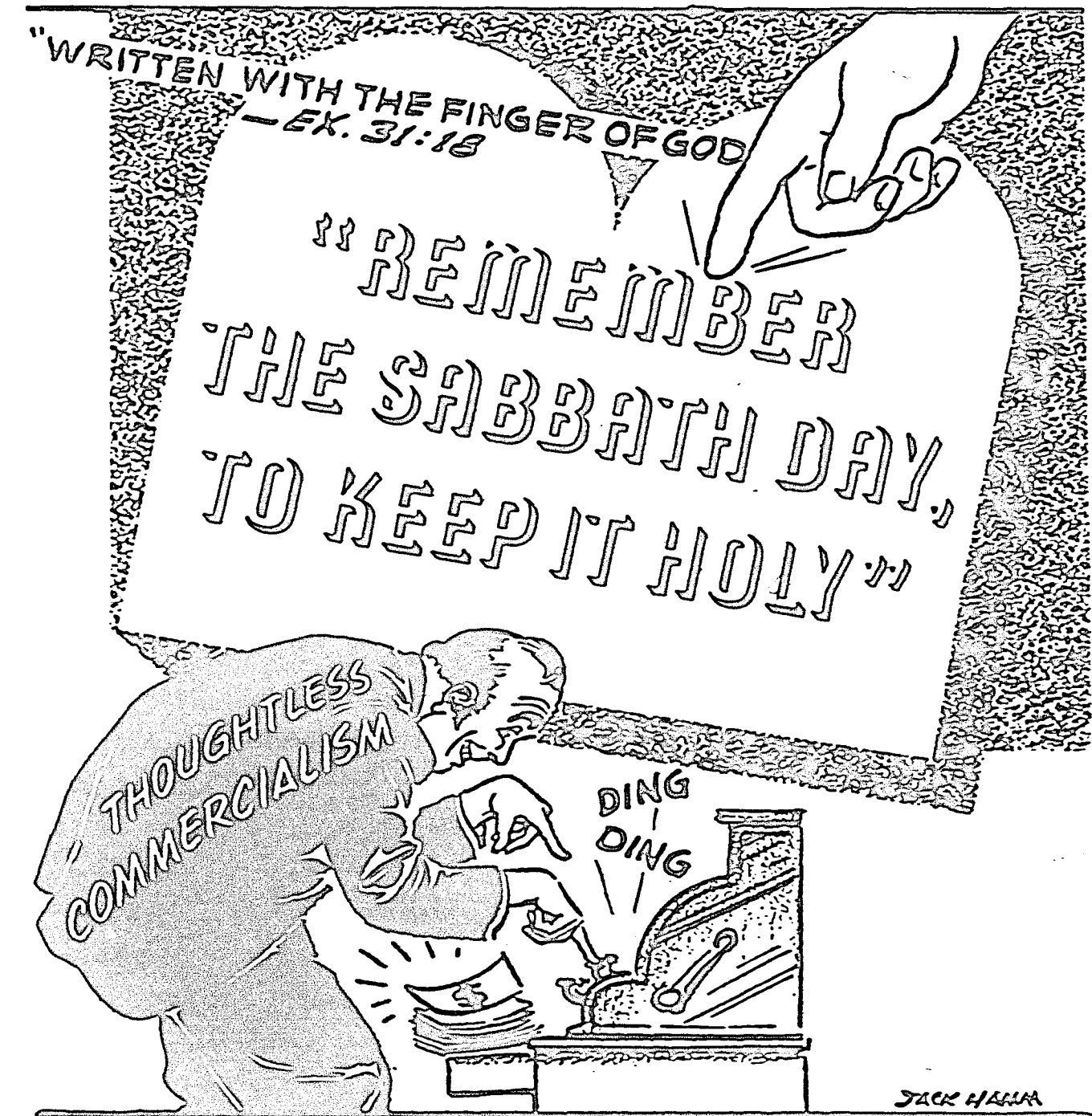
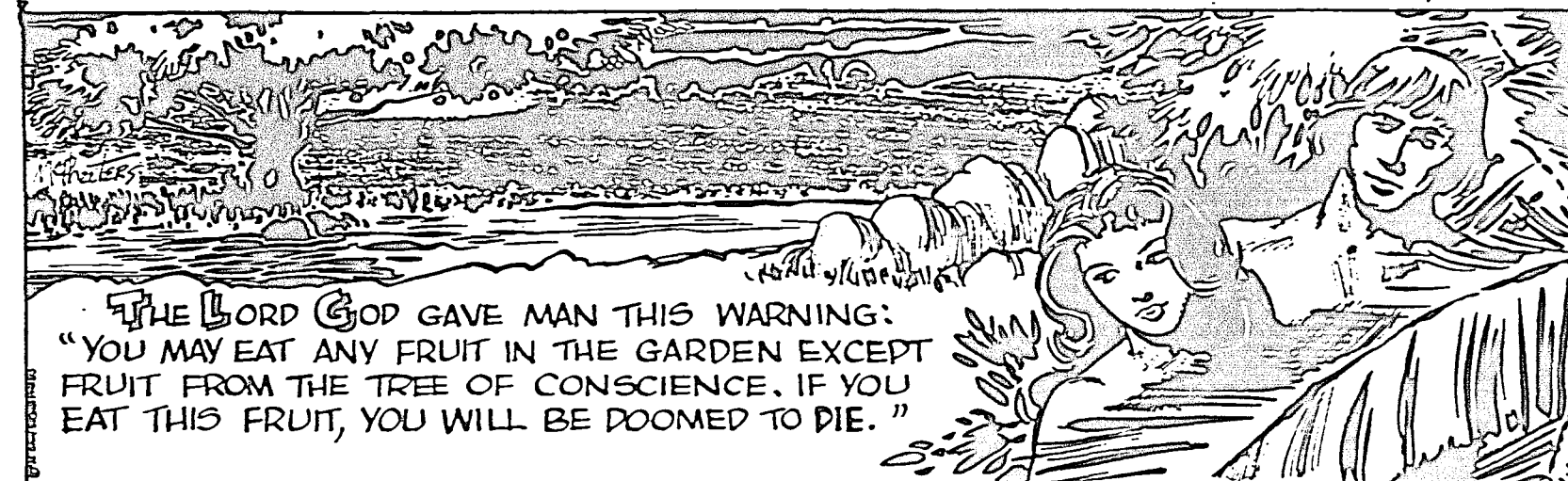
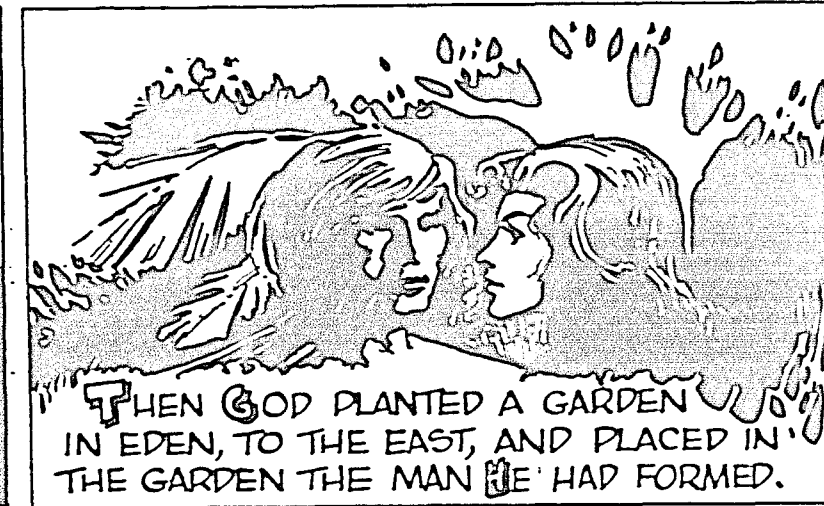
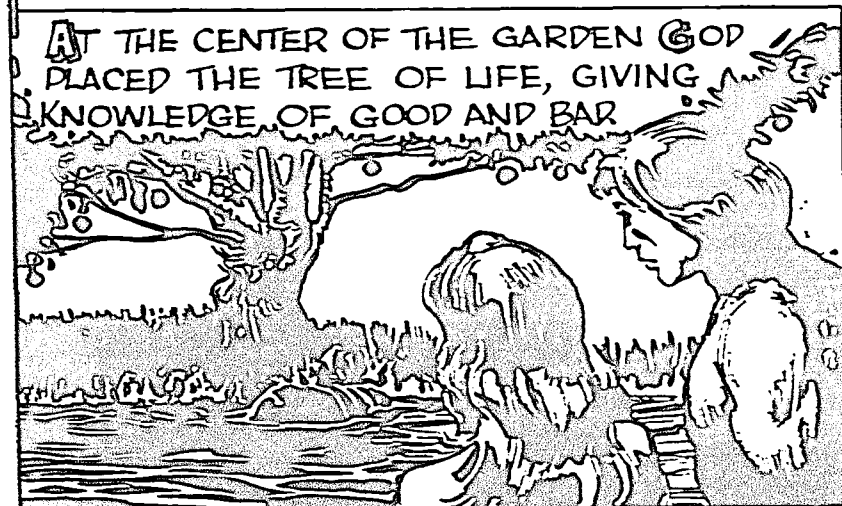
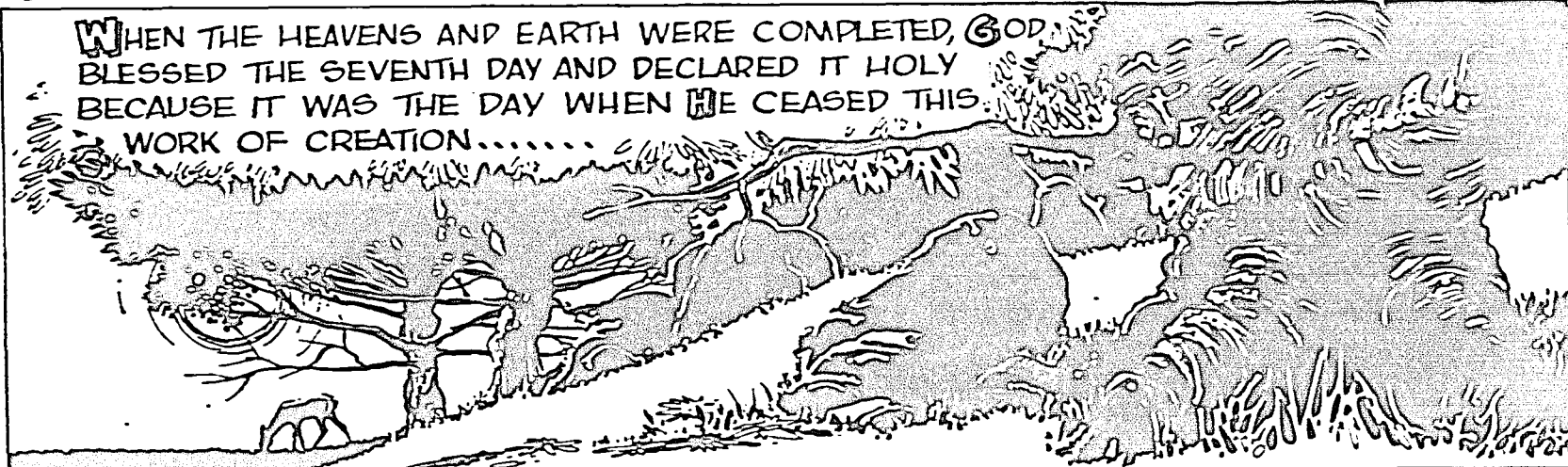
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