

The Sabbath Recorder

Sorry for the Delay

Quite a number of California people on the *Mission Notes* mailing list did not get their October 14 copies until very recently. The Postmaster at Garden Grove sent back a bundle saying it was received "in extremely bad condition." He was right! Somewhere along the way that bundle must have been dunked. They were stuck solidly together. Our mailing department deciphered the addresses and replaced the ruined copies on Nov. 10.

There is no charge for *Mission Notes*. The extra printing and mailing costs of about \$100 are hopefully covered by donations to the *Mission Notes* treasurer, Mrs. Edgar Wheeler, Ashaway, R.I.

Narrowing the Generation Gap

An eighty-nine-year-old subscriber from the West Coast, where there are all varieties of Jesus People, comments on the young people: "I am a little amazed at our young folks. I hope they are sincere Christians and I think they are. I see so much of the Jesus People in California and admire the way they get the young people in off the streets and teach them the Bible. The music they play and sing is a little beyond me, but I can listen and pray for souls to be saved."

Such an attitude can be appreciated by the sincere young people and is a good attempt to narrow the generation gap. The *Sabbath Recorder*, which notes such things and opens its columns to the youthful writers, hopes to serve all ages and thus narrow the areas of misunderstanding which constitute that generation gap.

Madame Chiang Kai-Shek Thanks Irwin for Witness

Madame Chiang Kai-Shek thanked former astronaut James B. Irwin for his Christian witness to the youth of her country when Irwin called on her at her residence at Taipei, Taiwan, recently.

She told Irwin that in this age, with its many problems and much knowledge, it is very helpful to have a person who has achieved much in a scientific field to share his faith in God and in Jesus Christ.

Prior to the interview, Irwin had addressed thousands of students at several colleges and universities of this island nation, officially called the Republic of China.

His major public appearance was at the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Hall, which was packed by 3,600 people who came to hear the lunar explorer testify of his faith in Christ and call his listeners to make their own Christian commitment. More than 100 persons responded publicly to Irwin's invitation.

Underwood personally thanked Madame Chiang "for her life as a Christian and offered the gratitude "of the Christians of America for her remarkable Christian testimony."

She asked Underwood to tell American Christians of her appreciation for their prayers, adding "we have problems and difficulties so great that only God can solve them. Please keep praying for us."

—BP

Doubtful Success

The men who try to do something and fail are infinitely better than those who try to do nothing and succeed. — Jones



Christ's Coming Is for All Men

The prophecies fulfilled in the coming of Christ, though involving birth and childhood, were for men of mature understanding including wise men from the East. In wisdom we honor the birth of Jesus and revere Him as the Son of God and Prince of Peace. Let us ponder God's plan and our part in it at this season of joy.

The Sabbath Recorder

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White Christmas Gifts

Church bulletins received by the editor provide information about various local church projects and are interesting reading as they picture the life of the church. One of the projects fostered each year in a good many of our churches is what has come to be called white Christmas gifts. Gifts for family and friends are traditionally wrapped in gaily colored paper. A custom has developed in church programs of wrapping in white paper the gifts most unselfishly given to the Christ Child or to Christian causes.

The idea of white gifts in kind that could be used by the less unfortunate has given way to a large extent to special gifts of money through the church or Sabbath School to causes not usually thought of or to provide something especially thoughtful to missionaries far from home. It is one way that the church as a whole or by classes can be involved in a kind of giving that seems in harmony with the gift of God's Son to the world nearly 2,000 years ago.

In many churches the giving of white gifts is part of the Nativity celebration or program on Christmas Eve or just a few days before. This satisfies the desires of children and adults to make unselfish gifts at the time of receiving gifts, but it is likely to mean that the designated recipients do not receive their gifts until weeks after Christmas if they live at a distance or on a mission field.

A growing number of churches are following the example of the Shiloh, N. J., church in making their white gifts several weeks before Christmas so that they can be distributed before December 25. This is a thoughtful thing to do. The Shiloh Sabbath School reported in the December 2 church bulletin white gifts totalling over \$1,000 that had already been voted out. Missionary money is accumulated by weekly special offerings in the various children's and adult classes. The classes contributed \$437 and the remainder (\$586.75) to make up the total was taken from the treasury. There were twenty-two individuals or causes on the Shiloh list this year, many of them individuals with some special need or performing some special service in which the church people are interested. Such gifts, adequately planned for through the

year, spread Christmas cheer very widely.

Smaller churches cannot distribute \$1,000, but they can have the same spirit and can search out places where their gifts in kind or in dollars can show that they are putting Christ into Christmas, not just giving to relatives and close friends.

New Ecumenical Movements

We have become accustomed to thinking of the ecumenical movement as referring primarily to such interdenominational organizations, as the National Council and the World Council of Churches. Since these two major bodies that catch public attention are concerned with church union and social issues we have come to think of ecumenism pretty much in these terms. Both the NCC and the WCC have a many-faceted ministry and both are involved to some extent in evangelistic as well as social emphasis programs, but perhaps because their membership is so inclusive it is much harder for them to agree on evangelistic programs than on pronouncements on social ills.

Are there new movements gaining momentum in America and the world that are both ecumenical and evangelistic? It would seem so.

The greatest interdenominational cooperation that our country has ever seen is now emerging. After many years of Billy Graham crusades that have cut across nearly all denominational barriers and have enlisted the cooperation of churches of far more denominations than hold membership in the National Council we have begun to see mass gatherings like Explo '72 at Dallas and the forthcoming evangelism program of Key '73 that enlists the cooperation of whole communities. It is a movement that attempts to do something that the liberal-oriented NCC long since gave up trying to do.

Evangelism under NCC sponsorship never got very far; it looks as if it might go far under the Key '73 banner. What may seem strange is that most of the NCC member conventions are getting in-

involved in Key '73. Perhaps it is a change of emphasis in local churches or an emergence of the evangelistic element that has newly awakened but was there all the time. It may not signify less interest in social action, but a major interest in applying the gospel to the whole man.

Key '73 is by no means the only movement sweeping the world that can rightly be called ecumenical. The charismatic movement with its emphasis of the gifts of the spirit, especially tongues-speaking, lays claim to being ecumenical. It is not limited to a few Pentecostal bodies but reaches into high churches and low, uniting Catholics and Protestants into a fellowship far closer and more meaningful to individuals than could be hoped for by membership in such bodies as the World Council of Churches.

The charismatic movement, whether we agree with it or not, is crossing all lands and oceans. In countries where there is a state church, where religious expression has been at a low ebb and where attendance has been a small fraction of membership a new wind (spirit) is blowing. Word comes from Sweden that there was held recently in Stockholm a five-day charismatic rally that drew 10,000 people. They came for fellowship in the Spirit from the Church of Sweden (Lutheran), Methodist, Congregationalist, Pentecostal, Salvation Army, Evangelical Lutheran, Fatherland Foundation, and Roman Catholic churches. Such widespread participation, in such numbers, in a country where the churches have been counted as pretty irrelevant and dead may say something about cooperation and new power.

It is primarily among the youth of European countries as well as in the United States that a new ecumenicity with power is manifesting itself. The Jesus People (which doesn't always mean the same thing) are mostly youth. They are Bible-studying, witnessing young people who have grasped the essence of the gospel of love and have found the Person who satisfies where drugs and sex did not.

England and Ireland are experiencing

the revival of youth across all social and denominational boundaries through the Jesus Movement. Much the same is reported from the Netherlands and the Germanic and Romance language countries. Evangelical youth are invited to hold meetings in Catholic buildings. European Baptist Press Service reports that in Stockholm alone there are 100 Jesus groups meeting regularly. The churches are moving to accommodate to the more free testimony-type service desired by the revitalized youth.

This brief listing of movements that are ecumenical in scope is by no means complete. It is enough, however, to indicate that there is a new wind blowing in the Church today. Older ecumenical organizations are not necessarily at odds with these new cooperative movements and will not disappear in the face of them. However, church leaders do well to observe these new ships whose sails are not slack. They are not becalmed, but their prows are cutting water toward definite evangelistic goals.

Current Jerusalem Situation

Evan M. Wilson who was American Consul General at Jerusalem from 1964 to 1967 has made some significant statements about what one could observe about Arab-Israeli relations if he were in Jerusalem in 1972. He notes:

"Economically the Arab working class is enjoying an unprecedented prosperity with thousands of Arab laborers being employed at far higher wages than they previously earned. Municipal services have been consolidated and improved, and the energetic mayor of Jerusalem, Teddy Kollek, is doing all he can to help all the citizens of the city.

"On the West Bank of Jordan similar developments are taking place. There is the same prosperity for the laboring class, and there is considerable trade across the Jordan with the East Bank."

Mr. Wilson notes the concern of the Christian churches of Jerusalem over the continuing exodus of the Christian Arab population. They are the better educated Arabs who have made up the leadership

of the churches (which are mostly Arab rather than Jewish Christian). Because of the apparent steady Judaization of the city these middle class Arabs feel that they have no future in Jerusalem. The writer thinks that this will continue and that the "Holy City" will become less and less the international religious and world center that it has been.

There is little concern now about the security or general availability of the places counted sacred by three world religions. Neither is there much talk of internationalizing all or part of the city as there was a few years ago.

If Arab church leadership is diminishing it may be harder to maintain Protestant and Catholic churches, which are already heavily subsidized. The buildings are in most cases much larger than can be justified by the small size of their resident congregations. The most apparent solution of the local leadership problem is a more aggressive evangelization of the growing Jewish population. That is not as easy as it may sound, for the Orthodox Jewish leadership in the government strongly resists such efforts. Religious freedom in Israel, as in Greece, does not include full freedom to propagate one's Christian faith. However, there are signs that Jewish immigrants in considerable numbers are reading the Bible (including the New Testament in Hebrew) and are accepting Christ as their Messiah.

Along with this Bible reading there is good opportunity for pointing out that Jewish Christians can maintain and fortify their Sabbath convictions. Fortunately there are a few Sabbathkeeping evangelists who have come out of an Orthodox Jewish background. It is easier to keep the Sabbath in Jerusalem than to keep Sunday. A number of Protestant churches hold services on the rest day of the city as a matter of convenience. Sabbath convictions of converted Jews should be respected and encouraged.

Good relations between Arabs and Jews may possibly be achieved within all the borders of Israel, but nationalism makes it difficult. A greater spread of Christianity in the Holy Land could contribute much to peace and security.

World Council's New Secretary Affirms Biblical Disciplines

By Albert N. Rogers

Christians of America must bear an ecumenical witness through their churches if they are faithful to the gospel, declared Philip Potter of the World Council of Churches Secretariat in New York City last week. He reviewed the Bible references to the will of God regarding the whole earth and its inhabitants, affirming that any isolationism is a denial of God's purpose.

Born on the Island of Dominica of African and French parentage, Dr. Potter represents the colored races and the Third World in ecumenical circles. On November first he succeeded Eugene Carson Blake as general secretary of the World Council of Churches after six years service in its Geneva offices. Having studied both law and theology, Dr. Potter is equally fluent in English and French and holds degrees from Caenwood College, Jamaica, London University, and Hamburg University. A Methodist, he served a four-year pastorate in Haiti and in the Methodist Missionary Society of Britain.

At the dinner given in his honor at Riverside Church, New York, November 21, Dr. Potter paid tribute to the impressive record of American contributions to conciliar Christianity in youth programs, concern for social issues, the role of women, and dialogue with Roman Catholics. He called upon all churches to expose the idolatries of contemporary life, and to be prepared to die with Christ for the hope that they see in Him. Only by loving our brothers can we be helped out of our idolatries, he affirmed.

Eugene Carson Blake spoke also at the dinner, proving that he has no intention of retiring from the continuing ecumenical task. He pointed to the forthcoming Council conference on Salvation to be held at Bangkok, Thailand, as an example of the claim of Trinitarian Christianity for justice everywhere. Neither Asians nor Africans will longer tolerate domination of the white race, he pointed out, but "perfect love casts out fear."

A conference on the image of the World

Council in American churches and concerns for its program and leadership was held in the afternoon preceding the dinner by arrangement of the Rev. Eugene L. Smith, secretary of the Friends of the World Council. This writer represented the Rev. Alton L. Wheeler in the conference and was joined by Charles H. North, president of the American Sabbath Tract Society, at the dinner.

RECORDER RENEWALS

The loyalty of most subscribers to our denominational weekly is remarkable. This is particularly noteworthy in the case of people who are not earning and have limited income. The notes that come to the subscription desk with renewals are often heart warming. For instance, the widow of one of our black ministers recently sent \$10 with this note, "Please renew my subscription for two years. I would not want to be without the *Sabbath Recorder*."

There are a few people who have to depend on relatives and friends for subscriptions and renewals. This is the time of year to remember to give joy. You can give weekly joy for a whole year to a whole family for only ten cents a week.

Our Prayer Corner

Suggestions for Prayer This Week

Pray for:

- 1) The new medical assistant and our faithful pastors and missionary personnel in Malawi.
- 2) The Jamaica leaders who are making plans for team evangelism on the island.
- 3) The guidance of present leaders and the raising up of new leaders in Guyana.
- 4) The personnel to follow up literature work on the island of Leyte.
- 5) A restraining of the forces that keep peace from coming to Bethlehem and the Middle East in this year of our Lord 1972.

Semiannual Meeting of Allegheny Association Ordination of Russell Johnson

By Mrs. Mary Clare

The semiannual meeting of the Allegheny Association held October 14 and 15 in the Alfred church was most rewarding. The examining council for the ordination of Russell Johnson was held Friday evening at seven o'clock.



The session was opened with a hymn and prayer by the Rev. David Clarke. The church president, Berwyn Reid, then welcomed friends and read the call to ordination by the church. The Rev. Edward Sutton was elected moderator and Burton

Crandall, secretary. Mr. Sutton yielded, with pleasure, the floor to Pastor Johnson who outlined his Christian experience.

Mr. Johnson mentioned the good example of his sister who continues to be an inspiration to him although she is with her Lord. At the age of twelve he committed himself to his Lord, and became convinced in the eighth grade to serve the Lord as a medical missionary and continued with this plan into college. During his work in SCSC, however, the doors opened for a calling to serve Him on the home field. He was graduated from Milton College and entered Eastern Baptist Seminary, for whose training he is deeply indebted. His work at Shiloh and Marlboro helped him to realize more fully God's leading, and he counts it his joy and privilege to have served those people.

The candidate outlined his faith and belief in God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the Bible, the work of the Church, and the doctrine of sin and salvation.

Questions were asked and answered in the following areas:

Belief in prayer: prayer is the chief form of worship and all communication with God.

The Holy Spirit: not allowed to work enough in every way.

Social and personal gospel: A need for spiritual application to social problems since a personal gospel is open "to the leading of the Holy Spirit"; preaching on social issues starts from the Scriptures, teaching from the pulpit using different books of the Bible in their entirety.

He spoke of his involvement on the campuses. He holds a meeting each Tuesday evening in dorms on a rotating basis; and also works with "Jesus People." He has a talk show, with guest speakers, on Tuesday nights on WVAT, the State College radio station. He expressed great appreciation for the Interfaith Board Ministry.

Sabbath observance: Mr. Johnson stated his belief in complete Sabbath observance, since that day was given for man and his need. He is optimistic about the Seventh Day Baptist denomination although he is sorry about the present state. He believes that the youth are more spiritually oriented than formerly. He stated his accord with the Statement of Belief and his full allegiance to it.

The Council retired to the Miriam Shaw Room for deliberation. Pastor Edward Sutton continued as moderator-chairman. There was general agreement that Pastor Johnson had made an excellent presentation, especially on his attitude on the future of the Seventh Day Baptist Church and his statement on social action.

Secretary Wheeler spoke of the lack of openness and the need for more personal dialogue in Seventh Day Baptist services. It was suggested that a small (four or five persons) group meeting be held before the formal proceedings.

It was stated that in addition to consulting with the Pastor Relations Committee, Pastor Johnson has consistently asked for advice at each Advisory Board meeting.

The following motion was passed by the council members:

"Since Pastor Johnson has been found to be in general accord with Seventh Day Baptist beliefs, the council recom-

mends that the Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church proceed with the ordination service."

This group then went to the Parish House where the announcement was made that the ordination should proceed as planned. Those gathered there joined in joyfully singing the Doxology in response to the announcement.

Pastor Johnson was worship leader for the morning service. The Rev. Edward Sutton of the Alfred Station Church gave the morning message in which he directed the thinking of the congregation towards their duties to ministers. The Alfred choir, accompanied by two flutists, sang "Sheep May Safely Graze."

The Rev. David Clarke officiated at the afternoon worship service which was climaxed by the service of laying on of hands and the ordination of Russell Johnson. Reverend and Mrs. Johnson were greeted by those ministers present.

There were three times for fellowship during the weekend: after the Friday evening service at which time the families of Russell and Jenny Johnson were presented to friends; the noon dinner, hosted by the Alfred Women's Society and the afternoon reception for Rev. and Mrs. Johnson following the ordination service.

Report of Fair Booth

Quite a number of churches or associations of churches set up booths at county and state fairs last summer, some with the help of the Tract Society and some without. Not all have been reported in these pages. The following story of two booths across the aisle from each other at the Angelica County Fair in Western New York is clipped from the November issue of the "Inspirer," mimeographed news sheet of the Richburg church. It is not too soon to begin to make plans for witnessing at next summer's fairs.

1972 Fair Booth

The week spent at the Angelica Fair with Frances Hathcoat and Martha Welch, the two SCSC workers, was far from dull. The day before the fair was spent preparing the booths. With the

MEMORY TEXT

"Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind" (Matt. 22:36, 37).

help of David Snyder and Mrs. Mary Clare, we put partitions in and out a couple of times in the "Pixie Land Park" to block out light from the aisle. An old rug on the floor, a child's picnic table, benches, and a bookshelf made up most of the children's booth. Filmstrips were shown and one thousand balloons were given away. The balloons were inscribed "Smile, God Loves You." It took about three hours out of every day to blow up enough balloons with a squeaky balloon pump that drew everyone's attention to the fact that balloons were being given away. This of course called for more pumping.

Our booth across the aisle was designed for people to come in and sit down, making use of the tracts of the shelf. There was a gold rug on the floor, a picture of a church in the country painted by Mrs. Margaret Taylor on the back wall. Curtains were hung on both sides to make it look like a window; a high rectangular stand with the Allegheny Seventh Day Baptist Association printed on the panel with the rack of tracts on the top, two easy chairs in the back corners, and a record cabinet between them for supplies added to the decor. The cabinet was topped with a bouquet of flowers and two reference Bibles. In the center of the room was a small end table with a few choice tracts within easy reach of the chairs. Propped against the front of this was a poetic sign encouraging parents to rest while their children visited "Pixie Land Park."

—Sue Bucher, reporter

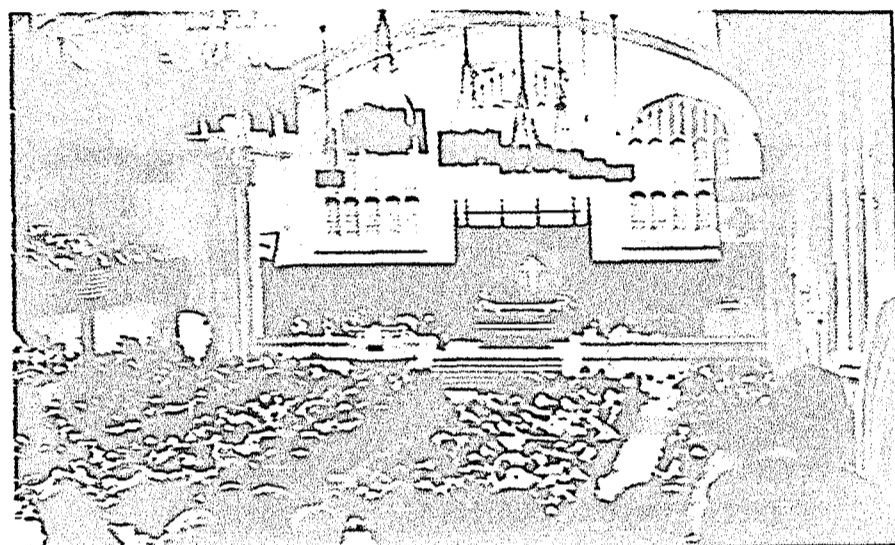
The Prodigal Returns

Parents would do well to note that what caused the prodigal to come back was the memory of good food, lovingly prepared.

Called to Commitment

By Jean Jorgensen

Five women from the Seventh Day Baptist Women's Board attended the North American Baptist Women's Union, Fifth Continental Assembly, in Toronto, Canada, from October 17-19, 1972. Madeline FitzRandolph, Jane Bottoms, Frances Stephan, Nancy Brannon, and I enjoyed a close friendship with one another and with others from the Union.



The Assembly committee was expecting about 1500 - 1800 women, but at the Tuesday evening opening session all of us were shuffling about to squeeze in 2,500 women at the Yorkshire Park Baptist Church. That shuffle found me among some Negro ladies from Mississippi, who were filled with the Spirit in song and genuine friendship.

Mrs. I. Judson Levy, president of NABWU (speaker at our S. D. B. General Conference Women's banquet this year) opened the assembly. She charged us to be ministers of reconciliation and reminded us that our fellowship has a richer meaning because of the teamwork required under the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

Mrs. Atinuke Bamijoke, president of the Baptist Women's Union of Africa, described the work of the Nigerian Baptist Women. There are 2,186 organizations and 54,332 members, which seems large until she reminded us that Nigeria's population is 65 million. She challenged the Americans to put away their excuses and match the commitment of Baptists in non-Christian countries. "All Chris-

tian women are called into commitment here and everywhere in the world. May God grant that our reply to His request shall be 'Here I am Lord, use me!' she said.

Wednesday morning Jane and Fran woke up Nancy and me with a jarring telephone, but the extra moments together over coffee made it all worthwhile. We later met Madeline (who was staying at a different hotel) and enjoyed having our meals together.

During the Wednesday morning and afternoon sessions, presentations were given by the leaders of the various conventions and conferences represented at the assembly. These were titled, "Lord, what would you have us do? . . . Through Fellowship . . . Through Prayer . . . Through Serving . . . Through Giving." Madeline spoke under the title, Through Fellowship, and shared the experience of the women's banners at our General Conference this year. Thirteen other groups were represented at Toronto.

Mrs. J. Edgar Bates presented a lively story of the beginnings of the Union and the present and future challenges. She told how the United American Baptist Women's Union met in Washington, D. C., in 1951 with seven leaders. The first assembly met at Columbus, Ohio, in November 1953. The purpose of this group became: to provide information concerning the Baptist World Alliance among the Baptist Women of North America; to promote closer relationships between the Baptist women of the continent and those in other parts of the world; to suggest opportunities for the broadening of the avenues open to Baptist women for service in the Baptist World Alliance; and above all, to cooperate in the observance of the Baptist World Day of Prayer.

The Rev. H. R. Hunt, VP of the Canadian Bible Society, spoke briefly on the scope of the Bible Societies. He took the theme, "Let the Word Speak." Dr. Robert G. Bratcher continued the theme as he spoke forcefully of the challenge to the 3,000 translators working on 1,000 projects in 500 languages and dialects all over the world to print God's Word

in 1,457 languages. Dr. Bratcher is the translator of the New English Version of the New Testament "Good News for Modern Man," and is a member of the committee translating the Old Testament.

Wednesday afternoon's guest speaker was the Rev. V. Harvey C. Hargroves, president of the Baptist World Alliance, which represents 92 Baptist bodies, 74 nations and 27 million Baptists. He urged us to adopt the goals of the Alliance as personal challenges. Baptists' great stress on freedom and independence has a tendency to separate, thus the Alliance counters this by stressing unity and tries to help Baptists know each other and to work together. He praised the Baptist Women's Day of Prayer and its powerful unifying force. The Alliance also works for bringing the young people into positions of responsibility, to bring world relief to distressed areas, and to work for reconciliation — the vertical reconciliation of God and Man and the horizontal reconciliation of man to man.

Wednesday evening's service was enhanced by the beautiful Etobicoke Centennial Choir. The girls wore floor length gowns of a bright pink, and the shirts of the boys were the same color pink. Mrs. Louise Paw spoke of the Women of Asia. Mrs. Paw, a Burmese Baptist now serving with the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society, Valley Forge, Pa., said, "You don't know how hungry you can be for fellowship until you are without it Though we are often obscure and small, like salt and leaven in bread, Christians are yet a major force in influencing the direction of the Asian revolution." She also said that Christians hope to relieve the pressures which make Asia a possible trigger for global warfare.

Mrs. L. S. Casazza, treasurer of NABWU, encouraged us to increase our participation in the Baptist Women's Day of Prayer. This day, observed around the world, is the main project of the Women's Department.

Mrs. R. L. Mathis, president of the Women's Department, Baptist World Alliance (from Waco, Texas), reported on the Baptist emergence in South Africa, African nations, and East Germany—

all of whom she recently visited. Speaking of the Baptists in East Germany, she said, "Those Baptists are so committed. They want to do many things that they can't do, while we don't do many things which we are able to do."

Thursday morning brought us together for the last time. The business of nominating the Executive Committee for the next five years took place. The results of this election were: Mrs. Lawrence S. Casazza, Washington, D.C., president; Mrs. Carl Holmberg, Worthington, Minn., VP; Mrs. Herbert Hiller, East Detroit, Mich., secretary; Mrs. Mary H. Wright, Philadelphia, Pa., treasurer. Five members-at-large of the Executive Committee were also voted into office.

Kenneth Chafin, pastor of the South Main Baptist Church, Houston, Texas, and North American coordinator of the Reconciliation emphasis, urged us to create peace and fellowship among our fellow Baptists, then to become ministers of reconciliation in our own communities. "When we think of reconciliation we should think not of slogans and banners and budgets, but of people within our reach in need of help." He echoed the message of Dr. Hargroves, that reconciliation through Christ is not so much a campaign as a way of life.

A special service of Celebration and Commitment was read by Mrs. Mathis and the presidents of all the conventions and conferences belonging to NABWU. It was a litany form of service, concluding with a music benediction along with the audience singing,

Grant us Thy peace upon our homeward way
With Thee began, with Thee shall end the day
Guard Thou our lips, from sin, the hearts from
shame
Which in this house have called upon Thy name.
(Maori melody)

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for December 23, 1972

THE PROMISED MESSIAH

Lesson Scripture: Jeremiah 33:14-16;
Matt. 2:1-6.

Board of Directors for Medical Work

By Miss Sarah Becker, R.N.

A step forward was taken in indigenization of our medical work when the Board of Trustees of the Central Africa Conference, on June 14, 1972, appointed seven members to a Board of Directors for all medical work of the Central Africa Conference of Seventh Day Baptists.

At the first meeting of the new board on July 24, the Rev. David Pearson was elected chairman, and Evangelist H. Msowa secretary. The supervisor's place was left unfilled for the time being because Sarah Becker, R.N., was to continue "in charge." The duties and specific responsibilities were reviewed in detail.

It was decided that the board would meet quarterly and two-thirds of the members would constitute a quorum. Emergency meetings would be attended by as many members as possible at the time. The semiannual report was given and received. It was decided to transfer Medical Assistant Sankhulani and family to Thembe Dispensary and to keep the new Medical Assistant Msowoya at Makapwa. Mr. Fredson Mbawa started a non-credit laboratory technician's course on Sept. 1 at Malamulo, and since then we have learned that he is doing very well. We were saddened by the report that his second year-old son died suddenly before the end of that month of measles complications — probably pneumonia.

A meeting was arranged with the Thembe Development Committee to ask for a new house for the medical assistant and family. The old house is too small for a large family. This committee agreed to build a six room house of sun dried bricks and we would provide the cement and the iron sheets for roof, windows, and doors.

At the October 2 meeting, the board accepted a more complete price list for drug charges to patients and decided who would be considered in each rate category. A policy was set up for proper channels of communication in the event

of grievances, etc. It was decided to give notice of termination of services to two staff members. The next meeting is to be called early in January.

Meet Our New Medical Assistant

By Miss Sarah Becker, R.N.

We are to have Mr. F. S. Msowoya as our new medical assistant at Makapwa. He is well liked and is doing very good work. He is an earnest Christian, thirty-four years old, married, and has six children (the oldest eight and the youngest six months).

Mrs. Msowoya is a school teacher and teaches Standard 4 at Makapwa primary school. She was a full-time home-craft worker before receiving her teaching credentials. This means she might aid in the home-craft class already started for the station people.

Mr. Msowoya finished his primary education in 1955 and worked for the police force for two years. When he became a Seventh-day Adventist in 1959, he taught school at their local mission for three years. This was followed by literature evangelist work for two years before he was asked to head up their literature and Sabbath School work in the Northern Province.

Since he had an interest in medical work he entered Lilongwe Government Hospital in 1967 for a three-year medical assistant's course. He finished his two years of required Government service at the end of June 1972.

When he applied to come to Makapwa Station to work, Pastor Shadrack Msu-mara, director of the Northern Seventh Day Baptist Association, knew him and recommended him. Since we had a resignation at Thembe Dispensary we were very glad to accept Mr. Msowoya's application.

He has stated, "I have come to work hand in hand with Seventh Day Baptists in the winning of souls for the Lord and treating the sick. We shall all work very hard to let the light of the gospel continue to shine from Makapwa Medical Unit." He sees a good future for a strong witness for the Lord through the ongoing work at Makapwa.



LAUNCH SABBATH

The first Sabbath of the New Year, 1973, marks the "beginning" of KEY '73. Though plans have been laid, Bible studies begun, the undergirding of prayer emphasized, and many other events came prior to the New Year, the first worship service of the local church in the New Year should mark, in a special way, the fact of KEY '73 in its prayers and program.

Launch Sabbath should be kept uniquely local. Each church should seek the Lord's leading on how best it can respond to the opportunity and challenge its worshippers to praise the Lord, petition the Lord, and prepare with the Lord their outreach witness for Him.

Coming at the close of the period of "Noon Prayer Call" it highlights the place of prayer in KEY '73. It could point to the Week of Prayer for Seventh Day Baptists that is observed, January 7-13. It might also climax plans for the Launch TV Special on KEY '73 that night (See article on page 7 of the Dec. 9 Recorder).

January 6, 1973 can, and by God's grace will, be a "High Sabbath!" It is a day of beginning; a day of fulfillment; a day of worship and praise; a day when all Christians can vow to be true to their Lord as they individually take their place, "Calling Our Continent to Christ."

MISSION EMPHASIS — MALAWI

The final fifth Sabbath Missions Emphasis in 1972 will center around our Seventh Day Baptist missionary work in Malawi, Africa. The date of this emphasis is Sabbath Day, December 30.

A set of slides is being made available to the churches on loan to bring added interest and information. Write early to the American Sabbath Tract Society,

510 Watchung Ave., Box 868, Plainfield, N. J. 07061 if a set is desired and the date or alternate dates preferred. Also, your designated gift for the work in Malawi will be greatly appreciated.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION—Sec. David S. Clarke

Christian Education Officers

The new directors for the Board of Christian Education were elected formally at the annual corporate meeting held Oct. 15, 1972, at the Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Parish House. Immediately following that annual event the directors of 1972 met for their regular quarterly meeting, joined by some of the new directors and some guests.

Directors elected for the year 1973 join the 1972 directors in the work of the committees during the period from the annual meeting to January 1. This winter the process of change-over is more complex because of the adoption of a new structure of committees. Not only are the names of some committees changed, but new committees have been formed for certain functions, and combinations of other committees integrate closely related functions.

The president of the board is empowered to select the committees. None of the committees are named in the Bylaws, although functions are listed in terms of "products" of board work.

Directors for 1973 are: Francis (Chip) Bucher, Mrs. Ruth Bucher, Mrs. Mary Clare, Rev. and Mrs. David Clarke, Burton Crandall, Rev. and Mrs. Ethel Dickinson, Mrs. Luan Ellis, Mrs. Catharine Jacox, Rev. and Mrs. Russell Johnson, Mark Lewis, Mrs. Phyllis Mattison, Yvonne Mattison, L. Marice McCrea, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Pierce, John Reynolds, Susie Robinson, Onnalee Saunders, C. Robert Stohr, Mrs. Thelma Stearns, Rev. Edward Sutton, Mrs. Madge Sutton, Mr. and Mrs. William Thompson, Donald Van Horn, and Rev. Hurley Warren.

The Rev. Alton Wheeler led the annual meeting in prayer as it opened, and Mrs. Mary Clare was elected chairman.

Mrs. Ethel Dickinson read for information the Conference action regarding the coordination of work between this board and the Tract Society. The thirty-second annual report of the board was adopted and the directors were elected. Thirteen voting members were present along with four visitors.

At the subsequent quarterly meeting, officers for the directors were elected as follows: pres., Mrs. Mary Clare; vice-pres., Burton Crandall; recording sec., Mrs. Phyllis Mattison; treas., L. Maurice McCrea; corresponding sec., Mrs. Frances Clarke; executive sec., David Clarke.

Mrs. Clare has since named the members of the various committees, having secured chairmen as follows:

Resource Development, Mrs. Ethel Dickinson, Richburg, NY 14774

Leadership Development, Rev. Harmon Dickinson, Richburg, NY 14774

Church School Program, Mrs. Luan Ellis, Alfred Station, NY 14803

Youth Program, Rev. Edward Sutton, Alfred Station, NY 14803

Camp Program, C. Robert Stohr, Richburg, NY 14774

Life Ventures, Mrs. Jean Pierce, Alfred Station, NY 14803

Finance, Burton Crandall, Sayles St., Alfred, NY 14802.

The Executive Committee has met to discuss the various ways in which the new committees will take over the existing functions of the board from old committees. A new plan for working together has been designed with each committee having a "Service Guide" by which projects, goals, and specific products can be charted in time and effort and personnel.

It is hoped that all interested persons will feel free to contact the board through its officers and committee chairmen, as well as through the executive office.

A VA neuropsychologist, Maurice Stermann, Ph.D., apparently has successfully trained several patients to control grand mal epilepsy seizures by teaching them to produce brain waves.

Directors Consider Christian Education

Twenty-one directors of the Board of Christian Education considered the current opportunities in Christian nurturing at their October 15 quarterly meeting at the Alfred Parish House. Four guests were present. Financially their corporate work involved the receipt and expenditure from January through September 1972 of some \$25,000, expertly accounted for by their treasurer, L. Maurice McCrea.

The *Helping Hand*, for instance, brought in \$3,324 and cost \$4,818, exclusive of the editor's salary and expenses of \$1,725. The executive had received \$1,091 on travel expense. The *Beacon* had cost \$150 and the *Sabbath Visitor* \$566 with subscriptions of 447 and 453 respectively. Other figures were about average with the figures that appear in the *Yearbook*, except for \$675 paid for audiovisual and office equipment to round out purchases last year made possible by the Memorial Fund grant.

The executive secretary reported on his summer's work with its heavy involvement in SCSC and Youth Pre-Con along with Conference programs. He prefaced his statistical section with this statement:

"Facing the application of KEY '73 emphases and programs, being challenged by Baptist World Alliance leaders whose conviction is 'that the spiritual welfare of our churches, their effectiveness in evangelism and the capacity for service of our members depends on adequate emphasis being given to serious provision of Christian teaching and training facilities and materials,' your executive would plead for partnership in making Christian learning so exciting and crucial that Seventh Day Baptists will have to grow—in grace and truth. I thank God for your helpful advice and prayers in the past, and pray you may may succeed well in board goals in 1973."

He made four recommendations which were referred to committees for action. The Youth Committee has since accepted his proposal that membership in the American Camping Association be continued. Recommendations on *Spectrum* editorial involvement, on American

Baptist curriculum and a Family Life Conference next spring are yet to be acted upon.

Publications Committee work was reported, with appreciation to the Rev. Duane Davis for editing the *Helping Hand*, to Mrs. Clarke in editing the *Sabbath Visitor* and Karen Osborn and Ruth Burdick for the *Beacon*. The Youth Committee's advance work in securing Pre-Con directors has already been reported in the *Recorder*. This matter and routine matters were reported and accepted. The Higher Education Committee reported the securing of Rex Zwiebel to direct the 1973 Ministers Conference, and also the acceptance of the Shiloh, N. J., church's facilities for the meeting, April 25 to May 2.

Considerable time was spent discussing the action of Conference in asking this board to consult with the Tract Board on coordinating education and publication functions. The Executive Committee has sent Mary Clare, Pres., Burton Crandall, Vice-Pres., Ethel Dickinson, Publications Committee chairman, and David Clarke, executive secretary, to a special Tract Board meeting Sept. 17. The directors asked the same four persons to represent them in the continuing process of "Planning and Research" in conjunction with the Tract Board. The board also felt that a consultant from its Youth Committee needed to be included. Directors agreed that consultants from other Conference agencies would be invited to share in the discussions, at the suggestion of the Planning Committee, whose work in September was reported by Secretary Clarke.

Conference General Secretary Alton Wheeler discussed with the directors a number of matters, including finances, social action resources and their distribution, and Conference programming. He was also invited to close the Quarterly Meeting with prayer.

Function of Law

The whip of the law cannot change the heart. But thank God it restrains the heartless until they change their mind and heart. — Reinhold Niebuhr

LET'S THINK IT OVER

Vacation Can Wait, Bangladesh Cannot

Suppose you had sold your profitable business, had bought a big house-trailer and were ready for a four-month vacation tour of the USA. Would a letter from Bangladesh cause you to sell the trailer and take off on a two-year unsalaried expedition to that needy country? That is what happened to Mr. and Mrs. Doris Richmond of Portland, Oregon, who flew to Dacca on September 27.

It was this way: There are at least 15,000 amputees of all ages in Dacca as a result of that civil war. Mr. Richmond and his wife are a prosthetist and orthotist team; they make artificial limbs and braces. What could two specialists do among so many? They could not hope to meet the need except by training native people who will in turn train others, which is what they are now doing in a prosthetics and rehabilitation center connected with the new Sher-E-Bangla Hospital in Dacca.

The letter from Dr. Ronald J. Garst, an orthopedic surgeon in India, well known to the Richmonds, told of the need and caused this husband and wife to postpone their retirement for two years. Dr. Garst did not have any funds for sponsorship, but Church World Service did. So two people with desperately needed skills and a willingness to serve responded to a dedicated service call to meet a human need in the name of Christ.

One Way To Give

There are many, many people who have life insurance policies that they no longer need due to changed circumstances in later life. A paid up policy or a nearly paid one that is not needed by your survivors or your estate can be transferred to a Christian cause such as a board or agency of your denomination. Such a gift entitles the donor to an immediate deduction in computing income. Insurance companies can furnish forms and information for such transfers. Is this a way that you could easily further the cause of Christ?

TRUST ME

TRY ME

PROVE ME

God's message on tithing spoken through the prophet Malachi is just as true in principle now as in those Old Testament times. In the following verses we can hear God saying to us "Trust Me, Try Me, Prove Me."

"Bring ye all the tithes into the warehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of Hosts" (Mal. 3:10, 11).

Are we doing our part in returning to the Lord's work one tenth of our income? It results in a double blessing.

"What Manner of Love"

By Eugene Lincoln

Cleaning a littered yard is not usually an enjoyable task, but when the litter is the result of a tornado that destroyed your house, the job is discouraging.

That is what I was doing one spring day. And as I worked, I wondered, why did God do this to us?

A prized picture of our family lay on the ground, bent, torn and muddy; it could never be replaced.

A short distance away lay something colorful in the mud. It was a broken piece of a plaque that had once hung on our living room wall. Originally it had said, "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God." The broken piece I picked up said simply, "What manner of love."

I could not help laughing at the irony of it. A whole neighborhood had been devastated. "What manner of love," indeed!

But in the following days. I had reason to appreciate more fully the message of

the broken plaque. No one had been killed in our neighborhood. The neighborhood was drawn closer together by having shared in this tragedy. People came from other towns to help those who were without homes or possessions.

Even in a mishap as damaging as a tornado, I decided, the Lord can demonstrate His love for us, His children.

The Sabbath, then, is HOLY time. Yet, it was made for man — as a great BLESSING to all mankind!

—The Sunday Guardian

Combat Prejudice

President Nixon, in proclaiming "Employ the Handicapped Week," stated: "We have not yet erased all the prejudice against the handicapped. We have not yet convinced every employer of their worth. We have not yet eliminated all the barriers that hamper their mobility. We have a continuing responsibility to help them towards these ends." It is estimated that there are twenty-two million individuals who are physically handicapped and six million who are mentally retarded.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

ADAMS CENTER, N. Y.— Our church recently was privileged to have the Rev. Mynor Soper and his assistant, Steven Crouch, with us for two weeks. The first week was spent in sessions of lay evangelism training. During the second week evangelistic services were held. Even though these were not very well attended we feel the moving of the Holy Spirit in our midst as a result of the meetings.

The fall meeting of Central New York Association was held in our church Oct. 14. At this time our church celebrated the 150th anniversary of its founding. The Rev. Mynor Soper brought the morning message, a challenge to our youth. In the afternoon, Mrs. Gerald Greene read an article entitled "Notes on the History of the Adams Center Seventh Day Baptist Church for 150 Years," which was written by Winfield W. F. Randolph. Mrs. Greene had an interest-

Accessions

ALBION, WIS.

By Testimony:

Clinton Jerome (Jerry) Green, Jr.

Marriages

Green - Hatcher.— Clinton Jerome Green, Jr., of Albion, Wis., and Shirley May Lewis Hatcher, of Janesville, Wis., were united in marriage on November 24, 1972, by Pastor Addison Appel in the Albion Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Dailey - Palmiter.— Martin W. Dailey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin F. Dailey of Hornell, N. Y., and Melodie Jean Palmiter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Palmiter of Alfred Station, were united in marriage in a Sabbath Eve candlelight service at the Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church Nov., 24, 1972, the bride's pastor, the Rev. Edward Sutton officiating. The couple will reside in Hornell, N. Y.

ing collection of historical articles on display.

—Correspondent

MILTON JUNCTION, WIS.— Representing our church at the Denver Conference in August were Pastor and Mrs. Appel and three of their children, Robert, Joel, and Brenda. The banner for the Ladies' Aid that was displayed at Conference was made by Brenda (11).

Our church hosted the quarterly meeting of the Southern Wisconsin and Chicago churches on November 3 and 4. On Sabbath Eve the program featured the Key '73 film "A New Wind Blowing." In place of a sermon on Sabbath morning the young people of Milton and Albion presented a play, "The Great One," which had been given at Conference. The cooperating churches had a potluck dinner together following the morning service.

The Ladies' Aid has been meeting once a month. Two birthday suppers are planned for the year, to which the men are invited.

Thanksgiving Sabbath was observed on November 18. It is our custom to present our Lord's Acre offering at this time.

—Correspondent

Births

O'Neil.— A daughter, Audrey Kathleen, to Mr. and Mrs. Mack O'Neil of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., Aug. 10, 1972.

Lynch.— A son, Alrich Bernard, to Mr. and Mrs. Alcott Lynch, of Riviera Beach, Fla., Feb. 7, 1972.

Hopkins.— A daughter, Kimberly Marie, to Michael and Kathy (Cushing) Hopkins in Tamuning, Guam, Oct. 20, 1972.

Obituaries

BUTLER.— Robert Lee, Sr., was born in Madison County, Alabama, ninety-two years ago and died at a nursing home in Huntsville, Ala., Nov. 13, 1972.

Throughout his life he was a farmer and large scale land owner in the area of Paint Rock. In 1953 he made a decision for Christ, was baptized and became a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Paint Rock to which he was faithful as long as health permitted.

In 1915, he was married at Athens, Limestone Co., to Miss Almira Bottoms, who survives together with three sons and four daughters: Robert L., Brownsboro; T. Gilbert, Guin; Daniel M., Woodville; Mrs. V. W. Burdick (Nancilu), Orchard Park, N. Y.; Mrs. Frank Potts (Ruth), Florence; Miss Mary Alice Butler, Arcadia, Calif.; Mrs. David Pearson (Bettie), Malawi, Africa; also a brother and a sister, Charles T., and Miss Laura Butler, both of New Hope. Also surviving are twenty grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. A son, James Edward, was lost over North Africa in World War II. It is in his memory that the Paint Rock church was built.

Funeral services, with Elders Leslie A. Welch and Clifford A. Beebe officiating, were from the Paint Rock Seventh Day Baptist Church, with burial at Bethel Cemetery, New Hope, Ala. —L. A. W.

RANDOLPH.— Marjorie D., daughter of Walter and Ella (Crofoot) Dunn, was born March 23, 1894, in New Market, N. J., and died Aug. 7, 1972. She had been a resident of Daytona Beach, Fla., for several years.

Marjorie was baptized when a young girl and joined the Piscataway Church, and was a faithful member for many years. She worked in the Seventh Day Baptist Publishing House until retirement when she moved to Florida and became a very active member of the Daytona Beach Seventh Day Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband, Orson Randolph, two sisters, two sons, two daughters, and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by her pastor, Rev. Marion C. Van Horn, and burial was in Cedar Hill Cemetery in Daytona Beach.

—M. C. V. H.

The Sabbath Recorder

Love — the Key to Sabbathkeeping

It it sometimes thoughtlessly said that those who keep the Sabbath (seventh day of the week) are legalistic and are not living by love, which Christ set above all else. The implication is that if you do not feel obligated to keep the Fourth Commandment and if you observe the "Lord's Day" you are living by love instead of law. It isn't quite that simple. The person who loves the Lord will show it by trying to do the will of the Lord.

Is it true that Sabbathkeepers forget love when they "Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy"? Not at all. When Jesus spoke about loving the Lord and loving our neighbor as being the whole duty of man, He was not talking against the law but for it. "On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets," He taught (Matt. 22:40). That is to say that all the law hangs on love — as do the prophecies also. The Sabbath keeper strongly affirms this. In striving to live according to the first four Commandments — not just the Sabbath Commandment — he is trying to show his love of the Lord. In striving to conform to the principles of the last six Commandments he is showing a love for his neighbor based on his love of God.

Love is not to be divorced from law but bound to it. Did not the apostle Paul say, "Love is the fulfilling of the law" (Rom. 13:8)? Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 4:15). On the other occasions he emphasized His eternal unity with the Father and that He existed before Abra-

ham. In regard to the observance of the Sabbath He spoke with the authority of the agent of creation "by whom all things were made" (Col. 1:16). His commandments could not be out of harmony with the Ten Commandments. They include the Sabbath. We cannot claim to love Christ if we try to avoid showing that love on the day He set aside for rest and worship.

Keeping the law, (which can't be done perfectly) will not save us, but refusing to try is sin that must be repented of before salvation can come to us. It would be absurd to think that a Christian is free to do as he pleases when the unconverted is required to repent of his disobedience. Rather, the Christian should find joy in expressing his love for Christ on the Sabbath by keeping that day holy which Jesus said He was Lord of (Mark 2:28).

SDB PINS AGAIN AVAILABLE

The popular bronze Seventh Day Baptist pins suitable for wearing on dresses and coats are now available once more from the Tract Society office. Ordered some months ago, they have arrived just in time for Christmas giving. The manufacturer has had to increase his prices, as was to be expected. It is probable that they can be sold for 75 cents each. Orders will be filled on that basis for the time being.

The trouble with a husband who works like a horse is that all he wants to do evenings is hit the hay.



Nazareth, the Galilean village of Joseph and Mary, where Jesus spent His boyhood, retains much of its ancient way of life.