

January 6, 1973

The Sabbath Recorder

Mission Emphasis Issue



See articles on pages 3 and 15.

The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

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

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Terms of Subscription

Per. Year \$5.00 Single Copies 15 cents

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

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

Second class postage paid at Plainfield, New Jersey.

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

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

PLAINFIELD, N. J. January 6, 1973
Volume 194, No. 1 Whole No. 6,531

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THIS ISSUE

The Missionary Society special emphasis issue is in your hands. It is different from *Mission Notes*. Rather than just reporting on happenings, opportunities and mission work, we seek to offer something of the missions perspective.

In this issue we have asked the help of those involved — your missionaries overseas. Their articles give much cause for thought. They seek to convey vision, to show facts from a different perspective. Ponder their words.

Again we offer a missions calendar for the new year. Prayer is the need, the emphasis. Remove the center pages and post them where they can be noted each day. Without the faithful, urgent, understanding personal prayers which you offer, His work committed to us all will be in jeopardy. With it, all things are possible.

Share this issue. There are those in your church who do not receive the *Recorder*. Be sure they have opportunity to read and heed. We would urge every home to have a subscription coming each week. Only in this way can we continue to convey the work of missions — at home and overseas. Only in this way can you understand. Only in this way can prayers be based on the facts and needs.

Our Prayer Corner

Suggestions for Prayer This Week

Pray for:

- 1) The additional workers long called for by the Malawi church leaders to work in the north and other parts of the country.
- 2) Wisdom in regard to helping evangelists now working in countries that border Malawi.
- 3) The churches in Jamaica that grow with difficulty when their members emigrate for better employment.
- 4) Answers to the vision of greater service in Guyana.

1973

A Year of Opportunity

Something "new" always offers opportunity — to crush to ourselves selfishly or to share with others, lovingly. Such is true of the New Year — each day, each hour.

For many it will be the opportunity to meet Christ. As those who know Him share their excitement and joy with others they will make effective witness causing those with empty, self-centered lives to take note. In such efforts as Key '73, the gospel is being made known. Let us each be involved. Let us pray that all may hear and understand His love. Let us be quick to respond to those in need around us. The harvest is truly great.

For many it will be the opportunity to serve Christ. Teachers, youth counselors, officers in church and Sabbath School, hosts for Home Bible Studies, etc., are needed. Persons who will, in His strength and wisdom accept responsibility will find great blessing as they know His power and leading. Year after year those involved in SCSC testify that their lives, committed to His will and purpose, are used for His glory. Greater joy can no man know.

For many it will be the opportunity to "sacrifice" for Christ. To be true to Him, certain activities and even employment may be passed by. Some will lose their "standing" with the crowd because their faith and obedience to Christ are worth more. Yet no sacrifice asked is void of blessing and joy. Thousands testify to this.

For many it will be the opportunity to place their all in His hand. Knowing, serving, sacrificing are only meager steps short of the full life, with Christ in complete control. How wonderful to know His will and to be following it clearly and carefully.

1973 — What will it be for you? It is what you are making it today!

JANUARY 6, 1973

WANTED!

The work of God has been given to His children on earth. It is not that He cannot work without them. It is rather that He has chosen to work through them. History shows that the periods of spiritual decline were times when leadership was generally weak.

During the period of Judges, God's people fell into gross sin and then recovered their faith and purpose. It depended on the vitality of the leadership, whether they were committed to God and responsive to Him.

Today we live in a world where religion has a fair opportunity. The gospel is being preached. We rejoice in seeing and learning of youth who are taking their stand for Christ and following Him. But we are also aware of a great lack. Leadership—vital, spiritual, committed, Spirit-filled — is the crying need of this hour. Our churches decline and some have no trained leadership. Open doors stand before us. Who will enter? Meeting the need in one quarter always seems to deprive another area of proper leadership.

Youth are "WANTED"! They are vitally needed! Yet how many are seriously considering the Lord's call to positions of spiritual leadership? Lay leaders, pastors, missionaries, and others are the instruments of God to offer guidance, training, counsel and pour His love to those in need.

The task is demanding. It takes our all. It places the call to His work above personal preference. Sacrifice in income and position with men must be accepted. Yet to be in that place where God is leading, using, and blessing offers a joy, purpose, and peace that cannot be found elsewhere.

YOU are WANTED! You are vitally needed! Have you, will you, respond? Read Ezekiel 22: (especially verse 30 in the *Living Bible*).

MISSIONARY SOCIETY VOTING MEMBERS

— A Meaningful Relationship —

At the annual general meeting of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society in September 1968, a new and forward looking constitution was adopted.

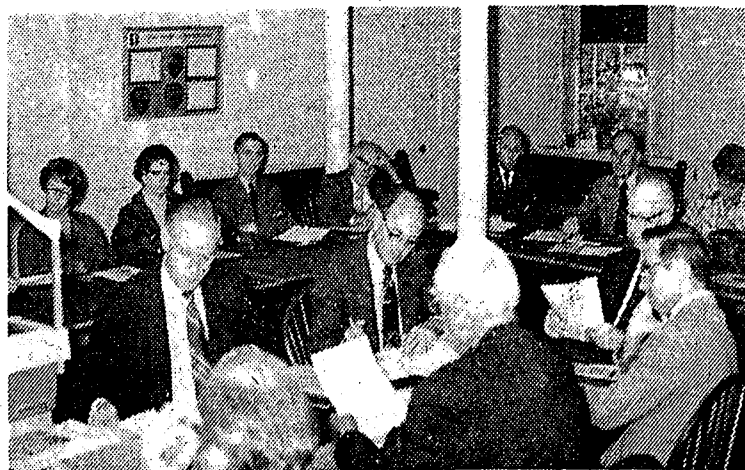
Misunderstanding and suspicion on the part of some have caused confusion on the issue of membership in the society. We will attempt to clarify this.

Before the days of a united budget or "Our World Mission" support was sought by each denominational agency and the Missionary Society published in its annual report the names of contributors. For over one hundred years any Seventh Day Baptist who contributed one dollar or more to the work of the society was a member. Life membership was defined as available to any person contributing twenty-five dollars or more "in his or her own name, and in not more than two payments . . ." These provisions are carried over into the new constitution, but such membership is classified as "nonvoting." Why?

It was clearly evident that what was everybody's business was nobody's business. Unless you were actually present at a society meeting no vote was possible. Membership had very little meaning. With the "Our World Mission" budget and the impossibility of listing members' names, there was less personal contact both for participation and understanding.

One suggestion put forward was to have the annual general meeting during the sessions of General Conference. This would allow all delegates present to participate and vote. But the ability to attend Conference would then be the basis of "voting members" of the society. Too, little or no vital relationship with individuals could be planned prior to such sessions, and active responsible members of the Board of Managers who were not able to attend Conference would be unable to participate.

Thus a new membership level was established — "voting members." This allows for (1) individual involvement by setting annual dues (at present \$10)



The Missionary Board meets quarterly in the Westerly, R. I., church. About half of the members at the October meeting are shown.

the payment of which is clear indication of the interest and participation of the member; (2) individual participation in the annual general meeting of the society by provision of a proxy ballot for those unable to attend in person; (3) personal communication of information and concerns of the society to those whose action brings them into the voting membership responsibility. At present they receive the annual report, special reports from the officers of the society, information on matters to come before the annual meeting, the quarterly "Missionary Reporter," and the society's *Handbook*. In turn, they are urged to submit items for consideration and to write the society for information or offer their suggestions on its mission and work.

The payment and place of the dues in the budget of the society also needs clarification. This money goes to the general work of the board and is part of general income. It is counted against the general support of the society through "Our World Mission" and is credited to the local church support (where the individual is a member) of OWM. Thus it does not detract from nor bring favor to the society over the other participating boards and agencies in OWM. But it does offer a more meaningful relationship through personal commitment and participation for those individuals who choose to become voting members.

In January 1973 a letter and application form will be mailed to every Seventh Day Baptist. We hope that many more will choose to become voting members of the society.

P. S. Means Prayer Support

P. S. is not a postscript. P. S. is not a passing salute to a vague deity about imaginary people. It is not something tacked on. It is not an afterthought. P. S. means prayer support for God's work around the world. P. S. is the power source for every missionary whom you as a Seventh Day Baptist have helped send out.

Prayer Support Is Exciting

As we prayerfully undergird missionaries, we are working with God in one of the most exciting opportunities given to mankind. A missionary writes, "Perhaps the greatest joy in our family's prayer experience is the realization that we are working with God, moving in His direction, planning according to His leading." A retired missionary says that God "lays on our hearts certain individuals whom we can take as our burden, and for these we can be faithful in intercession as He directs. The work of prayer is the Holy Spirit's work, but we can offer ourselves to Him as instruments through whom He can work this work."

Prayer support means participating in a worldwide ministry. God has provided a way for each of us to share in what He is doing in this world. What could be more exciting for an individual or a family, women's society, YF, or a church fellowship, than to be caught up in specific mission ministries in distant or nearby parts of God's earth through praying?

Prayer Support Is Effective

To say that prayer support is effective does not imply that our prayers determine and control what God is planning to do. It does affirm that God's plan includes the prayers of His people. Prayer support for missions is the commitment of one's life as a channel through which God's presence and power can flow.

Prayer support in the daily experience of life is one of the missionary's greatest needs. For the routine of every day is

more often the cause for discouragement and downfall than the pressure of a crisis. According to a missionary in the Orient, "Sometimes the endurance to stay one more day will be the thing that most needs to be found."

One with many years of missionary experience describes a depressing day: "A seeker did not keep his appointment; teaching went badly; disturbing news came from two churches; the nation's political scene worsened. I felt low spiritually. I was discouraged, and doubts about my usefulness flooded my heart. Arriving home I found a letter in childish scrawl, 'Hello missionary. We prayed for you today.'

"How wonderful to be upheld by prayer! My own prayer session the next morning was alive with the presence of the Lord."

Affirming that prayer support is effective in times of illness does not imply that God always heals when we pray. It emphasizes, however, that He does always bless.

Many remember Southern Baptist missionary journeyman Larry Hughes who after only a short time in Malawi, Africa, suffered three cracked vertebrae in a swimming accident. It seemed that living to reach the hospital was unlikely. Then a string of miraculous incidents got him through London to Dallas. Countless prayers helped restore him to a measure of health in which bicycle riding and swimming became daily events. He is now married and continuing his service to the Lord.

The effectiveness of prayer has been documented similarly by countless others in times of crisis, decision-making, evangelistic outreach, and in multiplied other periods of need.

Prayer Support Is Exacting

Prayer support is not easy, simple, or cheap. It is an exacting effort. It requires taking some practical steps, both

as individuals and as groups if it is to have meaning.

For example, you or your family might select one missionary family or national spiritual leader for whom to pray. Choose on the basis of personal acquaintance, interest, type of work, or any other basis. Become acquainted with them through writing the Missionary Board office for information and/or direct correspondence.

Share their lives as personally and intimately as possible. Identify yourself by mail and by exchange of pictures. Have their picture in your home as a reminder to pray. Develop such a relationship that they will want to share when specific answers to prayer come.

Prayer is needed for deliverance from mental stagnation and spiritual apathy; for victory over temptation; for a sense of humor; for a proper relationship to other workers. Prayer intensity should be increased during times of political crisis, war, natural catastrophe, or spiritual needs.

There are many ways that prayer support can be stimulated among church groups. Include pictures, correspondence, and information on an up-to-date bulletin board. Avail yourselves of filmstrips and recordings that may be available. Urge members to read the *Recorder* and learn the latest from the fields at Fifth Sabbath mission emphasis programs. Plan special emphases in local churches and the association.

We naturally pray more for persons and events that are most vitally related to us. Those who have prayerful hearts will, therefore, become more world-conscious and more personally aware of and acquainted with missionaries and national workers. In so doing, they will find themselves praying more intelligently. P. S. is exciting!

Prayer Support Is Essential

Prayer support is not an afterthought. It is an essential element in world ministry. A first-term missionary writes: "Forget to pray and all of our work will be

wasted effort. Forget to pray and millions of dollars will have been given in vain. Forget to pray and missions will lose their impact both at home and abroad."

Pastor Elias Camacho of Mexico has often turned aside any discussion of financial support with the statement: "We need your prayers and fellowship!" Such leaders are aware that five minutes a day of prayer time is much more helpful than five dollars a day of your money.

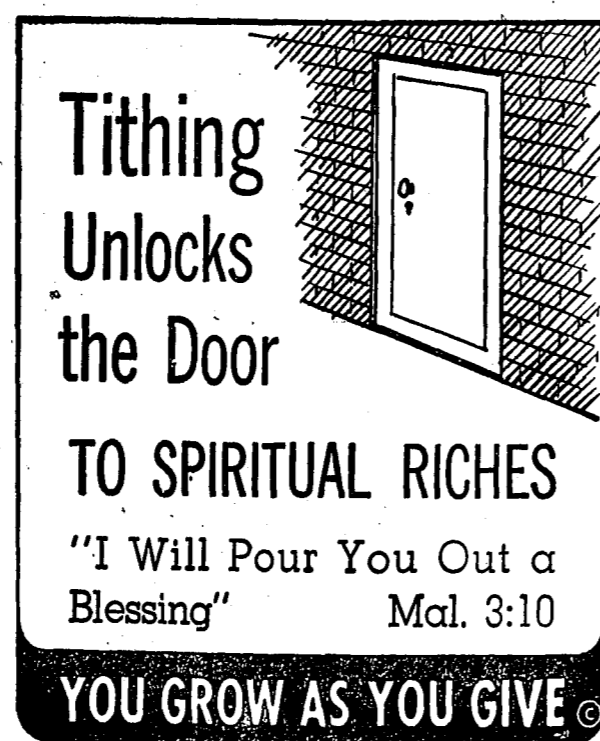
Another tells us, "Through your money you provide the means whereby we can work; through your prayers you provide the power whereby we can work."

Prayer support? It is the lifeblood of missions. Sometimes we seek excuses because of our small numbers, or limited resources, or few workers. Yet these are not the most vital elements in God's work. Is it not rather spiritually committed individuals who, above all else, place their lives in His hands seeking effectiveness in intercessory prayer?

If the prayers of even half of Seventh Day Baptists can be marshalled behind the task of missions — at home and abroad — we will have discovered a major resource for a powerful Christian advance in this country's closing decades.

P. S. means PRAYER SUPPORT.

—adapted from a tract by
R. Keith Parks, published
by the Foreign Mission Board
Southern Baptist Convention.



THE SABBATH RECORDER

Personal expressions of S. Elizabeth Maddox, R.N.

What Is Happening to Our Missions?



A contemporary expression could be used to describe my impression of Seventh Day Baptists in the foreign outreach — "pulling a fade." Why is there a feeling of hesitancy and half-hearted participation among Seventh Day Baptists, when a missionary, home on furlough, speaks enthusiastically about increasing the work in his assigned country?

Certainly if we recognize Christ's direction to "... go out into all the world . . ." and "... love your neighbor . . ." etc., as ongoing directives, we can't say we have no right to be "over there." Nor can the cop-out be used, "They don't want us there, we're not going to ram things down unwilling throats." Only poorly informed individuals spout that tired thought. The Seventh Day Baptists here in Malawi are still repeating the plea they've had for years, "Send us a missionary for the North." Rhodesia writes, "We have a new mission with Sabbathkeepers started. Send us someone who can train us." And so on.

Educated and dedicated workers are wanted and needed all over the world. Where is the hold-up? It isn't our Missionary Board, nor is it our local church Missionary Societies. It starts with each of us individually. We Seventh Day Baptists pride ourselves in the knowledge that individuals tell the church organization how far to go. We're the ones who have this death hold on our foreign fields.

Before I came to Malawi, black people meant unrest, segregation, and busing to me. How narrow our view of the outside world can become. Hindus were spiritual counselors to the Beatles.

Perhaps this is another Seventh Day Baptist problem — we don't see beyond our noses. We don't look at outsiders realistically, as people. Africans are real people who don't want to be Americans

or Canadians or Russians — they want to be Africans — but, they want to be happy Africans. And to many of them, that's to grow in their knowledge of their God in all ways.

I'd like you to meet some real people. Zaccheus is a seventeen-year-old who just received his notification that he is selected for secondary school. (Please note, the schools are so overcrowded that only a few are selected each year to enter this equivalent to our high school.) I don't know his religious persuasions, except that he loves his God and prays in Jesus' name. He seems to be a leader among the boarding boys.

He has two brothers, Andrew and Francis; one wants to be a pop singer, the other just doesn't want to spend his life sitting in the village. (He was selected for secondary school also).

Harry is our boy soprano (sixteen years), who really knows his Bible, and seems to be helpful in everything. Amos is my favorite, shy friend. But his shyness is not unmasculine, and it doesn't indicate in this guy a lack of willingness to try.

I wish there was more room and money to fill this *Recorder* with pictures and stories of real people, real people who don't understand where the missionaries are going, who ask why there are no more missionaries being sent, why people (us) who have so much want to share so little.

To be fair to us, I have to recognize the financial efforts that are being made consistently by many churches and yearly by most. And the new interest in dedicated workers is heartening. But, the

(Continued on page 14)



1973

participate by praying

PRAY for Evangelism.

PRAYER CORNER

The central work of the church is to bring the GOOD NEWS of the Gospel to all people everywhere. This is evangelism.

Please pray that we as individuals and as congregations will be LIGHT in this darkening world; be SALT to preserve in this decaying world, and then a LEAVEN to spread this light and salt in our society.

Pray for the men who are charged with the responsibility of leading this thrust in our church. Pray for every pastor as he gives himself to this central task. Pray for everyone who calls himself a Christian, that he may be committed to this basic work of the Kingdom.



And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. *Isaiah 65:24*

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Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society

Organized 1842, Successor of Board Established 1818

401 Washington Trust Bldg., Westerly, R. I. 02891

I HAVE A VISION

For over three years I have had a vision of two brethren in Christ stretching forth their hearts and hands to meet the needs of sinful and physically suffering people in the mission field, and right now I am thinking specifically of Guyana, South America, although these two brethren may be multiplied many times, each team in its own place among the nations of the world.

Each of these brethren has his own special duties, but their overall task is a common one. Their common task is to touch lives with the love of God, winning people to a new and living hope in the person of Jesus Christ, a new birth to a higher life, with inward joy, peace, courage, spiritual light in this life, and a heavenly reward beyond this life. For their special duties, one of the brethren demonstrates the love of God by using his talents and training to encourage the healing of the sick body — this one is a physician. The other brother likewise demonstrates the love of God by using his talents and training to encourage healing of the sin-sick soul — that one is a pastor. These two brethren complement the work of each other, work harmoniously together, realizing that the most truly complete evangelism and service to man seeks to meet the needs of the *whole* person, not just one part of him.

See with me these two brethren out in a distant village for a period of time say a week. The team is occupying the church building daily as field headquarters. The people begin to come to the church for healing and as they come in the physician sees them individually. A few (or many) are waiting their turn. While these are waiting to be called the pastor is there and he utilizes this waiting time to talk to them collectively and asks if he may show them some pictures and stories,

and Scriptures. He will use various kinds of visual aids for all to see, such as flip-over charts, pictures, healing Scriptures, all accenting the love of God, the call of God, the healing of God, the "caringness" of God, the Fatherhood of God, and healing stories from the Old and New Testaments. He may ask the group if he may offer a Christian prayer for their healing, for their crops, etc. He seeks to lift up their spirits to the highest and noblest thoughts, so that they will want to learn more about God and His marvelous power for them. In his talking to them he will not use any high-pressure tactics to gain any commitments to the church or to Christ. He respects their personalities and dignity, so that they feel free and easy and under no obligations. He also announces that there is religious and health literature available for the taking. Throughout this waiting and talking time, individuals are going into the doctor's "office" and coming out, so there is a gradual turnover in the waiting room. The pastor can change his message, or start his charts over again, so it is fresh to those who have come in.

Thus, by the compassion of these two men and with prayer, consultation, medicine, Scripture, and story, the team ministers to the ills of the people, serving the whole man. And it is all a God-centered healing.

Now we believe that this Christian missionary team should not spend all its time ministering only to the physically sick, but part of the time should be directed toward the well.

To this end it is announced that in the evening of that day, and every evening of that week, the physician will give a talk on a particular aspect of health. He may have slides or charts to show to facilitate the talk, making it very clear to the people. This talk may last up to thirty minutes, possibly less, but when it is followed by a Bible message from the pastor about the same length. Of course, music should be featured too, utilizing the talents of those living in the area to make this contribution. This is our approach to reach the well, in fact, these meetings are announced as open to everyone.

When the team has spent the week at one place, it prepares to move to another place where we have a church, stopping en route at a hotel or government rest-house for a day of recuperation, before moving on. The same procedure will be carried on at a second place, and a third, etc., until at an appropriate time the team will return to Georgetown for business, further planning, and new supplies before starting on another trip.

I am cognizant of the fact that there are many details to be worked out, and I have ideas on some of them. Interested physicians will have numbers of questions, some of which I can answer by correspondence about the country itself.

Primary consideration will be to secure government approval to practice medicine in Guyana. Length of term of service is another factor. I am thinking in terms of three months at first for the physician, leaving the way open for future terms another year or even possibly longer terms. Love for Christ, dedication, and real willingness to make this vision a reality will surmount all "obstacles."

But here is the most important question of all. Will there be a Christian Seventh Day Baptist physician who will catch this vision with me? I am looking for one who, in the love of our Master and Lord, will make necessary personal arrangements to engage in what will likely be the most satisfying and rewarding work in his whole life. The time we have left on earth is growing shorter; this is a most opportune time right now, believe me. Who will answer this call? God has someone, somewhere, and only you who are reading this will know if your heart responds.

This is my vision of the mission of Jesus Christ as He would have us carry it out today, teaching, healing, encouraging the discouraged, comforting the bereaved, calling the unbelieving, warning the hypocrites, giving practical instruction, and loving all, for Jesus' sake. I see two brethren, the physician-pastor team, working in the churches side by side for the glory of God, in the power of God, for the physical and spiritual well-being of our fellowman, for here and for hereafter.

The Role of Missionaries in These Changing Times

by Miss Sarah Becker, R.N.

In Malawi much progress has been made in the last ten years. There are trained and qualified school teachers, headmasters, and managers of schools. For Sabbath Day young people's programs there is still a real niche for a missionary helper to assist in answering the many questions of young people and to help teach them the Christian way of life.

Much work has gone into training and learning to become medical assistants who can care for patients with a great variety of medical problems. Patience, experience, and much practice continue to be needed to develop wisdom. Administration, too, takes time to learn.

We have pastors and evangelists, and considerable time is spent in giving courses and refresher courses but their number is so small that each one's load is too large to find time to set up and teach lay leaders in greater numbers. This might really strengthen the churches in Christian living. To help make teaching tools and aids could be a missionary project. To help these lay leaders give Bible studies also would be a great help in keeping the members faithful. To help make simple lesson outlines could be another mission project.

I am sure several of these items hold true universally and are a challenge to each of us wherever we work in His vineyard.



How Jesus Christ Came into My Life

By Deacon Lindley W. Peters
Georgetown, Guyana

In 1967 I had a serious accident while working on our oil tanker docked in French Guiana. I was discharging some oil drums out of the ship when the boom of the ship broke away and struck me on the head. I was unconscious for over six hours.

When I regained consciousness and opened my eyes, I found myself in a hospital. I then called for a nurse and asked her what happened to me. She could not understand me, neither could I understand her. She was speaking French, while I was speaking English. However, right there and then I began to praise God for His mercies, although I was not a Christian.

Next morning around 8:00 o'clock, two of my shipmates came to see me. They told me what had happened to put me in the hospital. I spent two weeks in that hospital and during all this time my family did not hear from me. But they got word of my accident from the company I was working with, Shell Oil. My wife went to the Georgetown office every day to learn of my improvement and when I could be coming home. She became very worried after a while and began to arrange to travel to French Guiana to see me herself. As she was getting ready to come she learned that I would be returning to Guyana within a day or two.

The Lord was merciful to me. As a result of this accident I promised my God to acknowledge and serve Him and to be baptized. I was able to return to my job, but whenever our boat docked in Port Georgetown, I began to attend church on Sabbath Days. I also began to find more favor in God's sight and to know more about His commandments and doctrine. I accepted Christ as my



Brother Lindley W. Peters and Sister Inez O. Peters were ordained the first deacon and deaconess of the Georgetown Church, Oct. 21, 1972. They are the parents of Sam Peters who is in Jamaica studying for the ministry. Sister Peters was one of the Guyanese Conference representatives at the S.D.B.W.F. at Westerly, R. I., in August 1971.

Saviour and in 1968 I was baptized.

Prayer has really taken on a new meaning to me. I have come to realize that God has given me all the faith I need for what He asks me to do if I will but obey.

I had three or four close friends before I accepted Christ and His ways, but since I became a Christian they only visited me one or two times. As I no longer meet them in the rum shop or in the dance hall, they criticize me, but I am taking no heed. I am praying and asking God to forgive them and I try to encourage them to attend church with me. Becoming a Christian has made me realize how weak I am and how merciful God is. My prayer is that He will keep me faithful until my journey's end. I have seen His love for me.

Harvest Time in Africa

By Rev. David C. Pearson

The *BLI Crusader* of Bible Literature International (December-January 1972) states, "Massive evangelistic campaigns are underway throughout Africa . . . Nationals and missionaries of many different denominations are banding together with one thought in mind . . . It's harvest time in Africa!"

"From Sierra Leone across the waistline to Tanzania churches are doubling and tripling in membership. In the city of Kinshasa alone thirty-three new churches have been established. Central African Republic reports 100,000 souls won to Christ during the first year of their campaign.

"So marked is the sweep toward Christianity that seasoned missionaries now predict, 'By the turn of the century, there will be more Christians in Africa than in any other continent of the world!'"

In Madagascar 25 percent more Bibles and Testaments were sold in 1971 than the previous year. In Uganda, General Idi Amin — a Moslem — has ordered that a listing be made of the religious affiliation of his military personnel. Soldiers are required to attend religious services of their choice three times weekly. Failure to attend means expulsion from the army, which spells the loss of a job. Such things indicate that religion is on the minds of men, even the minds of national leaders.

The secular University of Malawi is eager to establish a department of religion and offer a bachelor's degree in religion. It is understood that a lecturer is soon to be appointed.

Seventh Day Baptists have been at work a long time in Malawi, but so very much remains to be done in all three of Malawi's geographical regions. Even in the Southern Region where your missionaries reside only the surface of the work is being touched.

Our work in Rhodesia under the direction of CAC (Central Africa Conference)

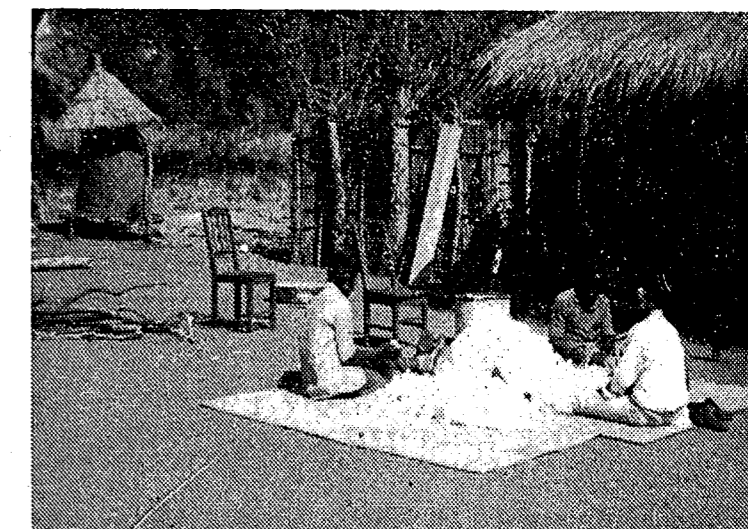
has considerable potential, but Pastor Lamech Vumah, our director there, works against the odds. Mrs. Vumah has been seriously ill, possibly because of inadequate facilities and lack of means at Gokwe, a relatively new mission outpost. Pastor Otrain Manani, secretary of the Central Africa Conference of Seventh Day Baptists recently visited Rhodesia, and assisted the local leader in the ordaining of a Mr. Sithole to the gospel ministry. He will be serving our conference part time at no cost to the conference.

Requests continue to come from Mr. E. Osaka of Kenya. A recent letter states, "We sincerely believe that pagans in this area are ready to join (the) S.D. Baptist Church and these people are eager to hear more about the God of Heaven.

"What we desired is a little help of used clothing or a little help of money for bus fare and lunch food — Bro. Pearson, God expects you to respond as Joshua responded, and lead his people forward.

"We are eagerly . . . waiting your help. Hundreds of people have indicated the desire to join S. D. Baptist because of our large campaign."

Some of us are considering the possibility of sending a representative to Kenya to encourage the brethren there and assess the situation. May the Lord guide in the consideration of new fields.



At the home of Pastor H. Gerimani, he and others are sorting cotton to be sold.

The above paragraphs speak of need and opportunity. What remains is our response. Some are "at ease in Zion." Others feel that the days of the white man are finished or nearly finished in Africa. Some feel that mission work must be put into the hands of the nationals as soon as possible, but what could be finer at the soon return of Christ — when all men's work will be finished in Africa and elsewhere — to find black men and white men working side by side each contributing his own particular talent to the work at hand.

If personnel and support were available, Seventh Day Baptists could readily utilize three missionary families in this part of Africa: in Rhodesia, in Northern Malawi, and at Makapwa in Southern Malawi. Missionaries desired most would be those able to work together as brothers in Christ, in fraternal rather than paternal relationship.

Sometimes missionaries are sent only in sufficient number to handle the more difficult administrative tasks, leaving little time or energy for spiritual tasks. There is seemingly no limit to the teaching classes which could be held, the materials which could be written, and the encouraging and inspiring visits which could be made to our many churches and branches. Your missionaries have never seen a number of our smaller places.

Many missions at work in Africa have already cut back, but *Afroscope*, an informative paper of the Association of Evangelicals of Africa and Madagascar, has pointed out that this is not true of Evangelical Missions. These missions have an urgency which the others do not have, a gospel which must be shared.

These are days of almost unlimited opportunity, but men and money are slow to come by. Christ wants us not only to occupy, but to aggressively advance His cause, until — until He come.

And he (Jesus) said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed upon the ground, and should sleep and rise night and day, and the seed

should sprout and grow, he knows not how. The earth produces of itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come" (Mark 4:26-29).



The group of worshippers at the Blantyre Seventh Day Baptist Church.

WHAT IS HAPPENING TO OUR MISSIONS?

(Continued from page 7)

fact remains, interest on the individual level in foreign missions is becoming an occasional prick of conscience. Children and young people see the reluctance on their parents' part, and they, in turn, shove the needs they see to their subconscious.

True, the old missionary concept of dealing with problems could be antiquated. A new emphasis on foreign evangelism may be needed. But, that doesn't excuse Seventh Day Baptists entirely from this area. It only says more thought and effort need to be made by interested individuals in making their approaches contemporary and effective. Missionaries are needed and wanted! Money needed? Of course! But, also living flesh!

Social concern is really the fad now — but the mission field, foreign, has been around for a long time. Let's not let a kind of compassion fatigue set in or overwhelm us. Let's investigate realistically and then act realistically.

Missionaries Are Still Needed. Are They Still Wanted?

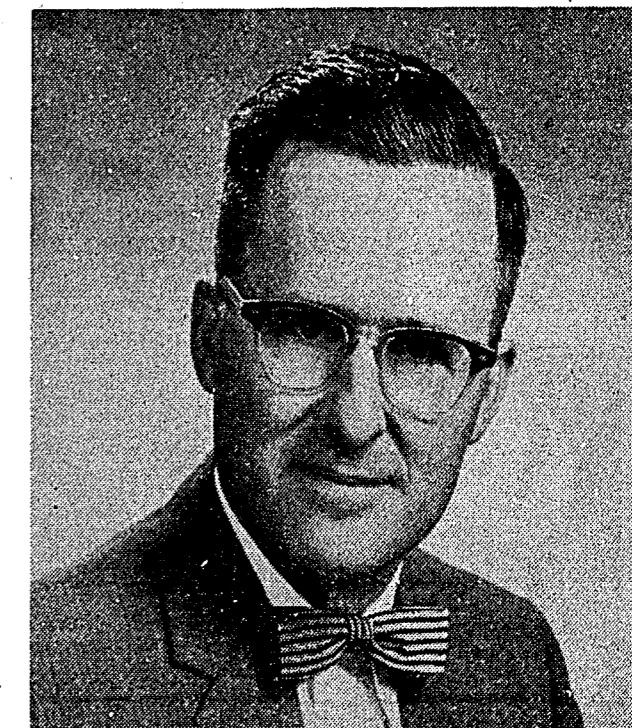
By Wayne N. Crandall
Kingston, Jamaica

The nations of the "Third World" all appear to have one thing in common — poverty. The products these countries have for sale are the low-return agricultural or raw materials required by the developed countries for food and industries. The things the people have been led to believe they need and want are the costly imports.

Not only does the disparity between the incomes of the developed countries and the incomes in the developing countries continue to widen, but the spread between the wealthy and poverty stricken within the country is more apparent. It is not at all unusual to see an American-made Continental with every extra parked by a pushcart used by a barefoot man to deliver bottles to the bottling works. In Jamaica there are over 25 percent of the working population unemployed. Another large group is severely underemployed.

In the New English Bible James 4:1-3 describes the result very nicely, "What causes conflicts and quarrels among you? Do they not spring from the aggressiveness of your bodily desires? You want something which you cannot have, and so you are bent on murder; you are envious, and cannot attain your ambition and so you quarrel and fight. You do not get what you want because you do not pray for it."

The Christian missionary cannot ignore these injustices. Again turning to James 2:14-17, "My brothers, what use is it for a man to say he has faith when he does nothing to show it? Can that faith save him? Suppose a brother or a sister is in rags with not enough food for the day, and one of you says, 'Good luck to you, keep yourselves warm, and have plenty to eat,' but does nothing to supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So with faith; if it does not lead to action, it is in itself a lifeless thing."



It is essential for Christian nations who would send missionaries to these emerging countries to get their own house in order. Christians must seek out answers to unemployment, war, and poverty in their own lands if they are to minister effectively to these people in need of the love of Jesus Christ.

Recently I heard a speaker on the radio say that the Church of the future should do, "less exhortation and more education." I don't feel this need be confined to the classroom. To my way of thinking a man (missionary) trained in the cooperative marketing of farm products who works with Jamaican farmers in teaching them that they should use a government loan for its intended purpose and repay it when due, would certainly be doing the Lord's work.

As more countries turn from the democratic, capitalistic approach in their efforts to solve their economic and social problems, it will be increasingly difficult for the conventional type of missionary to enter these countries and function as in the past. Teachers in all walks of life are needed in the countries of the "Third World." Let us pray that they will be Christian teachers.

The Sabbath Recorder



Scripture Distribution

Paul wrote to young Timothy: "You know how, when you were a small child, you were taught the holy Scriptures; and it is these that make you wise to accept God's salvation by trusting in Christ Jesus. The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us to do what is right. It is God's way of making us well prepared at every point, fully equipped to do good to everyone" (2 Timothy 3:15-17 LB).

Through the centuries, Christians have made like personal discovery. Because of the vital place of the Bible in their lives, Bible Societies were founded to print, distribute, and translate the Word into all languages of the world. The place and use of the Bible also finds a prime place in the evangelism outreach of Key '73!

One goal suggested is for Scripture distribution. Two New Testament books have been designated particularly for study and sharing — Luke and Acts. These have been published separately and together and made available at low cost so they can be given to every home in

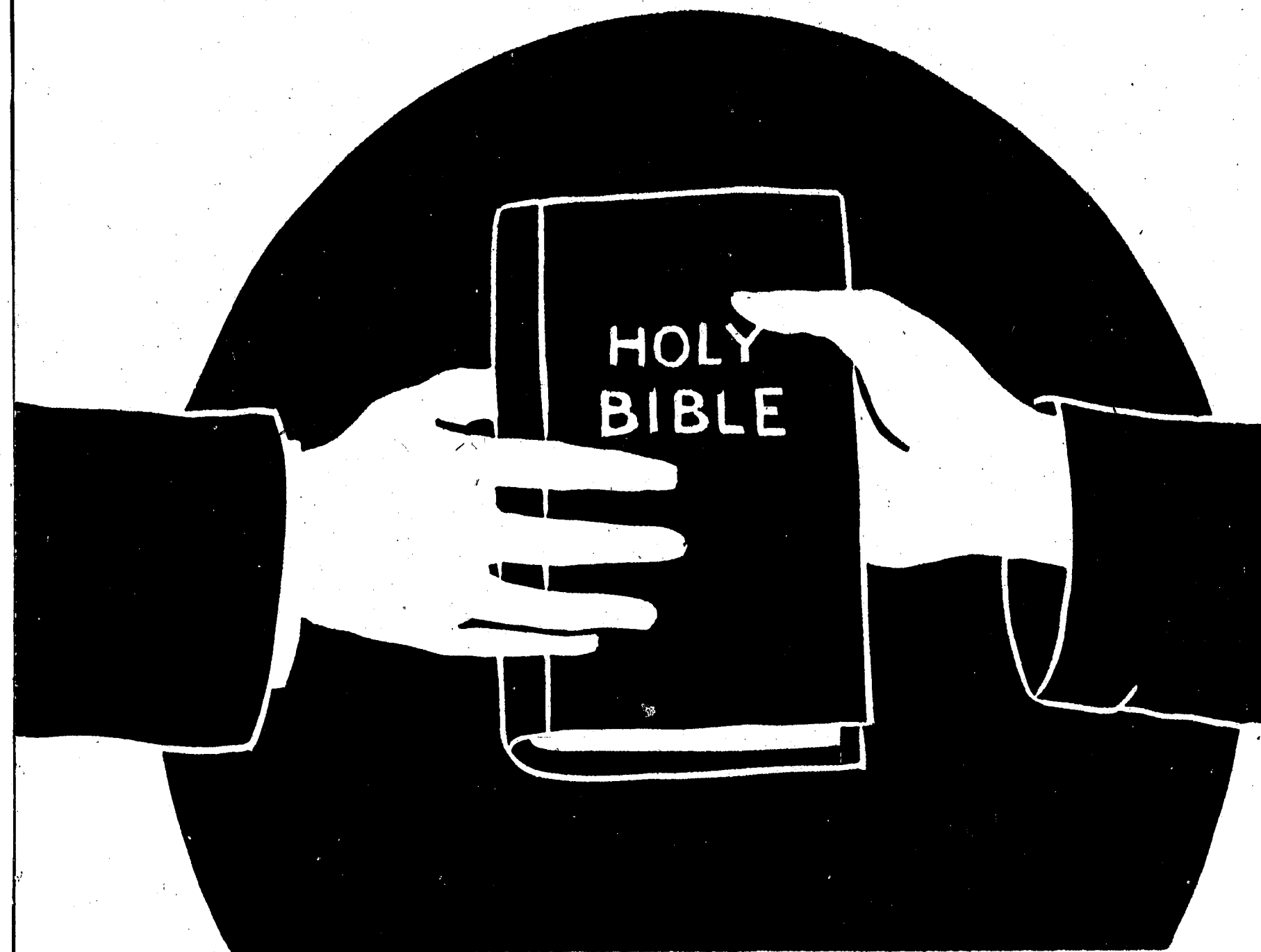
North America. In many areas churches are banding together to plan and carry out this distribution.

The World Home Bible League makes emphasis on correspondence Bible study. It suggests and offers help so that those receiving the Word are encouraged to read and understand it so it can be lived out in their lives. Many churches are planning to use these materials and be channels through which individuals and families can enroll in such a correspondence Bible study. Others, more open to meeting in homes or churches, can follow the study in small groups. What is your church doing in your community?

Millions of closed Bibles convey no word of hope or salvation or love. We do not need more Bibles alone. We need somehow to be sure that all have the Scriptures in their language, or in modern English, and help individuals discover the meaning and truth of God's Word so it can be lived in their lives.

No Long-Hairs in Malawi

Men with excessively long hair will be arrested and deported, it has been announced by government authority at Blantyre, Malawi. This ruling was directed at Malawi citizens but the government previously had ruled that visitors or tourists arriving there would not be allowed to disembark if they were in violation of Malawi's regulations. The latter also included the former restrictions on women wearing mini-skirts and men-type pants.



Bibles Gladly Given and Received

As a first step in winning our continent to Christ in the Key '73 program, Christians have been enlisted to supply and hand out New Testaments to every person in the community. In several cities Seventh Day Baptists are heading up the inter-church committees publicizing and coordinating this effort in which nearly 200 denominations and church organizations are for the first time cooperating.