

The Sabbath Recorder

and spell words like Jesus, good, love, Bible, and God, and to say what these words meant to him. He had learned what it meant to be a part of the family of faith, that he had a special place in this family, and that God loves him.

That Sunday in June Helmut stood before the congregation and presented his "Declaration of Faith." He used a flannel board and the words he had learned in class, and his teacher was there to guide him. Then he went forward with the church membership class and expressed his desire to be identified as a member of the congregation. When, after the service, the congregation greeted those who had been baptized, it was obvious the happiness and joy Helmut had experienced had transmitted itself to the congregation. In the words of his teacher, "He went home happily clutching his baptismal certificate, but our people went home carrying something in their hearts they will not soon forget."¹

Excellent materials for the education of the mentally retarded are available. Most states have an Association for Retarded Citizens and there is usually a Religious Services Committee. Many communities have interdenominational church school classes for the mentally retarded. The experience of love and acceptance in a church fellowship will help the retarded person to know that the church is the community of those who love God and try to make His love known by the way they live.

Try sharing love with a mentally retarded person. It will take a lot of patience and kindness; you can't be self-seeking or angry, and you will need to be truthful and straightforward; it will take

believing, hoping and putting up with a lot — but, love never fails. (Read 1 Cor. 13.)

Consider sponsoring a Vacation Church School or weekly Sabbath School class (interdenominational) in your church. What about using our church camps for camping sessions either with institutionalized retarded persons or those living in your community? These children can learn in a regular class setting or camping session, but an extra person, or persons, is needed to help them get involved in their own way. Such hard working efforts on your part will not build a new Seventh Day Baptist church nor add many members, but it will build a love in you that you never knew possible — Christ's love. "Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love."

¹ Weiser, Carol and Syverson, Arthur, "Church Membership for the Mentally Retarded," *The Bethany Guide*, Sept. 1972, Vol. 47, No. 1.)

Ray Knighton, president of MAP (Medical Assistance Program) reports that he had visited the dedicated doctor who heads the hospital work in earthquake devastated Managua where there is continuing need for medical supplies and food. He notes that MAP has rushed 95 tons of vaccines and foodstuffs to meet the urgent needs in Nicaragua and plans to spend between \$100,000 and \$150,000 to feed and treat the half-million needy people. It is stated that a \$25 donation enables MAP to send \$1,000 worth of medicines and supplies to disaster areas.



"The Family That Prays Together Stays Together"

Teaching the children to pray is one of the responsibilities of a father that can well be considered on Father's Day. As summer begins the family does well to pray about vacation activities in relation to the church. Let us pray with our children about recreation and the re-creation that can come through religious camps and Bible Conferences.

The Sabbath Recorder

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REV. LEON M. MALTBY, Editor

Contributing Editors—

MISSIONS Rev. Leon R. Lawton
WOMEN'S WORK Jean Jorgensen
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION Rev. David S. Clarke

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Jonathan B. Davis, Charles F. Harris, John L. Harris,
Charles H. North, ex officio, Owen H. Probasco,
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A Profitable Summer

It was the editor's privilege to make two, three, or four-hour excursions north into New York State the last two weekends of May for Association and board committee meetings and incidentally, to observe the progress of spring. Cold and rainy weather had held back trees and crop growth, though everything was fresh and beautiful. There was little hint of the approach of summer. That situation changed the last few days of May in our area when unusually warm weather descended upon us and we got a foretaste of the summer season that comes so quickly after the closing of school.

Summer is vacation time, and that has an increasing effect on church work and program. Time was when most of our church members were unusually busy during the summer months and stayed at home to tend the crops and preserve fruit and vegetables for the winter. Vacations were short for adults and usually spent close to home. Recreation vehicles, so common now, were a curiosity just a few years ago in most of our church communities. It is only natural that people who make a large investment in camper equipment will figure out times to use it. Unless their loyalty to the Sabbath and the church is particularly strong they will plan weekend trips or vacations that take them away from only one week but away from church two weekends. Not infrequently the cost of the recreation equipment plus the cost of the trip drains resources so that the local church and the denominational program are short-changed over a period much longer than the vacation expedition.

Seventh Day Baptists have always claimed a greater adherence to Bible standards than the average Sunday-keeper. We have taken our stand on the Bible Sabbath and have spent our denominational resources to produce literature that calls the attention of the world to the Sabbath of the Lord and of His New Testament church. We must now seriously face the question of providing an example of Sabbathkeeping in the summertime for those whom we are trying to convince of the Sabbath truth.

Our people have rightfully striven to be at the forefront of evangelistic work, missionary work, social work, and ecumenical work.

But not all have been willing to make the sacrifices necessary for being in the lead. Most of us find ourselves better cast in the role of followers and conformists. We are subject to the influences of society, to the theological trends of the day (or maybe yesterday) and the social practices of our communities. Our incomes are average, as are our pursuits of pleasure. Even our churches are pretty average in attendance, in loyalty, and in efforts to stay alive and be a respectable influence in the community.

Though our church leadership is dedicated and devoted the church may drop down to the common-denominator average of insignificant outreach if a majority of the members is not committed to the cause.

Some churches count the summer as the greatest opportunity for outreach. They call for SCSC teams to help them do what they could not accomplish by themselves. Others resign themselves just to holding things together until school opens in the fall and people settle down after their vacations. What is your attitude toward the work of the Lord in the good old summertime? Is it a time for spiritual cultivation and harvesting or just a time for pleasure and leaving the church work to others?

The Gospel in Korea

Billy Graham's evangelistic crusades have achieved spectacular results for so many years that they have lost some of their news value for the general public. The earnest Christian, however, is called by our Lord to rejoice every time one sinner repents. At least we are told of rejoicing in heaven when that happens. How much more then should we give thanks when thousands respond to the gospel call in Korea?

A Western Union Mailgram from Arthur Matthews in Seoul tells the biggest news of evangelistic preaching that has ever been available for publication. Korea has heard the gospel in unprecedented numbers through Billy Graham and his associate evangelists who have been conducting services in provincial cities. A total of over one million have

eagerly listened to the message of salvation.

On the first night of the Graham campaign in Seoul, Korea, the world famous evangelist spoke to an assembled crowd estimated at 510,000. This is the largest meeting of his evangelistic ministry and probably the largest number of people ever assembled at one time to listen to a sermon. It was an outdoor meeting held on a paved plaza on an island in the Han River, reached by crossing a bridge on foot.

Mr. Graham reminded the Koreans that thousands of them had crossed Han River bridges a quarter of a century ago in flight from Communist aggressors. "Tonight," he declared, "many of you have crossed a bridge to come here to find another kind of freedom." "Spiritual freedom," he added, is the greatest freedom of all." Thousands stood at the invitation to indicate that they were trusting Christ for that freedom.

Some of us had the privilege of hearing Billy Graham in his first major crusade in Los Angeles nearly twenty-five years ago. It was held in a huge tent, but was small in comparison with later meetings, though the number of conversations was large. Prior to the Korean Crusade, the largest of his career was in the Catholic country of Brazil when 200,000 crowded into the great soccer stadium at Rio de Janeiro in 1960. Your editor, who was attending the Baptist World Congress and meeting with Seventh Day Baptist leaders, was one among those 200,000 Portuguese-speaking people. Their response to the message of God's love through Christ was a not-to-be-forgotten experience.

The day of mass evangelism is not past, as the Korean story illustrates. Whether or not this is the most effective way to reach souls for Christ may be an open question. It also is an academic question, for you and I cannot do what Billy Graham and his well-financed organization can do. What we can do is to talk to friends and acquaintances about that spiritual freedom in Christ. If we all lived up to our calling in this respect the number of new Christians would rapidly increase. God holds Billy Gra-

ham responsible for giving 500,000 people the gospel in Seoul. He holds us responsible for persuading men in high and low positions to accept Christ — like the New Testament Christians. Then too, He calls us to feed the babes in Christ with “the sincere milk of the word.”

International C. E.

To Honor Kenneth Taylor

Dr. Kenneth N. Taylor, author of *The Living Bible*, will receive the fourteenth International Youth's Distinguished Service Citation at the 52nd International Christian Endeavor Convention in Evansville, Indiana, July 2-6, it was announced by the Rev. Charles W. Barner, general secretary of the International Society of Christian Endeavor.

Dr. Taylor will be presented with the award at the evening mass meeting Friday, July 6, by Dr. LaVerne H. Boss, president of the International Society of Christian Endeavor. Previous citation recipients include Admiral Richard E. Byrd, Herbert C. Hoover, Dr. Daniel A. Poling, President Richard M. Nixon, Dr. Billy Graham, Roy Rogers, and Dale Evans, Jerome Hines, and Vonda Kay Van Dyke.

Dr. Taylor states, “The publication of the *Living Bible* is only half the task at most: the great task is to see that it gets read! I am, by the way, far more interested in people reading the Bible than I am in their reading this particular edition of the Bible — and I hope they will read what is most useful to them.”

It is expected that more than 2,000 youth of North America will attend the Evansville Convention. Speakers at the mass meetings in addition to Dr. Taylor include the Rev. James DiRaddo, director of the Manhattan Christian Youth Services, who will give the keynote address; Dr. Oswald C. J. Hoffmann, Lutheran Hour speaker and president of Lutheran Council in U.S.A.; and Dr. W. Shedd, director of Christian Writers Council and author of several books beamed to youth.

Dr. Clifford Burdick Eminent Miltonian

The Milton College Alumni Association at its annual banquet gave an award to Clifford E. Burdick, Ph. D., as “Eminent Miltonian” for his distinguished work in various areas of geology.

Son of Dr. Justin H. Burdick, a Milton physician and surgeon, and brother of Roger and Robert Burdick who still reside in the village, he was graduated from Milton College in 1917. He earned his Ph.D. at the University of Arizona. *Recorder* readers will recall an article “Children of Noah” in the May 15, 1971, issue which gives evidence of the possibility that the remains of Noah's Ark have been preserved on 16,500-foot Mount Ararat.

Twice — in 1966 and 1969 — he led geological research expeditions into the Mount Ararat region of Turkey for the Turkish government and under the auspices of the Archeological Research Foundation of New York. This summer at the age of 79 and at the request of the Turkish government, he will return to do geological study along the Turkish-Russian border.

Dr. Burdick's pioneer work in palynology — study of pollen and spores whether living or fossil — in the Grand Canyon has resulted in scientific discoveries that could have revolutionary impact on certain phases of geology and paleontology. He has been gathering evidence in the Glen Rose, Tex., area for about twenty-five years that dinosaurs and humans lived there contemporaneously.

Dr. Burdick has authored over fifty published scientific papers and has just completed a book on the Grand Canyon which he has tentatively entitled “The Canyon of Canyons.” He is working on a larger book, “Adventures in Geology,” which may be published before the end of this year, he says.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for June 23, 1973

WORK, REST, AND WORSHIP

Lesson Scripture: Exodus 20:8-11;
Mark 2:23-28; Luke 4:16-19.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

*When only one in twenty
of the world's population
has even a portion of the Bible,
no wonder there is a call to . . .*

"LET THE WORD SPEAK"

A major address to the Advisory Council of the American Bible Society, May 9

By Layton E. Holmgren

Continued from the June 2 issue

It was also obsessed with the sheer size of the operation. Mr. Hutchinson presented some startling statistics at Addis about the demographic explosion which gave us the parameters of our task. In 1900 there were about 1.5 billion human beings around the globe. By the year 2000 there will be nearly 7.5 billion. Never before in a single century has the world's population so much as doubled, but in the approximately three decades between now and the end of this century, the developing areas of the world alone will more than double in population — to about 5.25 billion or considerably more people than there are altogether today. Already half the population of Asia and the whole Southern Hemisphere is under twenty-one years of age, most of them learning, as their parents never did, to read and write. Bible Society annual distribution has reached a little more than 200 million copies of Scriptures — Bibles, Testaments, Portions and Selections — each year, altogether less than one for every twenty of the world's present population. The scale of the task is something unprecedented in history and so Addis said we must find a way to publish and distribute at least 500 million copies annually by the year 1980. “*Let the Word speak to the millions,*” it said.

Thirdly, Addis was aroused by the new means of Biblical communication. It is difficult to speak of this without excitement. The latest count of languages in which at least some part of the Scriptures is available is 1,500 — covering no less than ninety-seven percent of the world's literate population. But more than that,

we have in our generation for the first time agreed on Hebrew and Greek texts of the Old and New Testament upon which to base these translations, texts which reflect the most recent manuscript discoveries and studies. Even more exciting, however, is the use of the new science of linguistics which has given us the means of conveying the original meaning of the Bible writers more precisely than ever before. So Addis stressed the importance of producing more and better common language translations like the Spanish “Version Popular,” the “français courant” and “Today's English Version.” But it went further and asked us to launch a *major new world campaign* to provide simplified translations, selected and graded so as to assist the new reader progressively to pass from simple gospel narrative to more difficult passages in the Epistles, eventually attaining the ability to read an entire common language New Testament. In Ethiopia where we were meeting, for example, a radio transmitter broadcasts daily lessons for functional literacy classes. The programs explain techniques in subjects of practical interest to the listeners. During the broadcast, the learners listen, write, read and repeat some fifteen new words in each lesson. Similar literacy campaigns are taking place throughout the developing world. Addis said, “*Let the Word speak to new readers everywhere!*”

In the fourth place, Addis asked us to be quick to seize the initiative in creating new and exciting ways of presenting the Scriptures to men and women of all ages in all circumstances and conditions of life whether they be young activists or older traditionalists. Special em-

phasis, however, was placed on that large percentage of the population in every country made up of children and youth. In many developing areas this group is in the majority and the assembly stressed the importance of introducing these masses of inquiring youth to the Word of God by every possible means. It urged that we plan systematically, in cooperation with churches and missions throughout the world, to present suitable passages of Scripture prepared in attractive formats, at least three times in the growing life of every school child, from primary through elementary to secondary level. That thereafter we inaugurate special programs to reach college and university students with Scriptures designed to meet their more sophisticated interests. These should include appropriate Old and New Testament selections which highlight the special concerns of the late adolescent / young adult subculture — Scriptures which will help these questing youth find the answers to problems of personal identity, social justice, life purpose, and ultimate meaning. Addis also reminded us that one of the new and highly effective means of reaching the youth of the world is through the electronic mass media, notably radio and television, which have now become the principal sources of information, education, and entertainment in most countries. Whether in the developing lands with their high illiteracy or in well-developed industrialized societies where a post-literate generation is emerging, these media offer exceptional channels for communicating the gospel. "Let the Word speak to every man by all means!" Addis declared.

Finally, the assembly underscored the importance of the partnership in mission which exists between the churches and the Bible Societies. This is not a new idea at all as, in fact, this Advisory Council in its fifty-fourth year clearly demonstrates. What is new is that our partnership has in recent times become more explicit and productive than ever before. It manifests itself, for example, in close systematic consultation. Churchmen, both lay and clergy, drawn from a wide spec-

trum of Christian communions constitute our boards and committees which meet regularly to provide valued counsel and advice on all aspects of our global mission. Moreover, regular frequent consultations are now being held with the principal officers of the various denominations, usually at their headquarters, in order the better to explore ways in which Scripture publications may be designed and produced for the Church's total work and witness. The new partnership is also manifest in the way in which "Scripture evangelism" is now becoming a normal part of the life and work of the churches themselves — of which "Key '73" is a prime example. To undergird and help perpetuate this remarkable involvement of scores of thousands of men and women in Scripture distribution and study, the American Bible Society is promoting with all possible vigor the placement of Scripture Courtesy Centers throughout the country. There were fifty of these little "Good News Stands" a year ago; there are over 350 today — located in grocery stores, barber shops, coffee houses, shopping centers, living rooms, dining rooms, basements, garages, and even church lobbies and parish houses throughout America — all of them tended by dedicated men and women who volunteer their time and services. This is the Church engaged in really meaningful "Scripture evangelism."

You will be hearing much more about all these matters from my colleagues. You will also be hearing that while we faithfully seek to fulfill the mandate given us by the church leaders at Addis Ababa, we are finding our task made difficult by the declining rate of financial support received from the churches of America. The reasons for this apparent downgrading of the Bible cause among the churches are manifold, but we believe that you are determined, as we are, to see this trend reversed — and quickly.

The preacher in Ecclesiastes said there is "a time to keep silence and a time to speak." We believe this is the time to "Let the Word Speak!"

Eastern Association Meeting

By the Editor

Another session (the 135th) of the Eastern Seventh Day Baptist Association was held over the weekend of May 18-20, hosted by the Berlin, N. Y. church. These meetings, rotating from place to place among the eleven churches of the New England, New Jersey, and Eastern New York area always provide an interesting experience for the delegates, but this meeting was particularly outstanding in the way of testimony and spiritual growth.

The trip to Berlin in May is an experience in itself. Spring comes a little slower to the hills and narrow valleys along the New York — Massachusetts border. The trees had not fully unfolded all their leaves and natural grass along the roadside was still not much above the lawn stage. There was, however, promise of gardens and small farm crops to come in the fertile, well-watered valleys fed by the rushing brooks flowing down the wooded hillsides. The village itself is old, like the large white church that almost startles the visitor with the sign "Constituted in 1780." The 200-year old village of some 1300 year-round inhabitants and twice that number and summer residents keeps some of its antiquity in the midst of modern homes, schools, and churches. The main street on which the three churches and three stores are located was closed on both ends when the state highway was straightened a few years ago, which adds to the safety and quiet of that part of the community.

Visitors enjoyed the hospitality of the church people and the warm atmosphere of the typical New England building with its full balcony, many clear-glass windows and its white and pastel paint. It was well filled on Sabbath Eve and almost crowded for the day time services with the extra people who made the three hour trip from Rhode Island and Connecticut shores.

The Association theme "He Leads Me" emphasized the Shepherd Psalm and the leading of Christ and the Holy Spirit. The inspirational and practical program

was divided into segments thus:

"He Leads Me — in Times of Peace," Sabbath Eve;

"He Leads Me — in Times of Good Fortune," Sabbath morning;

"He Leads Me in Spreading the Word," Sabbath afternoon.

"He Leads Me — in Times of Youth," evening after the Sabbath.

To list the divisions of the theme does not convey much of the spirit of the sessions, which was fostered by the worship leaders and participants. There were good sermons by the Rev. Rex E. Zwiebel and the Rev. Francis D. Saunders on the first two divisions. Some of us with a little nostalgia for Sabbath Eve testimonies noted the shortness of the service when little opportunity was given for audience participation. But testimonies were not lacking in the later services. The Sabbath afternoon meeting led by John Harris of the Shiloh church turned out to be largely testimonies growing out of lay witness training and experiences. The youth oriented meeting in the evening also featured testimonies by young folks climaxed by a strong message of challenge from Ecclesiastes 12 on youths not wasting their time by the Rev. Dale Rood of Waterford, Conn.

Recreation in the form of roller-skating was planned for the youth on the evening after the Sabbath. It was announced that the adults could remain at the church as long as they wished for coffee, fellowship, or continuation of the emphasis of the day. Not many went to the kitchen for coffee and cakes, but a large number, filling half of the church, remained for prayer, songs, and testimony for two hours and more. Among them were a few college-age young people who preferred spiritual experience to a recreation experience. Most of the adults returned to their homes between 10 and 11 p.m. but some continued until midnight. It was the first time in recent history that the adults at Eastern Association have tarried so long or felt such a moving of the Holy Spirit.

The business of the Association was most ably conducted by President Howard Ellis of the local church. Reports from the standing committees gathered

MEMORY TEXT

"I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world" (John 17:15, 16).

up the evangelistic and Christian education achievements of the member churches, which showed a good deal of effort put forth in Bible distribution and outreach efforts. The Resolutions Committee brought in four courtesy resolutions and instead of making a pronouncement on the social problems of the day presented a well-phrased resolution calling for awareness and consistent prayer for pastors and leaders.

Association finances were reported to be holding even. The work is supported by a church assessment of \$1.00 per member. The Sabbath morning offering does not go to the Association treasury, but to Our World Mission. The amount of the offering was reported as \$231, a good amount for a congregation of something over 150 people many of whom were children and youths. Your editor observed that 150 people who partook of the turkey dinner supplied by the neighboring Baptist church paid out about twice as much for the noon meal as they contributed to the missions offering. All other meals (and they were bountiful) were free to the visitors and provided through the generosity of the members of the host church.

The budget for the next year, which again included help for one of the pastorless churches was adopted without question. The one item of business that seemed to call for considerable discussion was a proposal of a committee for bringing Lewis Camp more clearly under Association sponsorship and planning for its future.

The next session of the Eastern Association will be held with the Marlboro church. Officers were nominated from the South Jersey area.

Evangelism

By Rev. James M. Mitchell

"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matt. 24:14).

The primary interest of a truly born again Christian today is to witness to every unsaved person he contacts every day and then leave the results with God.

This is a fact — we are not doing our job of witnessing well enough unless a part of the body of Jesus Christ emerges from our witnessing. God has promised that His word would not return unto Him void, but would accomplish that which He pleases, and prosper in the thing whereto He sent it (Isa. 55:11). There have been times when we have been contacted by a person and had a brief correspondence, and then nothing more. Though it is good to be contacted by people, just contacts are not enough. We must have some kind of a follow-up that would help these people identify with other believers.

KEY '73 is a program chosen by churches in the United States and Canada for evangelistic efforts in 1973. Those of us who believe the Bible will certainly agree that *the* important question we face today is neither social nor ecological, economical nor political, but spiritual. If we fulfill the spiritual aspect, the other questions will be resolved. Many are guilty of letting the desire of money or even friends and circumstances determine their answer to life's important questions. We need to reassess our priorities. Is Christ first in our lives, or is our job, our goal in life, our families? No job, no earthly gain, no personal desire should overshadow our duty to Christ. Some get so involved with things of this life their time is taken up completely and they have no time to devote to Christ's work. *Whenever we are too busy with things in this life to work for Christ, we are too busy!* "What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" (Mark 8:36). We are told to "seek ye first the kingdom of God and

His righteousness . . ." (Matt. 6:33). We then are assured the other things will fall into their proper place.

In our soul-winning task of "Calling Our Continent to Christ," it might be most beneficial for us to use the method of door-to-door evangelism. Truly, homes that have never before been open to the gospel are now opening, for prayer meetings and Bible study groups. These homes might be houses next door or in our community or nearby towns. The harvest is truly white. Where are the laborers?

How many people in our communities live yet in spiritual darkness? Hundreds? Thousands? The needs of these souls are as real and many times are as desperate as the needs of those in other lands. Key '73 should make us all more keenly aware of the needs here on the home field and willing to be instrumental in a great and continuous outreach here about us.

Using the original Church as an example, churches *must* multiply! In fulfilling the command in the Great Commission, it is imperative that our churches establish other churches. We all must have this vital awareness of our missionary task. This brings the responsibility of personal involvement in evangelism by every local church member. "Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned" (John 15:2, 6).

In only thirty years the early church in a consecrated effort took the gospel to all of the then known world. The gospel was spread in every direction from Jerusalem. Every class of people was brought in contact with the gospel, the rich, the poor, masters, slaves, business men, judges, jailers, soldiers, sailors, young and old. Why was the early church so successful? There was total commitment and involvement on the part of each of the members of the early church, but the other dimension of utmost importance was the *total empowerment of the Holy Spirit*.

Some people are prone to want to jump from "Jerusalem" (hometown) to the uttermost part of the world. Is there some hidden reason? Is there more glory serving on a foreign field than in our own locality? God's plan is for each community to bring the gospel to the next. We as Christians are responsible to witness in "Jerusalem" (our city or area) and all "Judea" (our county and state) and "Samaria" (another state) and "unto the uttermost part" (worldwide). *Let us be up and at this witnessing! Go forward! Be His ambassador!*

Every unsaved person in America represents a work to be done by the local churches, and there are thousands of unsaved people who are interested in finding the joy of salvation and fulfillment. Each church is responsible for the unsaved people in its sphere of influence. "So with you, son of dust. I have appointed you as a watchman for the people of Israel; therefore listen to what I say and warn them for me. When I say to the wicked, 'O wicked man, you will die!' and you don't tell him what I say, so that he does not repent—that wicked person will die in his sins, but I will hold you responsible for his death. But if you warn him to repent and he doesn't he will die in his sin, and you will not be responsible" (Ezek. 33:7-9 Living Bible). Since the Christian is responsible, being part of the church, the body of Christ, this means getting the gospel to our neighbors next door, the next cities, communities, and towns. Each established church and its members should sponsor new churches in areas where it may not be feasible for the people to travel long distances to the established church. They should do this with the aim at establishing a new church or fellowship or some other outreach program such as chapels, missions, neighborhood prayer meetings (perhaps in a home) Bible study groups, etc. The importance of individual witnessing in laying the groundwork for new churches cannot be overemphasized, *evangelism must be the prime concern of each church member*.

God has given us an awesome and solemn responsibility. He called us into

stewardship; stewardships of souls. This stewardship is the most important task of the Church. All else is relative in importance. This stewardship of souls is the task to evangelize the world. It is our duty as His stewards to witness to Christ always and everywhere. "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). In Acts 5:20 we are told to "Go—speak to the people—the words of this life." *Speak! Get to talking for Jesus!* Don't be reluctant or timid. Tell about Jesus and His great love for all. Tell how He died on the cross for the sins of the world. Tell of His redeeming grace that can save all who come to Him. Tell about His bodily resurrection from the dead. Tell about His ascension into heaven where he is now seated at the right hand of God interceding for us. Tell of His promise to come again and we will forever be with Him.

We as followers of Jesus Christ owe this message to the world, the unconverted peoples everywhere. Even though many may not accept this message, nevertheless, it is our duty to tell them about Christ. *We must take* the gospel to the lost. Jesus alone can save them, there's no other way (Acts 4:12). We are not responsible for their salvation, but we are responsible to tell them because we are Christ's stewards and our work is stewardship of souls.

Evangelism is many things, but has a singular purpose — to take the good news (gospel) of Jesus Christ to others. Evangelism really is confessing. We can only tell of what we know. We know Jesus is very real in our souls. He satisfies our every longing. Confessing is the vital part of evangelism. Evangelism is sharing the gospel with people, as persons, wherever or whoever they are. This is what makes Christian evangelism unique — it deals with individuals and offers each one the opportunity to be in touch with God, becoming a friend of the Creator and Sustainer of the universe, and from this new relationship comes the capability to live at a different level from other human beings.

Evangelism is *personal* since it revolves

Our Prayer Corner

Suggestions for Prayer This Week

Pray for:

1) Summers for Christian students are sometimes dry because of lack of fellowship and no spiritual activities. The same is true of others on vacation. Pray for showers of blessing on those who might otherwise have a dry summer.

2) Bible schools are beginning and camps will follow. Pray that precious time may be used to the glory of God by all who enlist in the work.

3) Pray for the SCSC training session, that the young people may be fed, equipped and inspired for the projects that await them.

4) Pray, not for passing feelings of the Spirit's presence, but for the abiding power of the Spirit for the evangelism tasks to which He calls.

around bringing the good news to another person, and it emerges from the desire to share. It involves the whole being; it flows out of the experience a Christian has had with Christ and his desire to share what he has found in Christ. It must come out of the inner being of the Christian who feels a need to share his wonderful discovery with others. The more we share, the more we have.

In recent years evangelism has been regarded as an arm or program of the Church. Certainly the early church didn't view it that way. With them evangelism was basic. It was the very heart of the Church life, it wasn't something they added. *If the roots of the Church and its members are in Christ, then evangelism will be automatic.*

In evangelism sometimes a tract can be useful to help a person know his need. Personal contact is best. Evangelism, on a person-to-person relationship, can bring an individual to a situation where he can see for himself what Christ has done and is doing for others who are like him.

Nowhere in the New Testament is the

world commanded to come into the Church and be saved. Everywhere you look in the Scriptures it commands the Church to go into the world with the message of salvation. This is still the duty of Christians today. Christians have this tremendous obligation (responsibility). *Christians are expected to do more than just stay saved!*

A gold mine of precious souls lies within the reach of our churches and every area of the nation has a growth potential. Some sections having a large concentration of people have a great growth potential. There are many families waiting for someone with a genuine concern for their spiritual well-being to contact them and tell them of Christ and help them understand the way.

Evangelism in its immediate area is a must for every congregation. The pattern set forth by Jesus was a person-to-person, house-to-house, city-to-city evangelism. Jesus used a parable to express His desire that His house be full (Luke 14:23). *A return to New Testament evangelism will fill our churches!*

Through prayer we can learn what our goals should be and how we can reach them. Whenever we pray that souls be saved, Jesus searches our hearts to see whether we desire their salvation earnestly enough to witness and work with them lovingly, patiently, until they accept Christ as their Lord and Savior and experience the rebirth.

Evangelism without prayer is fruitless; prayer without evangelism is powerless. Both are needed!

SCSC TRAINING

Remember to pray for the Summer Christian Service Corps workers. Their training session is being held at Battle Creek, June 12-20, with much the same experienced leaders in charge as last year. For a list of SCSC workers and their probable assignment to summer projects see page 10 of the June 9 issue. Watch for later news.

Conference Information from the Host Committee

The Milton College campus, Milton, Wis., temporary home to scores of Seventh Day Baptist students for more than a century, awaits the opening gavel of General Conference on Aug. 12, 1973.

Delegates will quickly spot some campus face-lifting in the three years since General Conference last was here, but they will also find the same inspiring atmosphere conducive to business, pleasure, and Christian fellowship.

Prof. Herbert Crouch, chairman of the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church's host committee, has announced cost schedules for meals and lodging taken on campus. The week's total cost per adult, including the \$3.50 per person registration fee, may be as low as \$53.20 for room and board.

On-campus room rates for single occupancy are \$5 per night, or \$25 for seven nights (air-conditioned room, \$30). For double occupancy, rates are \$4 per person per night, or \$18.50 per person for seven nights (\$22.50 for air-conditioned room).

Children twelve and under may stay in the same room with parents or other adults without charge if they provide their own bedding. Children using college beds must pay the rates listed here.

The college will furnish each registered guest with two sheets, a pillow case and bath linen. Guests must provide their own pillows and blankets.

Meal prices have been set tentatively but are subject to change (either up or down) before July 20. As published, the price of an adult meal ticket covering Monday breakfast through Sunday breakfast is \$31.20, and for children aged 3 to 10, \$20.82. Individual meals are breakfast, \$1.14; lunch, \$1.72; and dinner, \$2.34. All meal prices include tax.

Other restaurants and motel accommodations, as well as campgrounds with utility hookups for trailers, are available in the immediate area. However, the Host Committee suggests that delegates who plan to take commercial lodging off campus should make early arrangements. "No occupancy" signs are the rule of

Guyana Conference Executive Council Meeting

Pastor Leroy Bass has written an interesting and informative letter about the Quarterly Conference Executive Council meeting held with the Dartmouth, Guyana, Seventh Day Baptist Church on Sunday, April 29, 1973. He took the opportunity to travel on from Dartmouth down the Pomeroon River to visit the brethren of the Bona Ventura church and to accomplish many other services for our Lord during an extended eleven-day trip.

Pastor Bass wrote, "On Friday, April 27, we set out for Dartmouth, 'we,' being two of the Conference officers, one of my children and myself. The other officer of conference, Pastor Jacob Tyrrell, came on the next evening. The main purpose of going was the Quarterly Conference Executive Council meeting held at Dartmouth, on Sunday. But we spent Sabbath with the church, and were pleased to see how a few of the church women were prepared to supply meals and feed the delegates in the

the day during Wisconsin summers. Until more detailed information is published by the committee, delegates are urged to consult recognized travel guides for motels and campgrounds.

Current plans call for pre-registration materials to be mailed directly to churches, rather than to individuals as in past years. As a result, churches should pass on materials to nonresident members and known lone-Sabbathkeepers in their areas.

Unless they have made other arrangements already, Conference boards and agencies, as well as other groups, should inform exhibits chairman Truman Lippincott of space needs for displays and exhibits. His mailing address is 203 Dunn St., Milton, Wis., 53563.

Recorder pages will continue to carry other information about host committee activities as they develop, including registration and housing information and transportation.

room at the back of the church I asked to lead in the Sabbath School lesson, and I taught on 'The Two Ways,' with the use of mimeographed lessons I had brought along, so every one could have one, and after the close, I urged each member to each use his lesson sheet to go give this Bible study with an un-saved person in his village.

"Bro. Bowen was asked to bring the sermon of the day, and he did this with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. At the close of the service, I gave back the Vacation Bible School Day Camp forms which members had filled out several weeks earlier so all would know who would be leading in the work. Things are going nicely as the members had volunteered to fill the positions on the staff (for the coming Vacation Bible School Day Camp in August).

"After this the Women's Society met. The Women's Society has become very alive and working since their elections back in January and their election of a new president of their society. They have put on a rally, and concert, and had started to cooperate nicely for the entertaining of the Council delegates.

"On Sunday morning the Council business began. In his presidential report Pastor Bowen stated that there was a need for more financial aid from the Missionary Society, but no further action or voting was taken on this matter. He then called for a report from the Investment program. This 'Investment' program was started slightly over a year ago, with each church leader asked to promote, as a voluntary giving of 25 cents per week per member into this Fund, by using a can or box with a slot, and not to be opened until a year later.

"This fund when the year was up, was to be put at the disposal of the Committee on the Ministry for designated use for one of our part-time leaders to enable him to spend more nearly full time in the work of the Lord for his church, carrying on more public and personal evangelism in a more concerted effort. This plan caught on quite well at two of our churches, but two others did not take it on. But this was the first year of this

plan at a "self-help effort" of fund raising.

"The Committee on the Ministry reported that this Investment Offering this year was to be given to Bro. Rickford English, leader of the Bona Ventura church, and this was announced in this committee's report to council. The amount of monies raised in Investment, reported later in the Council Business was \$81.00 from the churches. This amount will help the man and his family for not more than one month, but he knows that for one month anyway he will plan on being out doing more of the Lord's work instead of his farming and any other kind of work he would have to seek for. He will select the month he most desired to have this amount and do church work for Jesus. The Council decided to promote this Investment for a second year, and we are all sure that it will become far more successful during the second year of this plan. One leader has not promoted it at all in his church, but he now sees the helpfulness and possibilities of the plan and will encourage his church to participate.

"Council also discussed our churches having a series of Sabbath School lessons on the Law and the Sabbath for a quarter's study later in the year. We have not had such for several years now. There followed a discussion of the need for our members to have training of simple parliamentary procedure and how to hold elections. This was voted to be done at local level in each church.

"The Committee of the Ministry had a meeting on Saturday night at the church, and discussed the need for stronger pastoral support for the Dartmouth church, until Sam Peters can come back to work. So the committee is seeking men from the nearby Bona Ventura church to come and work along with Deacon Scipio. He finds it difficult to carry on a public service on account of failing eyesight. But this beloved leader still gets around at eighty-six years of age, walking about the village doing his errands, etc.

"This committee also discussed the need to increase the leaders' salaries, and is asking the churches to increase their

offerings to the Workers' Fund. Final item for the committee to discuss was the failure of one leader to send in monthly pastor's reports and decide on committee action to remedy same. This wound up the Saturday night committee meeting.

"Then the Sunday business went on with report of offerings collected on the end of March quarter in our churches for the World Federation for Guyana's contribution. This amount of offering came to G. \$100.75. So the Conference reached its hoped-for goal.

"Pastor Jacob Tyrrell was given the opportunity to speak of some aspect of the World Federation, its purposes, aims, etc. The council also voted to send a delegation to make a visit to the defunct Wakenaam church to see about reopening the work there. The final item was to vote a committee of Conference to work on Bylaws to our Conference Constitution, headed by J. N. Tyrrell.

"On Monday, while the others were returning to Georgetown, Pastor Bass went on home with Bro. English to the Pomeroon River, and spent the rest of that week with the brethren of the Bona Ventura Seventh Day Baptist Church. By prearrangement from an earlier visit, a marriage was scheduled for Tuesday at the Bona Ventura church. This went on very well, and the couple went away happy. The couple were not members of our church, nor any church as far as was known. But they have already made a decision to receive Jesus and prepare for baptism and church membership. The next Sabbath they were in church with us, praise the Lord."

Pastor Bass concludes, "On the second Sunday morning out from home, I departed from the Pomeroon River, returned to the Dartmouth church on the Essequibo Coast (it's on my way home) and conducted a baptism for one mother there, who united with the church. This also was scheduled by prearrangement to take place on Sunday when I came back. The lady was one I had conducted a marriage for a year ago. I also visited with the blind lady there and another person who came for counsel. Then I had the Sunday night service at Dartmouth, visited on Monday morning, and

Central New York Association Held at De Ruyter

The 134th Annual Session of the Central New York Association of Seventh Day Baptist Churches met with the De Ruyter church May 4, 5, and 6, 1973, using the theme "Association Growth in Christ." The Friday evening meditation was given by the Rev. Wayne Babcock, developing the thought that maturity is accepting manhood and the responsibility that goes with it in the name of Christ. "Man's extremity is God's opportunity." This was followed by a very beautiful and meaningful communion service conducted by Pastors Alan Crouch and Neal Mills.

For the Sabbath morning service we were indeed fortunate to have the Rev. Earl Cruzan as guest speaker. He used as his text Ephesians 4:15 "God expects us to grow up in faith and love as we grow up in Him in Christian life and Christian service. Each of us is equally a child of God. Each of us is equally

left the village about noon, arriving home in Georgetown at eight in the evening. I gave thanks to God for a successful trip and for finding my family quite well upon my arrival. Then the new shipment of hymnals for the Georgetown church came a couple of days later, and we will use them this Sabbath, *Crowning Glory Hymnal* from Zondervan. We have prayed for Leon Lawton in Jamaica, and for you."

Jamaica Missions Emphasis

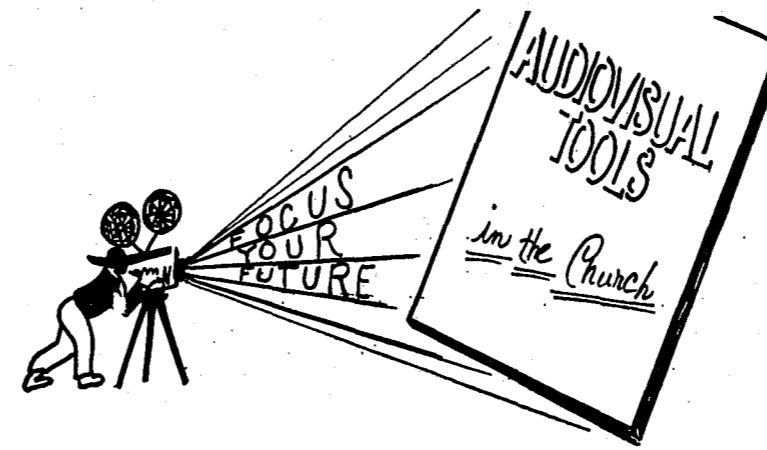
Sabbath, June 30, is the time set for the next missions emphasis. This emphasis will center on the work of our brethren in Jamaica. It is planned that a new filmstrip will be available reporting on the recent Jubilee Crusade meetings. Information on ordering this and detailed information on the present work in Jamaica will be shared with the Missionary Keyworker in each local church for use in his church. We hope that every church has already placed this on its calendar and is planning for the emphasis.

forgiven." The special music was a mixed quartette, Pastor and Mrs. Crouch, Richard and Virginia Burdick, who sang "Try Jesus, Man of Galilee."

There has been much concern about the State Fair booth and the future of this project. Therefore Sabbath afternoon was given to Louis and Nina Sholtz, chairmen of the Fair Booth Committee for this year, who gave a most unusual presentation on some of the problems facing the committee and asked for some suggestions as to ways of solving these problems. Some ideas presented were: a different location which would be conducive to more personal contacts and counseling, should there be an opportunity; imprinted pencils, bumper stickers and buttons to be passed out; and more attractive tracts. It was suggested that perhaps the Tract Board could print up some tracts especially geared to the fair-going crowd since many areas are also served in this way. Of course volunteers to man the booth are also badly needed.

The supper hour proved to be a good time for fellowship and sharing. The men's group ate by themselves and were led by Warren Brannon in discussing matters of particular concern to them. The ladies at another table were led by Nellie Barbur. The youth, with Louis and Nina Sholtz, had a very worthwhile time of sharing at a third table. Many problems of mutual concern were aired at this time which were afterwards brought before the Association for study. Following this a Key '73 in-depth Bible study was conducted by the Rev. Wayne Babcock. The closing thoughts were brought by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ellis, our delegates from Eastern Association. They followed the Association theme by stressing the fact that we can never build God's Kingdom until we love one another more. The meeting closed with the singing of the popular "They Will Know We are Christians by Our Love."

William Palmer, moderator, called the business session to order on Sunday morning. Following the usual letters from the churches and delegates, and the reports of the committees, it was voted to change the time of the Annual Meeting



FILMSTRIP SERVICE

All denominational filmstrips such as the present Outreach USA Series, after they have made the first round of the churches are returned to Plainfield and become part of the Filmstrip Library maintained by the Audio and Visual Services Committee of the Tract Board under the secretary's supervision. The latest filmstrip now available in this way is on Seventh Day Baptist camping and entitled "God and Man and Land." It could well have additional use for camp promotion and at campfire services.

back to the first weekend in June in accordance with our Constitution and the wish of the majority. It was announced that through the kindness of the Free Methodist Conference there are three more cabins available for Camp Harmony at Adams Center this year than we have had before. A suggestion was also made that we establish some "camperships" for those who could not otherwise attend camp this year.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Kenyon of the Allegany Association gave us some devotional refreshment in closing. She left us with the very beautiful thought that each church is an instrument in an orchestra with God as the director. Let us pray that we all get in tune and play the same piece. Think how much harmony we could create! Mr. Kenyon left us with the idea of a P.T.A. in Sabbath School. In this way we might be able to build this area of service both in numbers and spiritually. It was indeed a worthwhile weekend!

Ministerial Glimpses

There are a number of items of news and concern about pastors and ministers that can be gathered together in brief notes to stimulate our thanksgiving, or our prayers of intercession, as the case may be.

A recent church bulletin from Paint Rock, Ala., is printed rather than mimeographed. This is testimony to the improved eyesight of Clifford Beebe who is now able to set type and operate his press. No other church of this size can boast a printed bulletin — done by dedicated service.

It was noted in the issue of June 2 that Missionary David Pearson's father and stepmother have gone to be with the Lord.

We have received word that the Rev. Carlos McSparin's second wife, Mary Thorngate McSparin, has succumbed to cancer.

The Rev. Alton Wheeler has been in the hospital recently suffering considerable leg pain traceable to injuries sustained in an accident a number of years ago. Ethel Wheeler has also undergone hospital tests and was unable to work for a time.

Alan Crouch, pastor of the DeRuyter, N. Y., church, writes that he is recovering well from a nervous breakdown which caused his hospitalization the second week of May.

The Rev. E. Wendell Stephan, who for some years has been in hospital chaplaincy work at Hartford, Conn., underwent repair surgery recently.

Evangelism in South Africa

The May Billy Graham letter tells of great response to the gospel in South Africa where for the first time white and black traveled together, sat together, and came forward together to accept Christ. With nightly crowds of 45,000 to 60,000 there were some 3,000 responding to the call at each service of the Crusade. The Bible says that there is no respect of persons with God. The church must have the same attitude if the gospel is to be accepted when presented.

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Jewish Persecution Protested

A rally was held in New York recently to protest the inhuman treatment of Jews in Iraq and Syria. Speakers included Senators and New York political aspirants. There was a proclamation by Mayor Lindsay urging Iraq and Syria to let the Jews go instead of denying them human rights.

Jacob Stein, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, told protestors that "the world can no longer remain silent in the face of such acts of brutality against innocent and defenseless people."

An estimated 400 Jews remain of the 2,500 who lived in Iraq in 1967. The Jewish community there numbered more than 130,000 in 1948, according to Mr. Stein. Iraqi Jews are forbidden to sell their property and those who leave the country and do not return within three months are deprived of their citizenship and their property is confiscated.

Syria has between 4,500 - 5,000 Jews left of a community which numbered 40,000 in 1948. Syrian Jews are forbidden to emigrate or to leave the immediate area in which they live. Their employment is strictly limited and as a result most live in poverty. All must carry a special identification card with the word "Jew" marked in red. Upon his death, a Jew's property is confiscated by the state. Jews are often held for interrogation, tortured and jailed without trial under inhumane conditions.

and urge your members to include this concern in their private prayers. There is need for continued praying, not just for one day.

Pray for Peace in Ireland

"At Pentecost 1973 Christians in all parts of the world will unite with their fellow-Christians in Ireland to pray for peace in this conflict-torn country."

This invitation was issued to Seventh Day Baptists through the Christian Social Action Committee as an "ecumenical initiative to promote understanding and to pray for peace in Ireland."

The initiative arises from the conviction that "concerned effort of prayer would contribute to the atmosphere in which peace can grow." It equally aims at creating "a climate for better understanding of the situation of Christians in Ireland at this difficult time" and might thus assist "in correcting the often simplistic and exaggerated impression given by many newspaper and television reports that the conflict in Ireland is mainly a religious one."

Your committee is in agreement with this ecumenical effort. What more effective way can we be involved in concern for our fellowman than to go to God with our heartfelt prayers!

We suggest you make some special emphasis of this in your worship service

One Million Koreans Hear American Evangelist



Photo by Russ Busby



Evangelist Billy Graham speaking in Seoul to an estimated one million Koreans at the closing rally Sunday, June 3, in YoiDo Plaza. This is the largest crowd Graham has spoken to in his thirty year evangelistic career, and probably the largest ever assembled to hear the proclamation of the Christian gospel. In keeping with the Korean custom, most of the people walked miles to attend and then sat huddled close together on mats and papers on the blacktop surface of YoiDo Plaza.

The five-day Seoul Crusade closed with over three million hearing the gospel preached through an interpreter, another Billy, Billy Kim.