

The Sabbath Recorder
510 Watchung Ave., Box 868
Plainfield, N. J. 07061

Second class postage paid at Plainfield, N. J. 07061

March 3, 1973

The Sabbath Recorder

Youth Emphasis Issue

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR MARCH 1973



(Including and supplementing the daily Bible readings of the Uniform Series of Bible Lessons published in "The Helping Hand.")

This is God's World

- 1—Thurs. Man, the Crown of Creation. Psalm 8
 - 2—Fri. Man Thirsts for God. Psalm 63:1-11.
 - 3—Sabbath. The Earth Is the Lord's. Psalm 95:1-7
- ### Man Is a Responsible Being
- 4—Sun. The Sinner's Prayer. Psalm 51
 - 5—Mon. The Sinner's Return. Luke 15:11-24
 - 6—Tues. Mourning Over Sin. Jonah 3
 - 7—Wed. Each Man Is Responsible. Romans 2:1-11
 - 8—Thurs. All Men Are Responsible. Romans 2:12-24
 - 9—Fri. Facing the Lord's Coming. Malachi 2:17-3:4
 - 10—Sabbath. We Live to the Lord. Romans 14:1-12

Man Has Gone Astray

- 11—Sun. A Rebellious People. Jeremiah 5:20-31
- 12—Mon. There Is No Other God. Isaiah 45:1-7
- 13—Tues. Man's Wickedness. Romans 1:18-25
- 14—Wed. None Is Righteous. Romans 3:9-20
- 15—Thurs. All Have Sinned. Romans 3:21-31
- 16—Fri. All Need Knowledge of the Truth. 1 Timothy 2:1-7
- 17—Sabbath. Man's Waywardness. Isaiah 53:1-8

God Loves Us

- 18—Sun. A Merciful and Gracious God. Exodus 34:1-9

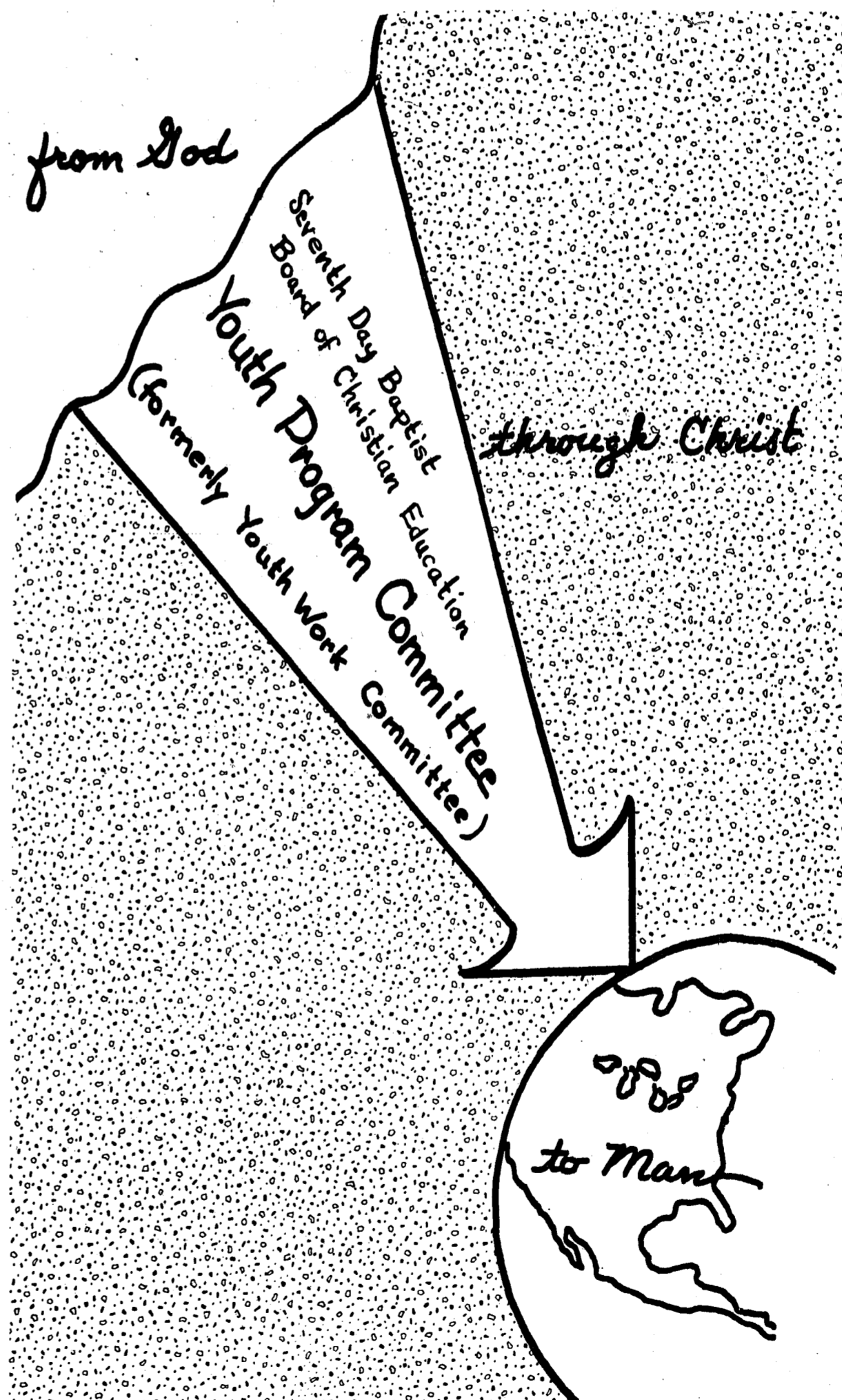
- 19—Mon. God Is Good and Forgiving. Psalm 86:1-13
- 20—Tues. God's Enduring Love. Psalm 136
- 21—Wed. God's Persistent Concern. Hosea 11:1-9
- 22—Thurs. Jesus Upbraids and Invites. Matthew 11:20-30
- 23—Fri. God Forsakes Not His Own. Psalm 27:1-10
- 24—Sabbath. God's Pitying Love. Psalm 103:1-14

God Speaks Through Christ

- 25—Sun. God Foretells and Fulfills. Acts 3:17-26
- 26—Mon. Preaching Good News. Romans 10:14-21
- 27—Tues. Proclaiming the Acceptable Year. Luke 4:14-21
- 28—Wed. The Beauty of the Proclaimers. Isaiah 52:3-10
- 29—Thurs. A Message of Light. 1 John 1
- 30—Fri. A Sure Word. 2 Peter 1:16-21
- 31—Sabbath. The Word Became Flesh. John 1:6-18

Steer Inc.

Various chain restaurants capitalize on a representation of a steer. One such eating place is called Steer Inn. There is a missionary organization called Steer Inc., which raises money primarily for work in Asia. It works like this: If you are a farmer or rancher, the folks in Steer Inc. take out for you a steer which you originally buy for \$150. They raise that steer for you and the Lord, sell it, reinvest it in another steer and give the proceeds to REAP mission (Reinforcing Evangelists and Aiding Pastors), a twenty year old interdenominational mission that claims 45,066 professions of faith in Christ in 4,000 meetings held in Asia. The address is REAP Mission Inc., PO Box 185, Arlington Heights, Ill.



The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

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

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

Rev. Charles H. Bond, Chairman, Florence B. Bowden,
Jonathan B. Davis, Charles F. Harris, John L. Harris,
Charles H. North, ex officio, Owen H. Probasco,
Rev. Albert N. Rogers, Rev. Herbert E. Saunders,
Joan Schaible, Douglas E. Wheeler.

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. March 3, 1973
Volume 194, No. 9 Whole No. 6,539

Meet Our Contributors	2
Introduction	3
A New Name and Excitement in Transition	4
Youth Work Committee in Retrospect	5
Thinking Out Loud	6
Extended Dedicated Service	7
Photographs of Youth and Young Adult Pre-Con	8-9
A Word About 1973 Pre-Cons	10
It's Happening Now	11
Photographs of Youth Involved in Conference	12
Missions	13
Testimony of Faith	15

Meet Our Contributors

Edward Sutton, guest editor, pastor of the Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church is a graduate of Salem College, Salem, West Virginia; and Crozer Theological Seminary, now a part of an educational complex located at Rochester, New York. Ed (or "Mr. Ed") as some fondly call him, is a chaplain in a team of local clergy who work with students on the campuses at Alfred. He also is a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education, and is presently the chairman of the Youth Program Committee of that board. He is married to the former Briana Pratt, Salem, West Virginia. The Suttons have two children, ages eight and eleven.

David Clarke needs little introduction to most of our readers. He has served churches of our denomination from Colorado to Wisconsin to New York. He is presently executive secretary of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education, with offices in Alfred Station, New York. David continues to be an active member of the Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church with his wife Fran, and his teen-age son, Doug.

Betty Sutton receives the editor's thanks for her contribution of the art work for the cover of this *Recorder*. Betty is a girl of many talents, and those talents serve her well in her roles as homemaker and mother. She and her husband Lyle have four children ranging in ages from eight to thirteen. Betty and her family are active members of the Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Luan Ellis is certainly not a stranger to the pages of the *Sabbath Recorder*. Luan, though busy as a homemaker-mother, and wife to her busy husband, Ron, still manages to serve her community as a teacher of mathematics in the Alfred-Almond Central School. She is a member of the Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church. She speaks from inside experiences as she writes, having been a member of the Youth Work Committee and serving as its chairman. She is also a member of the Board of Christian Education.

Linda Davis is presently serving her Lord in extended dedicated service. As

INTRODUCTION

The Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education was asked to feature the extension of itself, the Youth Program Committee. The invitation was passed along to the committee and the ideas included in the pages of this publication were born. Really, the hope that best expresses the purpose for this issue may be phrased in the following way: "Hey! What do you know about the Youth Program Committee of the Board of Christian Education? We who *are* that committee wish to share something of ourselves with you."

The Youth Program Committee is actually what has formerly been called the Youth Work Committee. The most general way to indicate this committee's basic responsibility is to quote from the job analysis: "The overall planning of Youth Program with General Conference and the local churches."

The articles submitted will share with you some reminiscences by a member who has served on the Youth Work Committee, and been its chairman during fifteen years. There will be impressions about the status of, direction for, and anticipations about the present Youth Program Committee as it begins fulfilling its new goals set for it by the updating, restructuring, and redefining that has gone on recently as a part of the evaluation being done by the total Board of Christian Education. There will also be some reactions by the board's executive secretary as he looks at ways his relationship to this committee may have changed, some of the new roles and responsibilities he will assume as he works with and for the Youth Program Committee. In addition there are items of interest that show several of the ways the influence of

you read this issue of the *Recorder*, she has most recently completed six weeks of service to the Board of Christian Education and the Allegheny Association of Churches in New York State.

Linda has served two summers in dedicated service, working in Milton, Wisconsin, and in the Allegheny Association of Churches, New York State.

this committee has been felt in the past, and will continue to do so in the future, as you read of an increasingly expanding type of specialized ministry being done by one of the local churches and its pastor (who incidently is a new member of this committee).

The Youth Program Committee hopes collectively and individually, that this opportunity to share ourselves with you will support your own determination to continue diligently to serve our Lord Christ where you are. We also hope it will encourage you to take the time to look more closely at the work *your* church is doing in special ways with the younger, but significant part of our population. And, finally, we hope this opportunity to share ourselves with you will encourage you to help us know how to better assist you in meeting needs you have; to meet the desires you have to speak relevantly to the children of God, wherever, and wherever they are.

Our Prayer Corner

Suggestions for Prayer This Week

Pray for:

1) The important work of the Board of Christian Education, featured in this issue, that its officers and committees may have wisdom in developing educational materials to build up youth and adults in the faith.

2) Vocational guidance for our young people so that they will be able to make choices consistent with their religious convictions.

3) The teachers of children on the home and foreign fields that they may have the love and wisdom necessary to develop or adapt available materials for grounding their pupils in the Sabbath as well as other more generally accepted truths.

4) Our teen-agers who are passing through difficult and challenging times of searching (and finding) reality in the Christian faith.

A New Name and Excitement in Transition

Within the last year, the Board of Christian Education has been led by the executive secretary and the Executive Committee through a time of evaluation and general updating. In that process there has been a sharpening awareness that certain "arms" of the board were carrying responsibilities that did not logically "fit" the newly-evolving job analysis for them resulting from the evaluative process. Some transferral of responsibility and some creatively new responsibilities were inserted into newly-organized committees (arms) of the board. One noticeable change is Camp Planning coordination! This emphasis now comes within the auspices of a new committee called Camp Program Committee.

The "old" Youth Work Committee was given a new name that seems actually to "fit" its purpose for existing better, and express more comprehensively what this "arm" of the board has been evolving over the years to do. The new name refers to the mission of the committee: Youth Program Committee. There is presently no other organizational body in the structure of our denomination whose total purpose for being is to serve the needs of youth like this committee, so it seems that the new name is more appropriate.

The new name is more than semantic game playing. The new name is but one part of what happened in the evaluation process of the past year, and what continues to happen as the Youth Program Committee begins to function more vitally under its new guidelines. The redefining of purposes, the clarifying of responsibilities, and the assigning of new challenges based upon precedents set in the past, illuminated by expressions of recent feelings and findings shared by several sources and resources; these are the things that excite the committee as it moves out in the transition. The many-faceted challenges of this committee motivate willing workers who constitute this committee.

Let us take a quick look at the basic headings that spell out the purposes or areas of "mission and ministry" for this committee. There are eight headings as follows:

1. Do overall planning of youth programs with Conference and its churches.
2. Arrange for youth activities at Conference.
3. Arrange for Pre-Con retreats.
4. Promote the National S. D. B. Youth Fellowship.
5. Produce the *Beacon*.
6. Arrange (with the executive secretary) work to be done "on-the-field."
7. Provide materials for Special Emphasis *Sabbath Recorders* when asked.
8. Advise in securing *Yearbook* statistics on Youth Fellowships.

These basic eight headings are more clearly covered in the Service Guide. But from this listing of the areas of mission, you see there is plenty of "field to play on," in, or with.

The Youth Program Committee is excited about the perspective that has been given it and anticipates increasingly fruitful results from implemented programs and opportunities resulting from our "new look" and "feel." I guess that's why we are pleased to have this opportunity to come to you more-or-less personally via the Special Issue. It gives us an opportunity to encourage your suggestions, your ideas, your needs and wants as can be directed to any of the eight basic areas we are geared (and gearing) to serve through. We are particularly keen on having our youth share their hopes and aspirations, their dreams of what the Youth Program Committee can do better than ever before for them.

We also solicit your continued prayer support and cooperation (individual and collective) if and when we should make a request of you as we implement or instigate programs with and for you and our youth.

Our prayer for you is that you may stay young of heart and soul as we serve a timeless Lord together.

Youth Work Committee in Retrospect

Fifteen years is a long time to serve on one committee — hashing and rehashing the age-old problems of the Youth Work Committee. It is now time for some new and fresh ideas from some other interested people.

Many paths have been traveled in those fifteen years of committee work and many frustrations have been experienced.

One of the biggest frustrations has been the concept of a youth field worker. I know of no other topic that the committee spent more time discussing. It invariably came up at every meeting. We started the field worker project with summer workers — helping in camps and promoting the National SDBYF. Since then we have hired, at different times, two people to work with the youth and advisors of Youth Fellowships, throughout the denomination. We have hired these people on faith — faith that we could raise enough money to pay them some kind of a salary. We do thank the youth in years past for all their contributions to this project.

The Youth Work Committee would still like to hire someone to be a full-time worker with youth and advisors of youth. We know what we would like to have this person do — we have a fairly complete job analysis already. There are just two problems we have faced since the concept was initiated. First, we must find someone *qualified* and *willing* to do the job. This has been the topic of much discussion and correspondence. The second problem is financial. If we did find someone we felt could do the job, from where do we get the money to offer them a decent salary? This whole situation I am glad to hand over to someone else to mull over for awhile.

The next most time-consuming subject for the Youth Work Committee discussion has been the National SDBYF. I have seen this organization almost from its beginnings. We started with the National SDBYF and dues of \$1.00 and a *Beacon* subscription. We soon initiated

MEMORY TEXT

The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and he knowest them that trust in him. — Nahum 1:7

an election of officers held at Youth Pre-Con. And now, the elections are held by mailed ballots and the installation of the officers is held at the Youth Banquet at Conference. Much discussion has taken place on the goals and aims of the National SDBYF. We have been asked, "What do I get for my \$1.00 membership dues besides the *Beacon*?" I am sorry and disappointed to hear this question. I am proud to be a Seventh Day Baptist and I think it is an *honor* to be able to belong to an organization of Seventh Day Baptists from all over the United States. The National SDBYF is what we as youth of the SDB denomination make it. I do not feel it is necessary to "get something" (material) out of it. We can receive when we put ourselves into the organization.

Working with the youth and youth leaders throughout the years has been rewarding experience also. The enthusiastic responses we have received to our requests to be directors of the Pre-Cons or Noon Discussion leaders, etc., have been heart warming. I would like though, to see the youth participate more in the planning of their programs. If anyone has any suggestions or ideas they would like to see incorporated, the Youth Work Committee would appreciate your sending them a letter. Write to your Congressman, or in this case "your Youth Work Committee."

And so, as I said in my last report to the Board of Christian Education, "With a tear and a hurrah, I pass the chairmanship of the Youth Work Committee to Rev. Edward Sutton."

—Luan Ellis

A new form of Vitamin D used at VA's Wadsworth Hospital Center shows promise in treatment of patients with advanced kidney damage and uremia and those using artificial kidneys.

"Thinking Out Loud"

From the various ideas for Youth Work presented in recent years come some thoughts on the current service and witness of youth for Christ.

Several denominations have "departments of youth ministries" which usually means that leadership programming and youth training in leadership are conducted by such a department. Seventh Day Baptists being small are short on training personnel from the national level, but we Seventh Day Baptists could be *really strong* on local training for youth ministry.

Being independent, yet ecumenically warm, we could participate in more area youth leadership training sponsored by others. It is almost impossible to recommend these area conferences and training sessions from a national office as was suggested by recent Conference interest committees. We have found that many of the ecumenical groups have urged local groups to keep their eyes open for area training opportunities.

So we urge you: keep your eyes open for announcements of youth training opportunities in your area. Keep your spirits open for the possibilities in growth in leadership. Keep your voices and minds open for supporting those who are willing to attend and to take training in youth ministry.

There is another meaning for "youth ministry." Seventh Day Baptist youth have a great history of ministry to their world. On the one side Seventh Day Baptists have a hearty reputation for ministry well beyond the worlds where our churches serve. Seventh Day Baptist youth have moved into places of high responsibility and service to their fellow man for the sake of Christ. This has occurred in many professional fields as well as in very highly technical and very ordinary services. On another side Seventh Day Baptist youth have involved themselves in their local churches services to their communities.

"High School Dedicated Service" was the title, for a while, of the national program encouraging older Senior Highs to

serve other churches in their summer ministries. Such service was part of the SCSC before 1970 when it was moved to the association and local level. Before this many Seventh Day Baptists had been serving in local or association projects on a volunteer basis to the glory of Christ.

Our board still encourages (and offers training services) the involvement of high schoolers in ministry to their area churches. We would like to recognize *all* such youth in ministry and in 1970 we distributed a plan for local awarding of recognition. But we should not overlook the older persons who volunteer services although these persons usually prefer an anonymity.

Have we overlooked an important means of recognition and award? Would not a larger part in the planning and the choosing of the association or local church's work be the most fitting recognition of service by youth? Would not the church be more complete if *all* of us would honestly dialog with each other in studying opportunities, in meeting problems, and planning projects? So, why couldn't a recognition of the openness and efforts at complete honesty by our youth be recognized by awarding youth a fuller place in the active roles of our churches?

And let's not get critical because a newly-elected youth may fail to make all committee meetings. Do all the adults always attend? Are most adults as vigorously involved in as many experimental relations as youth thus making their attendance difficult? Have youth been thoroughly advised of matters we take for granted because of long familiarities? In short, do we really treat each other as persons who are also God's children? Do we uphold the best for each of us? Are we following Jesus' honesty in seeking the churches ministry?

A one-page quickie outline titled "Candid Shot of Youth Ministry" has been prepared for seeing what are the forms of life of Seventh Day Baptist youth. This has been distributed among the churches and perhaps you have seen the yellow or white sheet giving this overall picture. We would urge your study

Extended Dedicated Service

"Dedicated Service" is more than just giving a summer in SCSC or a year in extended dedicated service. It means giving your whole life to the God who gave us life in the first place. But our denomination has provided an outlet for young people who are willing and able to give a large portion of their time. I praise the Lord that I've been able to give a portion of my lifetime to our denomination in this way, in the work of our Savior's Kingdom here on earth.

As I look back on my decision to enter extended dedicated service, it is hard to distinguish the factors that made me decide to do this. I wanted to do it for several years, but this year was the first time the opportunity had presented itself. It wasn't a big sacrifice to decide to work for only a small allowance each week. In fact, sometimes it seemed like I was taking an easy way out by not having to be on my own. But there were many other reasons why it seemed to be a good idea to go into dedicated service. Most of all, after much prayer, Scripture-searching, soul-searching, and weighing alternatives, I felt it was the Lord's will that I enter dedicated service. As I have gotten involved in my work, I know that I made the right decision and that I am doing the Lord's will.

My work includes anything that needs doing—from typing, filing, and mimeographing to clipping articles, dusting books, and making maps. I enjoy doing

these things very much. I feel that the tasks done "behind the scenes" are important in the Kingdom's work. But sometimes I feel as though I should be out witnessing for the Lord in an open way. However, He hasn't opened that door yet.

So far, I have spent the months of September and December in Plainfield, working for General Conference and the other agencies represented there. I spent the month of October with the New England churches and the Missionary Society, and the month of November with the Marlboro, N. J., church. During the month of January and part of February I worked for the Board of Christian Education and the Allegheny Association churches.

As I move from place to place, I often wonder why the Lord wants me in that particular place. As time passes, I not only discover what contributions I can make, but I also discover that I've grown a little bit. I'm sure that I've grown as much or more than I've touched the lives of others. I feel that my rewards have far surpassed the service I have given. And that is how I know that I'm in the place where the Lord wants me.

Jesus promised abundant life, and He has kept His promise in ways our human minds couldn't imagine. I thank and bless and praise the Lord for His living, wonderful, Divine Plan.

—Linda Davis

of it and your finding your place in ministry for Christ's sake.

Are we really seeking to minister for Christ's sake or are we more interested in being ministered to?

Join us in *Youth Ministry!*

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for March 10, 1973

MAN IS A RESPONSIBLE BEING

Lesson Scripture: Genesis 1:27-30; Acts 17:30-31; Romans 14:10-12.

Cambodia Christians

A three-day evangelistic campaign in Phnom Penh by World Vision president Dr. Stanley Mooneyham saw crowds three and four times the capacity of the 1,200-seat auditorium and 650 decisions for Christ. Total baptized church membership for all Cambodia is only 650. Church president Chau Uth commented, "Before, we used to be the hidden people, but now we're visible. We have longed for this for many years."



The YOUTH WORK COMMITTEE planned this first Young Adult Pre-Con held at Camp Caesar 4-H Camp in West Virginia in 1959. Are your parents, a former pastor, or a past Conference president included in this picture? Rev. Rex E. Zwiebel was the director.



Remember Grand Rapids Conference? The picture above is the Youth Pre-Con of 1967 at the Algonquin Summer Campgrounds at Hastings, Michigan. Rev. Earl Cruzan directed.

A Word About the 1973 Pre-Cons

On days when there is even a *hint* of spring in the air, something in certain of our SDB's stirs and causes excitement. Something stirs them to think ahead to August and the annual milestone called Pre-Con. Word is out! Things are taking shape for another "impossible-to-surpass" kind of experience in the Pre-Con programs, to happen August 8-12, 1973.

Listen to what Wayne Cruzan, director of the Young Adult Pre-Con said in a letter he wrote recently: "For the first time since I accepted the job as director, I am getting excited about the weekend. The main issue that we will be dealing with is the increase of violence and the mounting apathy towards it, and acceptance of it in our society. We hope to probe into some causes, alternatives, solutions, ways to teach against it, etc. The primary discussion stimulator will be Ernest Bee who will be presenting the topics for discussion. Sabbath Day we will digress from this topic and hold a special Sabbath Day service dealing with thanksgiving, worship, petition, and commitment. Alan Crouch will be in charge of this experience."

The Young Adult Pre-Con will meet at Camp Wakonda, the campsite near Milton where a previous Pre-Con group met. It is a very adequate camp with fine sleeping, eating, bathing, and recrea-

tion facilities. Costs to attend will be announced later. Watch for further word about Young Adult in the *Sabbath Recorder*.

Information received from Dale and Althea Rood indicates plans move along for the Youth Pre-Con. Their desire as they plan is to get campers involved with the Scriptures, and to experience the guidance in that exploration and their total lives, of the Holy Spirit. The study will be done in groups, twelve in number, meeting simultaneously. These groups will remain constant, but will rotate to different leaders on different topics during the camp day. In addition to the Bible Study experiences there will be movies, prayer groups, and the usual great time of singing. Consideration of music from some contemporary musical . . . possibly "LOVE" is being given. The staff will consist of persons from various ages and walks of life, but most of them from the college age.

The campsite being used for this Youth Pre-Con is located on Lake Geneva, near Delavan, so there will be swimming, boating, and various recreational opportunities. Again, costs and further information will be released through the *Sabbath Recorder*. Watch for it. Most important, however, plan now to be in attendance at one or the other of the Pre-Cons and to stay on for General Conference.

SDB Gathering at Columbia, S.C.

The Ephesus Seventh Day Baptist Church of Columbia, S. C., under the leadership of the Rev. Leonard V. Tobin is launching a week of evangelistic meetings culminating in an anniversary celebration and banquet March 31. The banquet is expected to be held in a renovated duplex building in which Mr. Tobin plans to open a day-care center. The pastor recently visited Plainfield, N. J., and became a nonresident member of the church. Churches of the Southeastern Association were sent invitations to send delegates to the March 31 meetings.

Christian Education Issue

Material for this issue was provided by the Board of Christian Education. It is the third in a series of first-of-the-month emphasis issues. The Women's Board will provide articles for the June 2 *Sabbath Recorder*. The issue of April 2 will be entitled *Mission Notes*, edited by the Rev. Leon R. Lawton.

Family Quarrels

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Gray blame each other. She says it's his fault they haven't quarreled; he says it's hers. They have raised twenty-seven children in their home.

It's Happening Now!

It is not difficult for us at times to look upon ourselves individually and wonder how we are doing in terms of fulfilling our self potential: to wonder whether or not we are living up to God's expectations of us as His tools, His instruments by which He works out His will among men through us. As a denomination, with our own unique traditions it is not uncommon for us to wonder these same questions about ourselves as individual churches: to wonder if "my church" is, or can, possibly be doing the "exciting things" we read of other churches' doing. We are all guilty of feeling that "other churches can do it, but not us!" We rationalize: "We can't (or don't) because . . . (you finish the sentence with your own set of reasons)." I am terribly guilty of being pessimistic about us as a denomination, and am super-critical about what "my church" isn't doing. So, maybe what's wrong is that we have reached this point of being negative in our thinking, that we have been "hiding under a bushel" the really positive things we have been doing among ourselves, that is, what some of our sister churches have been doing that counts for something. In this brief article I'd like to "blow our own horn" about one of our churches who is doing, from our Youth Program Committee perspective, a good job with a particular kind of challenge, opportunity . . . one unique possibility that lies close at hand in their community.

The church is the Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church. The pastor there is the Rev. Russell Johnson ("Russ" or "Rusty" to those who count it their pleasure to know him intimately).

The Alfred church, due to several circumstances it is not necessary to allude, has been going through a continuous process of self-evaluation and self-analysis for at least the last three or four years. It has been learning from these processes, new and important ways it can be and needs to still be instrumental for God in some unique ways. Within the content of this evaluative, analytical process, it was determined there was need for a special type of pastor. The

decision to call Russ Johnson was deliberate. Having been accustomed to "more seasoned" pastoral leadership, calling a man "fresh-out-of-seminary" was a bold step and indicative of the diligence, the determination to follow God's leading in these areas of ministry they were discovering. Russ accepted the challenge. He came, and together with the congregation, began, and continues to develop ever broadening forms of ministry, meeting increasingly, needs that are being discovered within the local and larger community. (We could profitably use one whole special issue talking about some of the other areas of ministry the Alfred church is involved in or beginning to develop.)

The one area the Rev. Johnson and his congregation have agreed needed service, was the ministry to a segment of the community which in reality is the majority for ten or eleven months of the year: the better than 5,000 students who come and go through the College and University campuses located in Alfred. The church was willing to become involved and agreed to encourage him when he expressed willingness to be involved. Let us first look at ways he has become involved, then come back to how the church as a congregation is involved.

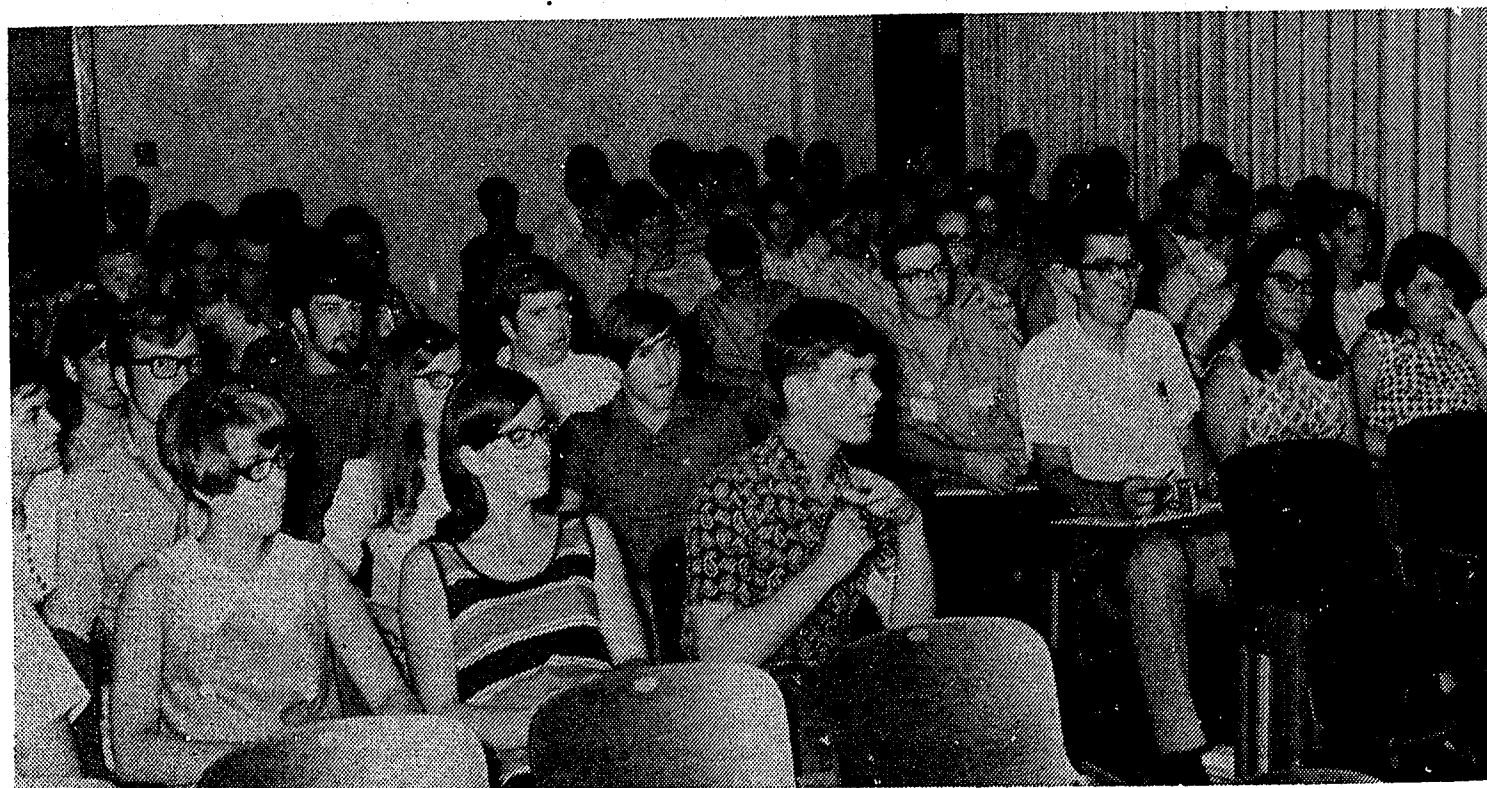
1. *Dorm Counseling and/or "Rap Sessions."* Working first through an inter-faith team of clergy, Pastor Johnson looked at the awesomeness of the task of rendering service to such a vast number of persons living "all-over-the-place." So, he, along with the team, narrowed things down to something manageable (almost!). Choosing about five or six dormitories in geographical proximity to each other, and with the complete "o.k." and support from the school administration, he began calling at each of the five or six dormitories, just "being there" certain nights of the week. That was a start. He then got acquainted with the overseers of the dorms and got their co-operation in "getting the word around" to students about his visits on

(Continued on page 14)

Youth Program Plans in Action



How many of the above can you name? Do you remember what year and where this was taking place? Here's one hint! Leland Bond of Lost Creek Seventh Day Baptist Church was Conference president.



One of the responsibilities of the Youth Program Committee is to procure a noon discussion leader at General Conference. Are you in the picture?

MISSIONS—Leon R. Lawton

Lay Witness Mission

The Marlboro and Shiloh churches are jointly planning a "Lay Witness Weekend Mission" scheduled March 30-31—April 1. Formal application was made to "The Institute of Church Renewal, Inc.," 1610 LaVista Rd., N.E., Atlanta, Ga. 30329. As requested Mr. Robert Benner of Pennsville, N. J., was appointed coordinator to work with us in this mission.

Letters of invitation have been sent to thirty-eight adults, some of them husband and wife teams, all laymen from different walks of life. An additional twenty-one youth have been invited. Each person who accepts will come at his own expense and share in a personal way the meaning of Jesus Christ in his own life and family.

The local planning committee is chaired by Mrs. Ray Froding. Responsibilities have been divided into fifteen areas, with co-chairmen and members of the committees from both churches. Many persons are thus involved in the planning phases of the mission.

The prayer emphasis for the mission culminates in a twenty-four-hour prayer vigil preceding the mission. Proper preparation is the key to success.

Provision is made for special youth missions as well as for the children and even nursery care is provided.

Our lay witnesses will come from New Jersey and surrounding states, and will arrive on Friday. Witnesses and members of the two congregations will eat together, followed by an evening service at the Shiloh church. Witnesses will share something of their Christian experience, and opportunities will be given for further sharing and discussion in smaller groups.

Witnesses will be housed in the homes of our people. A special effort is made to place them in the home of some of the less active people.

Neighbor coffee groups are planned for Sabbath morning with invitations extended by individual hostesses. Witnesses are divided among these groups, and again share informally something of the meaning of life as discovered in Christ.

Persons may come to a coffee hour who will not come to a church.

An eleven o'clock Sabbath worship will be held at both churches, but Sabbath School will not be held.

Separate noon banquets are planned for the Sabbath. This gives opportunity for women, men, and youth to share respective concerns which might be inhibited in the mixed groups.

The rest of Sabbath afternoon is open, which gives the witnesses opportunity to visit in homes as the Lord opens doors.

Both witnesses and congregations will again assemble to eat the evening meal together and share in Christian fellowship. An evening service, similar to the one on Friday, will follow.

The mission culminates at a Sunday morning worship service, followed by a lunch before witnesses return to their homes. The congregations will hold an evaluation meeting capitalizing on the freshness of Christian fellowship and renewal.

The uniqueness of the whole weekend is how the Lord is able to take the witness of laymen to laymen and use each testimony to speak to persons in a powerful way. Each witness strikes a responsive chord in someone different, so all are touched and respond in different ways, but all to the glory of God.

United Bible Society

Three prominent American church representatives were invited by the American Bible Society to represent United States churches at a meeting of the United Bible Societies of the world, September 25-29, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Those chosen were Miss Alma Hunt, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, Oswald C. J. Hoffman, radio preacher and president of the Lutheran Council in the U. S. A., and Kelly Miller Smith, pastor and assistant dean of the Vanderbilt University Divinity School. The American Bible Society is the strongest of the national Bible Societies holding membership in the United Bible Society.

It's Happening Now

(Continued from page 11)

regular night schedule. The informal "rap sessions" became a really great way to become known as someone in the community "who cared."

2. *Pastoral Caring.* Beyond the dorms, at the church office or at home, Russ has become known as one who cares. He has left his "calling card" with telephone number where he can be reached "day or night" and he is contacted that way. "Word-of-mouth" communications between students have sent him "business for the Lord." Last year, to give but one example, "Russ" had the opportunity to help a troubled student who had taken an overdose of medication while in a serious time of depression. By long hours of compassionate, caring work with this student, Pastor Johnson reports great progress toward "getting it all together" on this student's part.

3. *Providing Further Opportunity to "Vent" Feeling—Radio Ministry.* Stemming from what he had learned in his dorm rap session, Russ realized students needed and wanted other opportunities to express their concerns and to have resources for resolving questions that plagued them along several lines. Taking the initiative, Pastor Johnson approached programmers of one of the two campus radio stations and found them willing to have him take charge of an hour of "air time" once a week. The program is called "Hot Line," and is just that sometimes! "Russ" hosts persons of significance ranging from the local pastors and priests, to school and community officials on through to some controversial "feature" guests. Following a time of introduction and remarks by the guests, dialog stemming from phoned-in questions transpires.

4. *Taking part in pre-marital seminars sponsored by the campus chaplains.* Pastor Russ has joined the other clergy of the Alfred Community (who are chaplains on campus like him) in conducting an annual workshop for those college students who plans to be married. The workshops are held in the spring and the staff includes doctors, ministers and their

wives; persons from various age groups (newly marrieds to grandparents); and those who are specially trained in counselling fields. These workshops are geared to help these students, many of them going into "mixed" marriages (mixed racially, religiously, economically, etc.) and some of which will still have some college to finish. The seminars, or workshops have grown in popularity and are considered extremely beneficial by those who take part in them; and of course by their evaluations have helped the workshops become better able to meet particular needs of this group within the community.

These are but some of the ways Pastor Johnson, representing Jesus Christ, and the local congregation of Christian SDB's, are ministering to this special age group of people.

It seems important to me, to share briefly *how* the local church is involved in ministering, too. There is a very open and sincere communication going with the congregation by which the pastor shares his hopes, frustrations, plans, and needs in these existing forms of reaching out with and for Christ. The congregation, therefore, is kept informed of ways it can be individually and collectively involved. The congregation is called upon to prayerfully and physically . . . yes, even financially, be involved. Built into the church budget is an item designated for campus ministries. Then, the congregation grants time and supportive consideration to the pastor when he is called away from local church administrative responsibilities by conditions related to these special ministries. But, most importantly, the congregation rejoices with the pastor when, in the name of Jesus Christ, lives are touched and changed; when the Body of Jesus Christ, represented by the pastor and each member who gets personally, or prayerfully, or financially involved, is there and meets the special needs of these special persons in the community.

Well, I hope this "peek" at a sister church, "doing her thing" in the jargon of the times, gives you encouragement to look more closely at the "quiet things"

Testimonies of Faith

(Submitted by Evangelist Mynor Soper)

**Testimony by Janece Goodrich,
North Loup, Nebr.**

On January 20, 1972, a sixteen-year-old girl stole silently out of her home during the night. Carrying one small suitcase, she walked twelve miles to a nearby town to catch a bus. It took all night and she was tired, aching, and hungry. I know how she felt because I was that girl. Today, only one year later, I am praising God that a policeman picked me up and called my parents. And I am thankful that Dad and Mom let me come home. My life could have been so much different.

My feelings today are very different than those I had a year ago, when I was frustrated, angry, bored, and rebellious.

School was my main problem back in 1972. I could see no use in studying Math, or History, or Science. They seemed unrelated to me — to my life. Every morning I dreaded going to school. The work was hard, and besides, the kids really didn't like me very much. On the bottom of my semester tests, I wrote, "I hate everything in the whole world, but most of all, I hate school." And that just about summed up my whole attitude toward everything.

But that was a year ago. Today I want to sing praises to God because He has given my life meaning and purpose. He's given me freedom from the hate and anger that plagued me before. He replaced them with love, joy, and peace. I don't know the exact time when the

you are doing; or the things you are doing quietly, without fanfare, and to utter a prayer of thanksgiving to God for His gift to you of insights you have as you define your mission. May we all be more diligent in our efforts to improve our eyesight for Christ as persons and as churches. May we be more determined to *really* see what awaits our Christ-inspired attention, and react by action in His name.

change came. It was a gradual experience. I had to learn that God loves me even when others fail. I had to learn that God has a better plan for my life than I could ever even dream of. I had to give myself, though in a piece-by-piece way, to Jesus Christ, because He gave me His all. I had to realize that I was a sinner of the worst kind for I was a hypocrite. I had failed so dreadfully to live a Christian life there was nothing left to do but invite Christ to come into my life, not as the guest, but as host—as Master and Lord.

However, after that, I still had a few very important lessons to learn, lessons about the Holy Spirit. Pre-Con 1972 brought an experience I pray I will never forget. The power of the Holy Spirit is overwhelming when you realize the potential.

Picture a small group of no more than ten Christians sitting on the side of a mountain praying. They are kneeling around a girl, who is also praying. Suddenly they all get up and start singing and laughing and crying all at the same time. Do you wonder what happened? The girl was healed. It was the same girl, who, only a few months before, had run away from home because of hate and boredom. And those beautiful Christian people showed me that through the Holy Spirit Christ still works miracles today not only the miracles of saving us from our sins, but the miracles of healing.

I wanted to tell you this because I wanted you to understand that God is all-powerful. He can take your life and turn it completely around so that you can experience His love and forgiveness. I wanted to tell you this because I love you very much and I want every one of you to know and accept Jesus Christ and to be filled with the Holy Spirit of God.

Note: Janece Goodrich is a senior in North Loup-Scotia High School. This testimony of what God means to her was given in the North Loup church on Sabbath, Jan. 20, 1973. Four lay people spoke that morning as a follow-up of the training they had received in the Lay Evangelism Training conducted by the home field evangelist, Mynor Soper.

The Sabbath Recorder
510 Watchung Ave., Box 868
Plainfield, N. J. 07061

Second class postage paid at Plainfield, N. J. 07061

March 10, 1973

The Sabbath Recorder

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Powdered Grape Juice for Burma

The Chin Hills Area of Burma may not mean much to most people, but it does mean something to the readers of this magazine, and to some other Baptists. All of the Seventh Day Baptist churches of Burma are in the Chin Hills district and speak the little-known Lushai language. Thus we read with interest a news item from the relief coordinator of the Baptist World Alliance, Carl W. Tiller, and wonder how much it may relate to our churches in the remote villages mentioned. The item follows:

Powdered grape juice, in the form of an American drink called "Kool-Aid" has been sent to churches in the Chin Hills of Burma for use in observance of the Lord's Supper. Pastors have written the liquid grape juice is available in the cities, but that transportation over the mountains is difficult by foot. The powdered form which is later mixed with water, is much lighter to carry and less likely to be spilled or broken in route.

Correspondence with Seventh Day Baptist leadership in Burma revealed that our churches have faced the problem of no fresh grape juice and no suitable substitute. Two-way arrangements have now been made for Mr. Tiller to send a supply of powdered grape juice to L. Sawi Thanga of Rangoon. — Editor.

It is an undeniable fact that every nation and every individual who has failed to "remember" the true Sabbath has been cut off from the true God and turned to some form of pagan idolatry!

Building with Newspapers

Editors of newspapers like to think that they are helping to build a better world. There may be many who would question the adjective when they evaluate the content of our large dailies and Sunday editions. Be that as it may, there is an ecology problem once the paper has been read, and there is so much waste paper that it has hardly been worth salvaging. Printing establishments instead of realizing a little income from waste paper have to pay to have it hauled away, in spite of the possibility of recycling it. Another possible use for old newsprints may be on the horizon for the encouragement of ecologists.

Robert Matteson, for more than thirty years a researcher for Standard Oil Company of California, has developed a way to make bricks from old newspapers at the rate of about seventy-two pages a brick. Shredded newspapers are pulped, and sodium silicate, gypsum and a kind of cement called pozzolan are added. The resulting mash is pressed into bricks under pressure. Each brick weighs two pounds and costs two for four cents. Production time is about two minutes per brick, plus a week's drying.

It will be noted that the percentage of paper by weight in these new bricks is relatively small, like the proverbial nail soup that depends largely on the added ingredients. The recycling and thus conserving of hard-to-dispose products made from diminishing natural resources is a worthy national or world citizenship goal, but is not the greatest goal of the Christian.

