

The Sabbath Recorder
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July 7, 1973

The Sabbath Recorder

General Conference Dates

August 12 - 18

The 161st session of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference will be held at Milton, Wis., Aug. 12-18, with Dr. Edward J. Horsley of Denver, president, in charge of the program. There is room in the college facilities for all. Plan early to attend the full week and to participate in the discussions, inspiration, and fellowship.

Women, Do Your Thing

William S. Hull, dean of the School of Theology of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, was the speaker at a luncheon of the Conference of Ministers' Wives at the denomination's annual convention at Portland, Oregon, in mid June. He urged the women to make their contribution, stating that through the teaching of Jesus women were raised to places of honor in the work of the church.

"Jesus asked women to make independent religious decisions. This was a revolutionary proposition in the first century," Hull said. "Women became the core of the first churches. They became deacons, they prayed, they prophesied, they led in worship."

He explained the apostle Paul's cautions about women's behavior in church roles as a plea for prudence when churches were immature and society was alien to their revolutionary ideas.

General Conference Publicity WEEKLY RATES

Registration fee

- Adults (12 and over) \$ 3.50
- Children (11 and under) 1.50

Lodging

- Single room: \$25.00-A/C \$30.00
- Double room: 18.50-A/C 22.50

Meals

- Adult ticket \$31.20
- Child ticket (3 to 10) 20.82
- Banquet tickets extra

DAILY RATES

Registration fee

- Adults (12 and over) \$.50
- Children (11 and under)..... .25

Lodging

- Single room \$ 5.00
- Double room 4.00

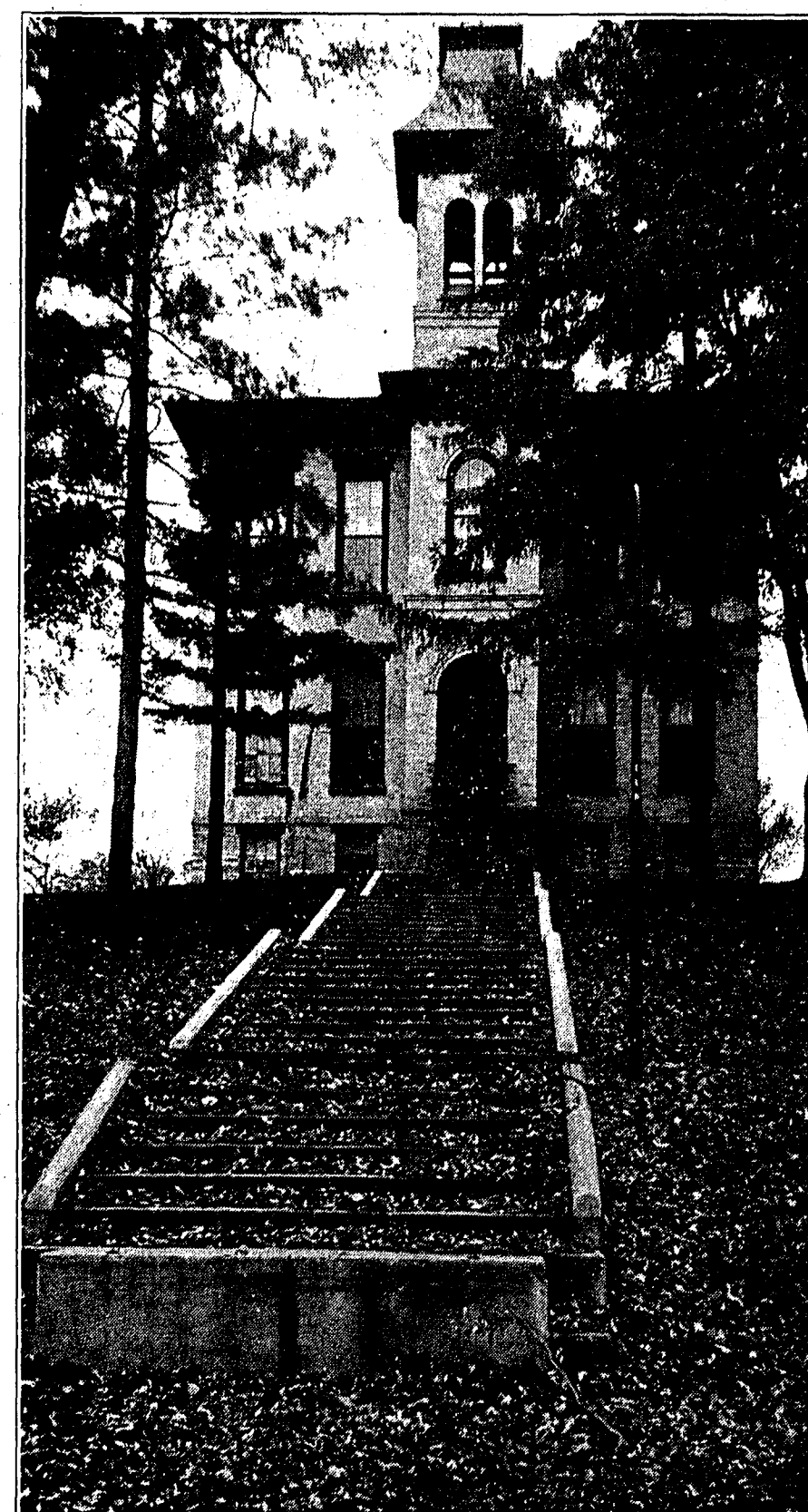
Meals

- Breakfast \$ 1.14
- Lunch 1.72
- Dinner 2.34
- Banquet tickets extra



Elizabeth F. Davis Music Sought

"I Need Not Stand Alone" was a poem written by Mrs. Elizabeth Fisher Davis, and apparently it was put to music at one time. We would like to have it for possible use by the AVA Committee of the American Sabbath Tract Society. So if you have a copy or know of a copy of the music please drop us a line in care of Gordon Lawton, Special Service Worker, Box 868, Plainfield, NJ 07061.



MILTON COLLEGE LANDMARK

The old Main Hall of Milton College holds many happy memories for those who attended classes there in former years and will be coming back to the campus for the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference next month. This building may be used for meeting rooms of some of the numerous working committees, but main meetings and housing will be in the new campus buildings farther up the hill. See articles about Conference in this issue.

The Sabbath Recorder

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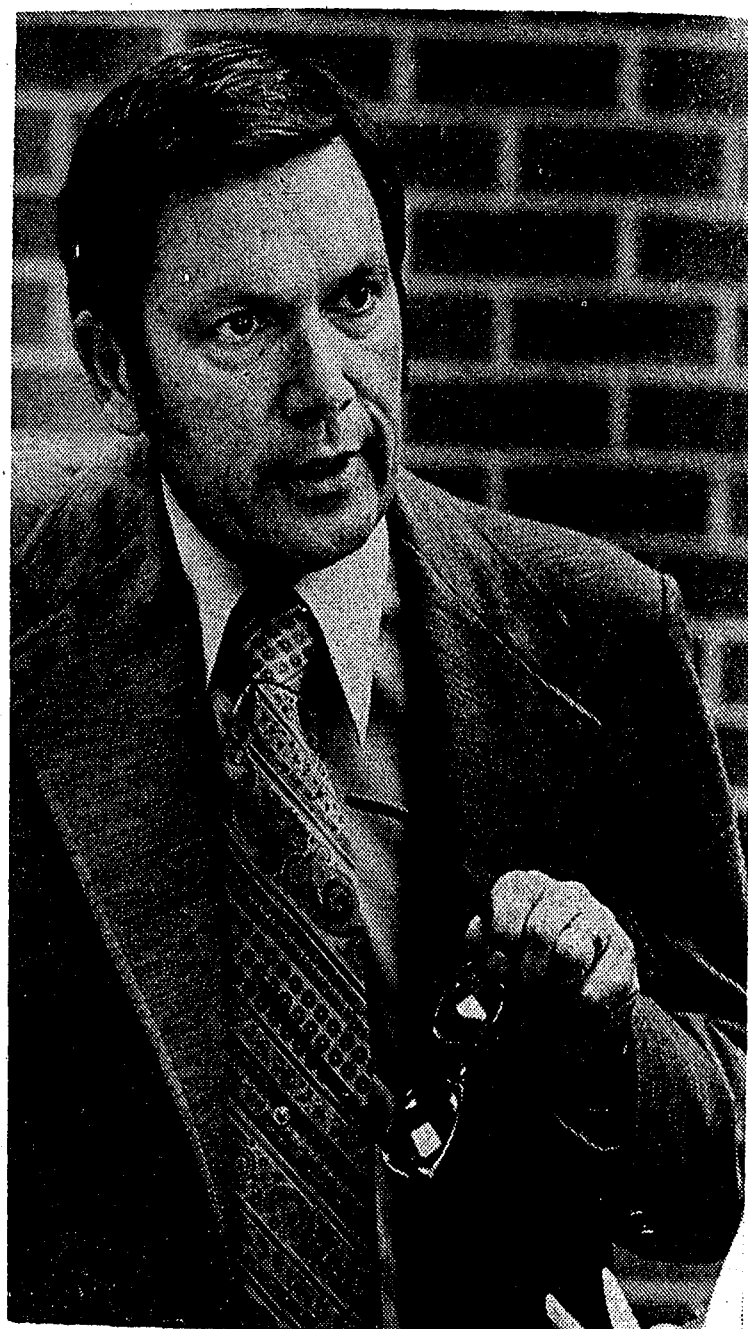
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Conference President
Edward J. Horsley



CONFERENCE EMPHASIS ISSUE

Your editor is glad to write a little preface to this issue of the *Sabbath Recorder*. The boards and agencies of the denomination cooperate in providing blue-ink special emphasis issues on the first Sabbath of the month each year ending the cycle appropriately with a Conference Emphasis issue that first Sabbath of July.

President Edward J. Horsley, M.D., of Denver, Colo., has solicited the articles pertaining to General Conference which are included this time. They are, for the most part, written by people who will be taking responsibility for parts of the program to be presented at the Milton College campus, August 12-18. This issue should be profitable not only to those who are able to attend, but also to all others who are willing and anxious to make progress in their Christian life and service under the 1973 theme of "Growing Up" which President Horsley has selected.

On Growing Up into Christ

There is perhaps no more dominant theme in the Acts of the Apostles and the epistles of the New Testament than growth. Acts tells us the story of the infancy of the church and how it grew and spread out into the whole Mediterranean world. There are stories also of individual growth, but the main emphasis is on church growth, which can be compared in some respects with the growth of a denomination like ours.

It may be interesting to note that at the end of the New Testament period the size of the church as to number of congregations and leaders was not too much different from our U.S. Conference. We dare not push this comparison too far, since we do not show up in very good light when we compare those sixty years with our 300 years of organized churches.

The New Testament epistles are directed mostly to churches, and it could be said that Paul and the other writers were primarily concerned to have the churches grow and expand as they matured in organization and mission. On the other hand, as we meditate on the epistles we cannot escape the conviction that they are directed to individuals — to us. The growth pattern that is set forth is designed for us. We, indeed, find ourselves in the Bible, especially this portion of the Bible. When Peter urges his readers to desire the milk of the Word that they may grow thereby, we know it applies to us. When Paul exhorts the Ephesian church members not to continue to be children, but to grow up "unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ," we know we need that exhortation.

Come to think of it, churches can grow into maturity only as their members put forth the effort to do so. The church is not the preacher, not the deacon, nor the most spiritually developed member. It is more nearly the average of all the members that make up the body. Thus if most of the members are lacking in Christian maturity the church itself is

Our Prayer Corner

Suggestions for Prayer This Week

Pray for:

1) All the people of our churches who are looking forward to attending General Conference, that they may have a desire to grow up into Christ.

2) The boards and agencies that are searching how to present their work in such a way that all will want to see it grow.

3) The President of Conference, that the program emphasis he has worked so hard for may be fully carried out by those he has asked to lead.

4) The young people planning to attend Pre-Con, that they may be prepared to grow in grace and to catch the spirit of the "Love" musical they will sing.

stunted and weak. What is true of the local church is true of the denomination. There has to be individual growth before there can be corporate growth. We all know this to be true, but we do not always act as if we believed spiritual development to be a compelling necessity. We admit our lack of growth but say in effect, "So what?"

An encouraging thing can be noted in the strong passage of Paul from which our Conference theme is drawn. Paul seems to include himself in this need for growth (as he certainly does also in Romans 7). He says that Christ raised up in the church apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers for our growth: "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro . . . But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things . . ." (Eph. 4:14, 15).

Growth, it appears, comes not only by listening, but by speaking the truth in love. This is not just for the leaders mentioned above but for all the members, all the churches. We grow, individually, as we witness in the spirit of love. When we thus sow the truth, God, according to His promise, will give the increase.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

By Ivan FitzRandolph

It is the wish of this year's Conference president that Conference at Milton in August be enjoyable as well as inspirational and effective in the conduct of its business. "If Seventh Day Baptists are going to spend part of their vacations at Conference, we should make it as enjoyable as possible for them," he says.

To this end, planning is going ahead to offer as wide a variety of interesting activities as possible.

As usual, the recreational facilities of the college and the community will be available for those who enjoy such activities as tennis, swimming, weight lifting, and other activities which can be enjoyed on an individual basis. We are in hopes that there will be enough interest that tournaments in volleyball, tennis, and perhaps other sports will be possible. So plan ahead — organize a team if a team is necessary — and come to Milton prepared to demonstrate your prowess (or at least have some fun). Tennis or gym shoes are required, of course, for activities on the gym floor. Organized sports programs will be scheduled for the late afternoon hours.

Less strenuous activities are also being planned with opportunities for group socialization, as well as a schedule of entertaining, educational, and thought provoking films for those individuals who find that their time is not entirely taken up with committee meetings and other formal conference sessions. Special extra-schedule activities are in the works for young people as a group as well.

So come to Conference at Milton this summer for all the usual excellent reasons, and above all come expecting to enjoy yourself.

CORRECTION

In the article by Stewardship Chairman Paul Osborn entitled "Five Months of OWM Giving" there was an error in the June 23 issue. In the first five months we had not given \$21,000 more than last year. We had given about \$6,000 less and were about \$20,000 short of our five month's goal for 1973.



Young

Adult

Pre-Con

By Wayne Cruzan, director

The topic for consideration at this year's Young Adult Pre-Con Retreat will be "Violence in Our Society." In an effort to enable those in attendance to better understand the nature of violence and to realize some alternatives to the use of violence, an opportunity to probe this issue at length will be provided.

Ernest Bee of Upper Marlboro, Maryland, a teacher in the Washington Seventh Day Baptist Sabbath School and a public school counselor, will be the idea stimulator for the weekend. Included in his presentations will be definitions of violence, attempts to understand the nature of violence, attempts to understand the nature of power and the need for it in our lives, and understanding ways to reduce violence. His approach will be from a psychological/spiritual point of view rather than from a sociological point of view.

The format of the retreat will allow for small group reaction to, and discussion of his presentations. Recommended readings are Rollo May's book, *Power and Innocence*, and Don Phillips' article in the March 17, 1973 issue of the *Sabbath Recorder*, "The Greatest Unused Power."

Sabbath Day of the retreat will be a digression from the main topic and will be under the leadership of Pastor Alan Crouch of the De Ruyter Seventh Day Baptist Church. This Sabbath celebration will center around thanksgiving, worship, petition, and commitment. A major portion of the afternoon will be left open for free time and relaxation.

The vespers portion of the retreat will be under the leadership of the directors and the campfire programs will be plan-

Summer Christian Service Corps - 1973

Battle Creek, Mich., Church Hosts Training Session

Nineteen young people from twelve states and sixteen SDB churches met in Battle Creek, Mich., for the ninth annual SCSC Training Session, June 12-20. It was a busy blessed time. Twelve-hour days were filled with study, meditation, questioning, sharing, practical experience, singing, praising God, understanding responsibilities, and facing up to human relationships.

The Women's Society of the church provided more than ample food, serving it and joining with the youth and staff in fellowship. Members of the church were hosts to students and teachers in their homes, though, with the exception of the Sabbath, there was all too little time for conversation.

Each day began with personal meditation. This year First John was the study book. Then in small groups of four or five we discussed and shared our discoveries and questions, and sought to make personal application to our lives.

Florence Bowden helped us understand human relationship and responsibilities and we serve in various places for the summer. Time was given to how we might share the gospel truth in children's talks. Connie Coon shared insights and experiences on Bible Clubs. Marian Soper led in music and choruses that could be used in camps and Bible Schools. David Clarke, through AV aids and materials helped us prepare for the

ned by individuals specifically asked to do this. Recreation and music, while a basic portion of the retreat, will be on a spontaneous rather than an organized basis.

Camp Wakonda near Milton, Wis., should provide a setting conducive to the type of program planned, and it is anticipated that those who can attend will find these four days a worthwhile experience.

teaching, counseling opportunities we would have. Mynor Soper shared instruction on effective evangelism and witness. During the calling time several had the joy in helping adults and children pray to receive Christ as their Savior. Chapel times were coordinated by Ken Davis and brought community pastors, and SDB laymen/women to share their challenge from God's Word.

The closing night a final service was attended by members of the church, friends, and the senior campers and staff at Camp Holston. One item was a "Charge to the SCSC Workers" shared originally by Lucile Todd with the 1966 Corps workers and revised slightly for the 1973 group. (See next week's issue for text.)

Thursday, June 21, the workers traveled to their work projects, as follows:

Seattle, Wash.: Larry Graffius, Debbie Barber, Mary Jane Campbell, Suzie Monroe, Scott Smith.

Paint Rock, Ala.: Sandy Ellis, Janette Fetrow.

Westerly, R. I.: Duska Goodson, Faith Oliver.

S. E. Assoc., W. Va.: Gay Vaught, Debbie Pearson.

Plainfield, N. J.: Cindy Graffius, Tricia Thorngate, Mary Pederson.

Battle Creek, Mich.: Janice Williams, Tom Thorngate; Ohio Fellowship: Leon Clare, Lois Dickinson, Janece Goodrich.

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The President Speaks

What's It All About?

Conference means many things to many people. It's a business session — a time for fellowship with old friends — a vacation — an opportunity for vital participation in denominational affairs. To some it is a continuing hope year after year that Conference will be a real spiritual retreat, the highlight of the year's religious activities.

As president of this year's Conference I share the view of this latter group, that General Conference should be primarily a spiritual oasis for our people. With the help and counsel of many persons this year's program has been planned with that specific goal in mind.

A very strong spiritual emphasis is being arranged, even to the point of some concern about the possibility of it being too involved. The evening services are based on the theme of the spiritual counterpart to the stages of growth in human life, from origin to termination. Dr. Ken Smith is presenting a series on "Areas of Personal Growth." The Rev. Alton Wheeler is preparing a series on "Areas of Denominational Growth." A series on the personal devotional life by Pastor Don Phillips, the theology of the Sabbath by Herb Saunders, and a workshop on the structure and function of the diaconate by a group from the Shiloh area will all be included. The various

boards and agencies will also be making presentations.

Recreation should be an important part of Conference and this year it will be. Numerous facilities will be available each day and Wednesday afternoon will be primarily for this purpose. We hope that a number of groups will come prepared to battle for the volleyball championship. The young people are actively participating in all phases of Conference including a full scale debate on a topic of current interest.

Business will get its share of attention and this year the discussion will include a discussion and decision regarding NCC membership.

Exciting events are planned by Dr. and Mrs. May for the Junior Conference that no one will want to miss. Various trips, interesting classes and even drama are included. Gary Cox has great plans for the Conference choir and the schedule calls for adequate time for rehearsals. Everyone should note that we plan to have the program for all of Conference run on schedule so that all participants have a fair share of time.

All of this is meant to indicate that all the plans have been made for a great General Conference session in Milton in August. Your officers are limited in Conference planning, however, because the most important plans are yours. What are your plans for August 12-18? There is still time for you to make those arrangements which will allow you to share in the business, the fun and especially the inspiration of that week. *Decide now to be there!*

How Other Baptists Do It

The Southern Baptist Sunday School Board provides a three-month allocation of educational materials free to new Sunday Schools, Training Unions, and choirs in amounts needed to get work started. The Convention asked the board to study the possibility of providing without charge up to seventy-five such books to all mission churches. The board reported 100 separate publications and sales amounting to \$44 million.

Faith Changes Prisons

Not all prison doors are immediately opened in response to faith, but some are. It is reported by staff members of the Tehachapi, Calif., Correctional Institution that one month after a Bill Glass Crusade and the sending of *The Living Bible* to prisoners there were only four men in the forty isolation units (often full) and that acts of violence in the prison have practically ceased. Prison conversions can be real.

Pouring Water on the Ground!

Paul Osborn

Stewardship Chairman

Remember David poured the water on the ground as an offering to God because it was brought to him at such risk by three who loved and served him (Second Samuel 23)? This was a sacrificial offering because David really wanted the water for himself. *But* he offered it to the Lord.

Now we have received from God all things that we have . . . and the most precious, our salvation, was brought to us by a most expensive route, the death of God's own Son! When have we ever denied ourselves anything so that we might offer to the Lord a real sacrificial offering?

This year again Seventh Day Baptists are asked to make the Conference Sabbath Offering one of real sacrifice. "A day's wage . . . or more!" Sacrificial offerings given in thanksgiving are above our usual tithe and offering. Let God search your heart as you determine to join with fellow Seventh Day Baptists for the Conference Sabbath Offering in a sacrificial offering.

The Conference Sabbath Offering goes to OUR WORLD MISSION and will be used to carry on God's work entrusted to us. Many give sacrificially of their lives as they serve under OUR WORLD MISSION. Some give sacrificially of their funds each time they contribute to OUR WORLD MISSION. But let us all thank God together on this Conference Sabbath and bring an offering worthy of Him!

YOUTH PRE-CON 1973

By Dale and Althea Rood

Are you a "Growing Plant or Withering Vine"? That is the question young people will be faced with at Youth Pre-Con this year at Camp Augustana on Lake Geneva in beautiful southern Wisconsin. The theme is, you guessed it, "Growing Plant or Withering Vine?," and correlates with this year's Conference theme on Christian growth.

Our concern for Pre-Con this year is to provide an impetus for young Christians to grow in their faith. We believe that all Christian growth must take for its basis the Word of God. Accordingly the primary emphasis in Pre-Con this year is to look into God's Word for direction and guidance in growth. We are disturbed at seeing so many new Christians dry up and wither away because they fail to grow. We want to teach the young people the beginnings of turning to their source book, the Bible, to guide them in their growth.

There will be several small group Bible studies and each Pre-Con camper will have an opportunity to study in these areas: 1) prayer, 2) worship, 3) the Holy Spirit, 4) personal evangelism, 5) finding God's will, and 6) the Second Coming of Christ. While we do not hope to cover the complete scope of these topics and while there are many topics we are not covering, our hope is that we might provide the Pre-Con campers with a foundation for their own continued Bible study.

The Bible study leaders we have included are budding young leaders as well as experienced Christians. One common characteristic they all have is that they are all growing in Christ. The Bible study leaders are: Ruth Burdick, Steve Crouch, Ron Davis, Bernard ("Butch") Keown, Gordon Lawton, Patricia ("Patty") Lawton, Elizabeth ("Tibbie") Maddox, Mrs. Norman (Gladys) Payne, Chris Pederson, Pastor Dale Rood, Mrs. Dale (Althea) Rood, and Pastor Delmer Van Horn. It is our hope that these Bible study groups with these people acting as



resource people will provide good opportunity to search God's Word and to discover how it can be applied to our daily living.

An essential ingredient of Pre-Con is music and this year we believe will be a real treat. LOVE, a musical by Otis Skillings about Christ's love and how it works in and through us, promises not only to provide a blessing to the participants but to the listeners who hear it Wednesday night of Conference. Mrs. Joseph (Carol) Loper of Shiloh, New Jersey, will direct it and Mrs. Robert (Jane) Jernoske will accompany. We are particularly excited about this, for Carol and Jane have led the Shiloh young people in this musical and the blessings and revival resulting have been beyond expectations (Eph. 3:20).

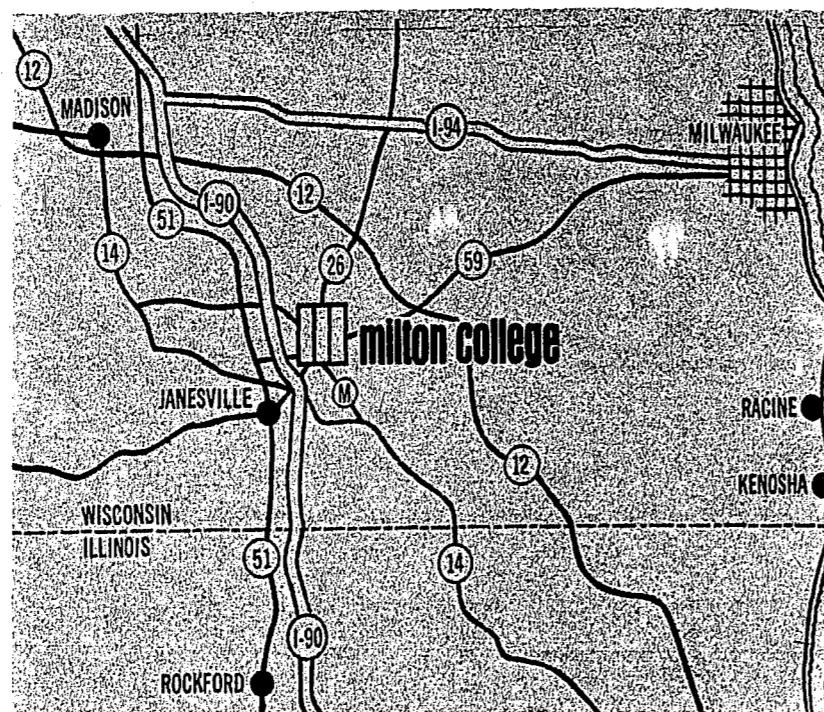
With the emphasis on small groups, we are also having small prayer groups. We must do more than talk about growing in Christ; we must try our wings, so to speak. The prayer groups and also the sharing through the musical, LOVE, will provide opportunity to use our faith to produce.

Youth Pre-Con activities will also include art projects, morning praise times as well as other praise times, alone times, recreation with Ron Bond in charge, a movie "The Sound of the Trumpet," slides of mission work in Malawi by Tibbie Maddox worship, and a special speaker, as well as the Bible study groups, prayer group, and music. It is also our hope that many things will happen spontaneously during free time. The staff will be encouraged to be available to talk and share of their faith. There is no telling what might happen at Youth Pre-Con this year. About the only limits are that it will be of the Lord and that it will be above and beyond what anyone would ever expect.

If you are of the age for coming to Pre-Con, why not plan to come and join us. The dates are August 8-12 and the place is Camp Augustana about 25 to 30 miles southeast of Milton, Wis. The cost is \$35. The directors are Dale and Althea Rood of Waterford, Conn. Whether you

How To Get There

Auto Routes to Milton



General Conference Publicity

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can come to Pre-Con or not, please pray with us that the Lord may bless it and use those of us on the staff in the most effective way possible that all, campers and staff alike, may "Grow up in all things into Christ."



Where Do We Grow from Here?

By Kenneth E. Smith

(Dr. Smith will present a Conference series on the theme "Growth in Christ" at the Milton General Conference)

A General Conference ought to be the occasion for something to happen to us and, generally speaking, something usually does. Let's admit that even when we do not prepare ourselves very well, or do not really expect much, or do not come highly motivated, that, even so, we can get caught up in very meaningful experiences of religious fellowship and the sense of well-being in feeling part of the larger family.

We hope something special will happen this year. Specifically, our focus will be on "growing up" in the highest sense of that phrase. There is a Biblical understanding of "growing up" that can be turned from one facet to another like a diamond. But the concepts are not just for stretching our minds so much as for understanding our own opportunities—the open ends of newness, freshness, beginnings.

The fact is that our lives are daily conflicts between the exciting risks of growth and the comfortable security of the status quo. This natural conflict is so much a part of all of us that we are hardly aware of our own motives. We shut out our awareness of why we do as we do.

The "natural" conflict is challenged by the special quality of "growth in Christ" which, Paul insists, is really quite something new in the world of natural human tendency. It is a breakthrough. This will be a starting point for us in our thinking about our own growth.

Relationships are the arena of growth

and we will need to consider how our feelings of trust, love, jealousy, anger, etc., lead into deeper feelings and attitudes for better or worse.

Freedom and responsibility are familiar concepts and misused words. They are rich in special meanings if Paul's phrase "in Christ" is brought to bear on them. Our self-understanding grows by leaps and bounds when we explore the little games we play to justify ourselves.

Growing in awareness and sensitivity to the experiences that bear fruit and multiply is the way out of our routines of self-reassurance. Are there ways to condition our day-to-day responses to common things so that something called "spiritual awareness" actually grows in us?

Well, this is what we are trying to deal with at General Conference 1973. And the fact is that we cannot deal with the *ideas* of growth without dealing with ourselves. And, further, we cannot deal with *ourselves* as Christians apart from the essential relationship with Christ. The distinctive Christian concept of growth begins there and ends there.

Maybe we will raise more questions than we can answer, but the concept of growing "in Christ" is one of those unexhaustible wells of refreshment that we all need. It is about as unlimited as our own capacity to change and be changed in ways that we do not yet fully understand.

May the Conference be such an occasion of growth.

Associated Conferences

Come see the circus, sing new songs, take a nature walk or two!

With a lot of prayers and the Almighty's help, the associated conferences at Milton this year will begin Monday morning, August 13, at 8:30 a.m. in the Milton church.

Activities are being planned by Mrs. Barbara Saunders for grades 1, 2 and 3. Children must have finished the first grade. Having been an elementary school teacher plus having great musical talent and know-how, she can make this a learning and fun week for all.

Come make bubble gum art, play games and learn, be a newspaper reporter with a scoop!

Grades 4, 5 and 6 will have Mrs. Nancy May. They will be trying a Kids' Krier and any other activities Nancy can dream up.

Jennie Lewis is the "music girl." She will set up her music hours during the week for grades 4, 5, and 6, and also 7, 8, and 9. It's great for some of us monotone teachers to have such talent around to help with the children. Mrs. Eleanor Phillips from Riverside will play the piano. Mr. Phil Lewis, superb Riverside Y F director, teacher and church leader will lead the lucky Junior High kids. Ninth graders may come here or to the high school play. Mr. Lewis is the fun teacher with the big whistle who will keep you so busy you will probably retire at 7.

Come play tournament volleyball, keep cool in the pool, let the actor and actress bloom!

I have always hated to see so much talent running around doing nothing during Conference week, so a high school play is being planned. Any high school student not involved in meetings or other programs and who is interested, is invited to help with or try out for Mrs. Venita Zinn's play. She will involve as many as she can. She is a Salem College speech teacher and play director par excellence — so come see what its all about!

The play will be put on Sabbath after-

Pastoral Changes

Our concern for the welfare and growth of all of our churches makes us desire information about pastoral changes so that we can pray with understanding for pastors and congregations. Not all of the information gets to the editorial office as quickly as might be desired, so there may be developments unknown to us that could have been spread on these pages. We will be glad to update our information to the readers.

New to the pastorate is Floyd Goodson of Salem, W. Va., who has accepted a call to the Fouke, Ark., church beginning after Conference. He will be a worker-pastor, having agreed to teach English in the high school. Currently he is taking the three-week course on denominational polity with other students at Plainfield.

Delmer Van Horn, who has piloted the Washington Pilot Project through its difficult years has accepted a call to the Lost Creek, W. Va., church, which has been pastorless for some time. The church in the Capital is actively seeking a replacement to carry on that growing work.

Edward Sutton has resigned from the pastorate of the Alfred Station, N. Y., church and states that he is not seeking another pastorate for the time being. The Kansas City church is again without a regular pastor, Harold King, a student pastor who previously served the Little Genesee, N. Y., church, has given up the leadership of the church and is for the present engaged in secular work.

Kenneth Van Horn, for some years pastor of the Little Rock, Ark., church, has accepted a call to the Little Genesee and Hebron churches and will reside in Hebron, Pa.

noon plus programs by the other associated conferences. All day Thursday will be spent at the Baraboo Circus — with cotton candy, fat ladies with beards, and the man on the flying trapeze! The doctor with the big heart is our director and coordinator, so come to Conference and bring your parents, too!

—Pete and Nancy May

NCCC Discussion at Conference

By President Horsley

In trying to work out detailed plans for the smooth operation of the business sessions of General Conference, there is one problem which seems to defy a complete solution. That is the matter of the NCCC membership determination.

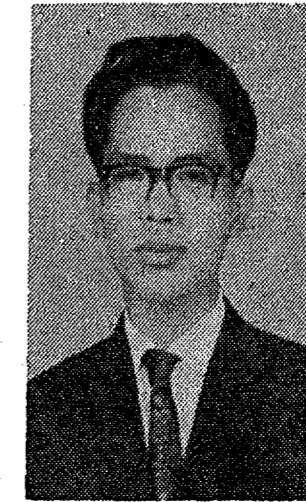
It has been promised that there will be opportunity for a vote by the delegates at General Conference at Milton in 1973 to determine whether or not the denomination continues its membership in the NCCC. Accordingly, materials have been sent out to the member churches with the understanding that their delegates will come to Conference with instructions regarding the vote.

The problem which I, as president, face in planning this part of the business at General Conference is whether or not there should be a period for discussion and debate. It would appear if delegates arrive at Conference under rigid instructions from their home church as to how they should vote on this matter, then any period of discussion would be pointless. On the other hand, it would appear that to have such an extremely important decision made by the delegates without discussion would be quite unwise. What is the solution?

A group in the Denver church discussed this matter. They felt that with the time and materials available it would be impossible for all of our members to develop a sufficiently thorough understanding of this complex subject to allow for a truly intelligent vote in the church business meeting. It was felt that by an airing of the matter on the floor of General Conference our delegates could arrive at increased understanding and be in a better position to represent the church in casting their votes. It was the hope of this small group that delegates might go to General Conference with an understanding of the current feeling of their home church regarding this matter, but that they should listen carefully and participate in discussion on the subject and then arrive at their decision prior to casting their votes.

This concept of delegate responsibility

Burmese Leader Produces Tracts



Recently received at the office of the American Sabbath Tract Society are copies of two tracts produced in Rangoon, Burma, by L. Sawi Thanga in the Lushai language. They are "Statement of Beliefs of Seventh Day Baptists" and "What Church Mem-

bership Implies." They are not in pamphlet form, though that would have been desirable if conditions permitted printing in that form. Both are mimeographed very neatly on both sides of an 8½ x 13½ sheet.

For the benefit of the Tract Board committee that gave financial encouragement to the secretary of the Burma Conference for this project Mr. Thanga typed the following note at the bottom:

"Statement of Beliefs of Seventh Day Baptists' and 'What Church Membership Implies' in Lushai language with slight modification by the translator. 3,000 copies printed. It is hoped to print at least 10,000 more."

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for July 14, 1973

A CHRISTIAN VIEW OF SEX

Lesson Scripture: Exodus 20:14; Matt. 5:27-28; 1 Cor. 6:13b-20.

has my personal support and therefore, the business session of General Conference which deal with this important matter of NCCC membership will include time for presentations and discussion prior to the ballots being cast. Comments or suggestions regarding this matter would be appreciated and may be sent directly to the undersigned.

Edward J. Horsley, M.D., president
General Conference
5353 E. Yale Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80222

Conference Music



One of my close friends, a professional musician, was visiting with me last year prior to Conference in Denver, and in our conversation I told him the anthems that I had scheduled for the Conference choir to learn and present during the Conference sessions. Being familiar with all the selections, his response to me was, "You really do not expect that a group of singers with the limited amount of rehearsal time you have scheduled can possibly have that ambitious a repertoire ready to present for worship services, do you?" While I agreed with him in general that the music chosen was quite demanding, what my friend did not understand was the quality of musicians that make up the Conference choir. The fine music tradition for Seventh Day Baptists is a rich heritage which we have grown to almost take for granted. Such a high calibre of music and talented musicians are not common in other denominations, even many larger denominations.

One of the highlights of our Conference session each year is the exciting, moving, and worshipful inspiration which the Conference choir is able to present. As delegates return home and report on the week's events, we always expect to hear glowing reports on the Conference music.

I believe that the Conference choir should present some challenging anthems and also some new material which can be learned and performed in the local churches. Hopefully, the music selected

for this year in Milton will be of that calibre and interest many of our local church choirs. Among the anthems selected to be used during the Conference week are: "Oh, Praise Ye the Lord," by Dale Wood, "Guide Us Through the Night," by Williams, "Praise Ye the Lord," by Butler, "The Blessing," by Martin Shaw, and "How Mighty Are the Sabbaths," by Hölst. We are fortunate to have as Conference organist Rev. Oscar Burdick and fully anticipate that this year's Conference music will bring a blessing to all. We hope that in spite of the busy committee work, business sessions, fun and fellowship, and all the other many activities involved with Conference that any and all of you love to sing will make a particular effort to join with the choir and be a part of this apostolic work.

Gary G. Cox,
Director, Conference Music

I Wondered

I wondered when I came if you could love me
I'm sometimes loud, clumsy
Searching for every meaning in my life
I run, laugh, hurry
Rushing to capture every moment.

I wondered what you could be like
Would you be patient and kind
Rejoicing in every truth discovered
Would you help build faith
and hope—that tomorrow would be full.

Oh yes! And you are so much more!
When I saw your faces
All shining and aglow with God's Spirit
I knew I needn't worry about being accepted
Because you and God are in union
And God is love.

—Janece Goodrich

(Shared at a time of worship and praise during SCSC Training Session, 1973)

President Tolbert of Liberia Visits Baptist Alliance Offices

The protocol of the United States paused Wednesday, June 6, to allow the president of the Republic of Liberia to spend an hour with his friends at the headquarters office of the Baptist World Alliance, the building at 1628 16th St., N. W., where the Seventh Day Baptist church used to meet.



William R. Tolbert, who was president of the Baptist World Alliance from 1965-70 while serving as vice-president of his African country, squeezed the visit in between a state luncheon at the U. S. State Department and a dinner in which he received a Humanitarian Award.

Dr. and Mrs. Tolbert led an entourage of about twenty Liberian and American officials up the two flights of stairs to the office of Robert S. Denny, general secretary of BWA. They paused in the hallway to view a portrait of Tolbert, painted during his presidency of the Alliance.

Dr. V. Carney Hargroves, of Philadelphia who succeeded Dr. Tolbert as president of BWA, and Dr. Denny both spoke words of welcome and confidence to the head of the Liberian state.

Dr. Tolbert is spending twenty days in the United States. He also is speaking at worship services in three American churches during his stay. In Dallas he was scheduled to make a commencement address at Bishop (Baptist) College and speak at the National Baptist Sunday School Convention.

At home in Liberia, Dr. Tolbert has continued — even as president — to be pastor of the Zion Praise Baptist Church in Bentol City, his home town, and president of the Liberian National Missionary and Educational Convention.

Scriptures for China

It is natural for Christian organizations with a world ministry to try to get Scripture portions and Testaments into mainland China where the Word of God and missionaries who bear it have been banned for so many years. The slight opening of the door of China to contacts with the Western world has led to the hope that Scriptures can get through the curtain. An item of religious news on a Christian radio station stated that the Christian Missionary Alliance (which will live up to its name) has printed 30,000 Gospels of John and 5,000 copies of the New Testament in the Chinese language and has expressed hope that most of these can soon be gotten across the border, probably a few at a time.

This number of 30,000 Gospels sounds like a large number until one compares it with the hundreds of millions of people in the world's most populous country. We are reminded of the feeding of the 5,000 as recorded in John 6. Philip said, "Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little." Then Andrew made an observation, "There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves and two small fishes; but what are they among so many?" Yes indeed, what are 5,000 Testaments and 30,000 Gospels of John among some 600,000,000 Chinese who have been on a long fast? It is going to take a miracle of multiplication for such a small number (not yet in where the people are) to feed so many.

By way of comparison it may be observed that from the Seventh Day Baptist church in Battle Creek there was organized a distribution of nearly 30,000 New Testaments to that small city. That is six times the number of Testaments mentioned in the broadcast for the whole country of China. We can also assume that a high proportion of the people of Battle Creek already had one or more copies of the New Testament or the whole Bible.

We need to do a lot of praying or blessing of the five loaves if very many of the

MEMORY TEXT

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God (Rev. 2:7).

Sabbath Is Dead

The magazine *Native Missionary* edited by C. T. Buchanan tells of the death of the director of Native Missionary work in Indonesia, Rev. Sabbath A. A. Not only is the name unusual; the circumstances of his death are also.

Sabbath died at age 33, like Jesus. Like Jesus, he never married. Like Jesus, he died (in an automobile accident) at twelve o'clock on Friday. He was buried the next day — the Sabbath of the Bible. It is stated that soon after his death there was a great earthquake lasting for three minutes, as at the death of Jesus. The Rev. Sabbath A. A. had told the man upon whom his mantle of leadership has fallen that he was going away to a far country (heaven) and that his end would resemble the death of Jesus on the cross.

A minister named Sabbath is dead but the Sabbath is not and will not be as long as the faithful followers of Jesus teach the full message of the will of God as revealed in the Bible.

Moral and Political Crisis

Bill Moyers, public affairs commentator and former White House press secretary, in an address before 2,000 Baptist women stated, "The real crisis in America is neither technological nor environmental. The real crisis is moral and political."

hungry people of China are to be fed. Of course, the CMA and many other Christian organizations are preparing to increase the number of Scriptures available as soon as there is reason to hope that they can be distributed.

MUSICAL CRISIS AT CONFERENCE?

By Ann Williams

How many of you have ever stopped to imagine what Conference would be like without any music at all? It is my guess that only a few of you have ever pondered such a situation. Therefore, let's take a moment to study the implications of this so-called "musical crisis."

First, we would have no need for hymnbooks or an organist since there would be no congregational singing.

Second, the Conference choir, a highlight of every Conference session for those who sing in it as well as for those who listen, would be nonexistent.

Third, we wouldn't have the pleasure of hearing and enjoying special musical numbers which have been prepared especially for Conference by Seventh Day Baptists from across the country.

Now that we have some idea as to what Conference would be like without music of any kind, it is my pleasure to inform you that such a "musical crisis" will not occur at the 1973 General Conference in Milton, Wis.!

There will be plenty of hymnbooks available so that we may sing our favorite hymns with the assistance of Oscar Burdick as organist; the Conference choir will perform under the direction of Gary Cox; and there will be many special musical numbers.

These musical numbers will be both vocal and instrumental in nature, and will occur at various times throughout each day. We are planning on having a wide range of solos, duets, trios, quartets, and small ensembles. In addition, the Pre-Conference choirs and the Bell Choir of the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church will assume major parts of the music at Conference this year. And, for those of you who may feel a bit nostalgic about returning to Milton and the college campus, the church carillon will play every evening, followed by the ringing of the college bell calling us to the evening worship services.

Will there be a "musical crisis" at

LET'S THINK IT OVER

Should President Nixon
Widen His Range?

An editorial to be published in the July issue of *Church and State* magazine urges President Nixon to widen the range of his contacts. The editorial contends that "the unfortunate Watergate mess contains some important lessons. One of these, certainly, is that President Nixon has permitted himself to become isolated from groups that might have been of help in averting the disaster that struck him."

Church and State points out that the President has consistently refused to see the United Methodist bishop of Washington, the presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church, the stated clerk of the United Presbyterian Church, the president of the United Church of Christ, the secretary of the World Council of Churches, and the president of the National Council of Churches. These refusals climaxed in the recent refusal of President Nixon to have

even a brief meeting with the bishops of the United Methodist Church who were holding a meeting in the nation's capital. *Church and State* said: "It would have been a natural and gracious gesture for the nation's chief executive to see the leaders of this ten million member church. The bishops were coldly rejected." The magazine recalled that the last time the Methodist bishops assembled in Washington for their meeting (in 1959) President Dwight Eisenhower was their host at the White House.

Church and State asserted that "come to think about it, Mr. Nixon is the first President that Americans United leaders have been unable to visit. This, despite the fact that the President has consistently made himself available to those who favor a union of church and state When a President permits himself to be isolated and insulated as President Nixon has done, he can expect this kind of result. Better open the White House doors a little wider and a little oftener, Mister President."

Brazilian Bible Society 25 Years Old

The Bible Society of Brazil has set two goals to appropriately mark, in 1973, its twenty-fifth anniversary. The Society expects to complete and begin distribution of its translation of the New Testament into common language Portuguese.

The South American Society also hopes to attain a 100,000,000 Scripture distribution figure before the anniversary celebration is completed. —EBPS

Citizens of Two Realms

There is danger that nationalism is becoming a religion. Says news commentator Bill Moyers: "Being citizens of both the political and Christian realms creates pressures for people who want to be useful to both realms. Sometimes Christianity has been subjected to the subservience of nationalism."

General Conference in Milton, Wis., from August 12-18, 1973? — For heaven's sake, NO!

.....

If you have not been contacted about presenting a special musical number at Conference, and you have the desire to do so, please contact me,

Miss Ann Williams at 428 Green Hill Drive, Milton, Wis. 53563.

.....

WE RECORD SPECIAL MUSIC

SEE YOU THERE

Milton, Wis.

* * *

YOU PREPARE

Let us know

* * *

Contact

Gordon Lawton
Special Service Worker
Box 868
Plainfield, N. J. 07061