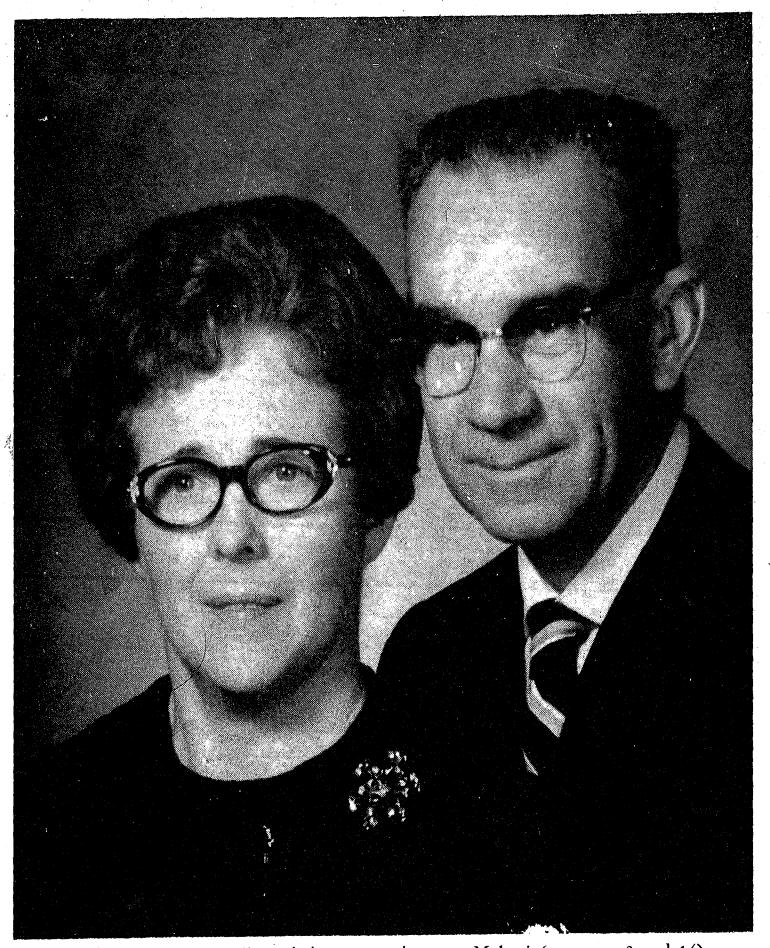
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#### A COMMUNION PRAYER

O God, How can I reply To this invitation? Who am I to deserve The life-giving bread And be served wine That makes a man Not to thirst again? O God, That cross seems so prohibitive A cost To pay for me.

Amen.



Mr. and Mrs. Menzo Fuller, missionary appointees to Malawi (see pages 3 and 14).

"WHERE THERE IS NO VISION THE PEOPLE PERISH"

October 6, 1973

MISSIONES

IN THE INTEREST OF SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST MISSIONS

# The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

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

John D. Bevis, Editor

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October 6, 1973

PLAINFIELD, N. I.

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#### **MISSION NOTES**

Volume XXI — Number 2 — 1973

A FAITH PUBLICATION SUPPORTED by the prayers and gifts of readers

MANAGING EDITOR:

Leon R. Lawton 401 Washington Trust Bldg. Westerly, RI 02891

#### A Faith Publication

Mission Notes continues as a "faith publication . . . in the interest of Seventh Day Baptist Missions." It has no regular source of income, but is supported by the prayers and gifts of readers.

#### Statement of Finances

Balance, March 20, 1973 Gifts received	
Total Paid for April 1973 issue	\$103.03 100.00
Balance, September 18,1973	3.03

We greatly appreciate the gifts of readers that made possible the payment for the last issue. We now need nearly \$100 to pay for this one. Will you help?

Contributions may be sent to:

Mrs. Xenia R. Wheeler Box 238 Ashaway, R. I. 02804

Checks can be made payable to *Mission Notes*.

#### Stamps

Cancelled postage stamps still provide a small source of income for *Mission Notes*. Special commemorative stamps and foreign stamps have value. Stamps may be sent to:

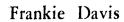
F. Arthur Brayman 36 High Street R. F. D. 1, Box 124 Ashaway, R. I. 02804 Your new missionaries to Malawi . . .

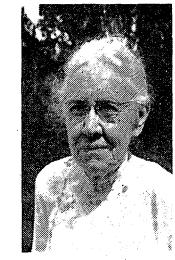
# COMMISSIONING SERVICE AT CONFERENCE



The Missionary Society program Sabbath afternoon at General Conference was the occasion for the commissioning of Menzo and Audrey Fuller, of North Loup, Nebraska, as new missionaries to Malawi, Africa. Following brief remarks on their Christian experience and call, they knelt and were surrounded by sixteen former missionaries who laid on hands as the Rev. Edgar F. Wheeler. chairman of the African Interests committee of the board, led in the prayer of dedication. Former missionaries included Miss Mabel West who served forty years in China, Mrs. Frankie Davis who gave twelve years dedicated service in Jamaica, and Deborah Pearson, the daughter of our present missionaries in Malawi —







Mabel West

Former missionaries who took part in the commissioning: Rev. and Mrs. Grover S. Brissey, Rev. John Conrod, Rev. Duane L. Davis, Mrs. Frankie Davis, Rev. Leland Davis, Dr. Edward J. Horsley, Dr. and Mrs. Ernest Horsley, Rev. and Mrs. Leon R. Lawton, Miss Elizabeth Maddox, Miss Velma Maxson, Rev. and Mrs. Neal D. Mills, Miss Deborah Pearson, Rev. Don Phillips and Miss Mabel West. How many can you identify?

David and Bettie Pearson. The large congregation stood to indicate their prayer and financial support for the Malawi work and these new workers.

Plans called for the Fullers to begin their work early in September, but the necessary work permits and visas were not in hand. The door was opened for them to be in residence at the Overseas Ministries Study Center, Ventnor, N. J., from September 10 until the necessary papers are received. They will also visit SDB churches on the East Coast each weekend.

OCTOBER 6, 1973

#### THE CHALLENGE OF MISSIONS

By S. Elizabeth Maddox

We have heard so much this week on growth and I have learned an awful lot from it. I have a lot to take home to think about, too. I know as a missionary I should get up here and speak to you with the maturity of a mature Christian and bring something in that way for you. But I would like to speak to you as a child, or maybe a teen-ager in Christ and tell you a little bit about some things that I am worried about. Children worry a lot, you know!

I listen to us speaking about the missions — "Let's indigenize." "We want to turn it over to the nationals there and leave it with them." "We have got to strengthen ourselves here at home before we can reach out." "Our numbers are dwindling in the United States so we have to work on our people here first." This worries me. This worries me because to me it shows that we are going inward and we are going to die even more if we do this.

I remember as a child many times being in a room and something would strike me as wonderful, something joyous, and my heart would start to swell. I am sure all of you have experienced this before. I would just start growing suddenly as if my body was expanding and I would fill the room. I would get to the point where I would say, if I don't get out of this room I am going to explode the room. I have got to get outside! I would run outside where there would be endless amount of space for me to expand. But the joy in me was growing so much that I could feel myself expanding all over the world. It would frighten me so much that I would cut it off completely and squelch this feeling of joy and energy. And I know all of us have this, even as older people we still have these feelings of energy that are not guided yet.

As I grew up and went through nursing training I found places to channel this energy knowing that through my nursing I was going to be able to do something constructive. But when I graduated from nursing I began getting these feelings again of energy coming out of me, this joy of wanting to share the love that Christ gives me and not having any place to put it. So I would squelch it. I would hold it down.

One day I was given the opportunity to channel this energy in Malawi, at Makapwa. As I remember the times there, I think of young people out on the rocks near the Chileka River and they are cleaning their clothes in the water.



Tibbie speaking at Conference

I remember them talking to me saying, "Guy, you drive a car! You drive a car! Hardly boys are able to drive cars in Malawi. Would you show me how to make that dress?" This is energy and joy of life ahead that they want to put into something. "I want to be a rock and roll singer. I don't want to stay around the village all my life, I don't want to be just a villager all my life."

I remember an Indian girl, a friend of mine. Her life was going to be nothing but cooking but she found a husband — that is her family found her a beautiful husband. The energy she showed then would some day be channeled into married life with her husband! Later on when she lost this boy friend she committed suicide. (See article, "I had a Friend," page 11 in Mission Notes *Recorder* of April 7, 1973.)

But I see all these people, just like me, and I know just like you, needing someone to teach them where to channel all this energy. And yet, I see all of us saying, "Come on, let's go back to the United States. Let's pull in all of our monies, let's pull in our people and get established here first." But how can you if you are not going to channel it outwardly? You are just going to pull it all back inwards. You are just crushing it. That's all you are doing. It worries me, it really does.

I hope that as you go home and you think about Ken Smith's talk on growth you will remember that he said in one sermon that the only way that you are going to grow is to take a risk. I think we as a denomination are going to have to take a risk, not only with our lives but with our money — take a risk. If you haven't got the money, put your life out, and the Lord will honor it. Whatever you have, put it out, and He will honor it! Thank you.

#### MEMORY TEXT

"God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us." — Romans 5:8

#### SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for October 13, 1973
RECONCILIATION THROUGH CHRIST
Scripture Lesson: Romans 5:1-11

### Home Field

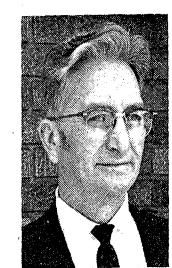
HOME

**FIELD** 

**NOTES** 



Soper



Oliver

DeLand

Home field evangelist Mynor G. Soper continues his ministry of Lay Training and Evangelism. During October he will serve both the Waterford, Conn., and Salemville (German), Pa., Seventh Day Baptist Churches.

He will be assisted by Missionary Board ambassadors, Charles and Anita Harris of Shiloh, N J.. and the Light Bearers for Christ team from North Loup, Nebraska. New members of this team include Rodney and Camille Henry from Los Angeles, Calif. The Light Bearers witness is a supplement to the outreach program of the Missionary Board.

Following the close of the meetings at Salemville, the Light Bearers for Christ team will present their music and testimony in several churches in the East. Watch for announcement of their appearance in your church or area.

After nearly two years without a resident pastor, the Schenectady, N. Y., SDB Church welcomed Missionary Pastor Gordon D. Oliver on September 1. Located in a growing urban area with adequate facilities, the Schenectady brethren ask the prayer support of all that they may be better able to reach individuals for Christ and more effectively present the Bible truths which Seventh Day Baptists proclaim.

The White Cloud, Mich., SDB Church has come under the missionary pastor plan beginning August 1, 1973. The Rev. H. Earl Deland reports a growing area ministry with new contacts and possibilities for new fellowships. The White Cloud church is host to the North Central Association, October 5-7.

### Our Prayer Corner

## Suggestions for Prayer This Week Pray for:

- 1) The officers and staff of the Baptist World Alliance, as they seek to be instruments of God's will in encouraging and coordinating the activities of the Alliance, an organization which is a servants of the Baptists around the world.
- 2) The world's refugees and those who have been the victims of disasters, and for those who seek to relieve their miseries in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
- 3) Seventh Day Baptist missionaries and national workers around the world. Pray that God will give them the strength and courage to continue their important work.
- 4) The work of the Misionary Board and all those who support the cause of Seventh Day Baptist missions.

#### SERVICE ON THE HOME FIELD

"I want to use my years of retirement to help my fellow man find the right way to a happy Christian life." This is the vision and goal of one man who will retire in about two years. He is looking ahead and seeking guidance for training in Bible knowledge, witness, and other areas so that he will be better prepared thus to serve.

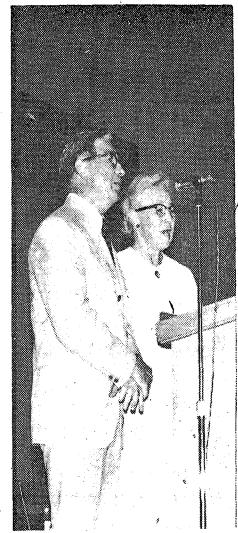
At General Conference in Milton there were others that are also prayerfully seeking the leading of the Lord into such a ministry. We praise the Lord for these!

Under the SDB dedicated service program there are several areas of possible service.

COME (Come Over to Macedonia Emphasis) challenges young and old to consider their place of residence and seek God's leading to a community where they may join with a few other families to form a nucleus for a fellowship witness or to offer leadership in a small church unable to obtain or maintain a full-time minister. Should not one's involvement in Christian witness and service be a vital consideration when a change of residence is planned? Those who are seeking God's will and purpose for their lives will so pray and plan.

Extended dedicated service offers a variety of possibilities. Most of those involved in recent years have given from several months to a year (or more), using their talents in specific service for the Lord. Some have given needed help in the offices or the publishing house at the SDB Building in Plainfield. Some have worked with local churches or served on the field under one of the boards.

The new Ambassador Program gives added opportunities. In this, the local church, association, board or agency takes the initiative to recognize and appoint individuals with specific talents as "ambassadors." Ambassador service may usually be limited to specific projects or goals, but could, for those with available time, give opportunity for extended service. Review the guidelines which appear in another article in this issue (also published in a tri-fold and sent to each pastor



Mr. & Mrs. Charles Harris

and missionary keyworker). Has your church considered those local members who might be encouraged to serve as ambassadors?

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harris of Shiloh, N. J., have been appointed ambassadors by the Missionary Board. They have thus responded to calls for service with Field Evangelist Mynor Soper and participated in group ministry from their church to other Seventh Day Baptist churches in the East.

As was expressed in Conference at Milton, "There is a new wind blowing" in the lives of individuals and in some churches as the Holy Spirit is giving power, guidance and direction. His ministry in such lives and groups is thrilling and exciting and growing. Praise the Lord!

Let us pray for such individuals and help them to find their God-given role of ministry and service. Let us encourage youth to seek their place of vital witness and offer examples for them to follow. Let us recognize that as members of the Body of Christ, we all have ability, talent and responsibility — to be shared freely for His glory.

"We are Christ's ambassadors, God is using us to speak to you: we beg you, as though Christ Himself were here pleading with you, receive the love He offers—be reconciled to God." — 2 Corinthians 5:20 (Living New Testament)

#### **Purpose**

The Ambassador program is designed to encourage our people to recognize and set apart as ambassadors those persons with specific talents whom they will prayerfully send on a Christian mission to go as their representatives in helping reconcile others to God.

The overall purpose would be to share one's own personal faith and experience in Jesus Christ, to share ideas from his home church or association and to encourage other Christians by sharing his particular knowledge, skills, or spiritual insights.

#### I. CHURCH —

Each church could appoint a member of its group whom it would recommend to other churches to use in some special area. (Specify the area of most effectiveness.) These people should have a dynamic and abiding faith in Jesus Christ as personal Savior and Lord, in the validity of the Bible, and in God as a loving Father.

As examples of those that a church might appoint as ambassadors, the following suggestions are offered:

- 1. A person going on a tour of dedicated service.
- 2. A person having special training in the area of Christian Witnessing, evangelistic Bible studies or messages, and who evidences an enthusiasm for and the ability of communicating his faith to others. Some college-age young person might be listed as youth ambassador to other youth groups if he has a dynamic faith and witness.

# Ambassador Program

3. One whose experience in the Christian faith enables him to be an outstanding leader who could share his ability with other groups.

#### II. ASSOCIATION —

Ambassadors could be appointed on an association-wide basis.

- 1. Those who have taken leadership on the associational level in promoting the cause of Christ and who have a spiritual dynamic to share with other associations or churches.
- 2. Association exchange campers might well be commissioned as ambassadors to the other association camps they visit, enhancing the importance of the exchange role.

#### III. CONFERENCE —or BOARDS—

Our Conference might appoint a number of people in whom it has confidence and who have the spiritual dynamic to transmit a vital faith in Christ through their various talents as ambassadors on a national or an international basis. These would be listed according to the particular talent which they have to offer. (Offers of help to other conferences could be made through the World Federation.)

#### IV. IMPLEMENTATION —

The church, association, board or Conference would submit such names, along with pertinent information regarding specific abilities and skills to the office of the General Conference to be distributed to all Seventh Day Baptist churches. These ambassadors could be engaged for the special help they had to offer by mutual agreement between the church, associa-

tion, or Conference and the individual ambassador. No remuneration for services should be expected unless agreed upon by those involved. Transportation, board and room would normally be assumed by the group receiving ambassadorial leadership. When an ambassador is already travelling to the area where service might be given then, then only board and room would be assumed by the host group while the ambassador was in their service.

#### Scope

The scope of the Ambassador Program can be as comprehensive and extensive as the command of our Lord when he said, "Go into all the world . . ." "And be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem (at home); in Judea (associations); Samaria (denomination-wide); and the uttermost part of the world" (World Federation).—Acts 1:8.

#### "Shareholders' Meeting"

The annual corporate meeting of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education, Inc., will be held Oct. 21, (Sun.), 1973 at 2:00 p.m. in the Alfred S.D.B. Parish House in Alfred, N. Y.

All Seventh Day Baptists who attended the last Conference are eligible to vote at this meeting. The business of the meeting is to act upon the Annual Report of the Directors, elect Directors and their Officers for 1974, and act on any other matter brought before the corporate body.

Immediately following the Annual Meeting, the regular Quarterly Meeting of the Directors' Board will be held at the same place. Guests are welcomed at this and all meetings of the directors.

You DO hold a share in the corporate efforts of the SDB Christian educators—at national office and in local church!

"We wish to commend the Missionary Board for its leadership in stimulating us all in the Key '73 program. We have seen evidences that indeed there is a new wind blowing from coast to coast. We are encouraged by the churches who have become involved in Key '73. We note that in a number of areas Seventh Day Baptists have initiated Key '73 leadership in their communities. We call attention to the fact that one-third of 1973 still remains and encourage our churches to continue vigorously the emphasis and to fulfill the Key '73 goals as the Holy Spirit leads.

"We recognize that the Key '73 program is the launching pad for our Baptist World Alliance program of the World Mission of Reconciliation Through Jesus Christ, which extends through 1975, and would encourage all our people and churches to continue this spiritual impact.

"We were excited to rediscover that the Missionary Board (Note: in cooperation with Conference Planning Committee) has had an ambassador program for the last four years — so we encourage the churches to inquire of the board and make use of dedicated Christian workers.

"We also encourage the board to increase communications to the churches in regard to the ambassador program and 'team ministry' concept."

From Report of Home Field Interests Committee adopted by General Conference, 1973

#### CRANDALL HIGH SCHOOL

#### September 1973

—insights by
Principal Wayne N. Crandall

#### The Government Program

The Government of Jamaica is making an honest, desperate effort to provide places for all children in grades 1-6. Many schools are on double session days. Updating the curriculum in grades 1-6 is being done by working closely over a period of one full year with a group of teachers in two grades. Next year two other grades will be chosen.

We are most pleased with this emphasis on improving the instruction in the elementary schools. The results on our entrance examination show serious deficiencies in both paragraph meaning and arithmetic. Spelling results are normally very satisfactory.

Well over 1,000 Fifth Form students have been recruited to teach in elementary schools in the Voluntary National Service program. Three Crandall graduates have been accepted into this program—two being Seventh Day Baptists.

#### The \$64.00 Question

Each day several mothers come to me with the question, "Can you accept my little girl? She has completed Grade 9, is fifteen years old but failed the Grade 9 Achievement Test." We are now filled to the doors and must turn them down. Each parent goes ahead and explains how she doesn't want her child on the street to get into trouble.

#### The Ax Fell September 1, 1973

While the Minister of Education has warned the Independent Schools, it was a shock to hear on the radio the morning of September 1 that the Education Act was operative on that day. "A new department will receive applications for registration of private schools operating with twenty or more students between the ages of 8 and 19 years. The inspection of



Crandall High School

schools applying for registration and registered schools will also be done by this section."

We anticipate problems in meeting the requirements for science laboratory facilities. The newly organized Independent Schools Association is requesting special help to meet science needs from the Government. A member of the Association has been appointed a member of the committee of five who will handle the inspections and registrations.

#### The Staff Strengthened

All seven of the teachers with us at the end of the 1972-73 school year and two part-time teachers returned to us in September. Three of them have taken courses at the University of the West Indies to improve their instruction. Geoffrey Smith, a graduate of the Jamaica Theological Seminary, has been employed for the first four periods each day. He is pastor of the Orange Bay SDB Church.

Kenneth Burdick, who is teaching on a dedicated service basis, has done a tremendous job in developing a Comprehensive English Curriculum for Crandall so that we could avoid duplication of effort.

### Crandall Personnel Active in Conference

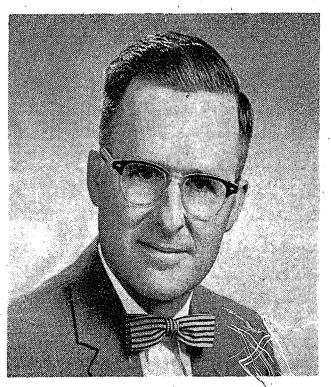
President of the School Board, N. W. Harley, was in charge of the publicity for the Golden Crusade last spring and directed the annual Spiritual Retreat at Maiden Hall. Board secretary, Carlton Ferguson, is now Conference treasurer and assisted with both the Jubilee Crusade, Youth Summer Crusade, and Summer Camp. Mr. Jackson and Mr. Burdick were counselors at Senior Camp, held at Maiden Hall.

#### Seventh Day Baptist Students Enroll

Eight students from five different SDB churches have been accepted for September. These are all new students



Geoffrey Smith — graduate of Jamaica Theological Seminary and new teacher at Crandall High School



Wayne Crandall

and we trust most of those last year will return. Many will take advantage of the Fifth Year of instruction which was added.

#### **Crandall Is Ecumenical**

This year applicants who were accepted represent seventeen different denominations. The leaders—Anglican and Church of God. Included are four Catholics and one Ethiopian Orthodox. Nine indicated neither parent or the student had any church connections.

#### **Near Record Enrollment**

The enrollment for the new year is expected to stabilize at just about 165 (up 15 from last year). With the higher fees the money is coming in with more of an impact but, because of the rapid inflationary pressures, the teachers were granted an across the board increase of 15 percent. Costs continue to rise but we continue to hope they will level off soon.

#### Prayer Requested

Pray that the efforts to educate Jamaicans and solve the socioeconomic problems are not too little and too late. Pray for those of us who are working at Crandall High School that we may do our part in solving these problems and, even more important, implant some Christian principles which will give meaning and purpose to the lives of these young people.



Rev. Vincent Smith, Jamaica Conference president

### NOTES ON JAMAICA SDB CONFERENCE

As taken from the Corresponding Secretary's Circular

The Jamaica Seventh Day Baptist Conference met for its annual session July 17-22, 1973, with the Luna church, with Pastor Joe A. Samuels, who is also the corresponding secretary of the Conference, as host pastor. The ten page summary report shows that:

—Of the seventy-two representatives in attendance, fifty-five were church delegates. Principal and Mrs. Wayne N. Crandall and teacher Ken Burdick, our missionaries in Jamaica, also attended.

President Vincent R. Smith observed, "This year has been, the most exciting and challenging for us as SDB's in Jamaica, in that we are celebrating our Golden Jubilee anniversary, the highlight of which was the special evangelistic crusade held in May with the three evangelists from America. This has brought spiritual blessings to the nine churches involved and over fifty have been baptized. The second event of interest is the reopening of the work at Lower Buxton in St. Ann, with negotiation in progress for purchase of a church spot. The third event was the graduation of Brother Geoffrey Smith from Jamaica Theological Seminary. His training should be an asset to the Conference during the years ahead."

— Sister Edna Harrison was commended for the work she has been doing at Maiden Hall. Electric lighting was installed at the Maiden Hall church and negotiations have been completed with the parish council for water to be piped

to Maiden Hall buildings. This was to be available for camp in August.

—The treasurer's and auditor's reports were presented by Sister Joyce Samuels. This covered the Conference year July 1, 1972 - June 30, 1973. Sister Samuels' report was supplemented by a chart which showed each church's giving during the past year.

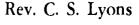
—A brief review of the report indicates Mission Fund balance and receipts at J\$6,310.83 and expenditures at J\$4,808.32, leaving a balance of J\$1,502.51. The balance brought forward at the beginning of the year was J\$1,645.72 (J\$1.00 equals US\$1.10).

—A sad but revealing expenditure was noted for Sister Emily Smikle's funeral. An expenditure was also noted from the Sustentation Fund for Sister Smikle. She had been a faithful worker of the Jamaica Conference for nearly fifty years and passed to her reward in 1972.

— The annual Spiritual Retreat at Maiden Hall for pastors and workers was held in April, 1973, and was well attended, especially by the young people. The emphasis of the retreat was preparation for the Golden Jubilee Crusade, with visiting Secretary Leon R. Lawton as special guest.

—The Women's Board reported on plans for conducting two family day programs before Conference. (On Sunday of Conference) it was expected that three prizes would be given to the three







Rev. Joe Samuels

churches having the most families in attendance. "The object of this family day is to win souls for Christ."

-Because of the growing inflation in Jamaica, action was taken to raise the delegates' fees and the amount given to the church entertaining Conference for hosting expenses.

—Sister Lucille DeCosta was to be employed as the office clerk in the Conference office from August first, to assist Corresponding Secretary Joe A. Samuels.

—Pastor A. A. Black of the Wakefield church was appointed the delegate to the American Conference for 1974.

—The 1973-74 budget was adopted in the amount of J\$5,328.00.

—"Owing to the increase of work done by the executive committee which necessitates a certain amount of traveling and whereas there has been a certain amount of inconvenience experienced at times due to the lack of a Conference vehicle, the executive recommended that Conference seek to purchase a vehicle. This matter was referred to the Board of Directors for implementation when the necessary funds are available."

—"In recognition of the years of service rendered by Pastor C. S. Lyons to the denomination the executive recom-

mends that he be given a lot of land at Maiden Hall, the exact amount to be determined by the Board of Directors. A fund, called the Lyons Fund, has been started to erect a house for Pastor Lyons. Contributions must be sent to the Conference office, stating clearly the purpose."

—Pastor Vincent R. Smith was reelected as president; Pastor N. W. Harley as first vice-president; Brother L. James, second vice-president; Sister E. R. Comrie, recording secretary with Sister C. Fuller assistant; Pastor Joe A. Samuels, correponding secretary with Sister P. E. Robinson assistant; Brother Carlton Ferguson, treasurer with Sister S. Taylor assistant. The installation of officers for the Conference year was done by Pastor J. B. Roberts. The reelected president announced his theme, "Recognizing the Time" (Romans 13:11-12) for 1973-74.

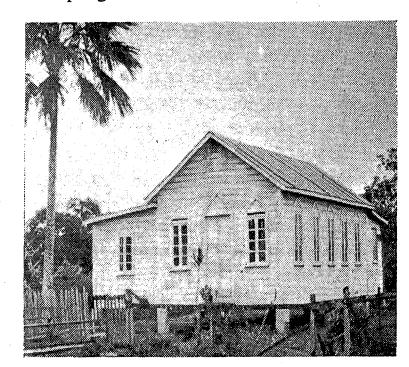
— Five candidates from the Luna church were baptized by Pastor Samuels during the Conference sessions. On Sunday, the closing day of Conference, the Jubilee Celebration under the chairmanship of Mr. James was well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all. The amount of J\$484.85 was contributed toward the work of the Conference at this celebration.

### Guyana

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOLS AND DAY CAMPS

It is always good to evaluate what you are doing. In Guyana for several years youth camps have been held. These were a vital blessing to the 25 to 50 young people able to attend. The time, effort, cost of renting the site, program, food, staff and transportation all seemed worthwhile. Yet, was this the best way? Was this an outreach ministry? How vital was this to the growth and ministry of the local churches?

These and other questions were faced by the leaders in Guyana. The result? In 1973 no camp was held. Instead an intensive program in the local church commu-



Parika S.D.B. Church where one VBS / day camp was held.

nities was planned. Beginning on July 20, they ran through August 27.

There were six leaders on the "Key Staff" that traveled to each church. There another 15 to 20 local members were given basic training and formed a vital role in the Vacation Bible School Day Camps. In this way about 300 children were reached.

Watch the mission pages of the Recorder for an indepth report and pictures.

### CONTINUING TRAINING AT VENTNOR

"Welcome to the Overseas Ministries Study Center! Our resources are intended to provide you with a home for the period that you will be with us and also the means of physical, social, intellectual and spiritual renewal to the end that you may be better equipped for your ministry when you return to your fields" (from Handbook, O.M.S.C.).

"The friendliness of this welcome was apparent," writes Audrey Fuller, "as we were shown to our apartment. Because our work permits haven't arrived we are enjoying the facilities of the Overseas Ministries Study Center in Ventnor, New Jersey, just two blocks from the boardwalk and the Atlantic Ocean."

Campus facilities include a library, study rooms, a gym and playground areas for children. Organized activities such as roller-skating and family movies are planned.

The plan of study is divided into two semesters. Each week a new topic is considered. The first study was presented by Mrs. Philip Worth, wife of the senior minister, First Methodist church of Collingswood, N. J. She inspired the class with lessons on "Restoring the Power of Our Witness," using the stories of Elijah and Elisha in First and Second Kings.

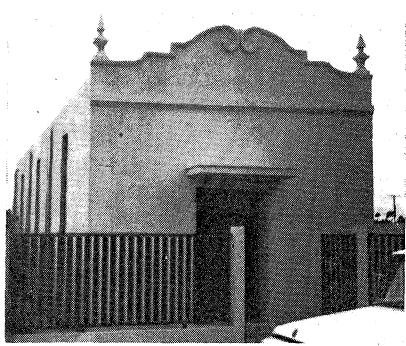
The second week a "Church Growth Seminar" was led by Dr. Donald Mc-Gavran, Dean Emeritus of the School of World Mission, Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, Calif. He returned from a field trip in Africa just in time for the Seminar.

The last week of September lectures and discussion groups center on "The Family and Personal Growth." During October several lecturers will speak on the various aspects of "Communicating the Gospel."

The Overseas Ministries Study Center was founded by Marguerite and Ida



Pastor Eugenio Aldave Torreon, Mexico



Church at Reyes De Juarez Puebla, Mexico

### MEXICAN LEADER AT MID-CONTINENT ASSOCIATION

Work in Mexico, which has been of vital interest to the members of the Denver, Colo., Sabbath School since they were prayer partners with the Gonzales church during the Crusade of the Americas, will come alive on October 6. During the last five years special offerings have gone to aid in the witness in Torreon under the leadership of Pastor Eugenio Aldave. He, with two of the youth in the church, will be present to participate in the Mid-Continent Association meetings. Report will be given on their witness and progress of their new church building. Torreon is located in northcentral Mexico, about 150 miles west of Monterrey.

Doane in memory of their father, hymn writer William Howard Doane, in 1923. During these fifty years the fellowship map of the world shows over 450 missions where guests have served under more than 110 Mission Boards and Associations. We are thankful that Seventh Day Baptists can now be added to this number.

#### "IN THE PALM OF GOD'S HAND"

Following the recent floods and earth-quake in Mexico, an attempt was made to contact leaders in the sister churches—Iglesia de Cristo del Septimo Dia. The first reply has been received from Pastor Victor Model of the Mexico City church. He reports that there was no material damage to their buildings in the capital nor were any of the brethren there injured. "We were in the palm of God's hand and were saved," he wrote. Our concern and offer of help, as needed, was greatly appreciate but because of God's care does not have to be accepted.

Communication with towns and villages in the quake center has been cut and little is known, even within Mexico. Many villages were destroyed and many lives lost. There were several churches and groups in that section of the country and we continue to await reports from leaders there. One of the newest building was that in Reyes De Juarez, Puebla, dedicated about four years ago.

Let us continue to uphold our Mexican brethren in prayer as they seek to minister to their communities the word of God with the love of Christ.

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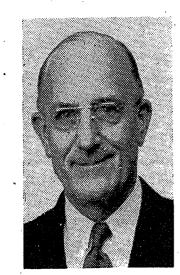
#### **CONGRESSMAN VISITS CHINA**

by John Bevis

Congressman Jerry L. Pettis, Republican from California's thirty-third district, and member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, recently returned from a trip to China. In view of the interest that Seventh Day Baptists have in China we thought it would be good to share some of his report with *Recorder* readers.

He was able to visit Shanghai, where Adventists had operated the Shanghai Sanitarium and Hospital. He found the hospital still in operation though now used as an air force facility. The former Adventist Chapel next to the hospital, is now used as a warehouse. Evidently the Adventists no longer have any organized work in China. Pettis reported that it was estimated there were only some 70,000 Christians remaining in China and that all denominations belong to the "Church of Christ."

Regarding the future of Christianity in China Congressman Pettis stated: "I, for one, do not foresee a time in the future when Christian missionaries will be permitted in China. The intense feeling of national pride that prevails, the conviction that China was exploited for centuries by Western nations, the determina-

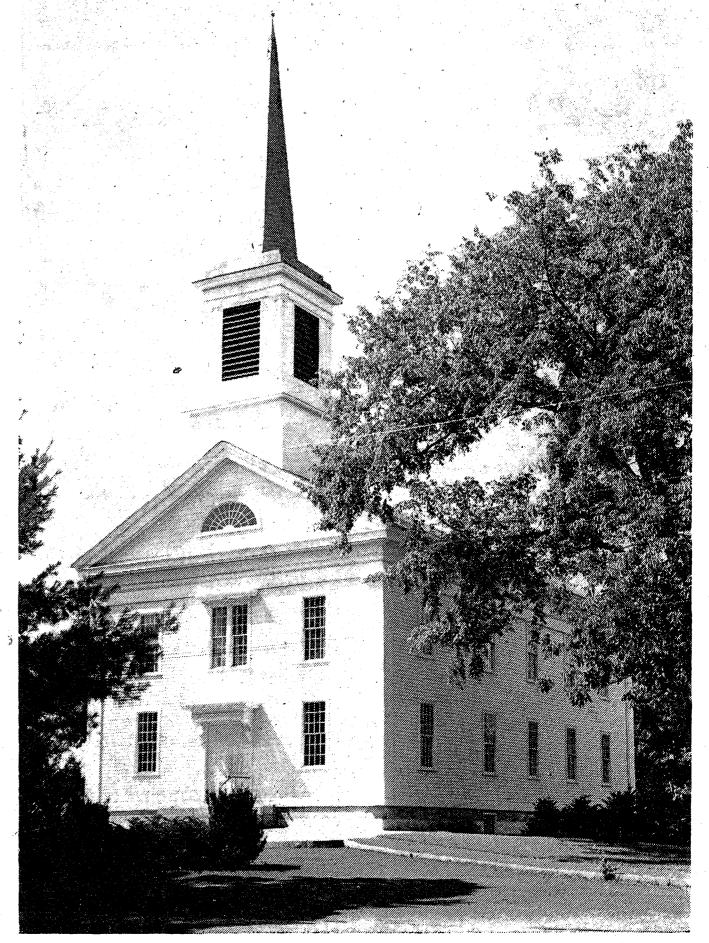




Dr. and Mrs. George Thorngate, former Seventh Day Baptist missionaries to China.

tion to shut out influences that might prove distracting or divisive — all these factors I think keep China closed to direct exposure to Christianity. How, then, is the gospel commission to be carried out? I do not know. The vastness of the country and the vastness of the problem must be put in the hands of the Lord, with prayer for His guidance."

Seventh Day Baptists still have no firsthand report of the work of our church in China. Perhaps it is safe to assume that like the Adventists our work there has practically disappeared. This brings to mind an old hymn "Work for the Night Is Coming." We have many doors open to us now, places where leaders are pleading for Seventh Day Baptist missionaries to come. We have doors open to us in Africa, Burma, India and other areas - we must work while we can. How dedicated to our task are we? Look at the Our World Mission budget report. Is this an indication of our concern for others, of our response to the Great Commission? Perhaps it is still true that actions speak louder than words.



The First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Hopkinton, Ashaway, Rhode Island. Organized in 1708 this is the oldest active Sabbatarian church in America. Rev. Edgar F. Wheeler is the pastor.



October 13, 1973