

Meditations Book
written by
Seventh Day
Baptists

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MRS SYBIL R HOWLEY
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SABBATH DISCIPLINE

In Exodus 34:21 it is written, "Six days thou shalt work, but on the seventh day thou shalt rest: in earing time and in harvest thou shalt rest."

Why did God find it necessary to emphasize "in earing time and in harvest thou shalt rest"? The answer is rather evident. God knows the inner struggle that takes place in a farmer's mind when the hay is down and Sabbath Day comes along, clear and beautiful. The hay is ready to be brought into the barn. What if it should rain the next day! Shall he work in the hay or go leave it and attend church? Should he let ripe tomatoes go unpicked over the Sabbath Day? What if the contractor says the peas are ready to harvest? Shall he harvest the peas on Sabbath or tell the contractor he will NOT do so, no matter what the cost? What if it is early spring and the sap is flowing in the maple grove? Will he let the maple tree sap flow while he goes to church on Sabbath Day?

We Seventh Day Baptists take quite literally the words of Leviticus 23:32: "From even unto even shall ye celebrate your Sabbath." But do we take literally Ex. 34:21: "in earing time and in harvest thou shalt rest"?

There was a time when our fathers had the faith and courage and spiritual discipline to keep the Sabbath holy unto the Lord, all day — from even unto even. How is it with us today? What do we do if we forgot to fill the gas tank in the car on Friday? Do we give up that trip on Sabbath? What do we do if we forgot to buy a loaf of bread on Friday? Do we go without bread over Sabbath? I think I know the answers. Do you?



The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessing of fruitful fields and healthful skies . . . they are the gracious gifts of the Most High God! —Abraham Lincoln



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The following newly purchased cas-
settes are available from the A-V
Library.

Stewardship Seminar — Edward
Hales, speaking at the 1975 S.D.B.
Ministers Conference.

Highlights of the Baptist World Con-
gress held in Sweden. Musical se-
lections and President's address.

The Bicentennial Prayer, produced
by the World Home Bible League.

Star of Bethlehem. Produced by the
Birmingham City Art Gallery. Noted
art work in the Christmas tradition.
Filmstrip/cassette.

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BOOK CLOSE OUT

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Fitz Randolph. The history of the
First New York City Church. Only
two copies remain — \$5.00 each.

China Letters. By Dr. Rosa W. Palm-
borg. History of S.D.B. work in
China. Only a few copies left —
\$2.50 each.

Letters to Young Preachers. By A.
H. Lewis, Written in 1900. \$1.00
each.

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LIGHT BEARERS FOR CHRIST
SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER 19-23

S.D.B. Church
Lost Creek, W. Va.

NOVEMBER 24 - December 1

S.D.B. Church
Salemville, Pa.

DECEMBER 6

S.D.B. Church
Washington, D.C.

DECEMBER 12-13

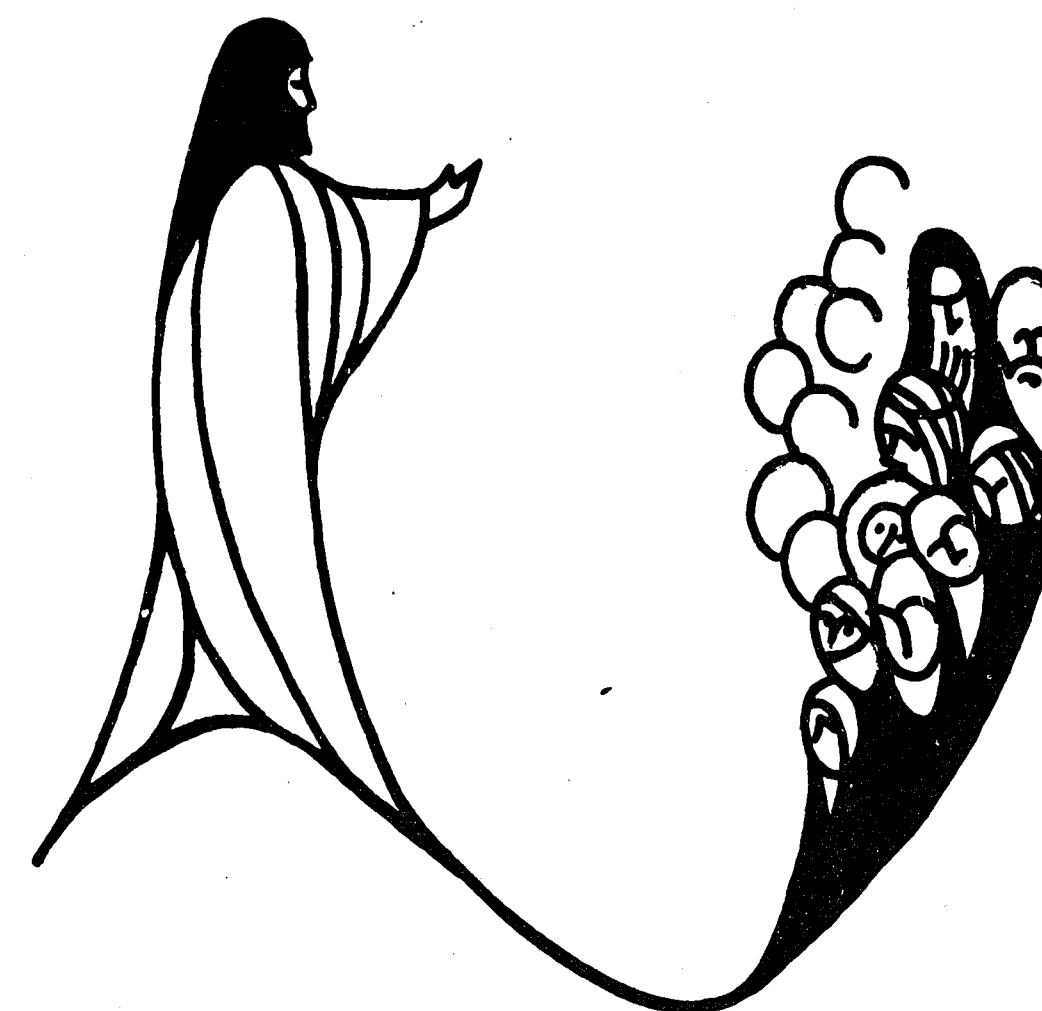
S.D.B. Church
Basking Ridge, N. J.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

Third in a series on
the Beatitudes . . .

BLESSED
ARE THEY
THAT MOURN

by John A. Conrod, pastor
Denver Seventh Day Baptist Church



The Second Beatitude Jesus gave in the Sermon
on the Mount seems like too much of a paradox to
understand: "Blessed are they that mourn, for
they shall be comforted." What blessing can be
found in mourning? This summer I found a real
blessing in mourning.

When one of our senior campers, Jenice Hed-
ghes, died as a result of being struck by lightning
at Camp Paul Hummel, I requested permission
from her parents to retain her Jerusalem Bible
which she had with her at camp. Since I had no
idea what to preach, I desired to spend time look-
ing through her Bible to find some of Jenice's
favorite verses. As I turned the pages, I truly
found a blessing in mourning. Jenice had already
marked the verses of Scripture which would best
give us comfort.

Luke 23:44-46, from the story of Jesus' crucifix-
ion, was marked. This Scripture was a blessing in
a very special way because it told how darkness
came across the sun while Jesus was dying on
the cross of Calvary, from about noon until three
o'clock — just like the afternoon storm that broke
over the camp. The passage also said that the
veil of the temple was torn from the top to the
bottom — so very likely caused by a powerful
lightning bolt. It was during this thunderstorm
that our Savior left His body and committed His
spirit to His Father in heaven. What a blessed
comfort to know that we can live and die with
God's strength, just as our Savior Himself lived
and died. Jenice also had marked the 33rd and
34th verses where Jesus said, "Father, forgive
them; they do not know what they are doing."
By these words Jesus showed that He was willing
to die with no regrets, only with words of forgive-
ness on His lips. We can take comfort in knowing
that we do not need to feel regret either, for to
be absent from the body is to be in the blessed
presence of our Lord.

Were these marked verses just coincidental?
Jenice also marked John 13:33-37 where Jesus
was telling His disciples that He would not be

with them much longer and that where He was
about to go, they could not follow Him *right then*.
But He did give them the blessed hope that they
would be able to follow Him *later*. Just as the
disciples would mourn for Jesus during this time
of temporary absence, so we mourn for our loved
ones who go to be with the Lord and leave us be-
hind to wait until we can follow later.

Whenever there is an absence, be it only miles
in distance or be it caused by the separation of
death, there will be mourning for the loss; but for
the Christian, it is a blessed mourning because
there is comfort in knowing it is only temporary.
The blessed hope is that one day Jesus will come
again and not only will we be united with Him
once again, but we will be united with all our
Christian loved ones as well.

Jesus also said in this passage that while He
was absent He wanted His disciples to love one
another so that people could know that they were
Jesus' disciples. Let us through the experience of
mourning, find the blessedness of loving each
other more.

The last passage Jenice had marked we read
at the graveside because of its special signifi-
cance. It was the passage in Luke 24:5 concerning
the resurrection of Christ: "The angels appeared
to the women at Jesus' tomb and said to them,
'Why look among the dead for someone who is
alive? He is not here; he is risen.'"

When we are in the presence of the grave we
find it needful to mourn, but this passage of Scrip-
ture gives us the blessed assurance that our loved
one is not in the grave, for she is already with
the Lord. We need not and must not linger at the
grave for we can claim the promise that just as
Jesus was the firstborn in the resurrection, all
our loved ones in Christ shall be resurrected also.
Through Christ we can claim the blessed comfort
of victory over death and the promise of eternal
life. Yes, there is a blessing for those who mourn,
when they are comforted by Christ Himself.
Amen. □



By Evelyn (Mrs. Norman) Gibson
Member of the Riverside, Calif., Church

How many people, I wonder, have never tasted bread? It may seem absurd, but I'm sure there are many people today who don't know the taste of true bread. This wasn't so in earlier times, when whole grains were coarsely ground between millers' stones and baked into large, richly dark and crusty loaves; bread was still revered as the staff of life. But now enterprising firms call themselves bakeries and lightly take the name of bread in vain, attaching it to that inflated, chalky mass that never knew a crumb and is scorned even by molds, no matter how stale it gets. A true bread is a noble thing; it has a crust, it has color and texture and a real and rich flavor of its own. And while the making of real bread is suspected to nourish the soul, the eating of it certainly nourishes the body. Grain tastes as though it grew in big fields of good soil, waved around in clear-air breezes, drank up lots of sunshine and some rain, and finally was harvested in golden ripeness.

—From *The Magic of Wheat Cookery*

Just one year has passed since our family began making bread from whole wheat, freshly ground in our electric powered stone mill. The benefits are many, although initially our motive simply was a fun and convenient way to have that wholesome smell in our kitchen. All this has led to an exciting discovery of what God's Word has to say about bread.

As early as Genesis 28, bread is the word used by Jacob for necessary food. In Genesis 47, "there was no bread in all the land, for the famine was very sore," and later, "Joseph nourished his father and brethren with bread." There can be no doubt that this was wholegrain bread.

Further along, God promised blessing for keeping His commandments. In Leviticus 26: "Your threshing shall reach unto the vintage and ye shall eat your bread to the full." Next, the penalties for disobedience were listed. It sounds amazingly like a modern-day bakery:

"When I have broken the staff of your bread, ten women shall bake your bread in one oven, and they shall deliver you your bread again by weight, and ye shall eat and not be satisfied."

... not be satisfied. This makes me think of the many mornings in past years when my husband popped slice after slice of store bread into the toaster and still felt hungry (unsatisfied). At that time we were not fully aware that white flour (like white sugar) has no food value other than refined carbohydrates, but requires substantial amounts of B-complex to be metabolized. So it robs our tissues of other foods in our digestive tract to get those vitamins. That means it actually dilutes the value of other foods and increases the requirement for the B vitamins.

Perhaps here is the physical application of Isaiah 55: "Why do you spend money for that which is not bread . . . for that which satisfieth not? Hearken unto me and eat that which is good." Counterfeits are everywhere. We are robbed of good elements when we get only the white portion of the grain. Studies show how most bread sold in stores is stripped of its many nutrients.

Jesus calls Himself the Bread of Life, and it is thrilling to examine the physical food to which Jesus likened Himself. We know that Jesus is completely satisfying and is all we need spiritually. Should it come as a surprise, then, that wheat contains every vitamin and mineral our body needs? Wheat germ contains life-giving E and B-complex vitamins. B-complex is known as the pep vitamin. It is also essential for healthy nerves, emotions, and clear thinking. Since the B-complex vitamins are water soluble and cannot be stored in the body, they must be taken in sufficient quantity every day to maintain vigor and good health.



There has been a great deal of interest recently on the subject of cereal fiber. Articles and columns in major newspapers and national magazines have reported new scientific observations on food fiber and its possible effect on health. Bran, the outermost layer of the wheat kernel, is one of the richest sources of natural fiber. In the bran layers are found large amounts of vitamins, minerals, and proteins of very good quality. Dr. Richard Siegel of Stanford University Medical Center, Dr. Denis Burkitt, and Dr. David Rueben are among those promoting a fiber-enriched diet. They say fiber-depleted diets may cause heart disease, bowel cancer, gallstones, appendicitis, hemorrhoids and varicose veins, diabetes and obesity!

Regarding the perishability of vitamins contained in flour, Dr. Kelly, a cancer specialist in Grapevine, Texas, asserts that nearly all essential vitamins oxidize from the flour within three days. He says we should grind only the amount of flour needed each day. Harald J. Taub in *Prevention* magazine states, "Wheat germ, among the very best food supplements, is also among the most perishable of foods. Once it is separated from the wheat berry, it must be refrigerated, and even then it will not keep long. The same, of

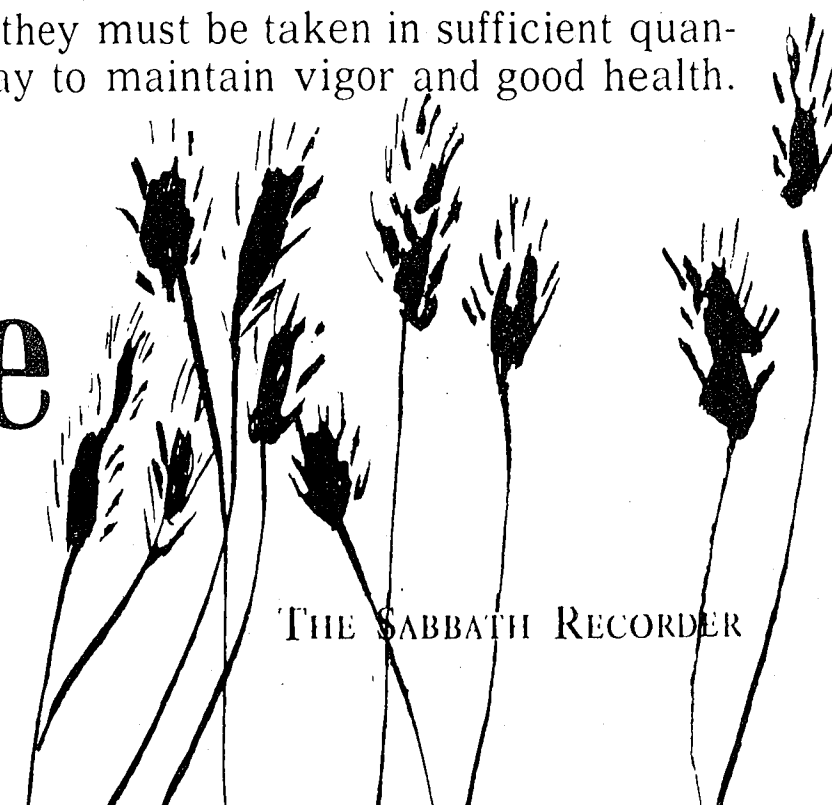
course, is true of all whole grain flours. However, if you have a grain grinder, you can store the whole wheat berries or other grains and grind them for flour as you need them."

The unfragmented wheat kernel, like Jesus, is indestructible. Take for example the wheat found in King Tut's tomb which had been buried for hundreds of years. It germinated! We are told that wheat is planted every week year-round at the University of Kansas. Even in freezing weather, it will simply wait for the ground to warm up and then begin to grow. How like our Savior, who patiently waits for our cold hearts to receive Him!

As we discover that flour when ground becomes stale rapidly, we again see the parallel that Jesus must be fresh and new and "eaten" daily for Him to have a vital influence in our lives. Only then are we strengthened and sustained. Staff of life means sustainer. The Bread of Life must be taken inside and become personal before His energy and power are ours.

Yes, proper care and feeding of our bodies is definitely a Christian principle. "Blessed is he that shall eat bread in the kingdom of God." Luke 14:15. We look forward to that day. □

The Staff of Life



THE SABBATH RECORDER



DECEMBER 1975

Fair Time is Harvest Time

by Jessie Pitts
Member of the Los Angeles Church,
living in Ventura, Calif.

"And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left." — Isaiah 30:21.

This verse came to life early one morning in May 1975 as I was going about my mundane household tasks. Suddenly the Lord impressed me in a very definite way with the thought "Ventura County Fair! With 150,000 souls entering its gates each year, what a harvest field at our finger tips!" The possibility of reaching so many in so short a time and for so small an investment was exciting and electrifying to me.

Without delay I went to my typewriter to communicate my thoughts to both Leon Lawton and my pastor Leland Davis. By May 29 I had very positive and encouraging letters from both, offering to give their assistance and making suggestions of materials available. At the same time I had written them, without any real authority to do so, I had made application to the fair board for space. After receiving the affirmative letter from Pastor Davis, I sent him another application which he filed with the fair board.

The office staff at the Ventura County Fair had informed me that we could not be considered for space until all of last year's exhibitors had been given the right to first consideration, a fact which was not encouraging.

Pastor Davis called a meeting of the Evangelism Committee at which time it was decided that the church body would cooperate and sponsor the Ventura County Fair outreach. Members began to pray that God would open the way for the booth at the fair.

On July 31 Pastor Davis, Rod Henry, and Pete Morris came to Ventura to do door-to-door work

and to conduct a prayer and Bible study at my home. We had special earnest prayer for an open door after which Pastor Davis and I went to call at the fair office. Again we were told by the office staff that we would just have to wait until Aug. 8. The Lord, however, worked a miracle right on the spot. At that moment we noticed a figure of a gentleman passing an open door nearby. Suddenly as though impelled by an unknown force, he quickly turned, came out and said, "What was it you wanted?" We explained the urgency and the essence of time in our request to which he replied, "Why not take care of it right now?" He was the fair manager in person. God had him there at the precise moment! That was no accident! Needless to say Pastor Davis and I went our way really laughing and praising the Lord for the victory over a seemingly doubtful (in the world's view) situation.

Since there was now no doubt that this was God's plan for us, immediately a presentation of the facts, needs and challenge was given to the Los Angeles church body, with urgent emphasis on the need for MUCH CONSTANT PRAYER.

Matthew 9:37-38 together with bits of grain were placed on small prayer reminders, requesting that each member of the church place them on the refrigerator door or any other place as a constant reminder to pray for the work and the laborers. Three points were emphasized in the presentation, namely:

1. The harvest is plenteous.
2. He (Christ) will send forth laborers. — If we pray.
3. It is His harvest.

So—if it is His harvest,
if He guarantees a plenteous harvest,
if we are sent forth by

Him HOW CAN WE FAIL?

Immediately Pastor Davis began conducting meetings to plan for the many manual things to be done as well as training personnel for the manning of the booth so that each one would be familiar with the materials to be used and how best to present the truths. These meetings were held each Sabbath until the fair began on October 1.

The Lord knowing our every need, provided in the person of John Clibourn, an excellent sign painter, who is also a member of the Los Angeles church. Many long hours were devoted to making a huge banner which read, "Life's most important question answered here. It could be seen the entire length of the huge building in which we had our booth. A similar titled tract which outlines the plan of salvation was used to help answer the question. In addition to this sign John made a beautiful sign of the "Seventh Day Baptist" emblem

(Continued on page 8)



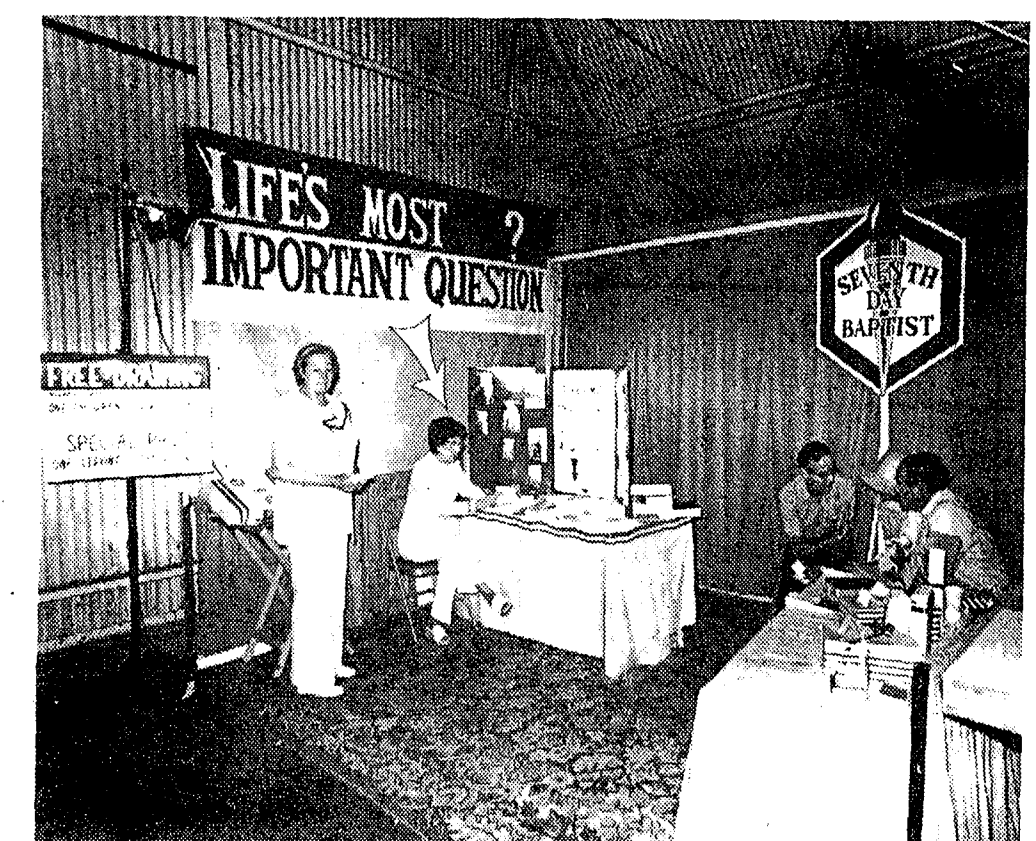
Three of the dedicated workers at the Ventura Fair Booth — Jeri Blackwell, Jessie Pitts and John Clibourn. They helped to make Seventh Day Baptists known in the greater Ventura area.

VENTURA VENTURE

"A Soul is Born"



A couple enters the Ventura fair booth and is welcomed by Pastor Leland Davis.



The pastor leads them into a discussion of life's most important question — do they know Jesus as personal Savior and Lord?



This couple was among some twenty who prayed to receive Christ during the week. Scores more requested additional Bible study and prayer as they too sought a new relationship with Christ.



The most rewarding part of a Fair Booth ministry is the personal contacts made. As a result of this project there are now regular Sabbath services in Ventura. Let us continue to pray for those who were contacted by this ministry.

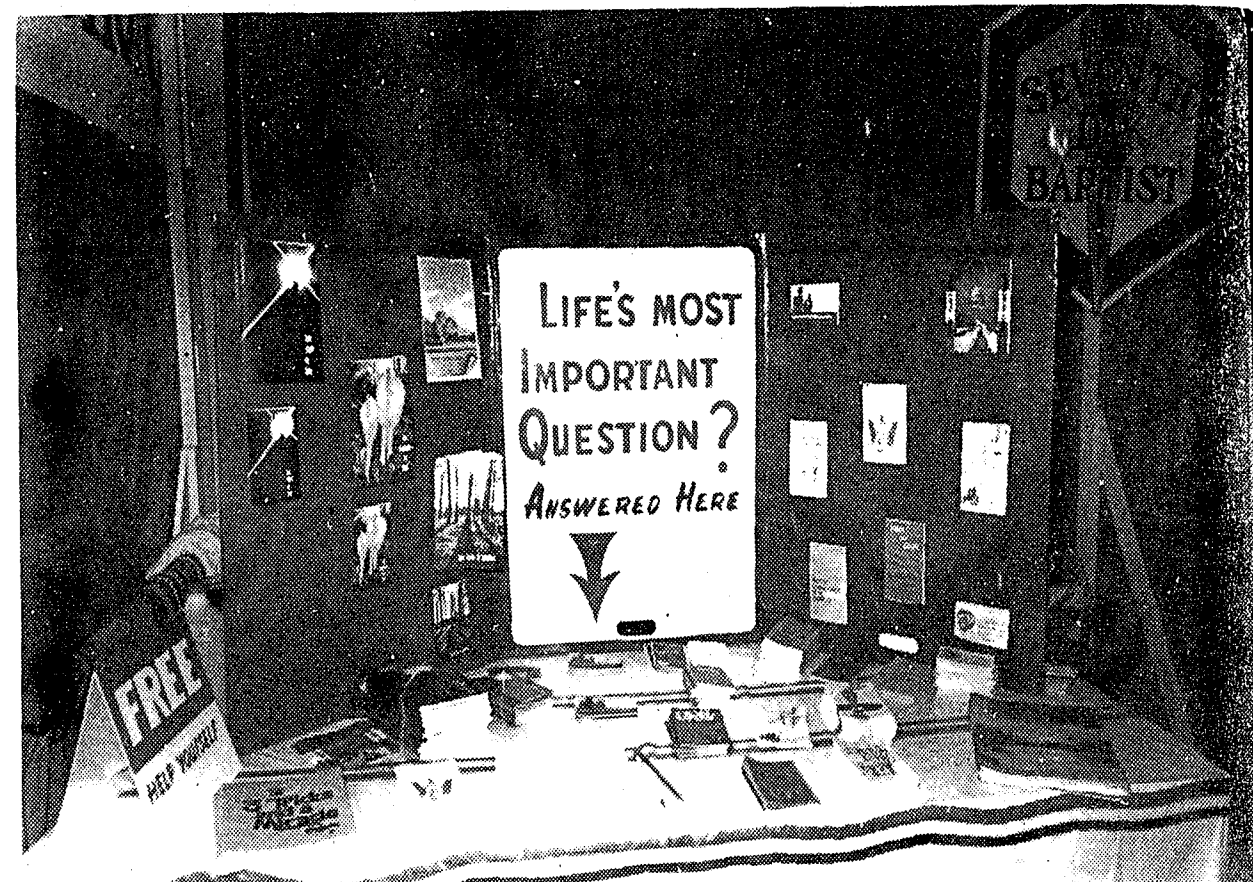
which was hung at the back of the booth. This was the "Crowd Stopper" and I do mean crowd stopper. Such looks of curiosity on people's faces! As the people stopped or hesitated, we would approach them with, "Would you like to step in and register for a free Bible?" This was a wonderful opener so that we could then introduce them to Christ if they did not know Him or to acquaint them with our Seventh Day Baptist belief in the Sabbath.

What a joy for those of us who were privileged to serve in the booth. We were completely overwhelmed with the warm response that we received from those visiting the booth — so many of them. On the first morning the doors were to have opened at 10:00 a.m., but someone had opened the door at 9:00 instead. As workers were picking up their materials from the booth to distribute at the parade which preceded the opening of the fair, the crowds began pouring into the booth. Finding ourselves inundated with people, the workers were unable to leave for the parade. Only Irv. Gillispie who had taken his supply in advance was able to distribute tracts on the parade line. Having only 600 he quickly ran out, for additional supply from the booth could not be delivered.

For thirteen hours each day for five days we were overwhelmed with the number of persons who were so interested in spiritual matters and who took the many pieces of literature. The no-so-dry but very exciting statistics will somewhat convey to the reader how God sent the harvest that he had promised in Matt. 9:27-28, which we had read at the very first meeting and presentation.

RESULTS

- 21 personal workers manned the booth.
- 20 persons received Christ as personal savior. — PRAISE THE LORD!
- This alone was worth the whole effort.
- Hundreds of people were witnessed to each day.
- 3,000 gospel tracts were distributed.
- 2,000 denominational tracts given out.
- 5 Thompson Chain Reference Bibles awarded from adult drawing.
- 5 Children's Living Bibles given to winners from youth drawing.



A successful fair booth is one that is attractive and inviting.

More than 1,000 adults and children registered for free Bible drawing.

- 1 Strong's Analytical Concordance given away to winner in drawing.
- 150 enrolled in Bible Correspondence Course, "Light To See" produced by World Home Bible League, taking with them the first book of the series.
- 35 more indicated they want the free Bible Correspondence be sent to them. (information picked up from drawing survey)
- 25 Bibles given to homes who had no Bibles (grant from World Home Bible League)
- 205 indicated a desire for Bible studies — total of the three methods to be used.)

As you can see — God did provide the harvest promised in Matt. 9:27-28.

Now — here is where you may participate in continuing to harvest the seeds sown at the time we harvested seeds already planted by others. PRAY—PRAY—PRAY—daily for the ongoing work here in Ventura.

God worked another miracle during the fair in that He brought a professional photographer into the booth. As he talked with Jeri Blackwell, he commented on the beautiful cover of the *Sabbath Recorder* at which time she said to him, "The Lord must have sent you here."

She then related to him that the authorized fair photographer would charge \$15.00 for each picture and that John Clibourn's camera had been stolen. He immediately offered to do many pictures the following day in exchange for his fair entry

fee. The many photos that you see are the result of that conversation with Alma (Grant) Sessions who made approximately twenty photographs for us.

On October 15 approximately 107 follow-up letters were mailed to those expressing interest in a home Bible study, in which we invited them to attend a Bible study at my home on Sabbath, Nov. 1, 1975. In October another reminder was mailed.

During the week of October 25 a local Baptist church was contacted regarding the sharing of their premises which is an excellent location on a bus line. The two persons called were very receptive to the idea. Their board meeting to consider the suggestion will be held Nov. 6, 1975. We believe that God will work another miracle in behalf of His harvest.


On Nov. 1 the first meeting was held at my home with twelve non-Seventh Day Baptist adults attending. Ten adults and six children from the Los Angeles Seventh Day Baptist Church drove up to assist in the meeting.

Using First John, Pastor Davis spoke on the subject of "Fellowship" and "Love for one another" showing that if we have true fellowship and love, we are willing to obey God in keeping His commandments.

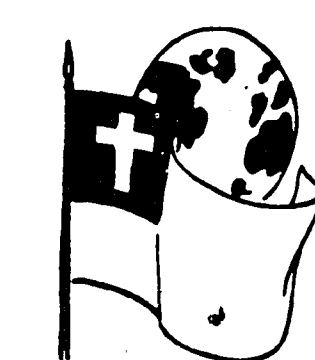
We believe that with this modest start, God is giving us an open door. May He be praised and may we be faithful. □

For information on how to sponsor a fair booth in your community write to the Editor, P.O. Box 868, Plainfield, N. J. 07061

"WHERE THERE IS NO VISION THE PEOPLE PERISH"



MISSION NOTES



IN THE INTEREST OF SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST MISSIONS

—Using the text, "Be still, and know that I am God" (Ps. 46:10) the Boulder, Colo., SDB church began a Dial-A-Meditation twenty-four hour telephone ministry early in November. Pray that this may become an effective means of reaching people who need the loving, healing hand of our Lord in their lives.

—Missionary David C. Pearson, Malawi, was able to visit the Memeta SDB Mission Centre, near Gokwe, Rhodesia, in August. This is where Pastor L. M. Vumah has a bookstore and seeks to extend the witness and work in a large tribal area.

—Houston, TX, has been chosen as the site for the REACH OUT NOW (RON) project. Members of the Houston SDB fellowship will form the core group with leadership and teams aiding in the witness and outreach. The goal is to have a new SDB church organized in Houston. Director of Evangelism Myron G. Soper is the coordinator and George Stillman the local director. Pray for this RON project.

—Staffing at Crandall High School, Kingston, Jamaica, and the Makapwa (Malawi, Africa) Medical Center continues to present difficulties for our missionaries. Thus extra burdens are thrown on them as they seek to carry heavier loads and ponder where needed and trained workers can be found. Your prayers are vital in these situations.

—The Mid-Continent SDB Association took action at their October meeting to support a team visit to Mexico early in 1976 to understand better the several sister churches there and to base our growing fellowship in their outreach ministry on such knowledge.

—A special anonymous gift of \$1,000 has been forwarded to Nellore, So. India, to make possible the digging of another well. These pro-

jects are under the leadership of Executive Secretary Rev. B. John V. Rao of the India SDB Conference. They provide water for irrigation or for drinking, a vital need in many rural villages.

—Rev. Watson Mataka, the Central Africa Conference missionary in Kisii, Kenya, has remained an additional time on the field helping in the organization of new congregations, teaching the Bible and SDB beliefs and practice and training spiritual leaders. It is hoped he can rejoin his family and take up his ministry in Malawi before the end of 1975.



—A church building (formerly owned by the SDA) has recently been purchased by the Seventh Day Baptist Philippine Conference at Portobello, Tudela, Camotes Island. Over twenty new members in this area have formed the new congregation, the first on this island. There are now SDB groups on four islands in the Philippines.

PRAYER



CORNER

A Prayer Reminder for Each Day!

JANUARY 1976

Verse for the month:

"I love the Lord because he hears my prayers and answers them. Because he bends down and listens, I will pray as long as I breathe!"

—Psalm 116:1-2

- 1—Praise God for a New Year and each new day!
- 2—Menzo and Audrey Fuller, Makapwa, Malawi, Africa
- 3—RENEWAL IN AND OUTREACH FROM MY CHURCH/SABBATH SCHOOL
- 4—George Stillman, RON project leader, Houston, TX
- 5—The Women's Board in their monthly meeting tonight
- 6—Douglas and Jane Mackintosh, CHS, Kingston, Jamaica WI
- 7—For young people considering God's call to ministry
- 8—L. Sawi Thanga and other leaders in Burma SDB Conference
- 9—Director of Evangelism, Mynor G. Soper
- 10—YOUR PASTOR AS HE OPENS GOD'S WORD
- 11—Memorial Fund trustees in their quarterly meeting
- 12—Pastors and association leaders — India SDB Conference
- 13—Pray specifically for one who has wronged you.
- 14—Dorothy Parrott, Reach Out Field Worker, North Central Association
- 15—Pastors and leaders in Kenya, Africa, SDB churches
- 16—David and Bettie Pearson, Blantyre, Malawi, Africa
- 17—YOUR SABBATH SCHOOL TEACHER AND SUPERINTENDENT
- 18—Your American Sabbath Tract Society meeting today
- 19—Pastors and leaders in Guyana, SA, SDB churches
- 20—David S. Clarke, Executive Sec'y., Board of Christian Education
- 21—For understanding and obedience to God's will for me.
- 22—Pastors and leaders in Brazil SDB Convention
- 23—For youth willing to serve in Summer Christian Service Corps
- 24—SABBATH SCHOOL MISSION OFFERING: Burma
- 25—The Missionary Board members in their meeting today.
- 26—Praise God for growth and new churches in the Philippines
- 27—Effective outreach and growth in RON project — Houston, TX
- 28—SDB brethren in England, Holland, and Germany
- 29—For a fully raised OWM budget this first month of 1976!
- 30—Jin Sung Kim, SDB leader in Seoul, Korea
- 31—FOR NONRESIDENT MEMBERS OF MY CHURCH

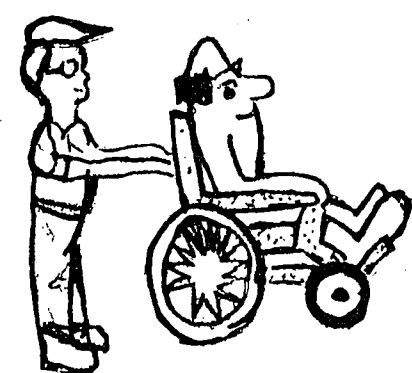
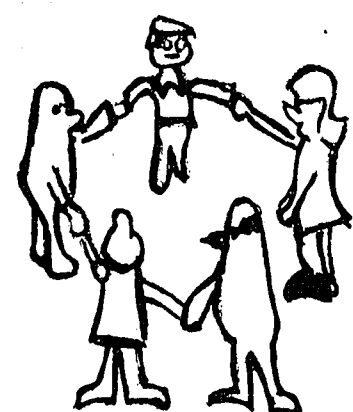
SO HERE I AM,
ALONE WITH
MYSELF

AND MYSELF SAYS
WELL, ARE SISTERS
SELF!

NOW WHAT AM I
GOING TO DO?
ARE YOU
GOING
TO DO?

YOU SAY YOU
BELIEVE
ALL PEOPLE
ARE SISTERS
AND BROTHERS...

YOU SAY YOU
WANT TO HELP
PEOPLE WHO
NEED HELP...

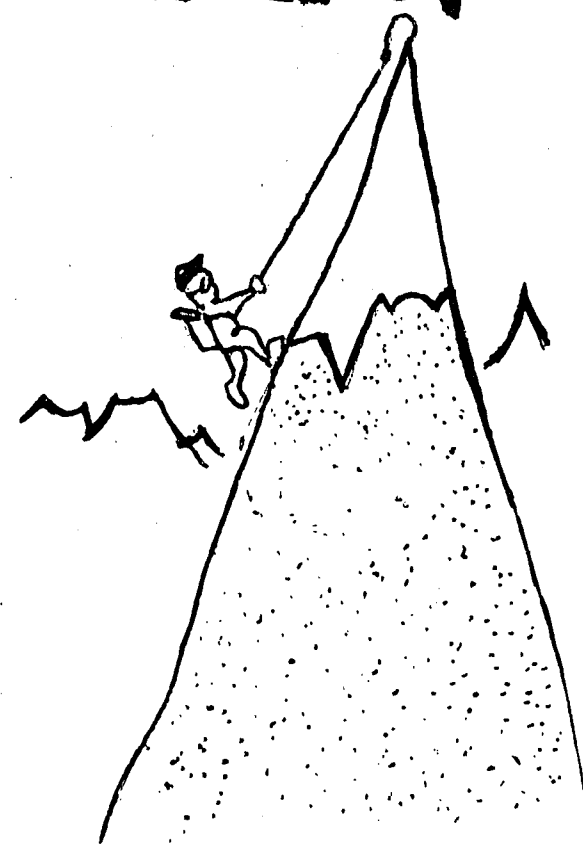


YOU SAY YOU
WANT TO BE
CHALLENGED
TO FIND OUT
WHAT YOU'RE
REALLY
CAPABLE OF...

BUT HOW ARE
YOU GOING
TO DO
SOMETHING
ABOUT
THESE
THINGS?

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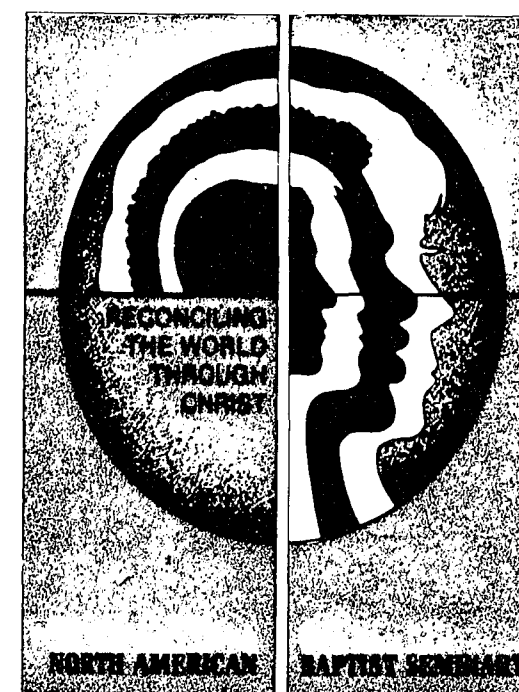
ROBERT BABCOCK

PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY

WIFE: NELTA SOPER BABCOCK

CHILDREN: MATTHEW AND AMANDA

SENIOR STUDENT



SIoux FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA



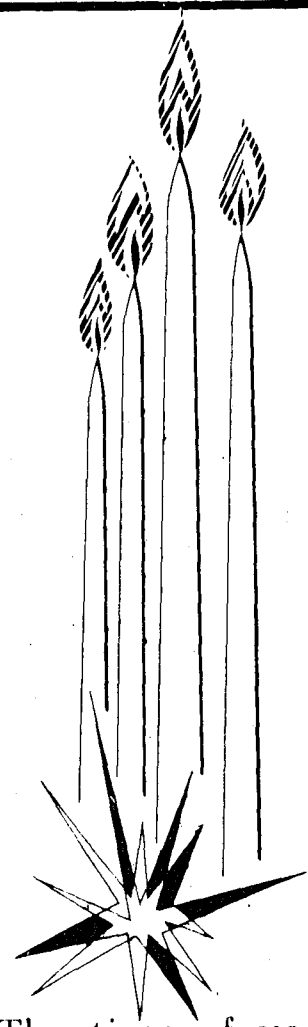
LARRY GRAFFIUS

NORTH LOUP, NEBRASKA

WIFE: JANICE WILLIAMS GRAFFIUS

JUNIOR STUDENT

GIVE TO OUR WORLD MISSION



LET EVERY HOUSE BE BRIGHT!

by Madeline Fitz Randolph

The time of year when we are looking to the coming of Christmas is one of nostalgia — returning in our minds to our days of childhood. When we were children we spent much time wondering what gifts we would receive, wishing for the “best” gift of all . . . the thing we most desired. Now, in retrospect, I realize that no matter how much I wished for certain gifts at Christmas, I was always surprised and overjoyed with the ones I would receive. The packages would go far beyond my wildest childish hopes and dreams. At the age of six, I wished for a doll that would cry “ma-ma.” I would have been content with a cloth doll, if it would only be a talking doll. But when I opened my gift on that morning, to my complete amazement I held a most lifelike china doll, with real hair, eyes that opened and shut, pearly teeth as well as a beautiful voice that cried “ma-ma” when I tipped her forward. Like the gifts from God, it was so much more than I had wished for.

God came to the world as a babe, so that the world might know Him. The power of the Holy child of Bethlehem can change us and bring us the peace of which the angels sang. This power can give us far beyond what we dream of in joy . . . but there is a question we must answer as we stand in expectation of receiving gifts: “What tribute shall we bring to Him?”

A legend tells of a shepherd maiden who watched the Magi placing their rich gifts at the baby’s feet. She was sad because she was so poor and had nothing to give. She did not dare even to enter the stable and stood out in the snow weeping. An angel watched, and as the tears of the poor shepherd girl fell and melted the snow a small bush of roses grew there. In joy and amazement the girl took the flowers in and presented them to the infant. She worshiped truly, because she gave . . .

True worship involving our minds, hearts, and bodies is the only worthy gift we can give to God. The results will show in our lives. An old hymn tells us:

“Let every house be bright;
Let praises never cease.
With mercies infinite
Our Christ hath brought us peace.”

In the home the significance of Christmas is a matter of the gifts we offer to Christ and to our families. Just as it does not matter whether the Magi bring rich gifts or shepherd maidens bring roses, the value of the gift is not in itself. The tribute that we show one another at Christmas is a reflection of love and loyalty shown throughout the year. A house is bright when the spirit of Christ is present among all its members, and sometimes a house is bright when one member of the household catches the secret and passes it on to his unsuspecting family.

Can we give the gift of Christ to our families this year? If we cannot, then He will not be shown to those we love. “He is Light, and in Him is no darkness.”

Dwight Bradley has written some words which fit us today:

“We have heard it said that the lights have gone out in the world.

Such a thing has happened many times before.
It was dark in Bethlehem on a certain night,
Yet on that night a new star was shining.
Shepherds looked up and saw a glory in the sky;
Saw a glowing radiance around a mother and her child.

The lights had gone out then, in Judea, in Rome.
Yet it was bright enough to guide three wise men on their way toward truth,
Bright enough to rouse the shepherds to the coming of a prince of peace,
Bright enough to fill a cattle shed where human hope was born.

There is light enough today to make a track of thought for those who have a mind to hunt for living truth,

Enough to show the peoples of the earth the way to build a democratic world in justice and good will,

Enough to fill with understanding and with courage any room, hall, meeting house, or open square,

Where men and women plan good things for the human race.

There is light enough for all these things.

What if old lights have gone out?

Kindle new ones everywhere,

Get out your lamp, your candle, or your lantern.

Put it in a window, or better still—

Take your own light with you and go outdoors into the world.

You will be surprised to find so many there ahead of you.

You may be even more surprised to find that God, Himself, is there with His newest and brightest star!” □

For unto us a child is born

—Isaiah 9:6



And she gave
birth to her
first-born son;
and she wrapped
Him in cloths,
and laid Him in
a manger,
because there
was no room
for them in the
inn.

Glory to God
in the highest
and on Earth
Peace



There came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. —Matt. 2:1-2

For God
 so loved
 the world
 that He gave His only
 begotten Son
 that
 whoever
 believes
 in Him
 shall not
 perish
 but have
 eternal
 Life



Reach Out To HOUSTON

One of the highlights of the October meeting of the denominational Planning Committee was the decision to launch the Reach Out Now (RON) program in Houston, Texas. Some months ago the Planning Committee adopted an overall theme for Seventh Day Baptist outreach called "Extend Now." One part of that thrust is RON — the attempt to establish new Seventh Day Baptist Churches and Fellowships in different sections of the United States.

Each denominational board and agency is cooperating to work out methods whereby finances, resources, and manpower will be made available to a local group to help it launch a high intensity program for growth. General Conference has approved a grant from the Memorial Fund to help finance this project during the coming year. Thus the Reach Out Now program in Houston will have the backing of all the resources and personnel of the denomination.

Houston will be the "pilot project" of the program. The success of the project there will hopefully encourage similar projects across the nation giving Seventh Day Baptists a new vision as we all seek to respond to the Great Commission and "Reach Out Now" for Christ and the church.

HOUSTON FACTS

Houston, the nation's sixth largest city, is located on the upper Gulf Coast prairie. It is actually some fifty miles from the Gulf of Mexico. Founded in 1836 by J. K. and A. C. Allen, it was named for General Sam Houston, commander of the Texas army which won independence from Mexico. Today Houston is a modern city serving a metropolitan population in excess of two million.

Houston is one of the newer industrial cities of the nation and has not experienced the high rate of unemployment found across the nation in recent months. It is an educational mecca with twenty-four colleges and universities and is a major medical research center. It is a religious city with over 1,750 churches representing almost every denomination.

S.D.B.'S IN HOUSTON

Since 1959 there has been a small, but active, fellowship in Houston. During the past summer the group voted to apply for the RON project, offering their resources and full support to the project. The fellowship has chosen George Stillman to be the local coordinator and the Rev. Mynor Soper will handle the coordination from a denominational level. Thus de-

nomination and local leadership, working together, will plan the program and establish priorities in seeking to establish a strong Seventh Day Baptist witness in this large metropolitan area.

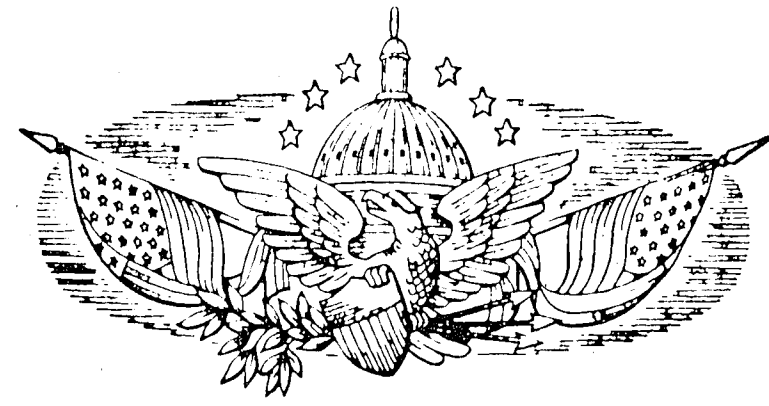
In recent weeks Rev. Mynor Soper and Rev. Leon Lawton have spent time in the area seeking to help develop the initial thrust of the project. A program of newspaper advertising has begun and arrangements have been made for the use of facilities at a local Y.M.C.A. for Sabbath Day meetings.

Rev. Soper stated that "We believe, with the new moving of God's Spirit among our people, that many who have in the past been satisfied to do nothing about starting a Seventh Day Baptist church in their area are now ready to take some step toward having a church." It is hoped that this RON project in Houston will encourage Seventh Day Baptists across the country to really respond to the task that has been given us as a people and to REACH OUT NOW and share the gospel message with others. □

Watch future SABBATH RECORDERS for a continual update of the progress of the Houston project. Be much in prayer that God will guide and bless.



Mrs. Joyce Stillman, Stephen Pierce, and George Stillman have spent much time in planning for the outreach program in Houston.



FOUNDING FATHERS' FAITH:

MYTH or REALITY?

By Walter B. Shurden

During the first inauguration of the President of the United States on Wall Street in New York, George Washington ceremonially repeated the prescribed words.

And then, of his own accord, Washington added, "So help me, God." But that was not all. Bending over he reverently kissed the Bible held by the Secretary of State.

That illustration and numerous others lead one to respect the widely held belief that our founding fathers were men of staunch Christian conviction.

But be careful! We could over-Christianize 1776 during the Bicentennial celebration of 1976.

And we would have gone too far if we end up with St. George (Washington), St. Thomas (Jefferson), and St. James (Madison)!

After all, Washington's relationship to the Episcopal Church was nominal at best. And Thomas Jefferson, accused of being an infidel, was denied a place on the shelves of the Philadelphia Public Library as late as 1830.

James Madison was not a communicant of any church. And while our founding fathers were not always active churchmen, neither were they always considered to be orthodox in Christian beliefs.

But if we are tempted to claim too much in 1976 for the faith of the founding fathers, we may also be tempted to claim too little. They were certainly people who drank often from the Judaeo-Christian fountain. To read the story of their concerns is to see the influence of Christian ideals in the shaping of

the nation.

While the founding fathers were often reluctant to accept Christian theology, they were usually eager to affirm Christian ethics.

What then was the "faith" of the founding fathers?

First, it was a faith that believed God sides with the oppressed. The Exodus event in Biblical history had a powerful appeal for the young Americans of 1776. They saw themselves as the oppressed who needed liberation from the injustice of the oppressor.

Do most American Christians still believe that the Lord God of 1776 still sides with the oppressed? Then how quickly can we identify in 1976 those who need the 1776 freedom?

Second, the faith of the founding fathers extolled equality. A Philadelphia militiaman greeted July 4, 1776, by announcing, "Let us never forget we are all equal." That cry was basic to the desire for independence. But equality was not automatic. Even our founding fathers did not always live up to their noble words.

But they planted a seed that refused to die. The elimination of slavery, the enfranchisement of women, the provision of free common schooling for all, the struggle for desegregation — all of these are part of the American people striving to live out the founding experience. □

—Walter B. Shurden is professor of church history and Southern Baptist studies at Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Tenn.

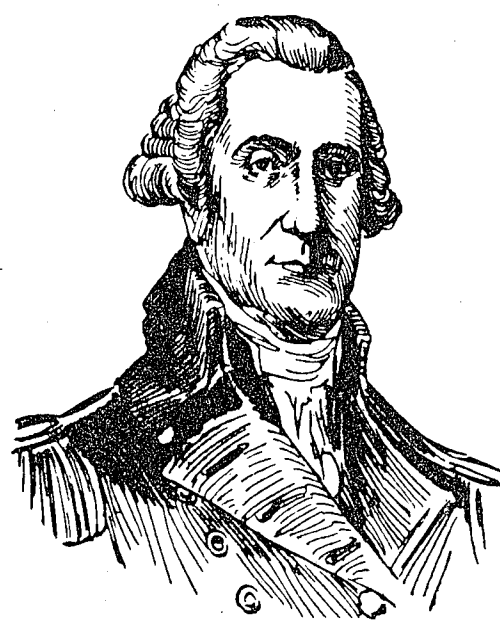
Milestones and Landmarks, Special Revised Bicentennial Edition, by Park Publishing Co.

Subject: How to celebrate an anniversary.

Milestones and Landmarks explains in detail the procedures that an organization should follow to gain the greatest possible benefits from anniversary celebrations.

The book calls for towns, organizations, churches, and Bicentennial Commissions to search out and celebrate their significant milestones. The author feels that "the appropriate celebration of an anniversary serves the past, present, and the future of the organization. It serves the past by recalling and recording organization history; it serves the present by building morale and molding common dedication and pride; it serves the future by energizing a desire for achievement greater than those recorded in the past."

Available from Park Publishing Co., 165 Duane Street, New York, N. Y. 10013. One copy sent bulk rate free of charge. For First Class postage and handling, please send \$1.00. Park specializes in making it easy for churches to research and publish their history. For the Bicentennial era, they have written the history of religious involvement in the founding of America, which can be included in any local church history. □



GEORGE WASHINGTON

FIRST LESSONS BY NEW EDITOR GO INTO USE

The change-over from *Helping Hand* Editor Duane L. Davis to Editor "Jinx" Stonestrom has taken place over the last two years. BUT readers of the *Helping Hand* in studying the Bible in Uniform Lesson Series have not generally been quite sure when Jinx's first quarterly would be in their hands.

The change-over really surfaces the last Sabbath of November 1975 when teachers and leaders will be handing out the quarterlies for use in classes on December 6.

Elaine, better known as "Jinx," has brought to her lesson writing that began last winter a rich experience among Seventh Day Baptists and several other Christian groups. Her lessons are developed with methods of personal or group study that are clearly described in her first *Helping Hand* introduction and in her *Suggestions for Teachers*, which were mailed separately from the quarterlies. We strongly urge that both students and teachers take time to read and ponder these introductions. Teachers will find suggestions for developing each of the lessons. (Suggestions for teachers were sent to pastors or clerks and should be sought by teachers if not in hand by receipt of this *Recorder*. Write to the SDB Publishing House if you cannot find these teacher guides in your church.)

Jinx grew up in the Westerly SDB Church and Eastern Association, serving in Camps and Vacation Bible School in 1966. When in college she edited a special issue of the *Sabbath Recorder* for the Tract Society. She graduated from Swarthmore College in 1971. She attended Union Theological Seminary in '71 and '72 and then the Pacific School of Religion, graduating with a Master of Divinity degree in 1974. She has served as summer assistant pastor at Shiloh SDB Church, as minister in a poor hospital in Harlem, in an inner city Philadelphia church, a church's



Peter and Jinx Stonestrom

senior citizens program in the Bay Area, California. She was licensed to preach by the Westerly SDB Church and has occasionally preached for the Bay Area SDB Church and two Sunday-keeping churches.

Jinx married Peter Stonestrom in June 1972. Peter was formally introduced to SDB at the Azusa Conference. The Stonestroms enjoy sponsoring a church youth group, and took their group on a week's bicycle tour the summer of 74 . . . just before they took a 2,000 mile bicycle trip up the West Coast. Peter's field is electrical engineering.

Shared with the 1975 SDB Ministers Conference, these are the "Basic Assumptions" that Jinx uses in editing the *Helping Hand*.

1. If persons become deeply engaged in studying the Bible then it will challenge them and speak to their faith and experience. When we are in dialogue with the experiences recorded in the Bible, we can move towards dialogue with God.

2. I think of the Bible as a record of the experience of persons as they encountered God and lived out their own faith. It will speak to us most clearly when we are deeply involved in experiencing life. (For example, Exodus would mean more if one had just experienced some form of slavery, or if one knew a captive.)

3. Learning should be interesting, involving open-ended questions; encouraging inquiry is more important than giving pat answers.

4. The form of learning materials should reflect the content where possible. The medium is the message.

5. We are all part of a learning community, helping one another in love. □

A Declaration for Christians

Pointing to a "new creation" for our nation and its citizens, James Armstrong has written a Bicentennial study book for Christians, *The Nation Yet To Be*. (Friendship Press, NYC. Paperback — \$2.25.) Rev. Armstrong calls us to a patriotism that "is part of our total life-stance under the sovereignty of God." Subtitled "Christian Mission and the New Patriotism," the book deals with the U.S. Constitution, church and state, religion and citizenship, America's destiny, and interdependence in a deeply thoughtful way. Text and footnotes tell of Armstrong's broad involvement in Christian mission, and encourage study groups or individuals to evaluate theology and practice as Christians and Americans.

Companion book for *The Nation Yet To Be* is a guide for bringing to the congregational life a series of experience that put flesh and blood on our beliefs. La Vonne Althouse of the Salem Lutheran Church in Philadelphia has presented in very clear program guides and extensive bibliography "A Process for Creative Celebration" of our nation's Bicentennial, especially in Protestant congregations. She outlines ways the guides can be used for observing national holidays, or for a retreat, or for weekly study series. Her book *The Parish and the Patriot* is recommended for use in Seventh Day Baptist churches during 1975-76 — or even 1977, for there are many vital experiences suggested for Christian patriotic maturing.



**FROM THE DESK OF
THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
—K. D. HURLEY**

An exciting and challenging meeting of Planning Committee was held in Plainfield in October.

The executives of the various boards and agencies, along with the Conference president and the executive secretary, reviewed the current status of denominational affairs and initiated planning for a specific program of advancement for the last half of the decade for the 70's—our Era of Action!

Keyed to developing positive attitudes, the program visualizes a five-year progression of training and outreach beginning with the ministers and extending through lay leaders in individual churches into association-wide projects where "each one wins one." The goals will be to enhance spiritual awareness, increase church membership, add churches to the denomination, increase budget income, and improve Christian services to the national—and world—community.

The plan, after further study, is to be reviewed at the next meeting of the Planning Committee in March in preparation for presentation to General Conference in August 1976 as the requested "plan of church growth."

In the meantime, a "Reach Out Now" (RON) project is being activated in Houston, Texas, in coordination with the Seventh Day Baptist Fellowship there. A definite schedule of activities, utilizing every possible denominational resource, has been outlined. The confident hope is that the end-result of the effort will be the establishment of a fully-operating church in Houston.

Nothing will generate more enthusiasm among our people, it seems to me, than to get universally involved in projects which culminate in measurable, visible results. It is abundantly evident that there is, among our people, a "divine discontent" with current inadequacies coupled with an urgent desire to

This is the time to minimize differences among boards, agencies, churches, and individual Seventh Day Baptists, and maximize the strengths of our common purposes.

make commitments toward denominational growth and development.

There is obviously a need for coordination of effort. Our resources are limited, and we should make the most efficient and effective use of them.

In my report to Planning Committee, I highlighted the importance of good stewardship. In the modern business-oriented society, there is no more important way to express our faith than to operate our church affairs in a business-like manner.

Planning Committee, in its recent meeting, gave credence to the fact that "This is the time to minimize differences among boards, agencies, churches, and individual Seventh Day Baptists, and maximize the strength of our common purposes." □

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The Seventh Day Baptist Church in Fouke, Arkansas.

Fouke Has Outreach Program

FOUKE, ARK.—The Fouke church is now broadcasting over two area radio stations, KOSY in Texarkana and KENA in Mena. The American Sabbath Tract Society assisted the radio program with a grant from the Sabbath Promotion Committee.

Attendance and interest is growing at our church youth center. We now have programs in Judo, tumbling for girls, as well as arts and crafts. Over 100 are involved in the center program.

The center is also sponsoring a local newspaper, The Red River Valley Times. Miss Patti Jo Pederson, of Wisconsin, is here helping with this project. Our Youth Fellowship is developing a visitation program at nursing homes. They are also planning a tract distribution program in Fouke, Texarkana, and surrounding communities.

The Youth Choir, under the direction of Steve Crouch, provides music for each Sabbath Service.

Pastor Floyd Goodson, as president of the Southwestern Association, plans to visit all the churches and fellowships in the Association during the year. He has led the service at Houston and Ft. Smith and plans to visit the Dallas group soon.

**VERONA WELCOMES
NEW PASTOR**

VERONA, N.Y.— We were very glad to welcome our new Pastor John Peil and his wife, Ruth Ann, with hope that our time together will be to God's glory. A welcoming program was held for them at the church, September 6, 1975, with welcomes from various organizations in the church and from the community, followed by refreshments and fellowship. Our annual Lord's Acre auction was held Sept. 30 with much success thanks to the bountiful year the Lord has given us. We were happy to have the Light Bearers here with us in Verona, Oct. 10, 11, 12, along with Evangelist Charles Grafius. Our Ladies Aid Society has been busy planning dinners, not only for the public along with a bazaar, but also for patients from the Rome Developmental Center. The youth fellowship held election of officers with Bonnie Williams, Pres.; Nancy Davis, Vice-Pres.; Lois Davis, Sec.; Neil Warner, Treas.; and Doris Swerediuk, Sunshine Com. A group of our young people also visited Plainfield and were in New York for the organization of the new church there. We are looking forward to a fruitful year ahead for all our church.

HOUSTON FELLOWSHIP NEWS

The Houston S.D.B. Fellowship has received inspiration and encouragement from recent visits of Rev. and Mrs. Floyd Goodson, Fouke, Ark., and Rev. and Mrs. Leon Maltby, Daytona Beach, Fla. They shared information with us concerning Southwestern Association programs and General Conference highlights.

The Rev. and Mrs. Mynor Soper, and daughters spent several days in Houston during May. We enjoyed Rev. Soper's inspirational messages and the musical talents of his family. He returned in September to discuss the R.O.N. project more fully. We are making a renewed effort to reach interested Sabbathkeepers in the area.

Camp Miles, held near Conway, Ark., was a highlight of the summer for three members of our fellowship. Pastor John Camenga, camp director, and a capable staff led about forty campers in a study of the Parables of Jesus. Sabbath afternoon, July 12, following a singspiration and testimony service, the campers and visiting families gathered at a nearby lake where Andy and Ben Stillman, members of the Houston Fellowship, were baptized by Pastor Barry Clapper, assisted by Pastor Camenga.

—Mrs. George S. Stillman

BE AN INFORMED SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST

subscribe to the SABBATH RECORDER

DE RUYTER BUILDS FELLOWSHIP HALL

DE RUYTER, N. Y.— The De Ruyter Seventh Day Baptist Church is happy to share its good news with others across the country. First I should say how good it is to have a pastor again. The Rev. Charles Swing came with his family in mid April and immediately got into the "swing of things." Everyone in the community gladly welcomed them.

The next important event was in May when the church decided to build an addition on the back of the church to serve as a social room, dining room, and class rooms. There will also be a kitchen and rest rooms. Work which is all voluntary began almost at once. Soon the foundation of concrete blocks was done. The floor was laid, the frame took shape and the roof was put on. On Sundays more men were free to help and then progress really sped. Now even the doors and windows are in. The plumbing, wiring and part of the siding is done. This shows what faith, cooperation, and willing hands can do. We are eagerly anticipating much joy in using our new fellowship hall and trust it will be a big help to us in our Christian service.

We cooperated with the United Church in Vacation Bible School in early July. The Women's Society held a sidewalk sale which brought in \$150 for the building fund. Our Sabbath School takes a special offering for missions each month. These have amounted to \$207 this year.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Burdick and children, Ruth Burdick and Kenneth Brannon were our delegates to the General Conference. Through the year a Bible study group under the leadership of Ruth Burdick has been meeting in homes. They have just finished a thorough study of the Gospel of Matthew and are beginning a course of study on stewardship.

On October 11 our church entertained the fall meeting of the Central Association. John Peil, new pastor of the Verona church, was our speaker at the morning worship service. In the afternoon we were favored to have the Light Bearers conduct a singspiration. Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Ellis from the Allegheny Association gave us

a little view of the Conference site for 1976 at Houghton College and told us of the plans which are being developed for entertaining Conference next year.

On October 19 the annual church dinner was held in the new fellowship hall. Although it was not completed it was a thrill to use it. Afterwards the annual church business meeting was held and officers for the coming years were elected.

—Martha Mills, Correspondent

NEWS NOTES

The Riverside, Calif., church shipped over 5,000 pounds of books to Crandall High School in Kingston, Jamaica. The church plans another shipment sometime next year.

Miss Florence Bowden of the Shiloh, N. J., church conducted a seminar on "The Christian Woman" in November at the Pawcatuck Church in Westerly, R. I.

Home Bible studies are conducted by Ray Boatman of the Seattle church each week in rural Graham, Washington.

Rev. Paul Osborn is conducting Bible Study every Wednesday afternoon at the Winchester Annex Retirement Home in Nortonville, Kans.

In connection with his trip East for Planning Committee, Conference President Gary Cox spoke at the worship services of the Plainfield, N. J., church, the North Jersey church and the New England Yearly Meeting at the Ashaway, R. I., church. He also attended the quarterly meetings of the Tract and Missionary Boards.

"Teen-age Alcoholism" was reprinted from the *Sabbath Recorder* and published in a recent issue of *The Sermon Builder*. A letter of greeting sent by your editor was published in the 125th year anniversary issue of the *Review and Herald*.

Christmas is an ideal time to give the *Sabbath Recorder* to a friend. \$6.00 for a one-year subscription.

MARLBORO NEWS

MARLBORO, N. J.— Our church has been very involved in many programs over the past few months. We celebrated a joint communion service with the Shiloh church in July. We also worked with them in the camping program at Camp Jersey Oaks.

Pastor Don Richards attended the Basic Youth Conflicts Institute in Philadelphia as well as the General Conference sessions in California. Several were able to attend the Yearly Meeting held at the Schenectady, N. Y., church. Pastor Richards spoke on the subject: "To Know Him and Make Him Known."

Sabbath Rally was observed August 30 with class promotions under the direction of Mrs. Barbara Froding. Our Sabbath Eve prayer meetings and Bible studies continue to generate a lot of interest.

Deacon and Mrs. Fred Ayars and daughter Barbara represented our church at the organizational meeting of the New York City Church.

—Ella T. Davis

ORGAN RENOVATED AT ALFRED CHURCH

ALFRED, NY — As has been the custom for the last several years, the Alfred Station and Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Churches shared summer services. The Alfred Station congregation came to Alfred in July; and Alfred went to Alfred Station in August.

While the Alfred church was not in use in August, the organ was completely dismantled, renovated, and cleaned. We rejoice that the beautiful instrument is once more in good voice. A recital is planned for rededication of the organ on October 26.

September 28, the congregation met to share supper and to discuss the reorganization of the denomination. Several suggestions came from that discussion.

On October 12, the members of the church met again for dinner. Several students and family guests shared the meal and were introduced.

The annual business meeting was held following the dinner. The officers elected at that time are: Richard West, President; Howard Jacox, Vice-President; Suzanne Ja-

cox, Clerk; Bernice Pierce, Assistant Clerk; Linda Butts, Treasurer; and Mildred Amato, Assistant Treasurer.

The Women's Society has redecorated the upstairs rooms which are used for Sabbath School classes. The central room was used for the first time since renovation for the October first-of-the-month All Sabbath School worship at which time the Sabbath School teachers and officers were dedicated, using the service prepared by the Rev. Rex Zwiebel for the Committee for Christian Education.

—Mary Clare.

YOUTH RETREATS HELD

PLAINFIELD, N. J.— Our Youth Fellowship, sponsored by Ronald and Kay Maltby, has held two exciting weekend retreats in our church this fall. Six from the Verona, N. Y., church joined our young people September 26-28, and the group conducted our Sabbath service with the help of Elder Herbert Saunders and Mike and Alice Parker. Their theme was "Friendship in Christ." A dramatization of "The Good Samaritan" by Mike Parker was interspersed with hymns and special music. On Sabbath afternoon all the young people and a number of adults attended the organization service of the New York City church. At that time our New York City members transferred their membership to the new church.

The other Youth Fellowship retreat October 25-26 included twenty-four young people and sponsors from the Shiloh, N. J., church. Conversational prayer and the sharing of spiritual experiences brought the group close to each other and to Christ. They joined with the adults and children in a fun-filled costume party the night after the Sabbath. On Sunday they toured the S.D.B. building.

The denominational Planning Committee and members of our congregation were delighted to have the Light Bearers sing at our church during the supper hour on Wednesday, October 22. Their evangelistic music and Stan Soper's testimony were an inspiration to us all.

Worldwide Communion October 4 was conducted by Elder Saunders. Readings, color slides,

hymns, and testimonies prepared us for Communion with our Lord and with one another. Our pulpit was also filled during September and October by Elders Alton Wheeler and Reuben Simons, Deacon Linford Walters, Conference President Gary Cox, and Rev. Kenneth Mart.

Thomas Merchant was elected a trustee in place of Rev. Albert Rogers, who has moved to Alfred Station, N. Y., but is still a member of our church.

An outdoor work bee on September 7 showed that "many hands make light work" of improving the appearance of our church property.

A correction is in order with regard to the Robe of Achievement. Mrs. Anna North was the third member of our church to receive it. The first and second were Miss Evalois St. John and Mrs. Frankie Davis. Apologies to Evalois!

—Ruth Hunting Parker

CHURCH RETREAT HELD

SHILOH, N. J.— Robert L. Van Horn, of Lost Creek, W. Va., served as our summer youth worker. He taught in the community Bible school and assisted Pastor Charles Bond in the camping program at Camp Jersey Oaks. The Bible school was held in our church this year.

On May 10, the church held a Family Day recognition and Baby Dedication.

Following the church services a covered-dish dinner was held in the Fellowship Hall. At its conclusion a program of music was presented as arranged by Mrs. Martie Hitchner. This included a lively hymn sing directed by Mrs. Charles F. Harris, songs from the Primary Department, led by Mrs. Richard Dixon, and family groups presenting special selections.

The annual Labor Day dinner, sponsored by the Benevolent Society, with the A.F.C. class in charge cleared \$1,343.

The seventeenth annual church retreat and planning session was held Oct. 3-4 at Jersey Oaks-Camp. The theme was "The Bicentennial Prayer." David E. Hitchner presided over the sessions at the camp as chairman. Others on the committee were Mrs. Percy Davis and Miss Clara Richardson. Pastor Bond directed "The Bicentennial Prayer"—a sound filmstrip presentation—which points out the need America

has for God. Mr. Hitchner led the Informal Sharing time by sharing a story entitled "What Oscar Gave," which told of the love and faith that we need to share with others. This was followed by individuals giving their personal testimony and by others sharing their favorite songs of faith, love, and dedication.

Worldwide Communion was served on Sabbath morning. In the afternoon the church members returned to camp at 3:00 p.m. to the theme — "A Past To Remember—A Future To Mold." In addition to prayer, hymns, poem, and Scripture appropriate to the main theme, special music, "New Life" was offered by Mrs. Martie Hitchner and David Hitchner and a solo, "How Great Thou Art" was sung by Owen Probasco. "The Bicentennial Prayer" filmstrip was repeated followed by an introduction of accompanying study books which are to be used in the home for individual or family devotional study or in various small groups of fellow church members and non-church members in the community. Discussion groups were: (1) "God Give Us the Freedom To Live"—Charles Harris, leader; (2) "God Give Us the Freedom To Believe"—Lora Harris, leader; (3) "God Give Us the Freedom To See"—Florence Bowden, leader. A short feedback period proved to be beneficial to those who volunteered to form groups. A Prayer for Guidance concluded the program.

Immediately following, Pastor Bond led in "Building the Church Calendar" where all organizations and classes were asked to present dates for their various activities for the year. Members of the Junior and Senior High YF groups held their weekly meeting at camp and remained for the weekend under the supervision of Ron Bond, Phil and Jan Bond, assisted by Rob and Jane Jernoske.

The ladies of the church served the members of the Tract Board a roast beef dinner in our Fellowship Hall at the October Board meeting. □ —Martie T. Hitchner

"If all printers were determined not to print anything till they were sure it would offend nobody, there would be very little printed."

—Benjamin Franklin

SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST STATE COUNCIL (NYS)

The annual assembly of the Seventh Day Baptist State Council (NYS) was held in the Church Center of the New York State Council of Churches, September 28, with President C. Rex Burdick, presiding.

Membership in the SDB Council includes the following churches: Berlin, Adams Center, Verona, First Brookfield, Second Brookfield, First Genesee, De Ruyter, Alfred, and Alfred Station.

The assembly heard reports from our delegates to the New York State Council, and to Task Forces from that body. The Task Forces and committees are concerned with Amnesty, Abortion, Legislation, Education, etc.

A report was given on a statewide retreat held at Watson Homestead in November, 1974. We voted to have another retreat on the weekend of November 14 - 16, 1975. Suggested site is Camp Arrowhead Awana, Brackney, Pa. Misses Ruth and Barbara Burdick, of the De Ruyter Church are the co-directors.

President Burdick told of the selection of Houghton College as the site for entertaining the 1976 SDB General Conference. We discussed our participation in the work of the SDB booth set up annually at the New York State Fair.

Our Constitution has been revised and mimeographed.

Officers elected for 1975-76 are President, Rex E. Zwiebel, Alfred Station; Vice-President, Alfreda Shippee, Adams Center; Secretary, Mary G. Clare, Alfred; Treasurer, William Palmer, Second Brookfield; Delegate at Large for three years, Donald Pierce, Alfred Station; Representative to the NY State Council of Churches, Marilyn O. Davis, Verona; Elna R. Phillips, De Ruyter, alternate; David S. Clarke, Alfred, alternate; Representative to the Legislative Committee, NYSCC, Paul L. Maxson, Berlin; Roberta Ellis, Berlin, alternate. A budget of \$1,000.00 was accepted.

—Rex Zwiebel



PASTOR CRUZAN HONORED

MILTON, WIS.— The Rev. Earl Cruzan, pastor of the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church, was honored Sunday night (Oct. 26) on the occasion of his 35th anniversary in the ministry.

The congregation and friends presented him with several gifts at a dinner at the church, during which highlights of his career were reviewed in slides and narrative.

The Rev. Cruzan, who has served the Milton church since July 1966, began his ministry as pastor of the Waterford, Conn., Seventh Day Baptist Church in June 1940. His pastorates since then have been at churches in Boulder, Colo.; Dodge Center, Minn.; Adams Center, N. Y.; and Westerly, R. I.

A graduate of Salem (W. Va.) College, Rev. Cruzan took his theological training at Alfred University School of Theology and Yale Divinity School.

He and his wife, the former Mabel Davis of Marlboro, N. J., are the parents of four children: Mrs. Dale Green, Janesville; E. Wayne Cruzan of Monterey, Calif.; Mrs. David Lippert of Lansing, N. Y.; and Jonathan Cruzan of Milton. They have eight grandchildren.

The Rev. Cruzan has held several denominational posts during his career, including a term as president of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference in 1957-58.

ALLEGHENY ASSOCIATION MEETS AT HEBRON

The Allegheny Association of Seventh Day Baptist Churches met at Hebron, Pa., on October 17 and 18, 1975. Friday evening's Sabbath Welcoming Service and Hymn Festival was coordinated by Rev. Albert Rogers. Each of the churches shared musical talent for the program.

The Rev. Herbert Saunders, dean of the Center on Ministry, brought the morning message entitled — "You're a What???" Rev. Saunders used 2 Corinthians 4 as his Scriptural basis. As Christians, we are all ministers of the Gospel of Reconciliation. Not only with God, but with ourselves is the reconciliation made manifest. We have this ministry in "earthen vessels that the surpassing greatness of the power be of God and not of ourselves" (vs. 7). Brother Saunders emphasized verses 8, 9, 10 in that "we are afflicted . . . but not crushed; perplexed but not despairing; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the dying Jesus," that the very life of Jesus may be shown in our bodies. In light of these words we are to continue vigorously the ministry of reconciliation. We, as believers, must speak out for this reconciliation to God and the Christian.

Special music was presented by the youth of the Association and by the ladies' chorus. Amanda Snyder directed the youth. Phyllis Mattison directed the ladies. Both groups added much to the morning worship.

A noon tureen dinner was enjoyed. Association youth led the opening worship for the afternoon program. A slide presentation narrated by Rev. Saunders and Rev. Rex Zwiebel told of the Center on Ministry in Plainfield, N. J., and the men and women now in ministerial training at various seminaries. One of the young men, Leon Clare, was present and spoke briefly. Some denominational concerns were also discussed during the afternoon program.

A Mini Retreat was held and enjoyed by the Association youth Friday evening and Sabbath Day. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Snyder were leaders for the youth. □

Accessions

- ALFRED STATION, N.Y.
Rex E. Zwiebel, Pastor
- By Baptism:
Nancy W. (Mrs. John) Barber
- By Letter:
John A. Barber
- BOULDER, COLORADO
Elmo F. Randolph, Pastor
- By Baptism:
Shirley Ann Jahn
Kandace Marie Blair
- DAYTONA BEACH, FLA.
Marion Van Horn, Pastor
- By Testimony:
Mrs. Carol Huston
- LOS ANGELES, CALIF.
Leland E. Davis, Pastor
- By Baptism:
Miss Luz Trinida
- NEW AUBURN, WIS.
Leroy Bass, Pastor
- By Letter:
Rev. Leroy Bass
Marjorie (Mrs. Leroy) Bass
Gordon Bass
- SALEM, W. VA.
J. Paul Green, Pastor
- By Testimony:
Sharon Schattenberg
- ALBION, WIS.
A. Addison Appel, Pastor
- By Testimony:
Mrs. Wayne D. (Judy) Baum
- SEATTLE AREA, WASH.
Duane L. Davis, Pastor
- By Letter:
C. Justin Camenga

Obituaries

CLEMENT.— Raymond Clare (77), the son of Guy Gilbert and Jennie (Bee) Clement, was born November 30, 1897 in Mira Valley of Valley County, Nebr., and died at the Good Samaritan Hospital, Kearney, Nebr., on June 25, 1975.

He was married to Beulah Gates on June 5, 1938. Their home was always Mira Valley. His interests were wide and his influence great in the farming, cattle raising, conservation and State Fair activities in Nebraska. These were not his only interests. He was a faithful member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of North Loup and served it, not only as an elected officer for many years, but also as an elder statesman whose wisdom was prized. All through his adult life his faith was assured.

He is survived by his wife, Beulah; his brother, George of Mira Valley; two sisters: Mrs. Elva Hayden of Fairbury, Nebr., and Mrs. Mary Bell of Mira Valley; and a number of nephews and nieces.

Funeral services were conducted from the North Loup Seventh Day Baptist Church on June 30, 1975 by his pastor, the Rev. Victor W. Skaggs, with burial in Hillside Cemetery, North Loup.

—V.W.S.

COX.— Pearl, daughter of Oscar and Nancy (Gunter) Cox was born July 24, 1888 in Hitchcock County, Nebr., and died July 23, 1975, at the Good Samaritan Nursing Home in Wood River, Nebraska, where she had

been a patient for some months. She was married to Elmer J. Cox on July 27, 1917. Most of their married life was spent in and around North Loup. For the last several years she has been in failing health. Surviving are her husband, Elmer, and a number of nephews and nieces.

Funeral services were conducted from the North Loup Seventh Day Baptist Church on Sabbath afternoon, July 26, 1975, by her pastor, the Rev. Victor W. Skaggs, with burial in Hillside Cemetery, North Loup. —V.W.S.

CLARKE.— Stephen W., son of Samuel W. and Bessie Clark, was born in the town of Independence, N. Y., April 4, 1905, and died in the Jones Memorial Hospital, Wellsville, N. Y., October 28, 1975.

On December 14, 1941, he was wed to Delores Cook, and to this union were born Robert of Elk Grove Village, Illinois; Samuel of Andover, N. Y.; Mrs. Judith Bailey and Mrs. Norma Drake, both of Andover. All survive.

Mr. Clarke was a member of the Independence Seventh Day Baptist Church for fifty-seven years, and of the Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church for one year. He served very well his community as an assessor for more than twenty years and was an active member of several agricultural organizations. He was a graduate of the Alfred State College. He was a man of few, but wise words.

Farewell services were conducted by the Rev. Floyd Aldrich, recent pastor of the Independence Church, at the Wildman Funeral Home, Whitesville, N. Y., October 31, 1975. Interment was in the Independence Cemetery. —R.E.Z.

DAVIS.— Bertha Place, daughter of the late Martha and Fred Place of Alfred, N. Y., died in the Hurlburt Nursing Home, Scottsville, N. Y., on August 17, 1975.

Mrs. Davis was the widow of the late Jerome Davis, who was a teacher in the Rochester, N. Y., school. They had lived in Scottsville for forty years.

She is survived by her daughter, Mrs. Carl (Charlotte) Gruschow; two sisters, Mrs. Mildred Vars of Kent, Ohio, and Mrs. Margaret P. Laire of Concord, Mass.; one grandson; four great-grandchildren; also, several nieces and nephews.

A graveside service was conducted by the Rev. Russell Johnson in the Alfred Rural Cemetery. —M.C.

HASKINS.— Claude M., was born November 11, 1887 in Flandreau, South Dakota, and died in Orting, Wash., on June 22, 1975.

Claude had lived in South Dakota; New Auburn, Wis.; and Washington State, and was the oldest member of the New Auburn Seventh Day Baptist Church. He was one of the workers who helped in the building of the present New Auburn church fifteen years ago. He was also a veteran of the U. S. Army from World War I.

He is survived by several nieces and nephews. Funeral services were conducted in the New Auburn church on June 26, 1975 by Elder Harold Carlson of the Church of God, Seventh Day, in the absence of his pastor, Leroy Bass. Burial was in the New Auburn Cemetery. —L.C.B.

NUTTER.— Bessie M. Nutter, 80, of Salem, W. Va., died October 3, 1975, in a Clarksburg hospital following an extended illness. She was born April 17, 1895, near Salem, a daughter of the late Andrew P. W. and Tina L. Varner Flanigan.

She was twice married; first to Adrian L. Davis, who died April 18, 1934, and later to Edwin D. Nutter, who died May 6, 1961.

She is survived by two sons, John Wilbert Davis, and Robert Davis; two brothers, Walter S. Flanigan and John G. Flanigan; two sisters, Mrs. Ezra Smith, and Mrs. Brooks Cutright; six grandchildren and sixteen great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Nutter was a member of the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church and was active in its Women's Society. She was also a member of the Senior Citizens Club and the Friendly Neighbors Homemakers Club, and was a foster grandmother at the West Virginia Industrial Home for Girls. Funeral services were October 6, at the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church with Pastor Paul Green officiating. Interment was in the I.O.O.F. Memorial Park at Salem. —J.P.G.

REIERSON.— Deaconess Mrs. Claire (Rose), daughter of Roy and Mabel Slagg Hayes, was born in Albion, Wis., September 9, 1911, and died in the Memorial Community Hospital, Edgerton, October 22, 1975, after an apparent heart attack at her home in Albion.

Rose graduated from Edgerton High School and Methodist Hospital of Nursing, Madison. She was married to Mr. Claire Reiersen, May 16, 1934, in Rockford, Ill. They resided in Albion since their marriage.

Mrs. Reiersen, longtime registered nurse at Memorial Community Hospital, was nursing supervisor at the time of her death. She was a member of the Albion Seventh Day Baptist Church and was ordained a deaconess of the church February 21, 1953. She has served faithfully and well as she quietly and humbly walked with God bearing the fruit of the Spirit. She was also a member of the Home Benefit Society of the church and of the Royal Neighbors.

Surviving are her husband; two daughters, Mrs. Neil (Roselyn) Geske, Jr., Milton, and Mrs. Paul (Donna) Lane, Point of Rocks, Md.; two sons, David and Gfeg, both of Albion; eight grandchildren; two brothers, Russell Hayes, Albion, and Howard Hayes, Madison, Wis. Services were held October 24, 1975, in the Albion Seventh Day Baptist Church with her pastor, Rev. Addison Appel, and Rev. James Irving officiating, with burial in Evergreen Cemetery, Albion. —A.A.A.

SUTTON.— Deacon Corliss, the second son, and last survivor, of eight children born to Francis M. and Canzada Stalnaker Sutton, was born near Berea, W. Va., September 25, 1880 and died at Berea, October 11, 1975, at the age of ninety-five, his entire life having been spent in the community of his birth.

An older brother, Erlo E., was for many years a beloved pastor of various Seventh Day Baptist churches, secretary

of the Education Society and Editor of THE HELPING HAND.

In early youth, Corliss professed faith in Christ under the ministry of Elder L. D. Seager and was baptized and joined the Ritchie Seventh Day Baptist Church on Oct. 16, 1899 at the age of nineteen. He was ordained as a deacon on July 10, 1928, and served until his death. His father, Francis M., and grandfather Hezekiah were deacons before him, and his son Orland is presently senior deacon of the Paint Rock, Alabama, church. He became a trustee of the Ritchie church on Jan. 8, 1939, and also served as cemetery director and in other ways. His hands helped build the present house of worship in 1927.

On May 20, 1905, he was united in marriage with Miss Orma Jett, who preceded him in death not long after they had celebrated their sixtieth anniversary. They were parents of three sons and two daughters: Brooks of Parkersburg, W. Va.; Virgie (Mrs. Ivan Wyer) of Keyser, W. Va.; Orland of Trenton, Ga.; Earl (deceased); and Lenora (Mrs. Charles Brissey) of Berea. He is also survived by seventeen grandchildren, thirty-four great-grandchildren, and four step-great-grandchildren.

Farewell services were held October 14 at the Ritchie Seventh Day Baptist Church at Berea. A former pastor, Clifford A. Beebe brought the message from Psalm 37:23: "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord," and his body was laid to rest in the Pine Grove Cemetery, of which he had served as director for the past forty-six years. —C.A.B.

THAYER.— Beatrice Williams, was born December 23, 1894 at East Bloomfield, N. Y., and died Feb. 28, 1975 at her home.

She was the daughter of Dr. D. O. and Sara Ward Williams. She graduated from Kingston High School Academy and taught school for forty years, twenty-five of those years being spent in Stacy Basin. She married A. Warner Thayer on Dec. 25, 1914 at Glen Gardner, N. J. She had been ill for eighteen years and was semi-invalid. Surviving her are her husband, one son, Arthur W. Thayer, Jr., and one brother, D. O. Williams, Jr.

Funeral services were held at Fiore Funeral Home, Oneida, N. Y., with interment at the Verona Mills Cemetery, Verona, N. Y.

Births

Barber.— A son, Wayne Paul to John and Nancy (Wiswell) Barber on July 21, 1975, at Lawrenceville, Pa.

Babcock.— A daughter, Amanda Renee, to Robert and Nelta (Soper) Babcock of Sioux Falls, S. D., on Oct. 19, 1975.

Claycomb.— A son, Bradley Wade, to Robert W., Jr., and M. Eileen (Kagarise) Claycomb of New Enterprise, Pa., on Sept. 15, 1975.

Criss.— A daughter, Melissa Joyce, was born to Robert and Toni (Davis) Criss of Salem, W. Va., on July 11, 1975. Melissa has an older sister, Melissa.

Falkenmeyer.— A son, Aaron Philip to David and Diane (Warner) Falkenmeyer of Verona, N. Y., September 29, 1975.

Hardesty.— A daughter, Emily Jean Sue, to Steve and Sally (White) Hardesty of Monmouth, Ill., on August 8, 1975.

Kagarise.— A son, Mark Daniel, to Owen Dwight and Minnie Mae (Hale) Kagarise of Bedford Valley, Bedford, Pa., on Sept. 26, 1975.

Kagarise.— A daughter, Tracy Renee, to Brian and Sharon (Evans) Kagarise of Roaring Springs, Pa., on October 13, 1975.

Park.— A daughter, Emma Kate, was born October 17, 1975 to William and Judy Park of Salem, W. Va.

Petrie.— A daughter, Sara Christian, to Christopher and Nancy (Mallison) Petrie of Verona, N. Y., October 19, 1975.

Tellefson.— A son, Gary Ole, to Laverne and Kay (Saunders) Tellefson, Edgerton, Wis., on September 29, 1975.

Walker.— A son, Adam Ray, to William and Michelle (Trede) Walker of Daytona Beach, Florida, September 22, 1975.

Warner.— A daughter, Emily Kristan to Mark and Norma (Hunt) Warner of Verona, N. Y., July 9, 1975.

Marriages

Baum - Leatherberry.— Wayne Douglas Baum, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Baum, Sr., and Judy Lynn Leatherberry, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arlyn Leatherberry, were united in marriage by Pastor Addison Appel, July 19, 1975, in the Albion Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Clare - Ellis.— Leon Clare, son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Clare of Alfred, N. Y., and Sandra Ellis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Delmar Ellis of Stephentown, N. Y., were united in marriage at the Berlin, N. Y., Seventh Day Baptist Church, July 26, 1975, Pastor Rex Burdick officiating. The couple will make their home in Philadelphia, Pa., where he is a student at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Farley - Sims.— Charles C. Farley and Lucille G. Sims, both of Whitesboro, New Jersey, were united in marriage in the chapel of the Seventh Day Baptist Church, Shiloh, N. J., on Sept. 30, 1975 with the pastor, Rev. Charles H. Bond officiating. They are making their home in Whitesboro.

Hull - Dunwell.— Norman Alvah Hull of Friendship, Wis., and Ethel M. Dunwell of Milton, Wis., were united in marriage at the Milton Seventh Day Baptist parsonage on Oct. 21, 1975, with the bride's pastor, the Rev. Earl Cruzan, officiating.

Kopsaftis - Paquette.— James Kopsaftis of Piscataway, N. J., and Diane Paquette, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Paquette of Plainfield, N. J., were united in marriage at the St. George Greek Orthodox Church, Piscataway, by Rev. A. N. Pappas, Oct. 12, 1975. They are living in North Plainfield.

Russell - Moncrief.— David Glenn Russell of Bridgeton, N. J., and Fay Elizabeth Moncrief of Stow Creek, N. J., were united in marriage in the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Shiloh, N. J., on October 11, 1975 with the bride's pastor, Rev. Charles H. Bond, officiating. They are making their home in Bridgeton, N. J.



January, 1778: Washington's ill-clad and hungry troops winter at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

January 1976						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

DENOMINATIONAL DATELINE

- DECEMBER 28-31**
Commission Meeting
Plainfield, N. J.
- JANUARY 4-10**
S.D.B. Week of Prayer
January 9-11
North American Baptist Fellowship, Washington, D.C.
- JANUARY 11**
Memorial Fund Trustees
Quarterly Board Meeting
Plainfield, N. J.
- JANUARY 18**
American Sabbath Tract Society
Quarterly Board Meeting
Plainfield, N. J.
- JANUARY 18**
Board of Christian Education
Quarterly Board Meeting
Alfred, N. Y.
- JANUARY 25**
S.D.B. Missionary Society
Quarterly Board Meeting
Westerly, R. I.

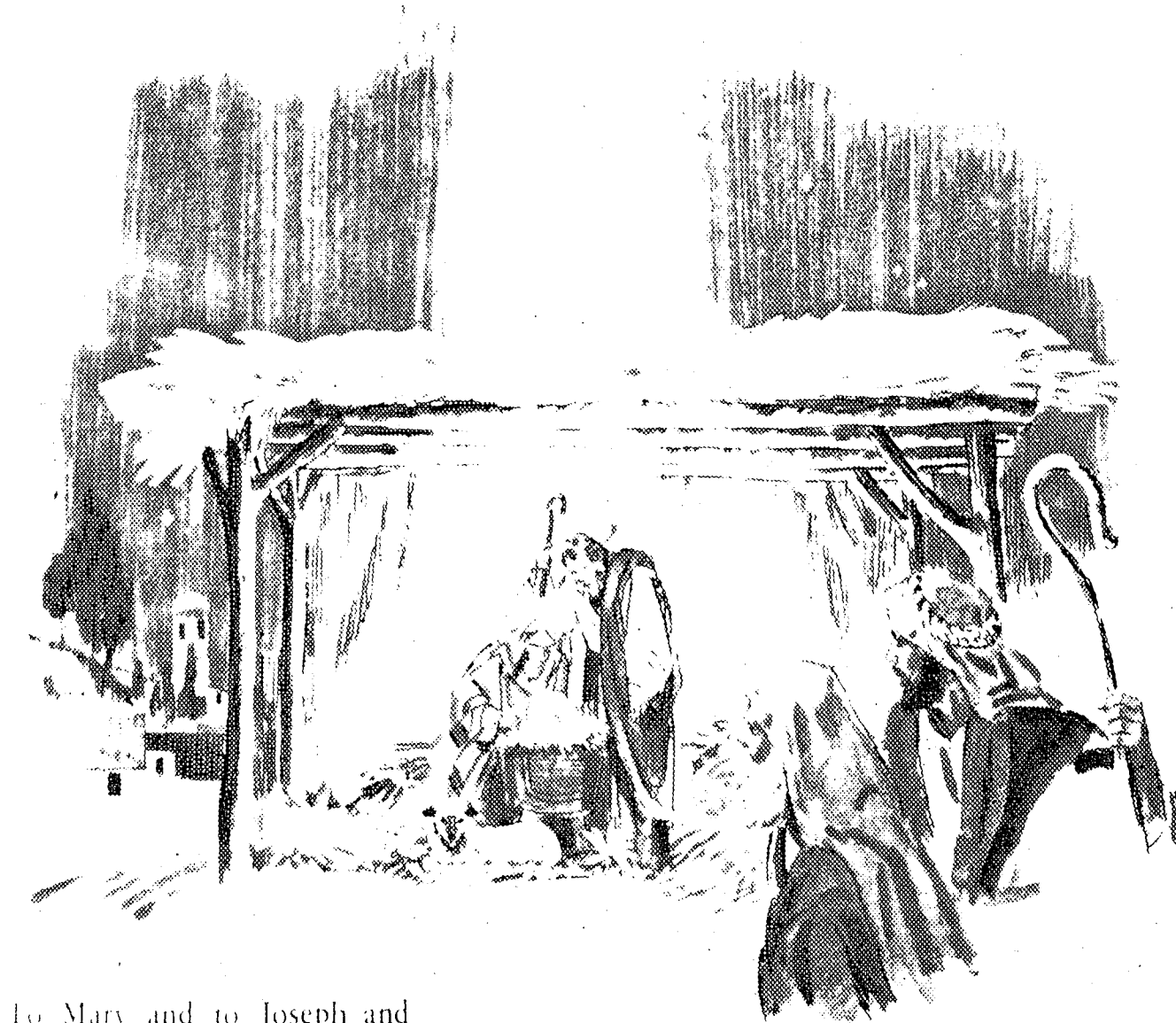
Children's Page

THE BABY BORN IN A STABLE

The night was stormy. The wind whistled through the trees. It seemed, was the saying, except for shepherds in the fields who had to watch their sheep. They huddled close and shivered to keep themselves awake.

Then suddenly their eyes grew wide. Their knees began to shake. For there, above them in the sky, an angel did appear. The glory of the Lord shone down, and they were filled with fear.

The angel spoke: "Fear not! Behold, I bring you news of joy! In Bethlehem this very night was born a baby boy, Who is the Savior, Christ the Lord; He'll win over death and sin. Upon a manger bed He lies, behind a lowly inn."



To Mary and to Joseph and to everyone they saw the shepherds told the story that had filled them with such awe: "This baby is the Promised Prince, the Mighty Lord, the King."

We know because tonight we heard the holy angels sing.

They told us that this blessed child of low and humble birth was truly Christ, the Son of God, the Savior of the earth!"

Contributed by Ethel Dickinson From *The Baby Born in a Stable*, by Janice Kramer, © 1965 by Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission.



I would like to share some thoughts with you about the possible effects of the Equal Rights Amendment. First, an amendment to the Constitution is there permanently. The only Federal exception has been prohibition. We should be very certain that we want the ERA before we see it ratified.

The ERA sounds good. "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States, or by any State on account of sex." Our Constitution already provides equality under the law. And we have laws, if they were enforced, to protect those who are oppressed.

The real danger lies in the fact that someone (I haven't figured out who) wants to prove through ERA

that men and women are the same. They are not the same! God created men and women equal, but not the same. He created them to fulfill certain functions in the world. He also gave us many Scriptures and directions as to how we could and should fulfill these functions. In Ephesians 5:22 Paul says, "You wives must submit to your husband's leadership," and verse 25, "You husbands, show the same kind of love to your wives as Christ showed to the church when He died for her." In 1 Peter 3:7, Peter says, "Remember that you and your wife are partners in receiving God's blessings, and if you don't treat her as you should, your prayers will not get ready answers." But he also says, "Wives, fit in with your husband's plans."

If equal means same, and if "separate is not equal" (and the Supreme Court has already ruled on this) this amendment will open a bucket of worms we may not have planned on. For instance, "Rights shall not be abridged because of sex." If a woman can take a maternity leave, a man will have a right to take a paternity leave.

If a man can lift 150 pounds, a woman will be required to lift the same. It will open the way to marriages between the same sexes, and it will mean that all sports must be open to either sex on the same team. If "separate is not equal" then all dorms, rest rooms, prison facilities, etc., must be integrated.

This nation was based and founded upon a belief in God, and on religious freedom, yet this amendment could take away the freedom to follow God's law. Let us take a long hard look at the ERA before we allow it to become an amendment to our Constitution. Let's make very sure it does not become the nightmare of our times. Let us be very sure we do not turn our back on the will of God in the name of social equality.

—Gerry Van Dyke
Longmont, Colo.

Please renew our subscription. We look forward to receiving each issue. May God continue to bless and inspire as you produce the forthcoming issues of our denominational magazine.

—Oliver C. Dickinson
Boonsboro, Md.

of the Education Society and Editor of THE HELPING HAND.

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Petrie.— A daughter, Sara Christian, to Christopher and Nancy (Mallison) Petrie of Verona, N. Y., October 19, 1975.

Tellefson.— A son, Gary Ole, to Laverne and Kay (Saunders) Tellefson, Edgerton, Wis., on September 29, 1975.

Walker.— A son, Adam Ray, to William and Michelle (Trede) Walker of Daytona Beach, Florida, September 22, 1975.

Warner.— A daughter, Emily Kristan to Mark and Norma (Hunt) Warner of Verona, N. Y., July 9, 1975.

Marriages

Baum - Leatherberry.— Wayne Douglas Baum, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Baum, Sr., and Judy Lynn Leatherberry, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arlyn Leatherberry, were united in marriage by Pastor Addison Appel, July 19, 1975, in the Albion Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Clare - Ellis.— Leon Clare, son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Clare of Alfred, N. Y., and Sandra Ellis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Delmar Ellis of Stephentown, N. Y., were united in marriage at the Berlin, N. Y., Seventh Day Baptist Church, July 26, 1975, Pastor C. Rex Burdick officiating. The couple will make their home in Philadelphia, Pa., where he is a student at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Farley - Sims.— Charles C. Farley and Lucille G. Sims, both of Whitesboro, New Jersey, were united in marriage in the chapel of the Seventh Day Baptist Church, Shiloh, N. J., on Sept. 30, 1975 with the pastor, Rev. Charles H. Bond officiating. They are making their home in Whitesboro.

Hull - Dunwell.— Norman Alvah Hull of Friendship, Wis., and Ethel M. Dunwell of Milton, Wis., were united in marriage at the Milton Seventh Day Baptist parsonage on Oct. 21, 1975, with the bride's pastor, the Rev. Earl Cruzan, officiating.

Kopsaftis - Paquette.— James Kopsaftis of Piscataway, N. J., and Diane Paquette, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Paquette of Plainfield, N. J., were united in marriage at the St. George Greek Orthodox Church, Piscataway, by Rev. A. N. Pappas, Oct. 12, 1975. They are living in North Plainfield.

Russell - Moncrief.— David Glenn Russell of Bridgeton, N. J., and Fay Elizabeth Moncrief of Stow Creek, N. J., were united in marriage in the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Shiloh, N. J., on October 11, 1975 with the bride's pastor, Rev. Charles H. Bond, officiating. They are making their home in Bridgeton, N. J.



January, 1778: Washington's ill-clad and hungry troops winter at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

January 1976

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DENOMINATIONAL DATELINE

DECEMBER 28-31

Commission Meeting
Plainfield, N. J.

JANUARY 4-10

S.D.B. Week of Prayer

January 9-11

North American Baptist Fellowship,
Washington, D.C.

JANUARY 11

Memorial Fund Trustees
Quarterly Board Meeting
Plainfield, N. J.

JANUARY 18

American Sabbath Tract Society
Quarterly Board Meeting
Plainfield, N. J.

JANUARY 18

Board of Christian Education
Quarterly Board Meeting
Alfred, N. Y.

JANUARY 25

S.D.B. Missionary Society
Quarterly Board Meeting
Westerly, R. I.

Children's Page

THE BABY BORN IN A STABLE

by Janice Kramer

The night was silent. Everything seemed, was fast asleep, except for shepherds in the field who had to watch their sheep. They huddled close and whispered to keep themselves awake.

Then suddenly their eyes grew wide, their knees began to shake.

For there, above them in the sky, an angel did appear.

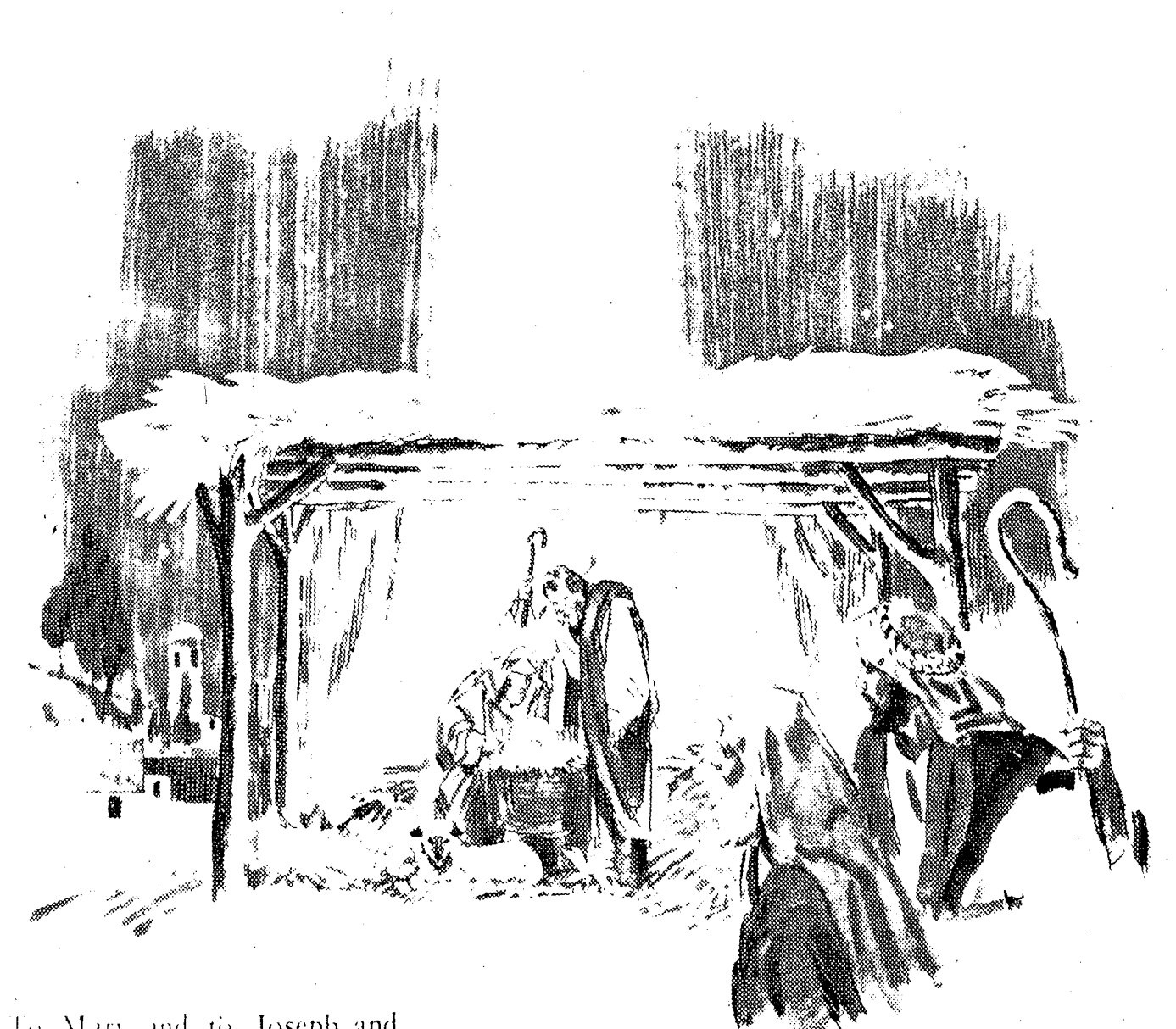
The glory of the Lord shone down, and they were filled with fear.

The angel spoke: "Fear not! Behold, I bring you news of joy!

In Bethlehem this very night was born a baby boy

Who is the Savior, Christ the Lord; He'll win over death and sin.

Upon a manger bed He lies, behind a lowly inn."



To Mary and to Joseph and to everyone they saw the shepherds told the story that had filled them with such awe: "This baby is the Promised Prince, the Mighty Lord, the King.

We know because tonight we heard the holy angels sing.

They told us that this blessed child of low and humble birth was truly Christ, the Son of God, the Savior of the earth!"

—Contributed by Ethel Dickinson
From *The Baby Born in a Stable*, by Janice Kramer, © 1965 by Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission.



I would like to share some thoughts with you about the possible effects of the Equal Rights Amendment. First, an amendment to the Constitution is there permanently. The only Federal exception has been prohibition. We should be very certain that we want the ERA before we see it ratified.

The ERA sounds good. "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States, or by any State on account of sex." Our Constitution already provides equality under the law. And we have laws, if they were enforced, to protect those who are oppressed.

The real danger lies in the fact that someone (I haven't figured out who) wants to prove through ERA

that men and women are the same. They are not the same! God created men and women equal, but not the same. He created them to fulfill certain functions in the world. He also gave us many Scriptures and directions as to how we could and should fulfill these functions. In Ephesians 5:22 Paul says, "You wives must submit to your husband's leadership," and verse 25, "You husbands, show the same kind of love to your wives as Christ showed to the church when He died for her." In 1 Peter 3:7, Peter says, "Remember that you and your wife are partners in receiving God's blessings, and if you don't treat her as you should, your prayers will not get ready answers." But he also says, "Wives, fit in with your husband's plans."

If equal means same, and if "separate is not equal" (and the Supreme Court has already ruled on this) this amendment will open a bucket of worms we may not have planned on. For instance, "Rights shall not be abridged because of sex." If a woman can take a maternity leave, a man will have a right to take a paternity leave.

If a man can lift 150 pounds, a woman will be required to lift the same. It will open the way to marriages between the same sexes, and it will mean that all sports must be open to either sex on the same team. If "separate is not equal" then all dorms, rest rooms, prison facilities, etc., must be integrated.

This nation was based and founded upon a belief in God, and on religious freedom, yet this amendment could take away the freedom to follow God's law. Let us take a long hard look at the ERA before we allow it to become an amendment to our Constitution. Let's make very sure it does not become the nightmare of our times. Let us be very sure we do not turn our back on the will of God in the name of social equality.

—Gerry Van Dyke
Longmont, Colo.

Please renew our subscription. We look forward to receiving each issue. May God continue to bless and inspire as you produce the forthcoming issues of our denominational magazine.

—Oliver C. Dickinson
Boonsboro, Md.

"What I ask you to do is in your own interests. You made a good beginning last year, both in the work you did and in your willingness to undertake it. Now I want you to go on and finish it: be as eager to complete the scheme as you were to adopt it, and give according to your means. Provided there is an eager desire to give, God accepts what a man has; he does not ask for what he has not." - 2 Cor. 8:10-12 (N.E.B.)

OUR WORLD MISSION

OWM BUDGET RECEIPTS FOR OCTOBER 1975

	October OWM	10 mos. total OWM and Reported Boards		October OWM	10 mos. total OWM and Reported Boards
Adams Center NY	\$ 51.69	\$ 801.85	Shiloh NJ	1,326.26	8,870.73
Albion WI	456.25	770.64	Stonefort IL	60.00	380.00
Alfred NY	271.00	6,414.42	Texarkana AR		165.00
Alfred Station NY	271.00	3,543.18	Verona NY	133.00	1,851.89
Ashaway RI	299.00	4,878.44	Walworth WI	100.00	1,308.75
Associations & Groups	254.37	9,607.01	Washington DC		2,536.00
Battle Creek MI	534.30	6,407.20	Waterford CT	202.64	2,535.56
Bay Area CA		116.00	Westerly RI	484.00	4,170.95
Berea WV		309.45	White Cloud MI		900.38
Berlin NY	378.36	2,198.02	Totals	\$ 10,902.79	\$153,246.86
Boulder CO	67.68	1,329.52	Non-Budget	60.00	
Brookfield NY	142.28	392.78	Total To Disburse	\$ 10,962.79	
Buffalo NY		1,134.00			
Dallas-Ft. Worth TX	39.39	246.24			
Daytona Beach FL	215.30	2,516.30			
Denver CO		9,185.09			
De Ruyter NY	156.50	1,450.40			
Dodge Center MN		3,592.77			
Farina IL	57.00	398.02			
Fouke AR		764.02			
Hebron PA		1,495.84			
Hopkinton RI	25.00	165.00			
Houston TX	240.00	582.02			
Individuals	228.00	2,311.22			
Irrington NJ	350.00	1,810.00			
Kansas City MO		968.42			
Leonardsville NY		185.00			
Little Genesee NY	256.00	2,017.13			
Little Rock AR	27.12	382.16			
Los Angeles CA		6,660.65			
Lost Creek WV		2,087.06			
Marlboro NJ	359.00	3,556.20			
Metairie LA					
Milton WI	1,258.92	13,705.90			
Milton Junction WI	90.00	1,028.10			
Monterey Fellowship CA		400.00			
New Auburn WI	26.07	1,905.74			
New Milton WV	60.00	590.00			
New York City NY	95.85	475.60			
North Jersey Fellowship NJ	124.10	703.25			
North Loup NE	200.00	3,659.43			
Nortonville KS	205.50	2,714.38			
Ohio Fellowship OH	550.00	3,043.00			
Paint Rock AL	40.00	841.18			
Plainfield NJ	359.01	5,597.72			
Richburg NY	175.00	4,203.28			
Riverside CA	540.00	6,340.00			
Rockville RI		282.00			
Salem WV	320.87	4,214.44			
Salemville PA		946.30			
Schenectady NY		101.66			
Seattle WA	143.33	1,489.57			

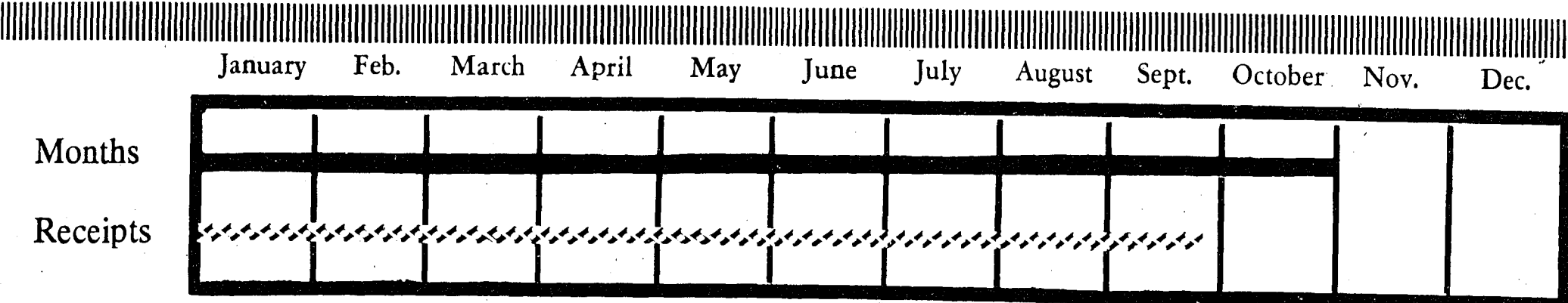
OCTOBER DISBURSEMENTS

Board of Christian Education	\$ 923.92
Council on Ministry	560.72
Historical Society	6.37
Ministerial Retirement	681.47
Missionary Society	3,986.80
Tract Society	1,382.69
Trustees of General Conference	6.37
Women's Society	227.04
Council on Ecumenical Affairs	160.41
General Conference	3,027.00
Total Disbursements	\$10,962.79

SUMMARY

1975 Budget	\$210,030.00
Receipts for ten months	153,246.86
Due by December 31, 1975	\$ 56,783.14
Percentage of year elapsed	83.3%
Percentage of budget raised	72.96%
Ten months:	
Due	\$175,025.00
Raised	\$153,246.86
Arrears	\$ 21,778.14

Gordon Sanford
OWM Treasurer



When will receipts catch up with monthly requirements?

THE SABBATH RECORDER

1976 JANUARY 1976

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1976 FEBRUARY 1976

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Jesus said:
"I have
come for
peo-
ple
have

1976 MARCH 1976

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1976 APRIL 1976

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1976 AUGUST 1976

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1976 SEPTEMBER 1976

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and have
it till
it over-
flows."

John 10:10
(Williams)

1976 OCTOBER 1976

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1976 NOVEMBER 1976

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1976 DECEMBER 1976

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Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society

401 Washington Trust Bldg.,
Westerly, R.I. 02891
(401) 596-4326

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



The new Light Bearers singing team is composed of Jerry Van Horn, Pattie Lawton, Dawn Soper, Robert Van Horn, Patty Burdick, and David Davis.

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

SAMUEL

NEW TEAM

The Light Bearers are currently on tour in the eastern part of the country. The present group of six had their first full concert in the Seventh Day Baptist Church at Farina, Ill., as they headed east in September. (A seventh member, Stan Soper, who is the official driver and maintenance man is not shown in the picture). They appear next in the Waterford, Conn., area, having concerts in several churches besides Seventh Day Baptist ones. They worked with the Director of Evangelism, Mynor Soper, in a week long series of evangelistic meetings, in Westerly, R. I., from Sept. 14-21. Again they appeared in a number of churches of that area.

The week of Sept. 22-28 they served with Rev. Charles Graffius, associate evangelist with Light Bearers for Christ, in evangelistic services in Brookfield, N. Y. They are scheduled for many appearances throughout the East until the second week in December, at which time they will return to headquarters in North Loup, Nebr. Beginning January 3, they will be in training at headquarters, along with all other L.B.C. staff for a six week period. During that time they will be having a number of concerts throughout central Nebraska.

The Light Bearers schedule calls for them to begin their western tour the last week in February. At that time they will be going into the southwest, moving on to the west coast, working their way north to Seattle and back down through the Denver area and home about the middle of May. June and July they are scheduled to be going into the North Central Area of the United States.

God has blessed their ministry thus far. Please pray for this fine team of young people as they share Jesus, the Light of the world through their music and testimonies. □

burse \$ 10.96

OTHER DISBURSEMENTS

Education	523.92
	560.72
	62-

THE SABBATH RECORDER

Dec. 1975