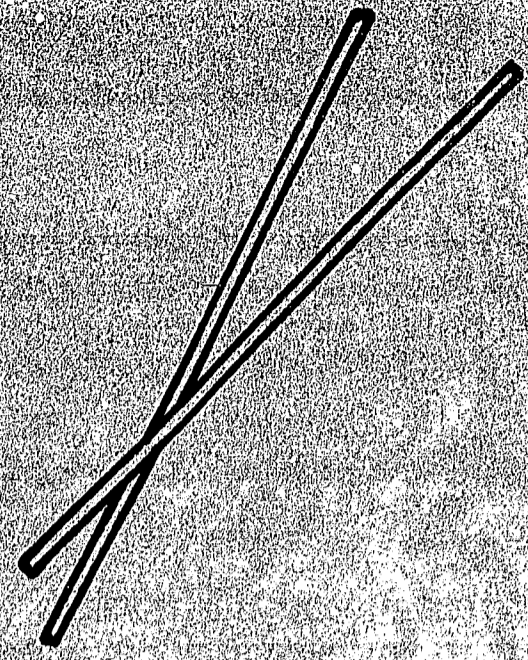


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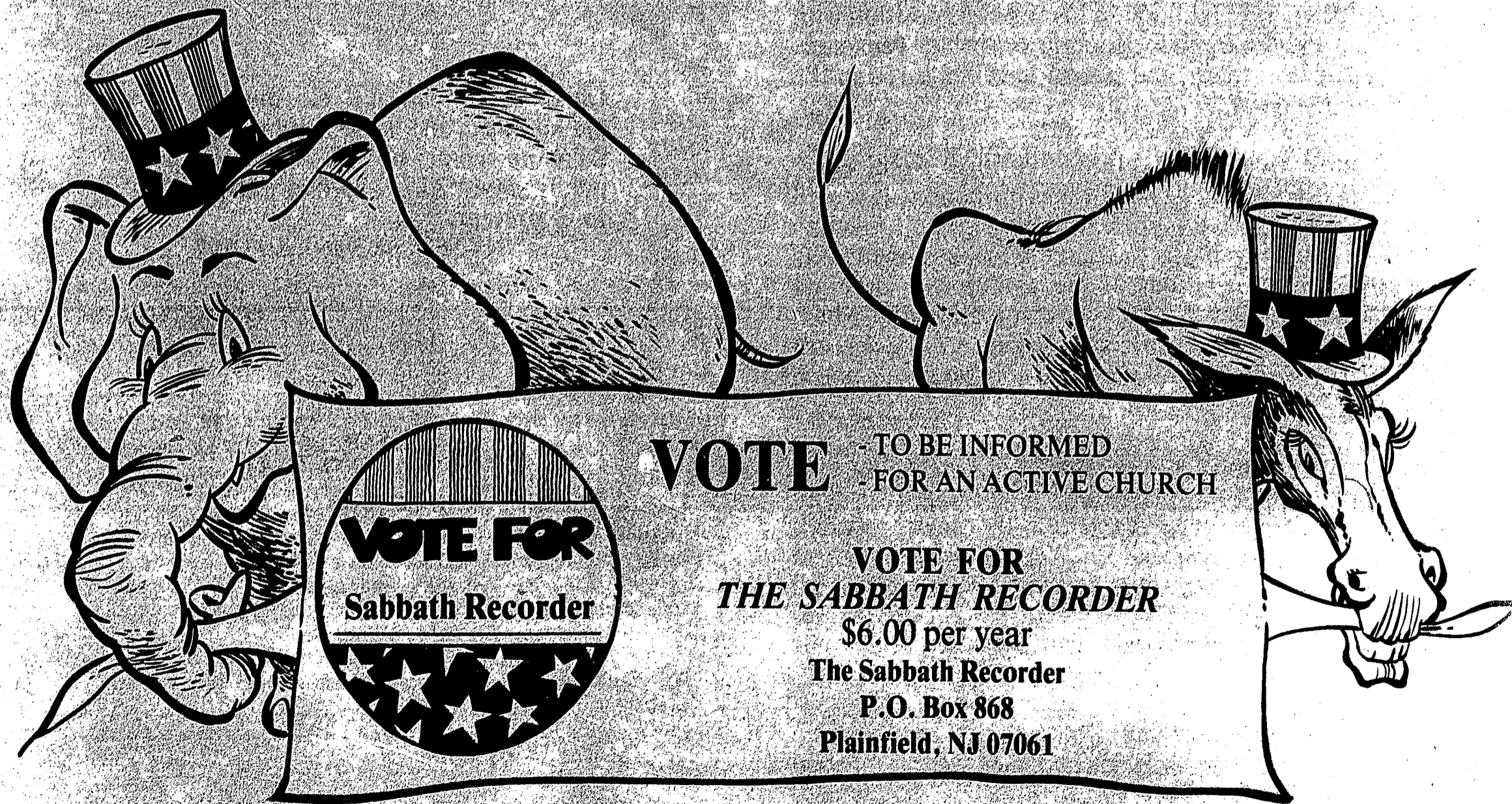
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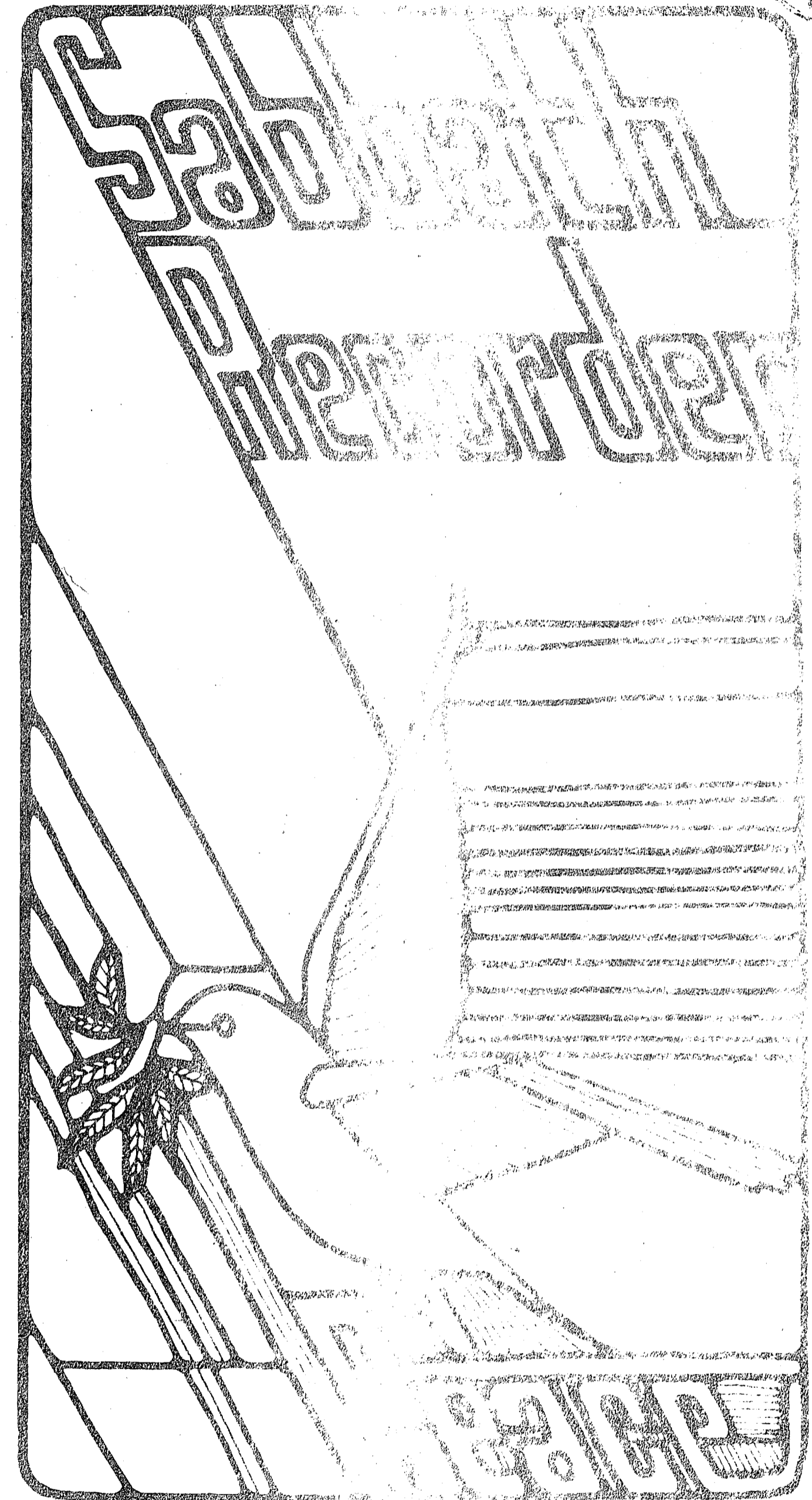
A shadow loomed at the edge of the old ice pond where my dad and the older brothers were harvesting big ice squares for the ice house. A man with a black coat and derby looked on with interest before asking where he could find the house of Walter D. and Evangeline C. We escorted him to the old farmhouse at the end of the lane. My mother's eyes lighted up with the special glow reserved for SDB ministers and VIP's and we were soon seated around her table. Hardly had my father's gentle blessing ended when our eyes widened. The man had bypassed our battered silver and was deftly flourishing two wooden sticks. That was our introduction to Jay Crofoot—an honest to goodness China missionary. □

—by Ruth Tate
*Written at the Creative Writing
Seminar during Conference at Houghton*

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DECEMBER 1976

A Tree of Bethlehem

A tree of Bethlehem was I;
A jewel mounted by the Lord
To join a hill and flounce of sky
In unforgettable accord.

A tree of Bethlehem was I;
Enjoyed by sheep that paused to brush
Their quilted backs or stopped to sleep
When evening spread its soothing hush.

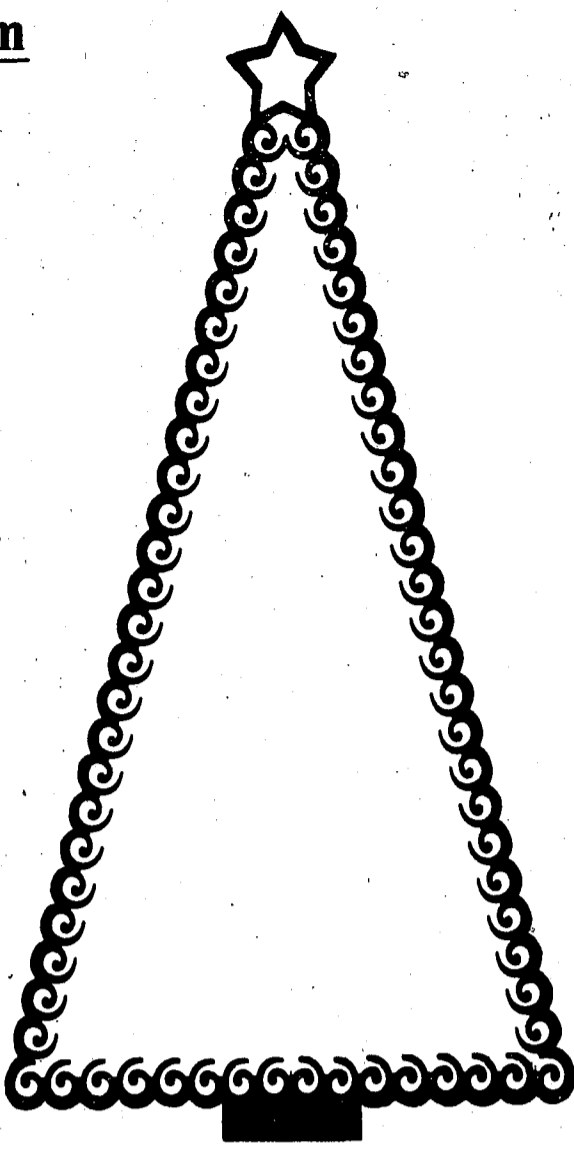
A Tree of Bethlehem was I;
That fell one sacrificial hour
To be altered by human hands
Guided by an unseen power.

A tree of Bethlehem was I;
That held the hay from fields afar
For stock to eat within a stall
Those long, long years before the star.

A tree of Bethlehem was I;
Responsive to a baby's cry
I opened wide my wooden arms
While Mary hummed a lullaby.

A tree of Bethlehem was I
Until the star came beckoning
And then my manger was a throne
Where wise men knelt before their King.

-Mabelle Wiard Willmarth
Meadville, Pa.



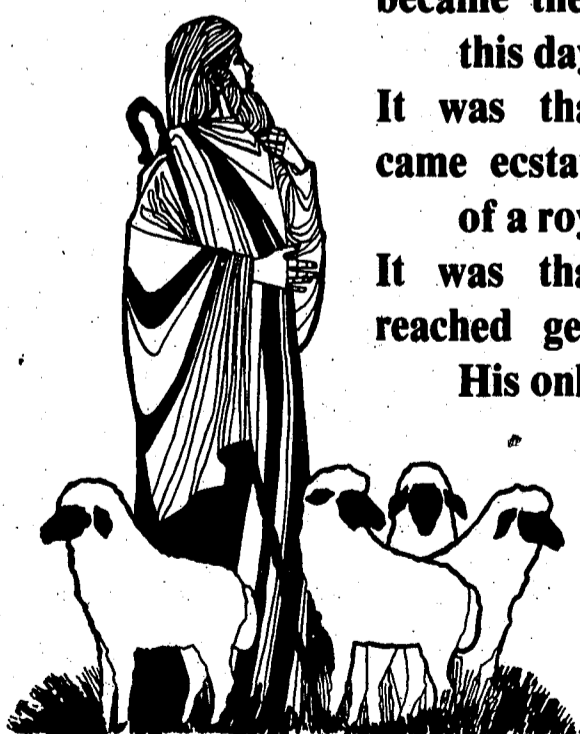
It was that ethereal night when a matchless star stood
glowing in the East.

It was that incredible night when an innkeeper
became the first to say: "I have no room for You
this day."

It was that incomparable night when Gabriel
came ecstatic to the earth, proclaiming glad tidings
of a royal birth.

It was that immortal night when a caring God
reached gently down to lay His Supreme Gift,
His only begotten Son upon the hay.

-Fred Bauer



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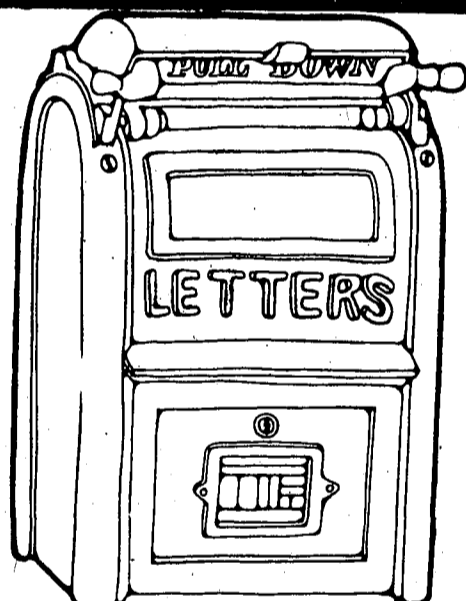
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RECORDER REACTIONS

We read and enjoy very much the
Sabbath Recorder. I have read the
Recorder for more than fifty years.
I remember there was a contest in
the old, now defunct, Gentry, Arkansas,
SDB Church where we were urged
as children to read the entire *Sabbath
Recorder*. I have never ceased to read
the *Recorder* with joy and inspiration...

-Rev. Paul Maxson
Berlin, N.Y.

We find the *Sabbath Recorder* very
interesting reading. It's so wonderful
to see and hear of God's work and
how it is progressing all around the
world. Praise His Name. Our prayers
go out to our brothers and sisters.
May God's blessings be on us all.

-Maria C. Barrar, Secretary
Seventh Day Baptist Church
Auckland, New Zealand

by Tom Merchant, historian

Marjorie Burdick Twice Honored for Lifetime of Service



Marjorie Burdick, who will be eighty years old on Christmas Day, and is "retired in name only," has been honored twice this fall for her lifetime of service to both her church and community. Miss Burdick is a deaconess in the Milton, Wis., S.D.B. Church.

During the Sabbath morning worship service Sept. 11, the Rev. Earl Cruzan, her pastor, acting on behalf of the S.D.B. Historical Society, presented her a gold-headed cane in recognition of her many years of service to her denomination and the society.

The cane, first presented in 1881 to David E. Titsworth, a denominational leader, by the S.D.B. Memorial Fund, is presented for the life of the recipient. A similar award was made by the Historical Society to the Rev. Paul Burdick at the 1976 General Conference, and to the late Rev. John Fitz Randolph, also of Milton, in 1973.

The presentation of the cane was accompanied by the reading of a citation from the Rev. Albert N. Rogers, president of the Historical Society:

"Marjorie Janette Burdick earned the master's degree in religious education at Boston University and worked professionally in that field in Michigan churches. Transferring her professional energies to public schools, she became a volunteer par excellence in New Jersey, Michigan, and Wisconsin churches.

"Growing up in a Seventh Day Baptist parsonage, Marjorie learned early to make scrapbooks of significant published material related to church enterprises. Many of these scrapbooks are now valuable resource material in the Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society library. Her grandmother's life on the frontier in Minnesota and her family heritage in Rhode Island were thus vividly combined with the current outreach of her denomination overseas and in backwoods areas of this country, and from all of this she gained perspective and dynamic for her service.

"Miss Burdick was active in young people's work through the churches and in 1926 helped found Lewis Camp at Bradford, R.I., first of a series of permanent camps now considered integral to the life and work of Seventh Day Baptists. More recently she has been deeply involved in the women's work of the denomination, as well as in her local church. Through all of this she has kept careful records for the help of those who follow or want to understand.

"The Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society is proud to recognize Marjorie J. Burdick for her untiring efforts and her historical values by presenting to her the gold-headed cane once given to another."

In accepting the cane, Miss Burdick said, "This cane which I received has a symbolic meaning, but it also will strengthen me: I had occasion to borrow Miss Alberta's (Crandall) cane a few weeks ago, and so when I use this, I shall lean on it with humility and gratitude to God for giving me this opportunity to serve in this way."

Then, on Sept. 23, Miss Burdick was honored as Milton's "Citizen of the Year" by the Milton Kiwanis Club at an award dinner and program. In addition to her thirty-three years as a teacher and elementary school principal, she was recognized for her work with vacation church schools, summer church camps, and youth at church conferences; her taping of church services for shut-ins, those in nursing homes and other unable to attend church; her participation in church choir, the local Choral Union and orchestras; and her service to friends and neighbors day after day by being a "volunteer taxi service" for those who needed transportation.

And, we note with joy that as Miss Burdick approaches her Christmas-Day eightieth birthday, the Kiwanis concluded, "Her helping hand still goes on."

Congratulations, Marjorie Burdick! □



GOOD NEWS GOES TO THE KALAMAZOO COUNTY FAIR

"What's a Seventh Day Baptist?" Have you ever heard that before? We predicted we would hear that question asked many times over, and we were not disappointed.

"Are you like Seventh-day Adventists?" "If you keep Saturday, you don't believe in Easter, do you?"

"I've been a Baptist all my life and I've never heard of Seventh Day Baptists."

Well - they've heard of us now!

Our 12' x 12' tent faced the west and needless to say - our days were mighty hot. We invited the passersby to "come have a drink of cool, clear water - then taste the Living Water and thirst no more." Many questions were asked about Living Water.

About 96,000 attended the Fair. Two hundred eighty signed up for a free drawing for books that were given away each day. One for children and one for adults. Twenty-six adults and eleven children signed up for a Bible correspondence course. These were given a Reach-Out Bible. Since then, two have requested a Bible study



Over 280 signed up for the free books given away.

in a group. Many came with a chip on their shoulder - and all left better informed - and happy.

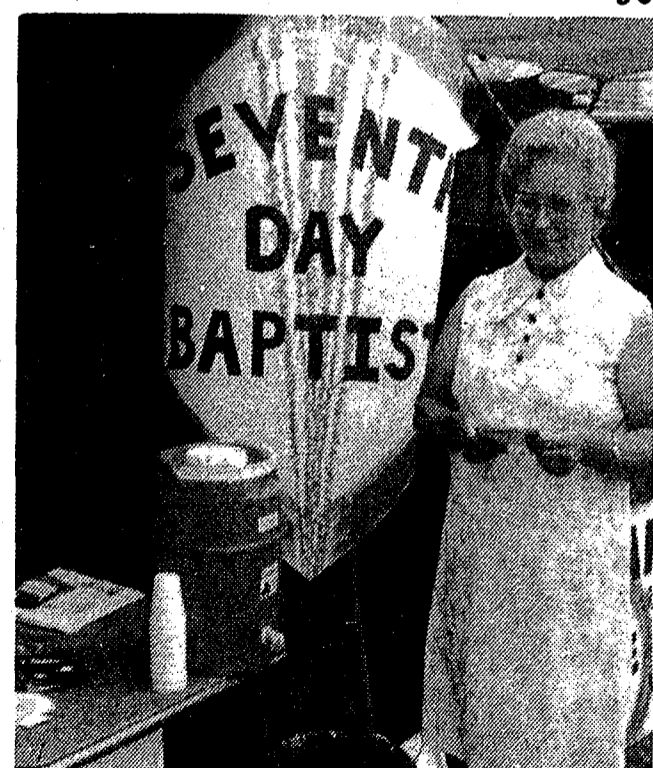
One gentleman accepted some tracts - walked about thirty feet - turned around and came back - rather angry and practically threw the tracts at me. "I don't want anything to do with you or your tracts," he said very angrily. "I got into quite an argument with one of you people here last year and..." "Just a minute," I butted in - and proceeded to inform him that we were not at the Fair last year. Well, we talked for about forty-five minutes. We laughed together and cried together, and now I have found another brother in Christ. He even made it a point to come back and visit later on in the day.

The booth was open about thirteen hours a day - Monday through Sabbath. Many blessings were received by those involved and many seeds sown.

The head security officer stopped by Sunday, following the Fair, as we were packing up and preparing to move out. He told us how much he appreciated our being there - that it was just what the Fair needed. PTL.

We wish to thank all of you who kept us in your prayers. We couldn't have done it without you. We praise the Lord for giving us the opportunity to witness our faith to so many. With God's help the harvest will be even richer next year. SO START PRAYING! □

-Jean Albion



After a drink of cool water, people were invited to taste the Living Water and thirst no more.

LIGHT SHINES IN LITTLE ROCK

The Little Rock Seventh Day Baptist Church operated a booth at the Arkansas State Fair again this year. The theme was "LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE." On a 4'x8' plywood board was the S.D.B. "logo" painted by two of our young people, Jeffery Monroe and Donna Pearson. The center portion of the torch was left out so we could use the center of the logo as a projection screen. Slides were used to relate our daily living in letting our light shine at work, at school, talking with friends, at church, visiting the sick. George Johnson (a recent member of our church) was very helpful in doing much of the photography and making the caption slides.

Last year George and his wife Velma were visitors to our booth and spent quite some time talking with Dr. Lloyd D. Seager, our senior deacon, who was manning the booth. They selected several of our tracts to take with them. They spent some time reading our tracts, their Bible, and discussing S.D.B.'s. Since they were already Sabbathkeepers, their interest was aroused and they telephoned for directions to the church and time of services.

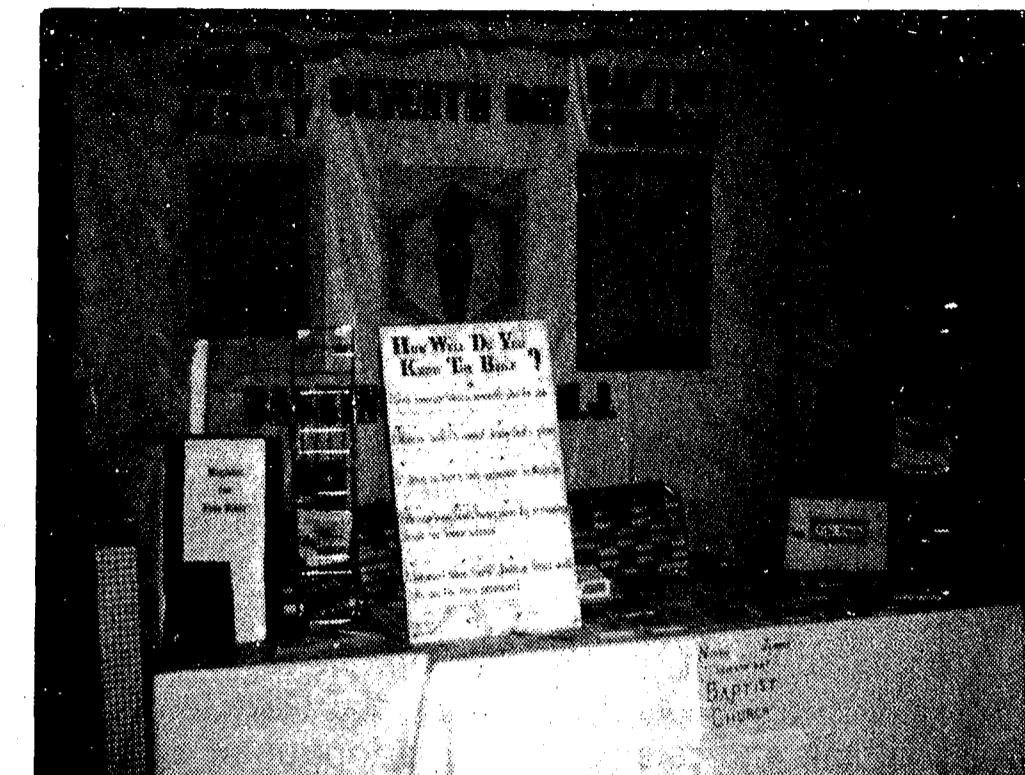
Their first visit to the church was July 17 and they have attended regularly since the first of August. George and Velma joined our church on September 18. They both are enthusiastic and talented. They give freely of their time for the Lord's work. Needless to say, I recruited them for part of our Church Growth team.

This year at the Fair we only distributed 3,200 pieces of literature. This was much less than any previous year, although we had many more personal contacts. We feel the Fair was a successful venture. We offered a correspondence Bible Study based on the booklet "GOD'S HOLY DAY." There were 297 people who signed up for these studies. They will be spread over 75 cities and towns in Arkansas and in two other states. We are developing other studies on "Salvation" and "Law of God and Law of Moses." □

-James Mitchell



The Fair Booth at the Arkansas State Fair.



The North Jersey church sponsored this booth at the Flemington Fair.

FLEMINGTON FAIR BOOTH MINISTRY

The North Jersey Seventh Day Baptist Church sponsored a booth at the Flemington, N.J., fair in early September. The artwork and layout for the booth was designed by Patricia Cruzan and Mary Jane McPherson. The backdrop read: "Remember the Good Old Days - Remember the Sabbath Day" and "North Jersey S.D.B. Church, Basking Ridge." Lloyd and Marguerite Coon were in charge of the coordination and staffing of the booth during the ten days of the fair.

Some 2,000 pieces of literature were distributed and over 300 signed up for the free Bibles. Those who signed up came from seven states. We had many good contacts with some returning to the booth to ask more questions or to request additional literature. The follow-up on these contacts continues.

We felt that perhaps the greatest good from the work was in making ourselves known in the area. Many who stopped by indicated that they were familiar with Seventh Day Baptists through one of our churches in New Jersey or through visiting the Ephrata Cloisters. Still some did a "double-take" as they passed the booth and saw the name "Seventh Day Baptist."

The church felt the entire project was both a learning experience and an opportunity to put our faith to work. Next year Seventh Day Baptists will be back at the Flemington Fair!

-John Bevis

ARE YOU A CHRISTIAN?

"Are you Christians?" "Our family fought a lot until we learned about Christ. Now we are happy and get along really well."

This was the testimony of a young man of about fourteen who stopped at "Pixey Park," the children's booth sponsored by the Allegheny Association at the Allegheny County Fair. He had been reading the posters, illustrated Bible verses concerning the topic, "Keep Christ in Your Heart," which decorated the walls of the cubicle. Not only did these verses speak to children and

DOING THE IMPOSSIBLE

"Houghton Conference was like nothing SDB's have before experienced." This could be validated in many ways—the COMMITMENT TO GROWTH workshop; the participation of youth; the calm, clear voting on emotional issues—WCC; the Bicentennial Day; the vision of individuals and committees; the adoption of a record OWM budget to DO what we sense is God's will in the year ahead; the skill-building seminars;...

ARE YOU A CHRISTIAN?

(continued from page 5)

adults who visited the fair but also were left on the walls as silent reminders to others who use the building at a later date, of the joy of being a Christian.

Also on the walls were about a dozen large pictures of birds. The main activity of the booth was listening to a cassette on which was a game, "Who Am I?" First, there was a description of the bird, followed by the bird's song, then came the opportunity for the children to identify the bird with help from the pictures on the walls. It was a joy to see the light of recognition on the faces of the ones who played.

In addition to the main game, we had coloring books, games and puzzles, and, as is the custom, we handed out children's tracts.

We are indebted to Rev. Kenneth Van Horn, Hebron, Pa., who developed the bird game and loaned the cassette and pictures; to JoAnn Barber and Pat Hensel SCSC'ers, who painted and helped set up the booth and to the youth of Allegheny Association who prepared the posters. Thank you all.

Have you tried Fair Booth ministry to children? In the atmosphere of commercialism of the fair it gives adults and children alike a reminder of God and the feel of security of His world; it may be the only place some of them ever hear about Him. The booth, with emphasis on quiet activity, is a haven for children of parents who are involved in fair work; it is a place to find a friend; to find satisfying activity. Even those who become too old for "The Park" look in to see what is happening—keeping in touch with our work.

God is everywhere—Christians should witness everywhere.

ARE YOU A CHRISTIAN?

—Mary Clare

The Women's Interest Committee was out in front too, setting a goal for fifty Summer Christian Service Corps workers in 1977. And Conference bought it—With the goal went the challenge to develop enough SCSC service projects to effectively use each person enrolled. And, behind these lies the goal of financial support—a designated gift fund—to place workers on projects to reach the individual project goals.

Though Conference seems like only "yesterday," 1977 will be here "tomorrow"! If the goal accepted by our vote is to become a reality, our dreaming, planning, committing, preparing options, challenging individuals for potential SCSC service, praying, and giving must begin NOW if not already under way!

Was it only wishful thinking? Was it an attempt to "out goal" someone else? Was it only a vague dream? Was it realistic?

You, who read these lines, are answering these questions? You, who have the opportunity to become involved in planning projects for outreach and growth, in encouraging youth and older persons as potential workers, in implementing a goal by putting flesh and blood and resources on it—YOU HAVE THE ANSWER!

There are many skeptics. There are those who sit back to "wait and see." There are some who, as yet, know nothing about such a goal or such a possibility. There are those whose interest and enthusiasm and dedication and willingness need only to be turned on by knowing facts by being encouraged, by having opportunity to really share their inmost self. Let's give them the "GO"!

Fifty in '77! It can be done! It will be done IF each of us does our God-given part! "Without God it is utterly impossible. But with God everything is possible." "Then I heard the Lord asking, "Whom shall I send as a messenger to my people? Who will go?" And I said, "Lord, I'll go! Send me." "

Goals for S.C.S.C.:

1. To train young people to be effective witnesses for Christ in any given situation.
2. To give young people the opportunity to give summers of dedicated service.
3. To aid in special summer projects.
4. To give churches the opportunity to give in-service training to dedicated workers.
5. To give all interested people the opportunity to give financial and prayerful support to the S.C.S.C. program.

Qualifications for S.C.S.C.:

1. Must be a high school graduate.
2. Must have made a decision for Christ.
3. Must be willing to serve in any assigned situation, unselfishly.
4. Must be willing to abide by the guidelines set forth by the S.C.S.C. Committee and special guidelines set forth by the project director.
5. Must be willing to learn how to teach and accept responsibility.

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

GET CHANGED GET TOGETHER AND GET GOING

Seventh Day Baptists are committed to growth in the 1970's.

This may well be the most significant development for the denomination in this century. It involves a change in perspective. It involves a change in attitude. It involves a change in direction.

Change is seldom easy for individuals or groups, although it is often highly significant.

Karl Olsson, writing for the September-October 1976 issue of *Open Circle* (the Faith at Work Newsletter) dramatically points out the importance—yet difficulty—of constructive personal change. He says that in order "to stay alive" in his own Christian commitment and in his association with others, he "had to work at being changed."

He quoted an oft repeated exhortation of one of his close associates: "Get changed, get together, and get going."

Then Mr. Olsson went on to explain that by "getting changed" his friend meant conversion, but he meant more than that. He meant entering a process of change in which ongoing openness and vulnerability were crucial and in which "getting together" and "getting going" provided support and opportunity for the new life.

Mr. Olsson admits that he had been looking at the phenomenon of conversion for a long time.

"I had seen how important it was in the renewal of the Church," Mr. Olsson continues, "and had often echoed John Wesley's words on his return from America in 1738, 'I went to the Colonies to convert the Indians, but was not myself converted to God.' But I had not seen a context which provided both the opportunity for change and a process for enabling continuing change. Nor had I seen changing people."

"By changing people I do not mean changeable in the sense of being aimless or fluxy. I mean people who are willing to check out their course day by day, who, because they have gone through the big change of direction in their conversion to God, are not for that reason through with change and growth."

We now see changing lives among Seventh Day Baptists. That is good! Now the people of the denomination have the opportunity to get together and get going!

One evidence that the change-around in perspective, attitude and direction is occurring comes from reactions to recent telephone contacts with pastors and other leaders in our churches across the country. The reason for the call—namely, to commend the church members for outstanding support of Our World Mission—was encouraging in and of itself. But the responses were even more exciting.

One lay leader in a relatively small fellowship spontaneously proclaimed: "I begin to feel called to become a 'tent-making' minister."

From another small group were reported four baptisms. The pastor's wife was almost rapturous in explaining how they had gone to a nearby river the previous Sabbath afternoon for the special service.

The representative of a little out-of-the-way congregation announced with understandable pride the completion of a new church building. "Come and see it! Worship with us! See how we are growing!"

A pastor in the midwest, where circumstances had not been encouraging for a long time, reported with keen satisfaction that average church attendance had increased markedly.

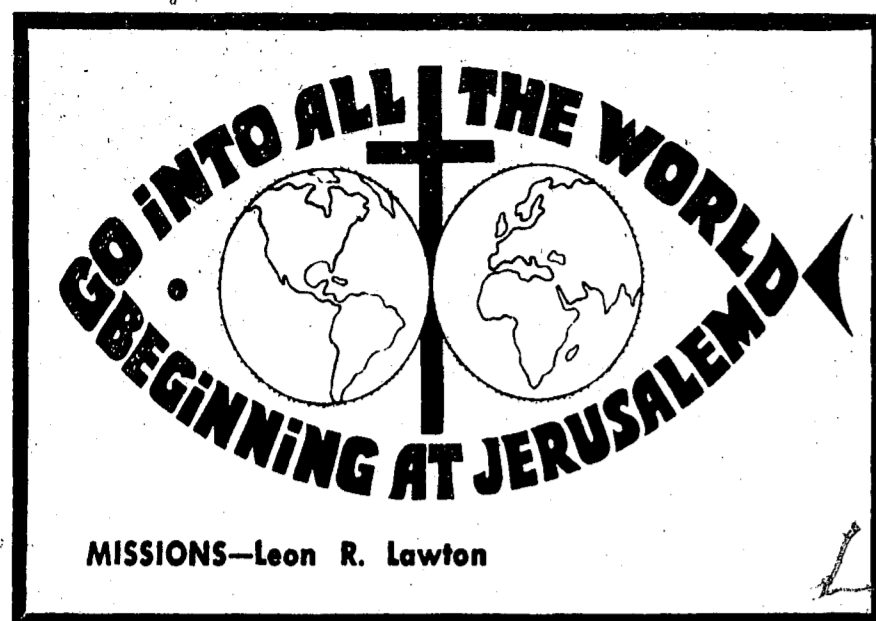
Almost universally, enthusiastic participation in the Commitment to Growth plan was mentioned; and in several instances it was reported that increasing numbers of church members are becoming involved.

Along with these examples of progressive changes among individuals and churches, it is gratifying to observe the evidences of growing coordination of activities among the boards and agencies and a willingness to consider new programs and new structures to accomplish even more effectively denominational level work for Christ and His Cause.

A special ad hoc committee of General Conference has been activated to study specific Task Force recommendations regarding denominational reorganization and help prepare to activate new procedures.

To grow as individual Christians and to progress as Seventh Day Baptist churches is indeed most encouraging. As an added incentive to keep changing for the better during the '70's, the Baptist World Alliance has outlined a challenge to all of us—in unison with fellow-Baptists around the world—to be "new persons for a new world through Jesus Christ." The suggested pattern is remarkably like the one provided in our Commitment to Growth plan: a people renewed through Bible study; a people renewed through witness and service; and a people renewed for evangelism. And thereby the Church will be renewed for MISSION!

MISSION! That is the heart of the matter!



**REPORT OF THE CENTRAL AFRICA CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS
P.O. BOX 337
BLANTYRE, MALAWI**

SEPTEMBER 24, 1976

We have just had our wonderful annual, General Conference meeting dated September 14-18 this year at Makapwa S.D.B. Station. The Lord led the prayer and preaching meetings, as well as business sessions. Congregational and choir singing and all other special songs which small groups of 2, 3 to 4 people sang and plays of well-selected Bible stories presented by school children and young people (members of choir) all added much to our spiritual life. In fact, we have just had a wonderful time of spiritual fellowship and refreshment.

On Friday afternoon, September 17, twenty-three people were baptized in Thuchila River at our usual, natural pond, behind Makapwa Boarding. The most interesting and unusual thing with this baptismal service is of my being one of the witnesses to observe Mr. Makombe's family being baptized. Mr. Makombe a local political party branch chairman and leader who has been so hostile at times to Makapwa Mission leaders and staff throughout the past several years, was seen, together with his wife and children (of young people's age), in the hands of four pastors who did the baptizing, being immersed into the deep waters for their faith in Jesus Christ, our Lord, whom they rejected throughout the years of the history of Makapwa Mission. Praise the Lord!

Although Makapwa church is built right into the midst of their village where they passed by daily and every Sabbath, they did not show much

camp meetings baptismal services were conducted, and many people rededicated themselves to the Lord at almost all these meetings.

Although no camp meeting was conducted in Mozambique, Pastor Augusto L. Benesse reports that he had a good church meeting in his area of Malema District in the Province of Nampula, Mozambique, on July 31 this year which was attended by thirty-six people and during which time six people were baptized by him. Three more people were supposed to be baptized on September 11. Perhaps these are already baptized by now. At Conference over five people were in attendance from our churches in Milanje District of Mozambique.

During Conference this year Preacher Isake Jolamu of Chawa S.D.B. Church in Mangochi District (one of the districts along Lake Malawi), and Preacher Edward Chilonga of Nansomba S.D.B. Church, Mulanje (who now lives with his wife in Milanje District of Mozambique), were ordained pastors, following the recommendations of their church members and after thorough investigations by the Board of Trustees. They will continue to serve as pastors where they are now.

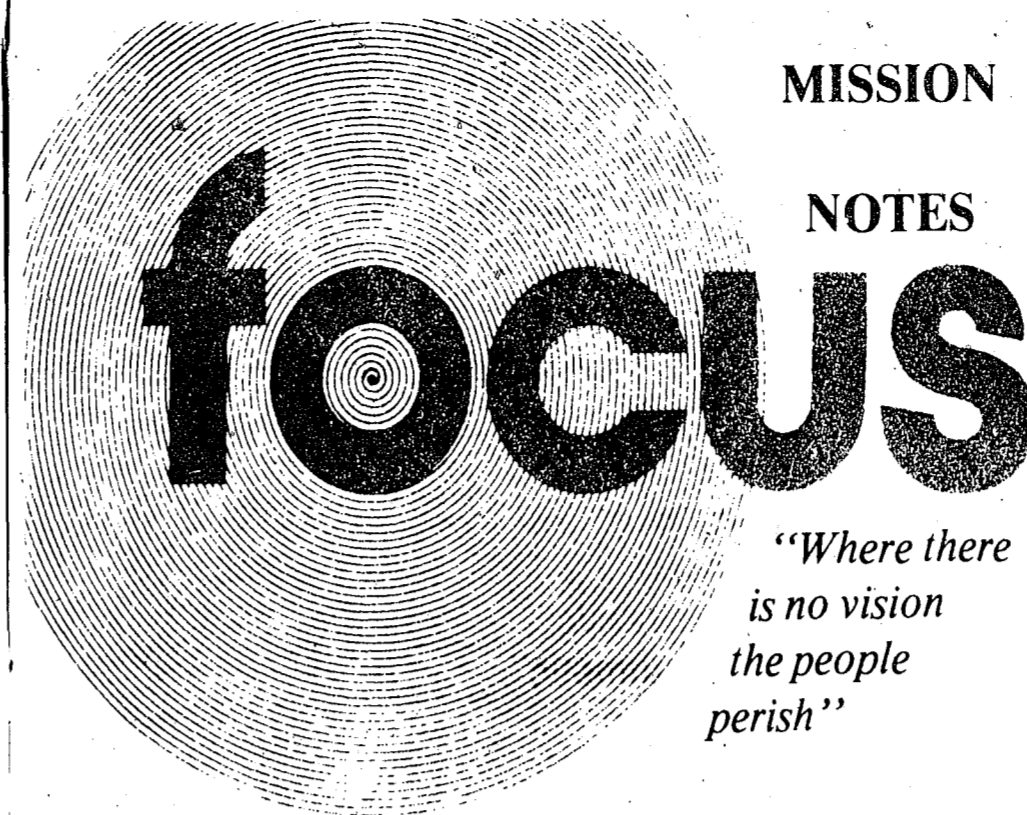
While the Fullers were here last Wednesday, September 22, Brothers Mhura and Mazinga came from Makapwa with bad news to say that our good Chief, Traditional Authority Thomas, the chief in-charge of the area where we are establishing our medical and Church Centre in Thyolo District, was dead. They reported that the chief was at Mzuzu in the Northern Region where he was attending Malawi Congress Party Annual Convention, and he died there (Mr. Mhura said that the chief had been ill for some time). Tomorrow, Mr. Fuller and I will leave for Chief Thomas Headquarters for condolence. Mr. Mhura and Pastor Aisa will take bus from Makapwa for the same trip, and we will meet at twelve miles (twelve miles from Blantyre) where the road branches off from the main road to Chisunga Tea Estates. From there we will all travel together to Chief Thomas' house for condolence and to check up our work.

Christian greetings and many thanks to you all. Your sincere brother in His service, Otrain B. Manani, Corresponding Secretary. □

interest in its activities nor bearing in mind why it was built there. But today, what a different and wonderful story about the Makombes! They have believed and accepted our Lord Jesus Christ as their Personal Savior and they are now saved from their sins. Hallelujah, praise the Lord! God is never mocked! The apostle Paul fought against the Lord's Church, and long at last, what happened? He was converted and became a great defender of the word of God. He became the great missionary - proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ to the lost people in many lands. Yes, the Macombe family enjoyed attending Conference meetings very much, just as many others did.

During the entire Conference, fifty-two people rededicated themselves to the Lord. Forty-four of these came forward at the close of the eleven o'clock meeting on Sabbath morning, September 18, at which time the Lord used Pastor H. J. Mwango (Board of Trustees' chairman) mightily as he preached to 400 of us in attendance that morning. One married young lady accepted Christ for her first time during that same moment of appeal.

During July, August, and including the first week of September this year thirteen camp meetings have been held in various places and were well led of the Lord as per good reports of them received by our Conference office from the leaders who conducted these meetings. One was held at Selukwe S.D.B. Church, Selukwe in Rhodesia, from July 8 to 13. One was held at Rogongo S.D.B. Church, Kisii in Kenya from August 25 to 29 and nine people were baptized during the meeting. And eleven other camp meetings were held in various places here in Malawi. In some of these



"Where there is no vision the people perish"

● Pastor A. K. Harawa is the director of the Northern Association of the Central Africa Conference, Malawi, Africa. As such, he lives in the regional capital, Mzuzu, and has an office there. He serves the local church and other churches as pastor, as well as relating to all of the churches in the northern region. In 1976, he conducted a youth camp in the northern region and another in the central region. He wrote, "In each of (these) many campers came and (we) also had baptismal service." In October he had a special ministry with church leaders and Sabbath School officers in the central region. He wrote, "Though the burden is so heavy, the Lord works miracles among His people. My request is for you to pray for me because the work (here) is so great."

● Reports have come in from most of the COMMITMENT TO GROWTH workshops that have been held thus far. These reports indicate that the Lord is really blessing all who have participated. Let us pray for each other as we begin to look at our world through "Church Growth Eyes."

● Work on the two wells at Vallur and Peddaganjam, India, had stopped because the funds were depleted. However, in a recent letter Rev. B. John Rao writes, "The works at the wells were recommenced . . . we would like to bring to your notice that these two wells will be fully completed, with your assistance of \$1,000.00 from SDB United Relief Fund, before the 25th (of) October, 1976." We rejoice with them at the completion of this project. In his letter, he also tells of his recent hospitalization due to high blood pressure. It was necessary for him to have a complete rest, but he has now returned home and is once again attending to the business of the SDB Conference of India.

● Director of Evangelism, Mynor G. Soper, has been meeting with leaders in the Omaha, NE, area as a

new SDB Fellowship is established. They have been having Bible Studies for some time. In November the Light Bearers for Christ assisted with visitation and contacts in Omaha for a week.

● In a recent letter, Sam Peters (Georgetown, Guyana) writes and tells of the purchase of a camera and films. He states, "I am personally grateful for the special allotment for the purchase of a camera and films. . . Later this month I will send slides to you and a script for identification." A training institute has been held. The following courses were offered: New Testament Survey, Sunday (Sabbath) School Success, Understanding People, Hermeneutics, and Homiletics, Part II. He also says, "A visit from Brother Fraser revealed a lot of encouraging news. He reported there are two other meeting nights (for the Matther's Ridge group). . . attendance is favourable. . . the one problem (?) is that THE HOME IS TOO SMALL TO HOUSE THOSE WHO ATTEND. . . Many have indicated their intention to worship with us as soon as we erect a building. This group has so far amassed about US\$140.00 from their tithes and offerings. . . to build a church." He reports that the brethren in Georgetown and Dartmouth are involved in visitation programs. "Koinonia" is held once every quarter in the Kitty Church, where a full Sabbath Day is spent in fellowship with believers. "The program varies each time, but there is always a period of supplication to the Lord, and the day always ends with the partaking of the Lord's Supper. It is my prayer that this program be adopted by all our other churches; it does a lot in maintaining the love of God for each other."

● Pastor Robert Babcock, who has worked in the RON project at Houston since graduation from seminary earlier this year, began full-time ministry as church extension pastor on November 1.

PRAYER CORNER

A Prayer Reminder for Each Day!

January 1977

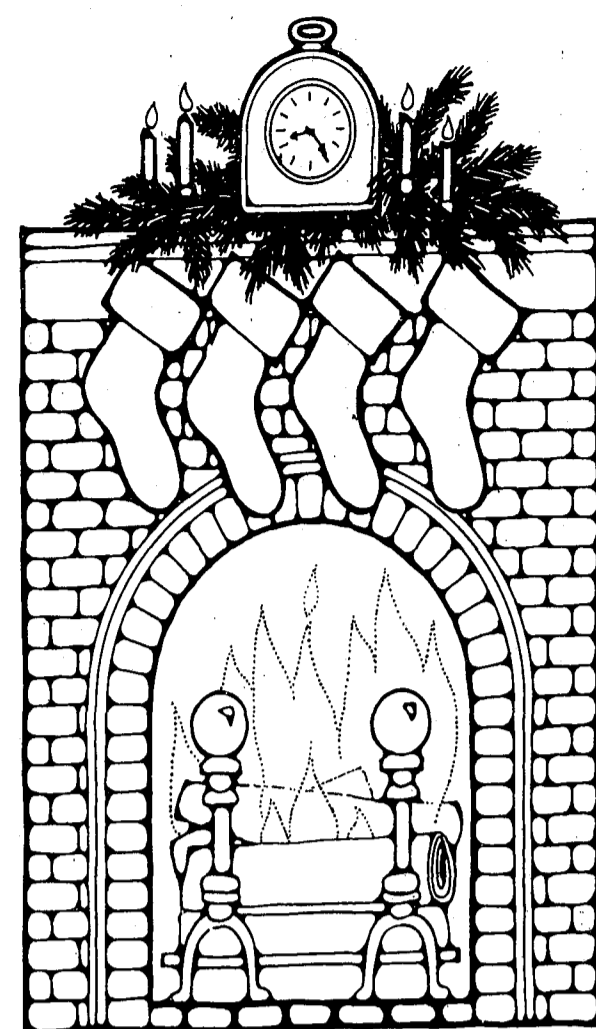
Verse for the month: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."
-2 Chron. 7:14

Pray for...

- 1-The Lord to multiply the effectiveness of your prayer life in 1977!
- 2-Week of Prayer for Seventh Day Baptists around the world.
- 3-Needed missionary workers in Africa.
- 4-Conference President Delmer Van Horn, Lost Creek, WV.
- 5-Rev. B. John V. Rao, editor of Week of Prayer meditations
- 6-That my life may be holy, a testimony to my Lord
- 7-Seventh Day Baptists in Kisii District, Kenya, Africa
- 8-Those recently following the Lord in keeping Sabbath holy
- 9-Memorial Board Trustees in their quarterly meeting today
- 10-COMMITMENT TO GROWTH forces in our churches
- 11-Rev. L. Sawi Thanga and new SDB Fellowship in Rangoon, Burma
- 12-Director of Evangelism, Mynor G. Soper
- 13-Missionaries Doug and Jane Mackintosh, Kingston, Jamaica
- 14-The Hays family and their ministry at Sunshine Mt. (Chatawa, MS)
- 15-COMMITMENT TO GROWTH workshops scheduled for January 1977
- 16-American Sabbath Tract Society quarterly meeting today
- 17-Gordon Lawton, Larry Watt, Ken Chroniger, seminary students in Kansas City
- 18-Missionaries Menzo and Audrey Fuller, Blantyre, Malawi, Africa
- 19-Pastor David C. Pearson, at Plainfield, NJ, SDB Church
- 20-New inquirers who seek fellowship with Seventh Day Baptists
- 21-Pastor Sam Peters, Georgetown, Guyana, South America
- 22-My pastor as he leads us in worship and praise!
- 23-Justin Camenga, seminary student in Portland, Oregon
- 24-Seventh Day Baptists in Rhodesia and their pastoral leaders
- 25-Toronto, Canada, Seventh Day Baptist Fellowship
- 26-Openness to growth possibilities in my community/area
- 27-Churches seeking pastors . . .
- 28-An open door for gospel witness overseas-"Where, Lord?"
- 29-The concern of Christ-John 17:21-23
- 30-Missionary Board quarterly meeting today
- 31-Larry Graffius and Steve Crouch, seminary students in Sioux Falls, SD

This is the fourth in a series of five lectures given at General Conference on the theme of "Light" by Dr. Edward J. Horsley of Denver, Colorado.

LIGHT IS WARMTH



It was the last evening which Jesus would spend with His disciples. Supper was ended. Judas had gone out into the night bent on treachery. Jesus looked about Him at the remaining eleven disciples who would be His picked representatives in the world and He said to them, "Where I am going, you cannot follow; now I am giving you a new command, love one another. Just as I have loved you, you must love one another. This is how all men will know that you are My disciples, because you have such love for one another" (John 13:33-35).

Jesus knew what experiences the next hours would bring to Him—that experience which for all time and for all eternity would set this world and set the entire universe aglow with the ultimate demonstration of love. And in that setting, with His face set resolutely to the cross He said, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another, as you are about to see that I have loved you."

Jesus previously analyzed the universal moral law, the Ten Commandments, for His disciples. The essence of God's law and the secret of keeping that law was love — love to God and love to man, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength." And in addition to that, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." He had already taught them this principle of the spiritual life, that God's will finds fulfillment only in loving and that all the demands of God's will and of God's law are met in that attitude and in that experience.

But now He adds a new dimension — a dimension that could be understood only in the light of the one adequate demonstration this world has ever witnessed — Calvary. And He says, "I have told you that the whole law is fulfilled in love to God and love to man, but now I am giving you a new commandment, that you love one another the way I will show you that I love you." This is a new command, because here is love in a new dimension. Here is love of a quality that the world has seen but once. Here is love of a *divine* dimension that Christ sets as the standard for the *human* experience, the born again experience. Christ wants to share everything with us. What a privilege that divine love should be shared and become a human attribute.

The light of our world is the sun. The sun provides light and warmth for our little corner of the universe, that is, for our small solar system. What part of the sun's light and heat comes to our world, the planet earth? We are situated approximately 93 million miles from the sun, with the sun pouring out its rays in all directions. We might think of ourselves as being situated in a sphere 186 million miles in diameter with the sun in the center. Those rays therefore are covering an area of astronomical size. The area of that sphere is estimated at approximately 100 million plus 18 zeros square miles. We might think of this room in which we are standing at this time as being a sphere instead of basically a rectangle. The sun is in the middle of that sphere and our little world is situated on one of the walls. Our world then is

8,000 miles in diameter and gets an infinitesimal percentage of the sun's warmth and light. But think of the effects of that fragment of the sun's energy. That minute portion of the sun's warmth on this earth creates all the energy which we observe and use, all the growth which occurs all over the surface of the world, it sustains all life, it creates deserts, it melts great masses of snow and ice creating spring and summer, all by that small minute portion of energy coming to our world as it is poured out by the sun as it burns up its great atomic pile of nuclear energy. Think of its effect upon you as an individual. You lie in the summer sun and within minutes you feel its warmth, your skin begins to change color, and you must seek protection.

Having seen the incomprehensible, the mind boggling enormity of the light and warmth emanating from our sun in this small corner of the universe, let us now consider light of God that lightens and warms not just us, but the entire universe. To what myriad planets and worlds, to what galaxies is His love extended? What are the borders of His Kingdom and what are the limits of His sovereignty? His light has gone out not just to the ends of the earth as the psalmist said, but to the ends of galaxies, to the end of the universe, to the end of time and past the limits of comprehension.

But that warmth, that love, that light of God which reached to this remote speck of His universe is to us like the sun. That small portion of God's light is enough to create life, to transform life, to make life beauti-

ful and lovely and worthwhile. That tiny fragment of God's all-encompassing love which reached our world is enough to energize and purify and warm every person in this whole earth.

The glory of God shone in the face of Jesus Christ but the love of God shone in the cross of Christ and that love has warmed this world ever since.

"God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son." Love has been the distinguishing characteristic of God in this world and it is His desire and His command that love should be the distinguishing characteristic of His people. "Love is the badge by which Christ's disciples may be recognized, the sign that they are God's children, that they have passed from death to life. Love is the mark of the church." Such is God's design, would to God that it was a complete reality.

Christ's followers, the apostles who penned the letters of the New Testament, were seized by this love and urged the members of the Christian church to "love the brethren," "love one another," to support and encourage each other, to care for one another, "to bear each other's burdens," to support the weak, the infirm, the widows, and orphans. But while the church is to be a great storehouse of His love, Christian love is not restricted to the brethren within the fellowship of the church.

Christ taught us, in the parable of the Good Samaritan, who our neighbor really is. He taught us in His portrayal of the judgment that acts of mercy, acts of kindness and love to those in need whom we do not recognize as brethren are done to His brethren and to Christ Himself. Those in need, and who is not in need of some form of love, those in need to whom we minister come to us "in Christ's name to receive from us the love and service we owe to Him; in our neighbor we meet Christ."

Not all of those around us are easy for us to care for and to love. But to see each one as one whom Christ loved enough to die for, to see that other man and that other woman as potentially transformed by the light of God's love is to be enabled to love them. To see them as possibly sharing in what God has

done in our own lives, is to be enabled to see them as our brethren as well as His brethren.

Light is warmth but it is difficult to appreciate warmth unless we feel a need. There is no need like the experience of having been out in the cold and been chilled through and through, chilled to the bone. Who has not come out of the cold into a room with a blazing fireplace and stood close to it, warming one side and then the other, and rubbing hands full of heat onto cold arms and cold face?

I remember in the early 1940's when I used to travel by the generosity of other people. I was hitchhiking one cold autumn night through southern Idaho. I stayed in an all-night restaurant for several hours, but with the first hint of light, I was out on the highway. The stars were still shining and there was a skiff of snow on the ground which would swirl a little with the gusts of wind. Time passed and a very few cars with their steamy windows and sleepy occupants passed by. The cold seeped deep into my tissues. I pulled my head deeper between my shoulders and huddled into myself as much as I could. Cold was misery. Cold was pain. But at such a desolate time the edge of the sun came over the horizon. I felt a faint warmth on my face as I turned toward that welcome sight. Light was warmth in the truest sense and as the sun came fully above the earth and shone directly on me; life began to stir again. I turned myself to let it unfreeze my stiff, aching muscles. As it rose higher I unbuttoned my coat and let those rays get closer to me and I thanked God for warmth and light and life.

"God dwells in light which no man can approach unto." This laser-like, dazzling light of God shines through the prism of the life and teaching of Jesus Christ producing a spectrum of its component parts. The component we explore in this issue is warmth...

The sun was never more precious because my need seemed so great. The Lord indicated that out of a sense of need comes an appreciation of the warmth of God's love and forgiveness. Out of darkness comes the plea for light. Luke 7:36-47. How much forgiveness did you need? How much do you need today? Has Christ done enough for you to bring a response of love? Were you ever so cold and lonely and desolate that the warmth of God's love was the only thing that revived you? Or did you need only \$5 worth of His love and forgiveness?

Love in our experience is often fragile, often a transient and emotional experience. Not so with God. God's love is not an emotion, it is not sentimental. Love is His being, His character, His basic nature. God is Love. What kind of love is this Love of God?

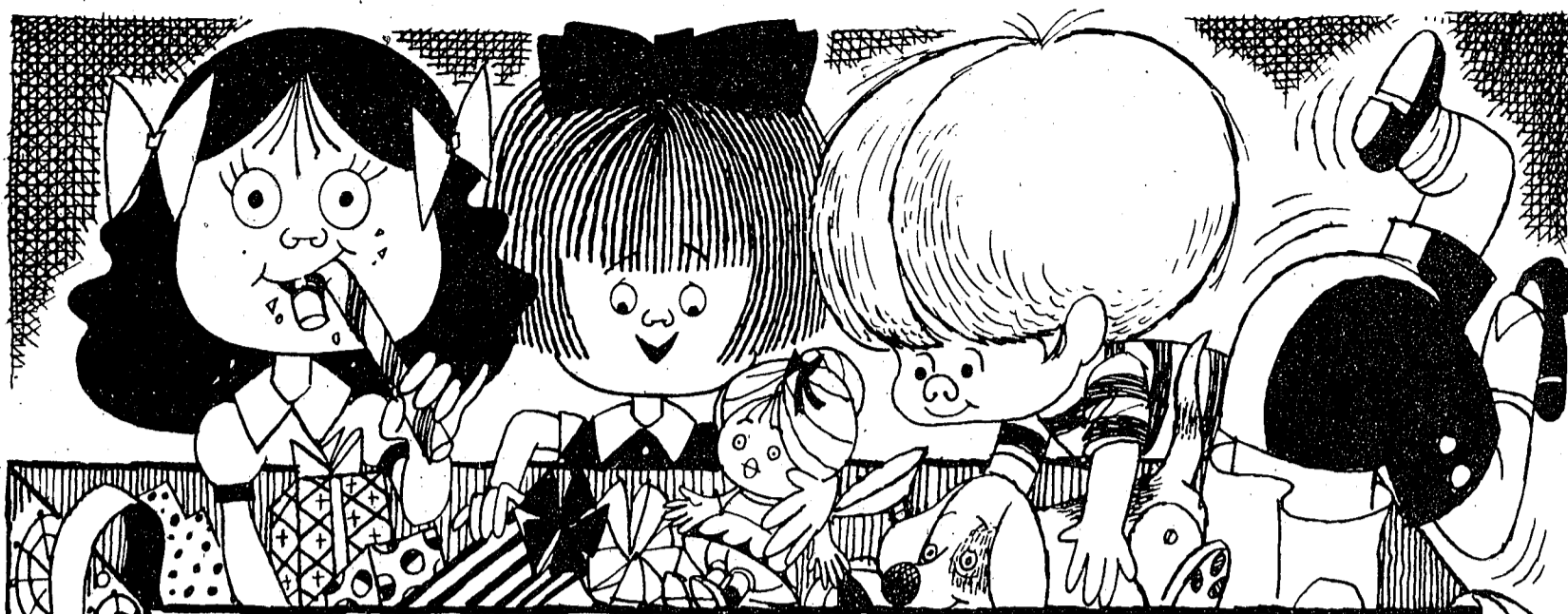
His love is spontaneous, it is not generated in response to something beautiful and lovely. He is not attracted by the value or the worth of a person, not even by the potential worth of the person. His love is subjective, that is, it arises in His own nature. It was while I was a sinner that God as Christ came into this world to reconcile me to Himself.

My acceptance of His love brought joy in Heaven and to God. But He loved me, whether or not that love was ever reciprocated. God's love is independent of human response. He cannot deny His own nature.

God's love seeks moral fellowship. While Christ died for us while we were sinners, the purpose of that sacrifice was to free us from the power of sin and bring us into fellowship with Himself. His work for sinners is to make them saints. Fellowship with a God of holiness is possible only with those whose sins are forgiven and whose lives are being transformed into the likeness of the Lord. The purpose of Calvary was not only for my justification, it was as much for my sanctification, to achieve His potential for my life.

God's love which provides forgiveness to all who receive Him, must by the same token provide for judgment. God's plan is to bring

(continued on page 26)



CHILDREN'S PAGE

GIFTS

(a Christmas playlet approximately five minutes long)

-Mrs. Juanita Ogden
Texarkana, Ark.

Mother: "Children, how about looking at this new Christmas catalog that just came?"

Danette: "Oh, goody! I bet it has a lot of pretty things in it!"

Sharon: "Yes, and I can show mother what I want."

David: "Turn to the bicycles first, Mother."

Mother: "You know, children, that if we think only of ourselves at this season of the year, Old Man Selfishness can take over in our lives and make us very unhappy people as well as disagreeable to others. Now, do you want to be like that?"

Danette: "I don't want to be like that, Mother."

Sharon: "Neither do I."

Mother: "I know that all of you want to be unselfish and follow the example of Jesus."

Sharon: "Mother, where is Jesus now?"

Danette: "He isn't a baby now, is He, Mother?"

Mother: "No, He became a grown man and went back to heaven from where He came. You remember the story in the Bible about how wicked men killed Him, don't you?"

Sharon: "I remember that story, Mother."

Danette: "So do I."

David: "Me too. There are lots of pretty things in this catalog for a baby."

Sharon: "Don't you think it would have been nice to have taken Baby Jesus a present when He was on earth, Mother?"

Mother: "Yes, it would have been wonderful, all right. But, do you know something? We can still give a gift to Jesus here in December 1976."

All the children: "We can?"

Mother: "Yes, we can honor Him with gifts any time we choose. In fact, there is something in the Bible that is most interesting about that very thing. Will you bring me my Bible, Sharon?"

Sharon: "Of course, Mother. Here you are."

Mother: "Let's see. Here it is...Matt. 25:40. *Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.* Do you understand this Scripture? That when we do something for others we are really giving a gift to Jesus?"

David: "Do you mean that if I give some of my toys to a little boy that doesn't have any, that Jesus would like it just as much as if I handed it to Him?"

Mother: "That's right...and I'm happy to know you understand it, son."

Sharon: "When we took some food over to the Brown's last night, was that the same as giving Jesus a meal?"

Mother: "Yes. I'm proud of all of you! And you know why, I'm sure."

All the children: "Yes, yes, Mother...we know what it means."

Mother: "I'm happy...and I know Jesus must be, too! Here's something you may never have thought about before. You see, children, it's possible to honor Jesus all year long. None of us should wait until Christmas to celebrate the Christmas season. Let's remember that everyday someone may need our help and friendship. What a wonderful world if we treated each other with the same love and friendly concern all through the year as we do at Christmas!" □

ON SABBATH AFTERNOON

Christmas is a time of sharing gifts and love with our families. Let us on these Sabbath afternoons in December think of things which we can do with and for the whole family to enjoy in this season. Here are just a few ideas:

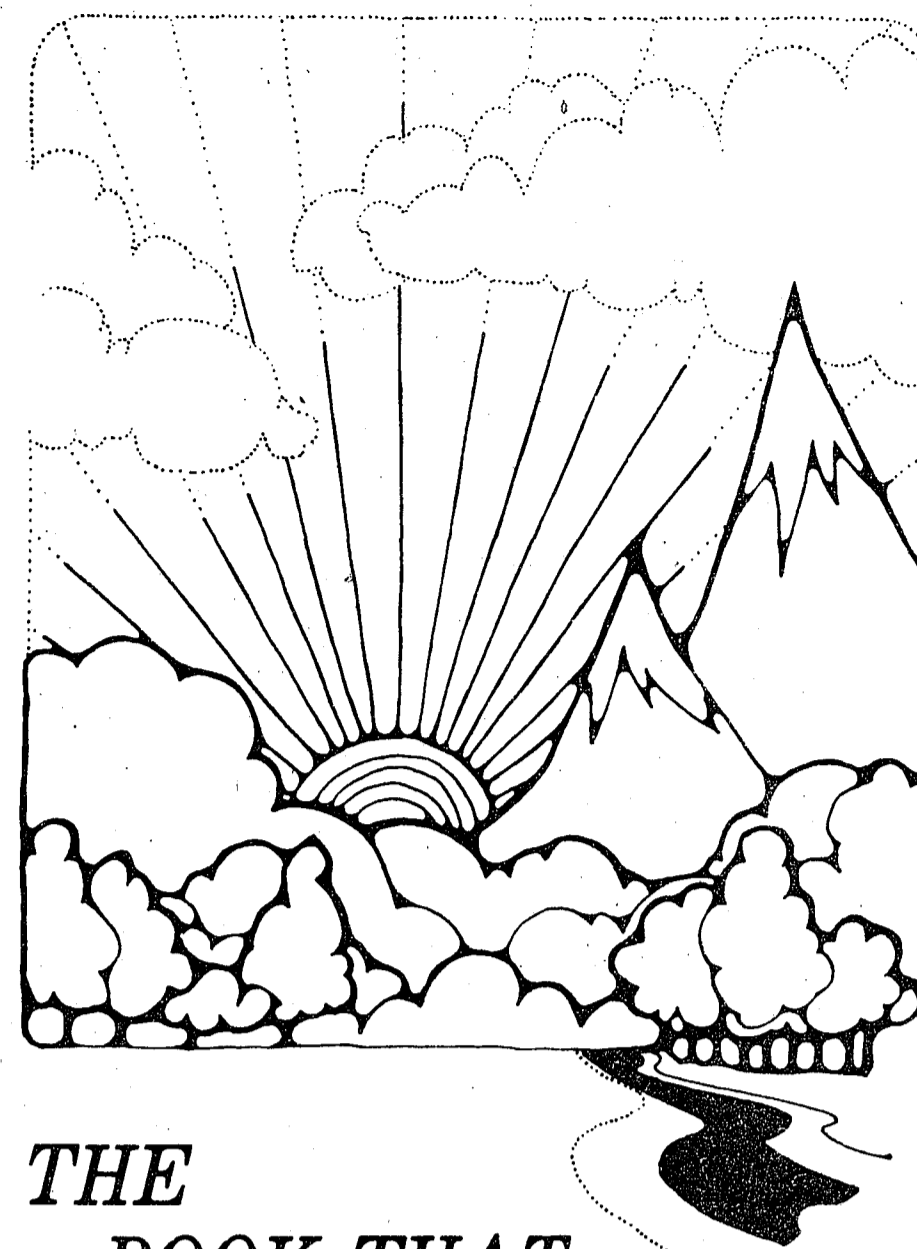
Have the whole family bundle up in warm clothes and go for a walk to discover items for a family beauty center (to be used as the worship center for family worship) such as evergreen branches, pine cones, etc.

Winter is a season when it is hard for the birds who stay here to find food. Select a tree in the backyard - preferably an evergreen - and have each member of the family place food on the branches. When you are through with your Christmas tree, put it outside for this purpose and make it a Bird's Christmas Tree.

Secure a book which tells of Christmas in other lands, and then have the whole family gather around for these stories. The singing of Christmas carols from these other lands would be enjoyed. □

-The Sabbath Visitor
December 1950

The Sabbath Recorder



THE BOOK THAT SHOWS THE WAY

by Eugene Lincoln

There are probably few people who enjoy nature more, but who know less about it than I. When I learned of the self-guiding nature trail near our campground in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, I said to my two sons, "Boys, this is the thing for us—a short, easy trail where everything is explained."

At the starting point was a rustic container from which we took a guidebook, which described the points of interest along the way. Each stop on the trail was numbered, and by comparing the numbers with corresponding numbers in the book we could learn about many of the natural features in this area of the park.

Point 2 on the trail was a white rhododendron. Once before, when visiting the park in early June, we had observed its flowers in all of their beauty. But this was August, and the blossoms by which I could have identified the plant were gone for the season. But still I knew that it was rhododendron, for the book told me so and I had faith in its author.

Farther down the trail was a yellow birch with roots that looked like stilts. Looking in the book, the boys and I found the explanation: "Prop-root" development is caused when a seed lands on a decaying stump and

begins to grow, sending roots down into the ground around the stump. Later, when the stump is entirely decayed, the tree is left standing on the "stilts."

Sourwood—a close biological relative of azalea and mountain laurel—farther down the trail brought back memories of a rare sourwood honey I had once tasted. My taste buds tingled with the thought of its wild, tangy sweetness.

A post numbered "18" stood in the midst of a plant with shiny, sawtooth leaves growing in groups of three. The guide book identified it as poison ivy, and warned: "Beware of the three shiny leaves!" It informed us that the leaves change their color to a brilliant red in the autumn and added that poison ivy is scarce or absent above three thousand feet altitude in this area.

A pile of stones was the only remains left of a homestead where a family had once lived. In our imagination we could almost see a happy family resting at the end of a day, with fire burning cheerfully in the fireplace.

At Stop 25 the book stated, "This is the last stop. You will return...by following the paved trail ahead."

As we read our Bible that evening we just chanced—or was it chance?—to read from Psalm 119:105: "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Later as I lay in my sleeping bag, I pondered the

significance of David's words in the psalm, and somehow my thoughts kept drifting back to the guidebook we had used on the nature trail. Then it came to me! The Scriptures are a Guidebook for mankind, telling us what to expect along the way and warning us of dangers.

Trails come to us and we often fret at the seeming harshness of the Christian's path; later—sometimes many years later—we realize that the trails were "rhododendrons" which we did not recognize at the time because the "blossoms" were not evident. In the words of hymn writer William Cowper:

"His purposes will ripen fast,
Unfolding every hour;
The bud may have a bitter taste,
But sweet will be the flower."

If we relied more on the Guidebook when trials come to us, we would recognize them as blessings in disguise.

We often observe other Christians whose spiritual roots do not conform to what we consider the accepted norm. But before we judge them, let us see if the Guidebook does not give an explanation for their being different.

When life seems sour, the Guidebook brings back to us the sweetness of times when our spiritual experience was in the heights. "O taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man that trusteth in him" (Psalm 34:8).

Sin can look attractive as we encounter it on our path; its appearance changes with the season, making it difficult to identify unless we rely on the Guidebook.

Reading Hebrews 11, we see evidences of others who have traveled the path before us. The fervency of their faith brings warmth to us when the world seems cold and unresponsive to the message of salvation which we proclaim.

And now, at last, in these eventful days we can see the signs all around us that have been foretold in the Guidebook, telling us that "This is the last stop. It's only a short path ahead to your eternal reward—an eternal home prepared for all who follow the Savior." □

-Eugene Lincoln is editor of the *Sabbath Sentinel*.

SHANGRI-LA?

NO!

SUNSHINE MOUNTAIN!

by Shireen Hurley

"You ready to go fishin'?" Old Mr. Cramer beckoned to the vacant-faced boy standing near the door of his room.

"Yeah!" Greg's voice came out with surprising energy and his face became transformed by a radiant smile. His awkward feet began to move him forward in sort of a lurch toward his "grandfather." The odd pair strolled casually out the door and down the path to the pond where they would spend the sunny morning in pleasant, unhurried talk.

Back at his home, Mr. Cramer's wife sat on a low stool, pointing out the difference between weeds and flowers to Jeanie, who happily pulled up the weeds and lovingly caressed the bright blossoms. Her fifteen-year-old body did not match the puffy, baby face she turned in rapt attention to Mrs. Cramer, but she seemed content.

The Cramers, a healthy, normal retired couple, find meaning to their quiet existence as they spend some time with their young, retarded friends each day, without the arduous care and responsibility for their physical needs. Greg and Jeanie live in comfortable dormitories with other unfortunate youngsters and a pair of foster parents for each small group. A staff assists them all in

feeding, giving medical care and supervising interesting activities in the day rooms or on the playground.

The Cramers built their own home on the grounds, but pay a small fee monthly for maintenance and utilities. They have promised to give the house to the community so that another elderly couple may live there, as they have, when they are through with it. Other couples enjoy similar privileges and also spend much time with the children. All are content with their lives.

A company store sells them all their necessities for only 10 percent above cost, and simple recreational activities are available along with the nearby Seventh Day Baptist Church with its many services and activities.

This pretty picture may be a reality somewhere at present but it is still only a beautiful dream at Sunshine Mountain in Mississippi.

Jack Hays, his wife, Linda (nee Bingham) and his brother, Ralph, have envisioned such an ideal institution for many years and, at long last, their worthy dream seems to be nearing fruition. Out of their meagre incomes they have acquired some acreage, ideally situated out of the city but only minutes away from schools, hospitals and shopping



centers. With their funds, capable hands, and aching backs, they have constructed the first building, which will eventually serve as the office, with recreation rooms, storage space, and pump room for the clear water coming from a sparkling artesian well already abundantly supplying the project. Ralph, his sister, and his mother, caring for his child-like wife, Mary, live in the structure presently. Mary suffered severe brain damage on the operating table two years ago. Their son, a recent college graduate trained in commercial art, also shares the home. He has set up an already flourishing sign-painting business.

Both Jack and Ralph have been ill-treated by circumstances but their faith has been strengthened by their experiences. They desire to share their Christian community ideal, directing and guiding it physically and spiritually as long as they are able - or "until the Lord comes," they say - knowing it will fulfill a great need for the special, loving care retarded children require as well as giving those elderly folks, who wish to participate, a different sense of fulfillment. Such children, they and the Hays brothers know, are usually shunted off to a mental institution or locked in a back room, hidden from public view and often neglected. There are few recognized places directed specifically toward their needs.

Jack Hays is the pastor of the Metairie church in Louisiana and Ralph Hays, an ordained minister, provides a regular weekly radio ministry over two stations in McComb, Mississippi. In addition, they are

engaged in the development of Sunshine Mountain. Although this project will help them with their families and the ministry they wish to accomplish, Sunshine Mountain at present belongs to the Metairie church until it becomes a recognized charitable institution with a board of directors guiding its course for posterity.

Executive Secretary K. D. Hurley and I visited Jack and Linda for three days in September during our tour of the churches of southern states. We listened to Jack's explanations and description of their dream all Friday evening, attended church with them Sabbath and went to Sunshine Mountain on Sunday, about a two-hour drive from their home in Gretna. While walking over the grounds and climbing up the little hill to a site which has been offered to the association for a camp, Jack asked me if I'd like to rest or go back to the house. I replied that I enjoyed hiking, in fact, was a regular mountain goat. Thus, if you ever hear Jack call me the "Old Goat," you'll know it is in respect to my hiking ability!

The wooded hill is lovely with a stream running through it which continues through the area to a place which could be dammed up to form the fishing pond for the "grandfathers" and kids.

We were favorably impressed with all the plans, charts, figures and the fact that authorities have been consulted as to law, health and building codes. Requests from parents of retarded children for such a facility are in hand. A staff of professional



Ralph Hays stands beside the artesian well that will someday supply water for Sunshine Mountain.

people is waiting to answer the call to go help. The Hays men feel assured of personal resources for financial support which they will contribute to the cause, in addition to funds from gifts of other people. The ongoing program will need many gifts to speed it to completion, but it is hoped that some children will be housed as soon as the first dormitory is ready for occupancy.

Linda Hays is trained in pedagogy. She and Jack have cared for retarded children in their home, seeing some of their I. Q.'s improve under loving attention. Their own three children know the fun and privilege of sharing their home, family devotions and companionship with less fortunate children. At Sunshine Mountain they will live as an individual family but with pleasant responsibilities for each to accept in this truly Christian community.

The trustees of the Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund have voted to let the project use money to buy a tractor in development of the grounds. A farmer is considering giving some cattle. There is room for chicken and pig pens. Many of the children will enjoy caring for the animals which can also help supply some of the food. A large vegetable garden can also be planted and cared for by some of them. A large field for games is included in the plans.

Many people are beginning to catch the vision of Sunshine Mountain as something worthy of support. It is also seen as a pilot project for similar communities in other parts of the country. The Hays brothers feel that God has directed them in this endeavor and there is reason to think of other places where God's Kingdom on earth may be carried out.

"Am I my brother's keeper?" Ralph, Jack and Linda Hays think so and trust that other Seventh Day Baptists will join them in this thought and action. □

Sunshine Mountain is located off U.S. Highway 51 and I-55, five miles north of the Louisiana - Mississippi state line. Turn at the Chatawa road sign, and you will find us on the Chatawa road between the Highway and the Chatawa Post Office. Phone 601-783-3426. The address is: P.O. Box 37, Chatawa, MS 39632.

Joy to the world

GOOD TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY! The message from the herald angels so many centuries ago has been repeated time and time again. The world was suffering then and welcomed the song, and it is still suffering and still welcomes it....or does it?

Lately we have noticed a tiredness and lack of enthusiasm when the subject of Christmas is brought into the conversation. "I just feel so turned-off," a friend complained, and another said, "I don't think I'll ever be able to get into the mood." "O, well, it's for the children, anyway, isn't it?" or "It's no fun now that the children are gone."

We have many obstacles to overcome when we approach the season in question. There is the ever present spectre of commercialism which robs us of the spirit of wonder and awe with its cheapness and gaudiness designed to entice the careless shopper. We can overcome this obstacle with the resolution that this year all of our gifts will be home made—and that takes planning ahead! Another obstacle is the fear that we will be caught with more to do than we have strength to do with. This can be overcome with a spirit of loving which takes us through the year, keeping in touch with those we care for and expressing our concern for them. In this way we will not be making up for a year of neglect by a gift at Christmas. We may be taking Christmas too much for granted, thus losing the spirit of the Babe of Bethlehem. Is it any wonder that the Chinese word for "gospel" is made up of two words which literally mean "happiness from on high"?

What do you really want this year for Christmas? I want the great joy spoken of by the angels...as Christians it is part and parcel of our human makeup to want happiness. No tyrant can take away the desire

to be happy. When Hitler was in power he forbade his people to celebrate Christmas. In spite of his authority, his order was widely disobeyed. The Constitution of the United States guarantees the right to "the pursuit of happiness."

I can still hear the songs we have sung together, "The joy of the Lord is my strength." That is on my list for Christmas...and there's more; I want to see small boys in shepherd's costumes watching "over their flocks by night"...little girls in shining robes and tinsel halos singing the glad tidings...Nativity scenes depicting our Saviors birth, and carols sung over and over...and over again. I want surprises and secrets, and families getting together and getting in touch.

Most of all for all of us I want joy...it is ours and has been since God's gift of His Son. It is more than mere lightheartedness which dims at the first sign of trouble. It is the serenity of spirit which carries us through our lives and keeps within us the heart of a child.

Another wish for Christmas is an "after" Christmas one, and that is that the spirit of joy stays with us for the next 365 days. The spirit of loving and giving, so very strong in us for the season, must stay with us always. Remember that the shepherds had to go back to the monotony of tending the sheep, but they "returned glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them." They kept the spirit of Christmas and told everybody what had happened to them. It was such a wondrous tale that all who heard it "wondered" (Luke 2:20).

Our little "angels" must take off the tinsel halos, the shining garments and our little shepherds must doff their costumes, but you may rest assured that the wonder of it will always remain with them. God give us that wonder and let it become a reality in our lives!

We have a living Christ who is nearer to us than hands or feet. We should feel as near to Him as did those staunch disciples who walked with Him in those days of His ministry. Robert L. Stevenson said "The saints are the sinners who keep on trying," and, we add, they keep the spirit of Christmas and the spirit of Christ "keeps" them. "We are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation" (1 Peter 1:5).

Let us come to Christmas this year with this thought...the most important question of the day is not "When will the economy become stable?" or "When will we be able to explore the planet Mars?"—but it is, "When will we go to Bethlehem?" □

WOMEN'S PAGE
by Madeline F. Randolph

KEEP THE "MILL WHEEL" TURNING!

—An analogy from the Council on Ecumenical Affairs

Did you ever think that the flow of cash to Our World Mission keeps the work of our denomination going, just as a steady and strong flow of water turns a mill wheel?

The Council on Ecumenical Affairs would like you to consider this analogy for a minute while they take it one step farther.

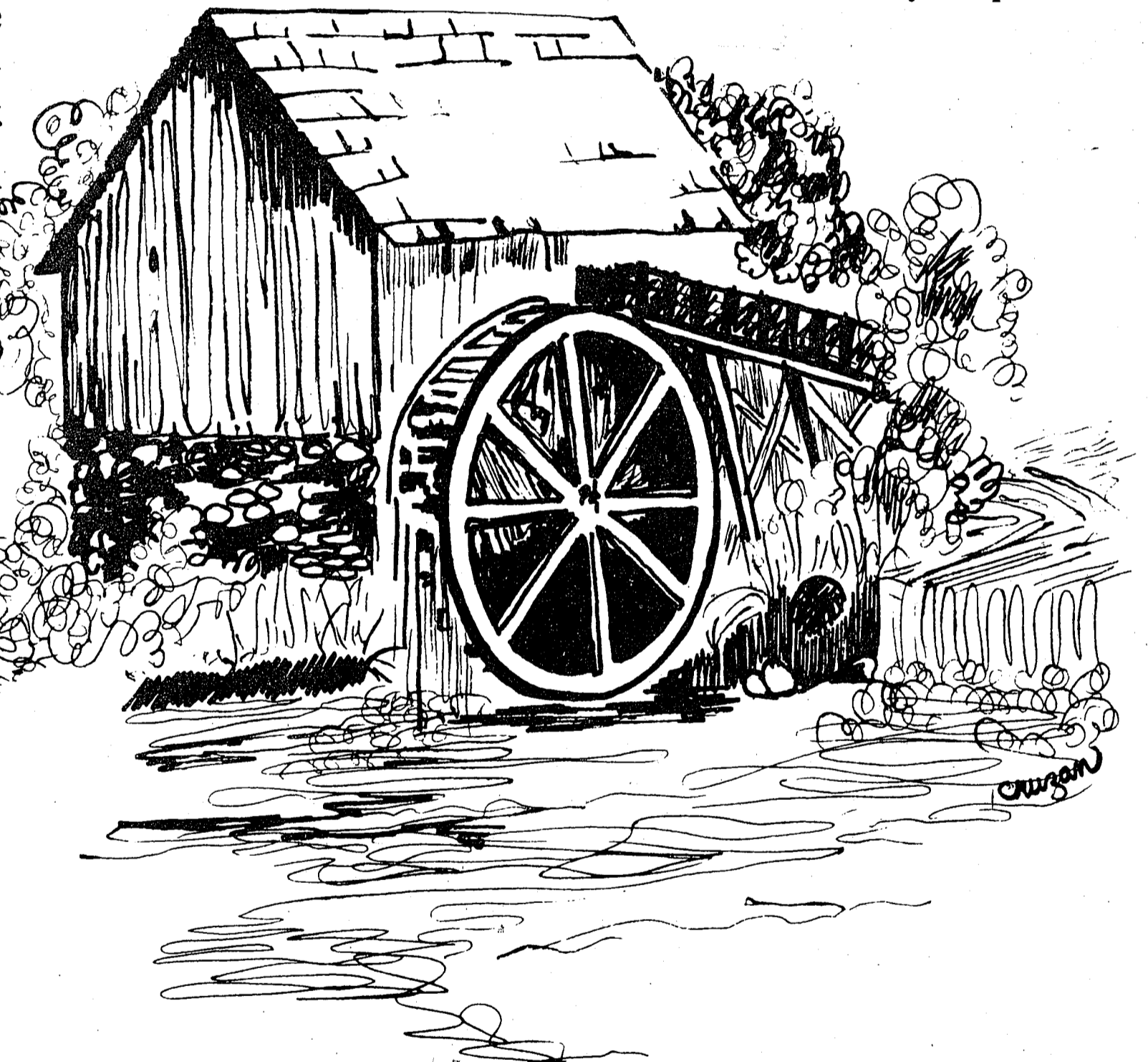
There are many concerns of Our World Mission which are the personal concerns of many Seventh Day Baptists, as well—causes and projects worthy of financial support. Take the work of the American Bible Society, for instance. The Seventh Day Baptist denomination is an active participant in the American Bible Society, both as a contributor and recipient of its services. As a denomination we have a commitment to back up this participation with financial support. Sometimes this contribution seems very small in comparison to the work going on. But this financial support is probably larger than the record actually shows, because many Seventh Day Baptists, as individuals, give donations directly.

This is fine. Like a stream going past a mill wheel, the water flows together eventually whether it goes over the wheel or not. But water that trickles off to the side in little rivulets is not doing the job of turning the mill wheel.

There are other aspects of our denomination's work that need support in a way that keeps "the mill working," too. Our work in the Baptist World Alliance is important, and needs to be strengthened. Our financial leadership in the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation is vital.

Consider these projects worthy of your support. Then put the full power of that support into the mainstream of OWM.

Keep the contributions flowing! Keep the "mill wheel" turning! □





ERNEST BEE ELECTED TO HEAD BAPTIST GROUP

ARLINGTON, VA.— More than fifty representatives of seven North American Baptist denominations heard reports of continued growth in both membership numbers and stewardship response when they gathered here for annual meetings of the general committee of the North American Baptist Fellowship (NABF).

They also heard, however, expressions of concern on three developments that might hamper the growth pattern.

Carl W. Tiller, secretary of the NABF and an associate secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, viewed as divisive threats "the increasing pull that nondenominational organizations have upon our people and their purses," the growth of the charismatic movement, and the appeal of the "Unification Church" to young people.

Many Baptist people, Tiller reported, are responding to "the expensive advertising and promotional efforts" of faith missions, famine relief organizations and disaster relief bodies, "seemingly unaware that our own Baptist denominational bodies are doing an effective work toward accomplishing the same objectives."

Tiller said that the neo-Pentecostal or charismatic movement "often unites its adherents across denominational lines and often divides people in the local church." The Unification Church, he said, appeals to youth "with its high powered promotion, 'surface' statements that closely resemble the sayings of Jesus, and its hidden bundle of false doctrines that are taught the unsuspecting."

Some of these same concerns were reflected by Archibald Goldie of the Baptist Federation of Canada, reporting on a group conference by mission administrators. He urged increased communication and promotion of Baptist mission activities, so that Baptists will support denominational rather than non-Baptist mission projects.

Ernest K. Bee Jr., moderator of the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Washington, D.C., was elected chairman of the NABF for the coming year, succeeding Robert C. Campbell, general secretary of American Baptist Churches in the USA, who has served two one-year terms as chairman. Mrs. Dolores Duck, executive director of Woman's Mission Board in the General Association of General Baptists, Poplar Bluff, Missouri, was named vice-chairman, succeeding Floyd W. Harris, a Southern Baptist layman.

The NABF is a voluntary association of nine North American Baptist bodies with a combined membership of more than 19 million believers. Previous chairmen have been V. Carney Hargroves, American Baptist Convention; Duke K. McCall, Southern Baptist Convention; S.S. Hodges, Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc.; G. K. Zimmerman, North American Baptist Conference; and Campbell.

The two day meeting in Arlington, a Washington suburb, October 1-2, featured a program of understanding and sharing. A pattern of past years for small sharing sessions by leaders in special interest areas was continued. Discussions this year dealt with church and society, missions administration, services to the churches,

disaster preparedness, and the work of executive secretaries.

Dialogue on ecclesiological and theological similarities and differences gave an added dimension to this year's meetings. C.C. Goen, a Baptist professor at Wesley Theological Seminary, moderated when spokesmen for American Baptists, Canadian Baptists, Seventh Day Baptists and Southern Baptists related the heritage and doctrinal views of their respective groups and submitted to questions from the floor. Other member groups of the fellowship will be heard at next year's session.

In reports of the various sharing sessions, the meeting of executive secretaries expressed hope of "finding ways within the church" to accommodate people with varying points of view on the charismatic movement. A group on services to the churches reported a need for additional aids for churches in evangelism, church growth, and enlistment of absentee members. And a group on disaster preparedness told of establishment of a "manpower bank" under Southern Baptist direction to process men and skills for emergency service at times of natural disaster; the manpower bank is now to be opened for participation by other Baptist bodies.

The next meeting of the general committee was set for October 5-6, 1977, also in the Washington area. Sharing sessions will be held at that time on Christian ethics, communication, evangelism and education, missions, and stewardship development, as well as the annual meeting of executive secretaries. □

—C.E. Bryant



Ernest K. Bee, the new chairman of the NABF for the coming year, is pictured here with Mrs. Dolores Duck of the General Association of General Baptists at the recent Washington meeting of the NABF.

The Church in Action

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

JAMAICA SUMMER CRUSADES RESULT IN OVER SEVENTY BAPTISMS

Camp is still fulfilling its major contribution to the spiritual life of the young people. The days of our toil and labour to establish camp have been rewarded. Then out of camp came the idea of Summer Evangelistic Project. Many of the campers are talented high school students, college students, and graduates and some of average educational standard. The idea was to utilize these young people's talents during the summer holidays by training them in Evangelism and Christian Education, and divide them into teams and send them to a number of our churches, upon the churches' request, to conduct Vacation Bible School and Evangelistic Meetings. We have embarked on this project for the past four years, and the Lord has been really blessing our efforts.

This year, with over thirty young people involved, the results from these Summer Crusades have been heart warming. Over seventy persons have been baptized so far. The largest number is from Higgin Town where thirty-two were baptized at one baptism. Carlton Ferguson has been serving there as student pastor and has been doing a marvelous job. Crusades were held at Font Hill, Coker, Post Roads, Jackson Town, Luna, Deeside, Waterford, Bowensville, Barrett Town and Lottery. □

—Joe A. Samuels

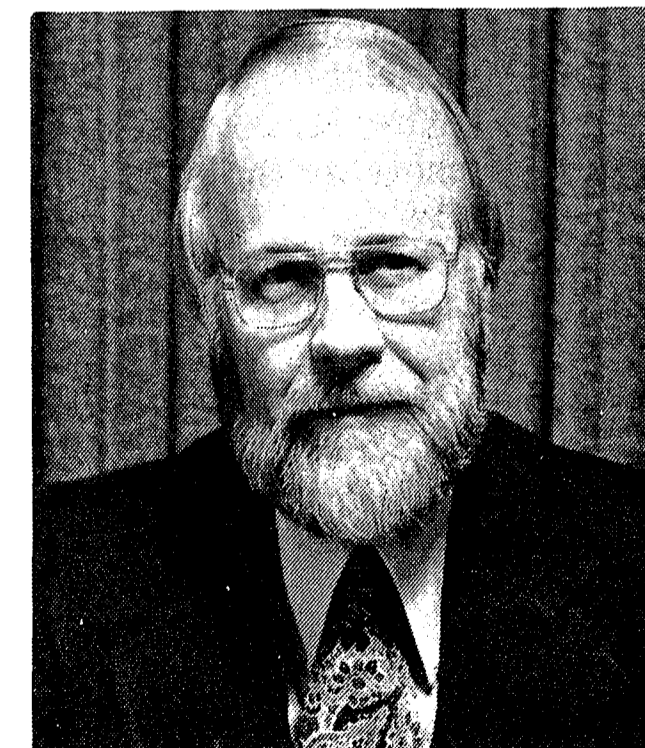


The Maize Road Assembly of God is the present meeting place of the First Columbus Seventh Day Baptist Church. Worship is at 10:30 a.m., followed by Sabbath School.

OHIO FELLOWSHIP TO ORGANIZE CHURCH

COLUMBUS, OH.— At ceremonies on Sabbath Day, December 11, 1976, the Ohio Seventh Day Baptist Fellowship will become the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Columbus. Organization Day activities will take place in the group's present meeting place, The Assembly of God, 4161 Maize Road, Columbus.

Dean Herbert E. Saunders will speak at the morning worship service, which will be followed by Communion, and Executive Secretary K. Duane Hurley will bring a challenge to the new church during the afternoon organization service. Rev. S. Kenneth Davis and Rev. Francis Saunders, who have served as pastors to the



Pastor Dale Thorngate of the Columbus, Ohio, SDB Church is pursuing a Master of Divinity degree at the Methodist Theological School.

Fellowship during its nine-year history, will also take part along with the present pastor, Dale Thorngate.

Special invitations to join in the celebration have gone to the sponsoring church in Battle Creek, Michigan, to other sister churches in the North Central Association, and to Washington, Lost Creek, and Denver, home churches for some of the new members. □

JOHN PEIL ORDAINED AT VERONA

VERONA, N.Y.— The Verona, N.Y., S.D.B. Church recently ordained its pastor, John Peil, to the gospel ministry. The ordination sermon was given by the Rev. Francis D. Saunders of Farina, Ill., who was one of the candidate's former pastors. Pastor Peil's doctrinal statement and examination followed a dinner served at the church to some 175 people.

The charge to the church was given by the Rev. Duane L. Davis, Seattle, Wash., and the charge to the candidate by the Rev. Rex E. Zwiebel of Alfred Station, N.Y., former dean of the SDB Center on Ministry. Rev. Leland Davis, former pastor of the candidate's home church in Los Angeles, Calif., gave the ordination prayer.

The welcome to the ministry was given by the Rev. C. Rex Burdick of Berlin, N.Y., and by the Rev. Robert Maier, pastor of the Lutheran Church of Churchville, N.Y. Some sixteen ministers took part in the actual service of ordination. □

ELDER MEMBERS HONORED AT ALFRED

ALFRED, N.Y.— "Wisdom Sabbath" was celebrated Oct. 2 at the Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church when 50-year members and those more than 80 years old were honored in a service of appreciation for their many years of faithfulness, patience, labor, love and wisdom in the community.

Ogareta Seager and Georgia Greene, who were among the 14 honored members present, took an active part in the special service, with Janette Rogers and Burton Crandall also assisting the pastor, Rev. Russell Johnson.

As their part in the service, the children in the congregation presented "love gifts" a corsage or boutonniere, to the eight members with 50 years or more of service to the church and six members who have reached their 80th birthday.

Among those attending as 50-year-members were Mabel Reynolds, Fredora Jones, Aletha Peck, Adelaide Sheldon, Ethel Wilcox, John Jacox, Prentice Stillman and Eugene Reynolds. Members in attendance having reached their 80th birthday were: M. Elwood Kenyon, Georgia Greene, Eeva Potter, Lois Reid, Ogareta Seager and Evalois St. John.

Those honored who were unable to attend were: Hannah Burdick, Olive Watson, Ethelyn Place, Phebe Polan, Ellen Sutton, Ruth Brooks, Frances Lorz, Dighton Burdick, Edward Saunders, Robert Place, Irving Jones, Raymond Witter, Philip Post, Charles Post, Mildred Vars, Clifford Potter, Elsie Potter, Gladys Green, Dora Norwood, Agnes Bond, and Arthur Burdick.

Following the church service, a reception was held at the Parish House where the senior members were greeted by the congregation. Agnes Bond and Dora Norwood, who were unable to attend the church service, arrived at the reception and were greeted joyfully by everyone. As Dora Norwood entered, the group sang "Happy Birthday" to her, for she celebrated her 100th birthday Oct. 6 - centennial birthday in our bicentennial year, good reason for a celebration!

Our church is blessed with a multitude of "seniors" who have contributed their knowledge and wisdom down through the generations. To all of you, please know that we do appreciate you and we love you! □

MARLBORO NEWS

MARLBORO, N.J.— The Joint Communion Service was held at Shiloh with Pastor Don Richards occupying the pulpit. His sermon, "For Such a Time as This."

Rev. Robert E. Bavender, executive director of N.J. Council on Alcohol Problems, was our guest speaker one Sabbath and Rev. Luther Nelson on Conference Sabbath.

Pastor Don Richards has been on chaplain duty at the Bridgeton Hospital for a period of time; also on WSNJ for "Dial a Devotion."

Rally Day was observed with a program prepared by Pastor Don, R. Wesley Davis, S.S. superintendent and Sharon Davis, Primary superintendent.

"Commitment to Growth" started with a supper meeting in Shiloh followed by a special training session led by Mr. and Mrs. Leland Bond.

The annual Sabbath School picnic was held at the church sponsored by the Helping Hand Class with the planning committee, Paul and Mary Lewis, Abe and Estie Carlaw and Mary H. Green.

Howard Tobey Miller, Jr. was dedicated by his parents, Howard and Becky (Hiles) Miller, Sept. 4. Morton Davis of Marlboro celebrated his 93rd birthday on Sept. 26 □

—Ella T. Davis

REV. DAVIS AND MRS. PARROTT ATTEND FLORIDA CHURCH GROWTH CLINIC

Rev. Kenneth Davis and Mrs. Dorothy Parrott of the Seventh Day Baptist Church, Battle Creek, Mich., participated in the church renewal clinic sponsored by the Evangelism Explosion Foundation of the Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, October 22-27. Due to its innovative and resourceful approach to Sunday morning visitors, Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church has earned the distinction of being the fastest growing church in its denomination (Presbyterian Church in the United States) for more than six consecutive years. During its short fifteen years of existence, Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church has grown from seventeen to over thirty-six hundred active members. The ministers of Coral Ridge have been sharing the secrets of their astounding success by means of quarterly clinics throughout the

church year. Some eighty-three ministers, wives, and laymen from eleven denominations were on hand to investigate the community outreach program. They came from nineteen states, two provinces of Canada, and England.

Spearheading the training program were Dr. James Kennedy, senior minister and Rev. Archie Parrish, executive administrator of Evangelism Explosion International.

During the clinic, certification for approved performance was awarded. Those trained in this seminar can qualify as official teachers of the Evangelism Explosion community outreach ministry. Within certain guidelines, these graduates can be authorized to establish their own clinics in local geographical areas using Evangelism Explosion materials and supervisory personnel. Almost all of the clinicians attending the seminar took the test for certification.

The phenomenal growth of Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church has been detailed in the paperback, *The Kennedy Explosion*, which is available through David C. Cook Publishing Company. □



This Christmas give that "extra special gift" that comes each month - The Sabbath Recorder. The subscription price is still \$6.00. Send your renewal and gift subscriptions to the Editor, P.O. Box 868, Plainfield, N.J. 07061.

The Sabbath Recorder

DERUYTER WELCOMES NEW PASTOR

DE RUYTER, N.Y.—We are very sorry that due to ill health of the family in our climate, Pastor Charles Swing felt it necessary to resign and return to Albuquerque, N. Mex., the last of August. It is our prayer that their health will be much improved and that God will provide suitable work for them there. However, we feel very fortunate that we have found a replacement so soon. Miss Helen R. Green arrived on October 15 to be our pastor, in time to attend our fall Central New York Association meeting at Adams Center.

Our annual church dinner and business meeting was held Sunday, October 17. The newly-elected officers are: Moderator - Barbara Burdick; Clerk - Mildred Parker; Treasurer - Wendell Burdick; Chorister - Ruth Burdick; Co-organists - Virginia Burdick and Mildred Parker. We are participating in the Commitment to Growth program in accordance with the action of General Conference.

On the evening of June 12 the Floyd Sears Family Gospel Team gave a concert in our church which was well attended. Pastor Swing and family were delegates to the Southeastern Association at Middle Island, W. Va., June 25-27.

Jo Anne Barber of Westerly and Patty Hensel of Milton were the team of SCSC workers that helped us very well and faithfully with our V.B.S. June 28 to July 9. We are grateful for their services and to the Women's Board for sponsoring this worthwhile project.

Our Sabbath School picnic was held Sunday July 11 at Highland Park. Our church took part in the DeRuyter Bicentennial celebration as much as possible with its being held the same week as our General Conference. Pastor Swing helped in getting printed a booklet on the DeRuyter churches. Ruth and Barbara Burdick had a large part in the making of a Bicentennial cook book. Barbara Burdick and Martha Mills were responsible for putting on a Bicentennial style show.

On August 28 after the church fellowship dinner we had a program honoring the Swing family before they left for their home in New Mexico. The Ladies Benevolent Society is becoming more active. They have pieced one quilt and tied three this summer. They are planning a bazaar for early November.



Pastor Helen Green is serving the DeRuyter, N.Y., church.

We were glad to have the General Conference in our area this year so that we could share in entertaining it and so that many more of our families could attend. We miss Kenneth Brannon who was our choir leader. He has started school this fall in Delhi, N.Y. □—Martha Mills

NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION MEETS

The Battle Creek church was host to the North Central Association Oct. 8, 9, and 10. The theme chosen by President Milburn Jones was "Working for Christ NOW."

On Sabbath Eve the Rev. Wayne Babcock gave a history of the Association which reflected our failures as well as our achievements. He challenged us to *grow*.

Sabbath morning about one hundred and sixty heard Dean Herbert Saunders, guest speaker, challenge us with his message "We Have This Ministry."

In the afternoon the young people of the Association had a song for us. Rev. Francis Saunders, Dale Thorngate and Dale Green were informally introduced. Each told of plans for growth in his church.

Lorna Austin, chairman of the Involvement and Encounter committee told how they were instructed to reach Lone Sabbathkeepers and then introduced Dorothy Parrott, the Reach Out Field Worker. She told

of her experiences visiting many Lone Sabbathkeepers.

The night after the Sabbath the young people went to Camp Holston for their retreat. A men's sing was enjoyed by all and more information about our ability to grow was shared by Dean Saunders.

Sunday morning members of the Albion, Battle Creek, Dodge Center, Farina, Milton, New Auburn, Ohio Fellowship, and White Cloud churches met for a business meeting. Devotions were led by Rev. Earl Cruzan followed by slides and message by Rev. David Pearson.

The officers for the Association are:
President - Jerry Vaught - Albion
Vice-President - Sheila Crane - Dodge Center
Secretary - Thelma Hurley - Milton (Mrs. Lester)
Treasurer - Sam Skaggs - Milton
Youth Rep. - Mike Geske - Albion
The Association will meet in Albion, Wis., on Oct. 7, 8, and 9, 1977. □

CHURCH OUTREACH GROWS

SCHENECTADY, N.Y.— Our new year began with the arrival of our new pastor - David Taylor and family. We feel definitely blessed to have them with us.

In February visits were started to the Glendale Nursing Home. This is a time of sharing the gospel, singing favorite hymns, and showing Christian concern for these dear ones.

A Wednesday evening family film time was started in the spring for the church members and the community. These are excellent Christian films and are followed by discussion and refreshments.

Two of our families, the Kilts and the Taylors met at the Eastern Association in Plainfield, New Jersey, May 7-9. One of our boys, Karl Kilts, was exchange camper from Eastern Association to Camp Joy in West Virginia the week of July 4 and then attended Lewis Camp, Rhode Island, the week of July 11. Karl found many new friendships and blessings through this experience.

Many bags of used clothing were gathered by the ladies of the church and in June we learned of a need for these articles at a local children's home.

After much planning and praying our summer started on June 25 with the arrival of our SCSC workers: Susie Pinder from West Virginia and Debbie Kellen from Bloomer, Wisconsin. Two weeks of VBS were held starting July 5. Four classes

were held with the theme "God's Love Is Jesus." We had an average attendance of 19. Following VBS we held a mini retreat in Glens Falls with the theme "Label God Able." There were three teens and seven juniors in attendance. The retreat ended Sabbath Day when we all gathered at the church and the retreaters conducted the morning worship service. We were all richly blessed while working with our SCSC girls and all the children participating in the activities.

On June 12 the Schenectady church voted to license David Taylor and this was done on July 3. A baptismal service was also held at this time.

On July 31 we all enjoyed a visit from David and Bettie Pearson, and the second week in August found two of our families, the Kilts and the Taylors, at General Conference in Houghton.

On September 3 another baptismal service was held. A time of prayer and sharing is now being led by Margaret Taylor for the ladies. We praise the Lord for His many blessings and for His guidance. □

-Mrs. Beverly Kilts, clerk

"SUNSHINE" STATE NEWS

DAYTONA BEACH, FL.— Our summer church attendance was noticeably higher this year. Traditionally, attendance is low during the summer months with our winter people gone and many of the others visiting family members in the North.

Our congregation was represented at Southeastern Association and at General Conference by several members. Movies, slides, and reports of these two events gave the rest of us a sense of participation. During Pastor Van Horn's absence, Alan Crouch conducted the services. Matthew Jacob and Susie Riley attended Camp Joy; Mark Jacob attended Youth Pre-Con.

The assistant superintendent of our Sabbath School, Otis Lastinger, has been hospitalized since July with serious injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident. We continue to pray for his recovery. His faith and attitude throughout this ordeal inspire us as well as patients and staff at the hospital.

Two new Sabbath School classes have been started this fall. Iris Maltby teaches the beginners' class and Alan Crouch teaches a young adult class. These are in addition to a primary, a youth, and two adult classes already meeting.

The Church Aid is busy fundraising with rummage sales and bazaars. These funds go toward worthy projects such as the current remodeling in the parsonage.

The Social Hall has undergone improvements recently. The new roof has been completed. Fresh paint and new drapes brighten the interior. □

-Janette Crouch

CHURCH CELEBRATES BIRTHDAYS

SHILOH, N.J.— Two from South Jersey joined singers from all over the state in presenting the musical "If My People" on July 4 in an open field arena around Bordentown, N.J. This musical was written by Jimmy and Carol Owens and he directed the 125 voice choir. Stephen Davis of our church and Richard Hinchman of Hancock's Bridge sang in the bass section.

A "Church Birthday Party" with many from the community attending was held in July. Twelve tables representing the months of the year held birthday cakes as center pieces, each beautifully decorated in the theme of the month. There was a parade of these cakes following a salad buffet supper. The evening was spent in singing and tributes and gifts were given to Pastor and Mrs. Bond by Miss Florence Bowden in behalf of the church. Our summer youth worker, Gordon Lawton, who



Rev. and Mrs. L. Sawi Thanga and their three beautiful children: Henry, Robert, and Helen. The Thangas live in Rangoon, Burma, where Rev. Thanga serves as the general secretary of the Burma SDB Conference. Let us continue to support them with our prayers as they lead out in the Lord's work in Burma.

served us so well, was presented with a love gift by Pastor Bond.

The opening meeting of our Ladies Benevolent Society was well attended and the theme of the year, "The Kitchen Is the Hub of the Home" was introduced. A peek into the coming year's program was provided by members who will be presenting them. Each monthly meeting will focus on a particular fixture in the kitchen and its function as hub of the home. Barbara Davis led the devotions using Prov. 31 and showed how her own mother fit into this picture by her devotion and provision for her family. Two new officers were installed by Margaret Bond; Cathy Dixon as president and Donna Bond as treasurer. Other officers installed in June were: Jan Bond as first vice-president, Florence Bowden, second vice-president, Martie Hitchner secretary, Billie Dickinson the key-worker. Conference reports were given and the evening closed in fellowship around an abundant table of apple crisp and ice cream. □

-Katherine F. Davis

PLAINFIELD ANTICIPATES NEW PASTOR AND FAMILY

PLAINFIELD, N.J.— After fifteen pastorless months, we were so happy to hear that Pastor and Mrs. David Pearson and daughter Joanna plan to come to us by January 1 that we had an impromptu prayer and praise service during our worship, September 11. Our first parsonage work bee was held October 24. We are really excited about the coming of the Pearsons.

We look forward to Pastor Pearson's leadership of our Growth Plan. Our church voted full participation, including all expenses. Five members of our Growth Force were greatly challenged by attending the New Jersey workshop at Shiloh, September 25-26. The next New Jersey workshop is to be in Plainfield in January. Pastor and Mrs. Pearson are also attending Church Growth workshops and are preparing to lead us into action for growth.

One of the most important things we have learned in our Bible studies is that a church will not grow unless its members discover and enjoy using their spiritual gifts. Every Christian should be a witness to his joyful experience in Christ and should help to make the church attractive to newcomers. We were

happy to receive three new members in October, bringing our total up to 96.

On October 16 we enjoyed hosting the Yearly Meeting of the New Jersey and eastern New York churches. At least 150 were present Sabbath morning with all eight churches represented. Dean Herbert Saunders conducted the service, and Pastor Socrates Thompson of New York City spoke on fulfilling our goals in Church Growth. Both noon and evening meals were furnished by our congregation without cost to our guests.

Afternoon devotions led by our Youth Fellowship were followed by a singspiration under the leadership of Douglas and Melody Wheeler. The panel on Church Growth, with Dr. K. Duane Hurley as moderator, was both enlightening and inspiring. Other participants were Pastor and Mrs. Charles Bachman of North Jersey, Charles and Anita Harris of Shiloh, and Rev. Socrates Thompson. They concluded that growth depends upon a joint effort between the pastor and a rededicated, committed laity.

Evening vespers were conducted by a group from Shiloh with Philip Bond as leader. Pastor Don Richards of Marlboro led the worship service, and Pastor David Taylor of Schenectady exhorted us to be on fire with the Holy Spirit in order to share our faith and thus to grow.

Our September 11 service included Sabbath School promotion, recognition of teachers, and reports from six of our Conference delegates. The next Sabbath, Historian Thomas Merchant led us in an exciting service on the "Stewardship of Opportunity" — opportunity to worship, keep the Sabbath, teach, give, learn, praise, and serve. His text was Matthew 21:30.

On September 25 we were fortunate to have Conference President, Rev. Delmer Van Horn, speak to us on "Suffering Servants." He said we must offer our lives to Christ and give God the glory.

Dean Herbert Saunders led our Worldwide Communion service October 2. Other speakers during September and October were Rev. Kenneth Smith, Pastor Charles Bachman of the North Jersey Church, and Deacon Linford Walters.

Home prayer meetings have been held on Friday and Sunday evenings, Tuesday mornings, and Wednesday evenings. They are helping us to grow, both spiritually and numerically. □

-Ruth Hunting Parker

BUSY YEAR FOR PENNSYLVANIA CHURCH

HEBRON, PA.— The life of the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Hebron is evidenced by its activities of the past year. Regular attendance at church and Sabbath School has been maintained. Giving has increased. Storm windows for the parsonage of all the downstairs and two of the upstairs windows have been installed. The church and parsonage have had a face-lifting by a good paint job. All the cracked or broken windows have been replaced with new, and all windows re-putted in both buildings. It has been voted to put a railing on the front porch steps of the parsonage, and to look into the possibilities of building a much-needed new back porch at the parsonage. It was voted to have a load of crushed rock hauled into the parsonage driveway.

This church contributed a considerable sum of money toward the pastor's new car which the two churches (Little Genesee and Hebron) provided for the pastor at the beginning of 1976.

Much credit is due for the loving care Edith Burdick (81 years young) gives to the upkeep of the church interior. She unassumingly and quietly repairs or revarnishes our church floors and steps each year. Her dedicated service to the upkeep of our Lord's House of Worship is an inspiration to us all.

During the summer a successful Bible School was conducted with an attendance of twenty-seven regular students and three visitors. The children's offering taken each day totaled \$20.00. This was sent to OWM. The children's weekly Bible Club was held regularly from Oct. '75 to May '76 in the Joe Sheehy home with an average attendance of ten. Plans are under way to begin in November again this year as the children are asking for it. PRAISE THE LORD!

The adult weekly Bible study has been faithfully attended. Our study of the book of Revelation was completed and the Bicentennial Prayer and Bible Study series was begun. Since Conference this has been laid aside in order to take part in the Commitment to Growth plan. We are studying the Power Packed Bible Study to prepare us for our first workshop which is scheduled for Nov. 14, when Pastor John Peil of Verona will direct at Little Genesee, N.Y., for possibly three churches of this area: Hebron, Little Genesee,

and Richburg.

At the October W.S.S.S. meeting, the ladies decided to study the book *What Happens When Women Pray* by Evelyn Christenson for their program through the coming year. This is the book recommended at Conference by our Women's Board. We are looking forward to great blessings, enrichment, and power as we put to practice the principles of this book.

Our pastor is busy guiding us in the work of the Lord here as well as with our Little Genesee brothers and sisters. His summer service shows much dedication. He directed two Bible Schools, two camp programs (Senior High and Junior) at Camp Harley Sutton. He assisted in operating two fair booths: one at Millport, Pa., and at Allegheny County Fair in Angelica, N.Y., both held simultaneously. At Conference time he assisted Calvin Babcock many times in the tape recording of the Conference programs and business. He also drove one of the two passenger vans that carried the Junior High Associated Conference to Rochester, N.Y., to tour the home of the late George Eastman, and to attend the program at the Planetarium. He planned and conducted the morning and evening worship services during the Post-Conference Ministerial Training sessions held at the Little Genesee SDB Church and Community Center. These were a special blessing to all who participated in the training.

Our ladies completely donated and served the Sunday night meal at the PCMT meeting. It was good to have Conference held near to us where more of us could participate in this yearly church gathering.

Things are happening here on Crandall Hill physically and spiritually. Our prayer is that in the coming year we will be doing "WHAT God wants us to do; do it HOW God wants it done; and to do it WHEN He wants it done." □ - Doris L. Van Horn

Are you one of the fifty workers for SCSC?

Get your application now!

ANNOUNCING

The Seventh Day Baptist Biennial Ministers Conference will be held April 27-May 4, 1977 in Daytona Beach, Florida. Details of the program will be announced at a later date.



Robert Fansler, Mrs. Rosalynn Carter and Mrs. Marietta Fansler at the presentation of Mrs. Fansler's painting "In God We Trust." Mrs. Fansler is a member of the Shiloh, N.J., S.D.B. Church.

PAINTING PRESENTED TO PRESIDENT-ELECT AND MRS. CARTER

Mrs. Marietta Fansler, a member of the Shiloh, N.J., SDB Church, recently had the honor of presenting her painting "In God We Trust" to Mrs. Rosalynn Carter in a ceremony held in Plains, Georgia. Mrs. Fansler describes her experience for *Recorder* readers: "Jimmy who?" I asked my sister, Lucy Harris. "Jimmy Carter! He's *born again* and running for President of the United States."

I began to read everything I could find about this man, then I prayed for guidance as to how I could help him. The idea came quickly, and I began to work. The pencil sketch, the canvas stretched and on the easel, and after some twenty-five hours of work my painting "In God We Trust" was complete. I believe that God's hand and my excitement showed in every stroke of the brush.

It was in July when we started going through channels to see our dream come true. A showing of the painting was requested for a Senator's home. It was then displayed in three counties in Delaware. On September 24 it was displayed at the Wilmington Mall and that was the day of Rosalynn Carter's visit. During her visit it was presented to her and she requested that we make an appointment and bring it to Plains.



Mrs. Fansler in describing her painting "In God We Trust," says "The dark clouds represent Watergate; with the tanned arm of a peanut farmer holding our flag high, the sun rays represent our hopes for the future which is, of course, in the hands of God."

HELEN WAITE HONORED FOR SERVICE

After over forty-one years of dedicated service Mrs. James G. (Helen) Waite retired the first of October as secretary in the Missionary Board office. She began her ministry when the late Rev. William L. Burdick was secretary and continued almost without a break since 1929.

In recognition of her devoted service a Resolution was voted by the Board of Managers of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society at their quarterly meeting at the Pawcatuck SDB Church, October 31:

Be it resolved that the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Board of Managers, in session October 31, 1976, express their very great appreciation to Mrs. James G. Waite for her many years of faithful service beginning in the office of the corresponding secretary of the society, the late Rev. William L. Burdick, and continuing in the office of the executive vice-president, for a period of over forty-one years. Helen often served far beyond the stated hours of service.

Be it further resolved that this labor of love in past years and the expectation of



Helen (Mrs. James G.) Waite

Our entire family went to Plains on October 3. We arrived there in time for Sunday School at the Plains Baptist Church. Bob introduced himself to Jimmy Carter and reminded him that we had brought the painting. Governor Carter said "Oh, is that the one with Christ's hands holding the world?" Bob excitedly replied that it was. And so the painting was presented.

Whether it hangs in the White House or in Plains, the painting reveals the work of God, a lot of love, and the story of a country that still gets excited about God's plans for the future. □

-Marietta Fansler

continuing interest and services as a member of the Board of Managers will find reward in the respect, prayers and regards of fellow members and also in the final commendation of our Lord, "Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Following the board meeting an informal reception was held for Helen with many members of her family present. □

News Notes

● Weekly Bible studies are being held in Randle, Washington, in addition to the regular monthly worship service.

● The fall meeting of the Pacific Coast Association was held at the Los Angeles church. A combined choir conducted by Miss Lois Wells presented the "Alleluia" by Gaither. An annual budget of \$6,900 was adopted.

● By CHURCH GROWTH we mean ALL that is involved in bringing men and women who do not have a personal relationship to Jesus Christ into fellowship with Him and into responsible church membership.

-Friendly Guest.

● Birthday greetings to Mrs. Allie B. Lewis of the Battle Creek, Michigan, church. Mrs. Lewis recently celebrated her 93rd birthday.

● Pastor Elmo F. Randolph of the Boulder, CO., SDB Church recently conducted a Stop Smoking Retreat at Camp Paul Hummel. The retreat was co-sponsored by the Boulder branch of the American Cancer Society.

● New officers for the Mid-Continent Association are: President, Ed Hansen of Denver; President-Elect, John Ryschon of North Loup; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Kent Wheeler of Nortonville.

● According to *Christianity Today*, a poll conducted by George Gallup reveals that 50 million Americans

say they have been "born again." In reply to one who had been born "once at most" the magazine replied: "Once-born men die twice, twice-born men die once."

● Recent guest speakers at the North Jersey SDB Church include: Dr. Kenneth E. Smith, Women's Society President Mrs. Myrna Cox, and Dean Herbert E. Saunders.

● Now is the time to plan for the summer. If you are interested in serving on an SCSC team or in having a team serve your church send your request to: Dr. K. D. Hurley, P.O. Box 868, Plainfield, N.J. 07061.

● The Lightbearers for Christ team will be with SDB's in the Torreon, Mexico, area Dec. 2-8. This will be followed by a series of concerts in El Paso, TX, Dec. 10-13.

● Menzo Fuller writes, "Mr. Mhura and I went to Thomas to assist with and supervise building of the kiln (for brick making) and cutting wood to fire the kiln. They have some 30,000 bricks stacked so far (for the new Medical Center in Thomas)."

● Seventh Day Baptists are meeting Friday evenings at 7:30 at the First Baptist Church, 518 N. Franklin, in Madison, Wis.

DENOMINATIONAL DATELINE

December 11
Dr. K. D. Hurley
Dean Herbert Saunders
Church Organization
Columbus, Ohio

December 26-28
Commission Sessions
Plainfield, N.J.

January 2-8, 1977
SDB Week of Prayer

January 9, 1977
Memorial Fund Trustees
Plainfield, N.J.

January 16
American Sabbath Tract Society
Shiloh, N.J.

Board of Christian Education
Alfred, N.Y.

January 30, 1977
Missionary Society
Westerly, R.I.

ACCESSIONS

DODGE CENTER, MN
L. Wayne Babcock, Pastor

By Baptism:
Leann (Mrs. Dennis) Lippincott

PLAINFIELD, N.J.

By Baptism:
Karlene Walters

By Testimony:
John Tyler
Lucy (Mrs. John) Tyler

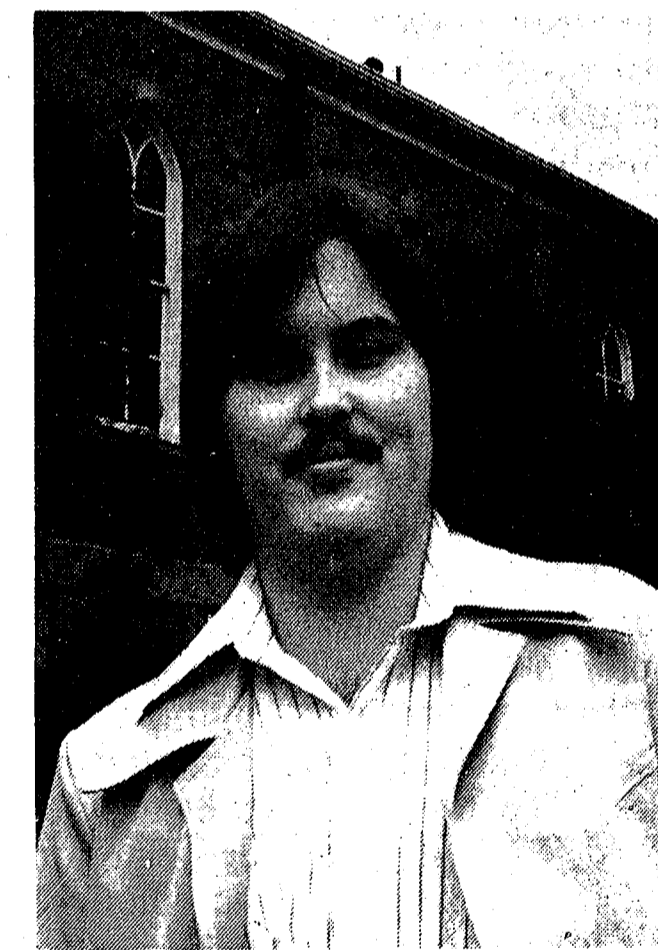
WATERFORD, CONN.
Dale Rood, Pastor

By Baptism:
Cherilyn Bennett
Marilyn Bennett
Delfin Trujillo
John Williamson

MARRIAGES

HOEBEKE-FATATO.- Donald F. Hoebeke and Mrs. Freda C. Fatato, both of Battle Creek, Michigan, were united in marriage on July 3, 1976 in the Seventh Day Baptist Church with their immediate families in attendance. The ceremony was performed by her former pastor and friend of many years, the Reverend Paul L. Maxson of Berlin, New York, and her present pastor, the Reverend S. Kenneth Davis.

KNOPP-NEWMAN.- Gerald F. Knopp and Audrey Ann Newman were united in marriage at the Seattle Area Seventh Day Baptist Church by Pastor Duane L. Davis, on September 18, 1976.



Mr. Perry Cain, a senior student at Salem College in Salem, West Virginia, will be the first student to participate in the Center on Ministry/Salem College Career Development Program for Clergy, Dean Herbert E. Saunders has announced. He will be spending his final semester of college training in Plainfield, working with the denominational staff, the Plainfield church as a student assistant, and participating in academic studies.

(continued from page 11)

our whole world, all forms of life, back into harmony with Himself and that requires the eradication of sin. "His Spirit shall not always strive with man." God's love is committed to the total and permanent removal of sin from His universe.

God's love is exclusive. He requires our allegiance. God has declared Himself to be a jealous God Who cannot accept divided loyalties or a shared allegiance. "He who is not for Me, is against Me." Love that went all the way to Calvary cannot be satisfied with a share of my life. His promise is, "You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart." The world glitters with millions of lights, each seeks to attract our attention and divert our loyalty from the Light of the World. But He alone is the Light that brings lasting warmth and beauty into the human life.

Love is a many-splendored word; it has become one of the most used and most abused words in our language. Everyone supposedly loves everyone else in our society and television demonstrates the contemporary love fest. Everyone shaking hands, everyone hugging and kissing, everyone using endearing terms. The apparent answer to all problems inside and outside of the church too is just a matter of more loving. Possibly there is a danger that this might take the same form as seen on television - more expressions, more words and more gestures of endearment.

The answer to the problems of the church and of the community and of the world is more love, more warmth. But this love is not sentimentalism, nor emotionalism. This is not just words, although words and expressions of endearment have an important place. Christ's new commandment was, "To love one another as He loved." His love included emotion but it was far more than emotion. His love was a principle. He cared for people. He was concerned about them, and He did something about it. It was not only His death that He sacrificed for people, but all of His life was a sacrifice. He spent himself completely in His care and in His concern. His time, His energy, His strength and finally His life's

blood, were given in service, not out of sentiment. Sentiment would never have carried Him through the ordeals of His life and death. He did have close emotional ties with His friends. But His love was not just hugging and kissing and sweet terminology. His love was a principle of commitment to the needs and to the welfare of others. "And having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them unto the end." A new commandment-**THAT YOU LOVE ONE ANOTHER IN THE SAME WAY.**

Christ's love was demonstrated consistently in His daily activity. Likewise, God's love is known to us only by His acts in this world. The Scripture tells us that "God is Love" but His actions explain what that means and prove the statement to be true. "God so loved that He gave." Our love also must mean concern. It must mean caring. It must mean sacrificing time, strength and energy. It means giving up moments of rest and pleasure and serving those who are "the least of these His brethren." People need a smile, a hug, a pat on the back, a word of warmth, but serving Christ means far more than these expressions of love. Caring means practical answers to genuine problems. Genuine love always includes sacrifice.

We have said that God's love is an integral part of His nature. With God it is not His response to something lovely, something beautiful, something lovable. God loves while we are yet sinners, while we are ugly, nasty, selfish, all the unlovely human qualities. He loves us before we love Him and whether or not we ever respond to Him. We are not that way. We respond to love, to warmth, to beauty and to generosity. How hard it is to love the unlovely.

I remember a woman whom I saw in consultation at the hospital. She was in her late 30's or about 40, a woman of average appearance. In the course of my examination and my discussion with her, she told me that she worked as a model. Later at the nursing station, as I was writing on her chart, I mentioned this to the nursing personnel. They explained to me the kind of model she was and, as you know, there are several types of models. She worked in one of those X-rated establishments, posing in the nude for men to take pictures of her and who knows what else.

You can well imagine the reaction of each of us seated there, Christian people-revulsion, rejection, contempt for this miserable specimen of a woman. And I couldn't help asking the question of our group and of myself, "Do you suppose she is really Mary Magdalene and one of us could act for Christ and be her savior?" I never saw her again. It takes a lot more than human love to love people while they are unlovely, while they are still sinners but, "By this shall all men know that you are My disciples." "Whosoever loveth is born of God."

Christ said that He was giving a new commandment, an order, that we should love, "as He has loved us." Why a command? Because until we have been changed into the fullness of His stature and His nature, it won't come naturally. We may have to love as a duty, as obedience to His command. But far better to act through duty than not to act. Far better to show warmth and love through obedience, than to be cold and loveless. If we don't start acting Christlike as a matter of principle, it will probably never become part of our new nature. But once we get started by God's grace, it will grow and we will become genuinely loving.

I believe that it was in early May of this year that I was called to the hospital one night and was returning home very early in the morning. It was just beginning to get light, the western sky was still quite dark and the stars were still shining, but the eastern sky was starting to glow a little. As I walked from my car toward our home, I could here the birds in the trees, twittering. And I was surprised at how many there seemed to be. They weren't moving yet, but there was a stirring and a twittering that told me most certainly that as the light got brighter and as the sun began to bring more warmth, those birds would soon be on the wing. They would soon be busily engaged in caring for the young, busy doing the work that God had given them to do.

Possibly you are like me. God's light and God's warmth are just dawning on us. We feel the stir, there is a faint twittering within us, a response going on inside and we are just waiting for more light, for more warmth, for more of His love to arouse us and motivate us and send

us out to share His love and light with those who are still in the cold and in the darkness. "By this shall all men know that we are His disciples."

PRAYER-
*Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
Wean it from earth, Thro' all its
pulses move;
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as
Thou art,
And make me love Thee as I ought
to love.*

*Teach me to love Thee as Thine
angels love,
One holy passion filling all my frame;
The baptism of the heaven-descended
Dove,
My heart an altar, and Thy love the
flame.* □

BIRTHS

GREENE.-A son, Joel Wayne, to Dan and Linda (Galley) Greene of Dodge Center, MN, October 8, 1976.

HUNTLEY.- A daughter, Jennifer Ruth, to Edward and Mary (Sitzai) Huntley, Bradford, R.I., on Sept. 8, 1976.

NEARHOOD.- A daughter, Gloria Ann, to John J. and Susie (Monroe) Nearhood of Texarkana, Ark., on August 8, 1976.

PAYNE.- A son, Brian Curtis, to Doug and Karen (Osborn) Payne of Dodge Center and West Concord, MN, October 20, 1976.

SUDBURY.- A son, Aaron Michael, to Michael and Shelley (Austin) Sudbury of Dodge Center and Kansas City, October 14, 1976.

THORPE.- A daughter, Heather Lynn, to Walter and Ruth (Wheeler) Thorpe, Westerly, R.I., on Sept. 8, 1976.

OBITUARIES

BARBER.-Wayne Paul, son of John and Nancy Wiswell Barber, was born in Corning, New York, July 21, 1975 and died in the Strong Memorial Hospital, Rochester, New York, October 19, 1976.

He is survived by his parents and a brother, David. Farewell services were conducted by the Rev. Rex E. Zwiebel and the Rev. Edward Sutton at the Sutfin Funeral Home, Nichols, New York, October 21. Interment was in the Nichols Cemetery. -R.E.Z.

BROCK.-Ronald C., son of Willis and Emma Eggelston Brock, was born in Hebron Township, Potter County, Pennsylvania, September 15, 1908, and died in the Bradford Hospital, October 19, 1976.

On May 4, 1929, he married Ruth Scott, who survives along with two sons, Robert of Ranstein Air Force Base, Germany; and William, of Roulette, Pa., three daughters, Barbara (Mrs. Lewis Duell) and Betty (Mrs. Gary Hardes), both of Port Allegany, Pa., and Joan (Mrs. Grant Hagen) of St. Marys, Pa.; also fourteen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Ronald was a member of the First Hebron Seventh Day Baptist Church and followed the vocations of farmer and mechanic.

In the absence of his pastor, the Rev. Kenneth B. Van Horn, farewell services were conducted in the First Hebron Seventh Day Baptist Church by the Rev. Rex E. Zwiebel, a former pastor. Interment was made in the Woodlawn Cemetery in Hebron. -R.E.Z.

BURDICK.-Elois I., daughter of Edwin and Mary Burdick of Westminster, Colorado, was born February 6, 1956 in Denver, Colorado, and passed away in Dalhart, Texas, on September 28, 1976. Even though physically afflicted throughout her life, she spent much of her time helping others including serving as a "candy-striper" at the Veterans Hospital and working with children at a day care center. She was also given an award by the V.F.W. for her speech on "What America Means to Me."

Elois was baptized on December 10, 1965 at the Denver Seventh Day Baptist Church upon her profession of faith in Christ and chose to attend Rockmont Christian College to aid in her spiritual growth.

Surviving her besides her parents are a sister, Vicky, of Westminster; her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. R.J. Holt of Dupont, Colorado, Mrs. Elois W. Burdick of Denver, and Mrs. Jo Ellen Huggins of Austin, Texas, as well as several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Funeral services were held at the Moore Mortuary, Denver, Colorado, on October 5, 1976 with the interment at Crown Hill Cemetery, Lakewood, Colorado. The Rev. John A. Conrod officiated with Rev. Edgar F. Wheeler assisting. -J.A.C.

COON.-Eva Satterlee (92), daughter of William Franklin and Emma Maria Brown Satterlee, was born October 25, 1884, and died at St. Anthony Memorial Hospital, Effingham, Ill., on September 29, 1976.

She was married to Clifford Stillman Coon on August 5, 1908.

She was a long time member of the Farina Seventh Day Baptist Church having played in the church orchestra, served as organist, and taught in the Sabbath School.

Funeral services were conducted from the Farina Seventh Day Baptist Church with burial at the Farina Cemetery, her pastor, the Rev. Francis D. Saunders, officiating. -F.D.S.

POST.-Glenn L. was born June 18, 1899 in Good Hope, W. Va., and died October 21, 1976, in Clarksburg, W. Va., following a brief illness.

Mr. Post was an honorary alumnus of Salem College and had served on the board of trustees since 1959. He was a member of the college Centurion Club, past president and life board member of the West Virginia Horseman's Association, and a member of the Salem Lions Club with twenty-nine years of perfect attendance.

A Methodist by faith, Mr. Post also attended with his wife the Salem S.D.B. Church. He

operated the Post Motor Truck Company for some twenty years and was later associated with Simpson Motor Company.

He is survived by his wife, Eula Randolph Post of Salem, W. Va.; two brothers, Harry and Glen; one sister, Genevieve Post Sumner; and several nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held October 23 at the Harbert Funeral Home with Rev. Paul Green of the Salem S.D.B. Church and the Rev. William Miller of the United Methodist Church. Interment was in the Knights of Pythias Memorial Garden in Salem. -Salem Herald

Deadline for SCSC projects and worker applications is April 30.

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Please notify us of a change of address promptly. It now costs .25 cents for each envelope/Recorder that is returned to us by the post office. We are also experiencing delays in delivery, especially of packages, because of the UPS strike in the East. Please allow extra time for your order to arrive. -Editor.

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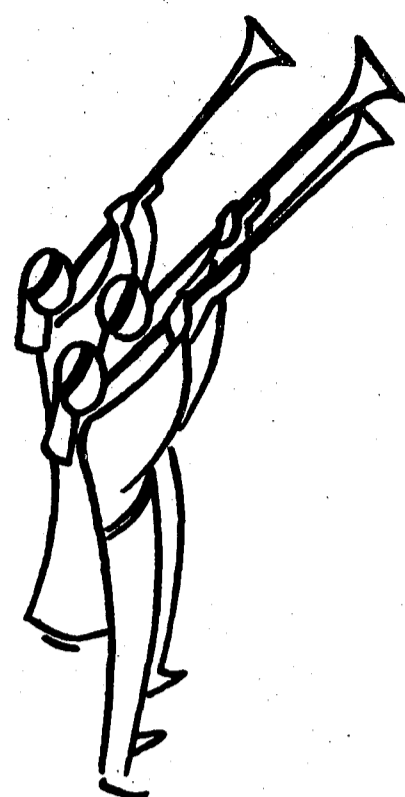
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In Joyful Response... Sound The Trumpets!

Rejoice!

As Seventh Day Baptists we can be both *thankful* and *glad* during this year-end holiday season.

We have responded to the challenge of Commitment to Growth by giving of our time, talent, and treasure, perhaps more generously than ever before.

+ We will surely oversubscribe the OWM budget for 1976 by at least **110 percent**. That will assure the underwriting of the first phases of our growth plan.

+ We almost succeeded in meeting the basic minimum budgetary requirements in ten months.

HALLELUJAH!!

The record shows (see the enclosed summary of budget receipts for October 1976) that **TEN** churches have already passed their suggested goals for the year. **PRAISES BE!** Those churches are to be highly commended. With a little *extra effort*, they can help assure raising the budget **110 percent**.

The record also shows that **TWELVE** churches have *almost* reached their suggested goals. **THANK THE LORD!** They are to be congratulated and encouraged to make the necessary *extra effort* to go over the top - **110 percent**.

All other churches, groups, and individuals are earnestly urged to do what is necessary to assure reaching our **110 percent** goal by the end of December.

In doing for others - in this special monetary way - we do for ourselves!
We find that, in our Christian philanthropic efforts, we benefit ourselves, our churches, and our denominational programs.

- Happiness is receiving and giving! -
("It is more blessed to give than to receive." - Acts 20:35)

We find that, by making charitable contributions to such things as Bible distribution, reconstruction at times of disaster, relief for the destitute, and for missionary endeavors, we actually strengthen ourselves.

- We can never outgive God! -
("God so loved the world..." - John 3:16)

In Joyful Response... We Give!

10 in 10

The following ten churches reached their OWM goal in ten months. They are to be highly commended for meeting the challenge!

-
- ADAMS CENTER, NEW YORK •
- BERLIN, NEW YORK •
- DODGE CENTER, MINN. •
- HOUSTON, TEXAS •
- IRVINGTON, NEW JERSEY •
- LITTLE GENESEE, NEW YORK •
- NORTH JERSEY, NEW JERSEY •
- NORTH LOUP, NEBRASKA •
- SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK •
- SEATTLE, WASHINGTON •
-

OUR GOAL IS IN SIGHT!

	January	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	October	Nov.	Dec.
Months												
Receipts												

If we keep moving as fast until **December 31** as we have moved in ten months, we will achieve **110%** of OWM resources and assure our Commitment to Growth plan!

OWM BUDGET RECEIPTS FOR OCTOBER 1976

	Suggested Goal	October OWM	10 mos. total OWM and Reported Boards		Suggested Goal	October OWM	10 mos. total OWM and Reported Boards
Adams Center NY.....	\$ 1,300	\$ 221.00	\$ 1,309.37	Schenectady NY.....	200	55.00	\$ 378.92
Albion WI.....	1,200	282.86	988.96	Seattle WA.....	2,500	400.85	2,523.58
Alfred NY.....	9,000	470.75	6,968.90	Shiloh NJ.....	13,000		8,604.42
Alfred Station NY.....	4,700	691.13	3,670.19	Stonefort IL.....	500	60.00	310.00
Ashaway RI.....	6,000	756.25	5,696.96	Texarkana AR.....	300		181.00
Associations and Groups	13,000	907.04	6,299.15	Verona NY.....	3,000	338.77	2,130.87
Battle Creek MI.....	10,500	685.86	7,034.86	Walworth WI.....	2,200	200.00	1,290.00
Bay Area CA.....	600		310.00	Washington DC.....	4,200	500.00	3,400.00
Berea WV.....	700	150.00	619.15	Waterford CT.....	3,600	530.83	3,109.87
Berlin NY.....	3,200	311.65	4,006.36	Westerly RI.....	5,700		5,576.92
Boulder CO.....	4,000	385.05	3,151.80	White Cloud MI.....	1,700	117.67	1,182.12
Brookfield NY.....	600	57.00	474.00				
Dallas-Ft. Worth TX...			59.80	Total Budget.....		\$17,258.82	\$181,508.56
Daytona Beach FL.....	3,500	300.47	2,897.22	Non-Budget.....		609.76	
Denver CO.....	17,000	979.28	13,409.32	Total To Disburse..		\$17,868.58	
DeRuyter NY.....	2,000	112.10	1,881.87				
Dodge Center MN.....	6,000	888.12	6,078.34				
Farina IL.....	800	42.40	683.95				
Fouke AR.....	1,200	57.64	847.79				
Hebron PA.....	2,400	91.70	1,708.85				
Hopkinton RI.....	350		160.00				
Houston TX.....	700		709.13				
Individuals.....	3,000	120.00	2,836.11				
Irvington NJ.....	2,000	100.00	2,825.50				
Kansas City MO.....	1,500	83.39	1,418.28				
Leonardville NY.....	300	10.00	137.00				
Little Genesee NY.....	3,000	230.55	3,039.29				
Little Rock AR.....	600	20.00	358.56				
Los Angeles CA.....	9,000	1,200.00	7,162.00				
Lost Creek WV.....	3,700	518.00	3,285.00				
Marlboro NJ.....	5,000		4,934.35				
Middle Island WV.....	700	60.00	650.00				
Milton WI.....	21,000	1,520.15	17,429.45				
Milton Junction WI....	1,300	48.00	628.00				
New Auburn WI.....	2,500	273.94	1,239.01				
New York City NY.....	1,000	200.00	901.40				
North Jersey NJ.....	2,000	233.68	2,075.97				
North Loup NE.....	5,200	440.00	5,260.59				
Nortonville KS.....	3,800	377.00	3,197.31				
Ohio Fellowship OH....	4,500	160.05	3,871.98				
Paint Rock AL.....	1,500	269.50	844.50				
Phoenix AZ.....			1,292.00				
Plainfield NJ.....	7,500		5,836.31				
Richburg NY.....	2,500	146.75	1,980.35				
Riverside CA.....	11,000	1,130.39	7,459.04				
Rockville RI.....	700	18.00	196.50				
Salem WV.....	5,700	506.00	4,292.39				
Salemville PA.....	1,500		704.00				

OCTOBER DISBURSEMENTS

Board of Christian Education.....	\$ 1,676.48
Christian Social Action.....	135.41
Council on Ecumenical Affairs.....	390.52
Council on Ministry.....	1,801.76
General Conference.....	3,096.25
Historical Society.....	9.46
Ministerial Retirement.....	1,520.82
Missionary Society.....	6,522.92
Tract Society.....	2,363.38
Trustees of SDB General Conference.....	9.46
Women's Society.....	342.12
Total Disbursements.....	\$17,868.58

SUMMARY

1976 Budget.....	\$205,749.00
Receipts for ten months:	
OWM Treasurer \$167,912.72	
Boards Reported 13,595.84	181,508.56
To be raised by December 31, 1976.....	\$ 24,240.44
Percentage of year elapsed.....	83.33%
Percentage of budget raised.....	88.2%
Ten months:	
Raised.....	\$181,508.56
Due.....	171,457.50
Ahead.....	\$ 10,051.06
	Gordon Sanford OWM Treasurer



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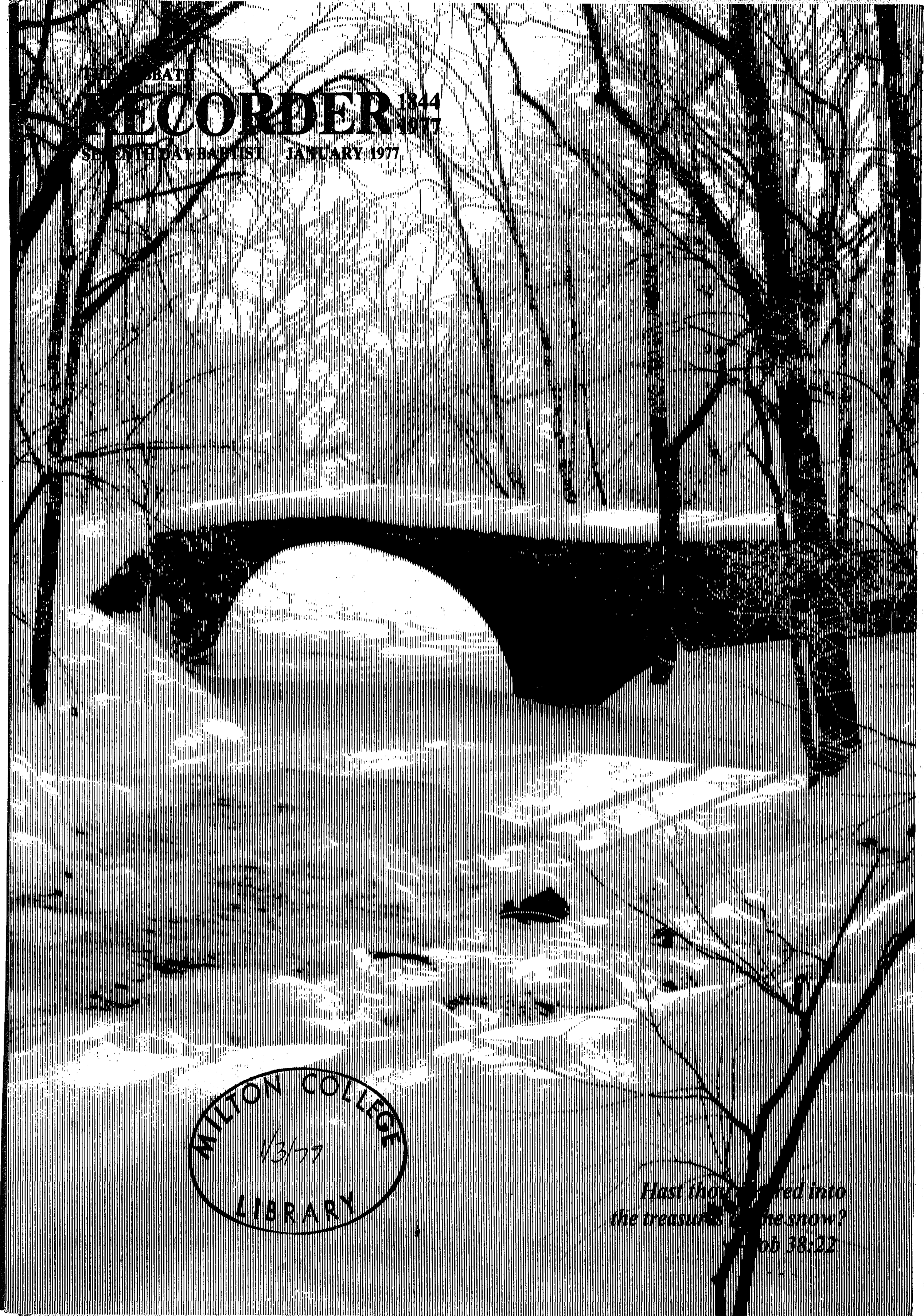
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*Hasn't thou entered into
the treasures of the snow?
Job 38:22*