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This Family Has An "Extra Dimension"



"Christ is with this family and guiding their lives," the artist seems to say.

But is Christ with every family? Obviously not. The tensions, bitterness and hate found in many homes testify to that. Moreover, it takes more than a few strokes of the artist's pencil to bring that extra dimension to your home.

To begin with, "he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."¹ Also, you need to realize that the Saviour comes not to a house but a heart, to "dwell in your hearts by faith."²

And certainly He is anxious to enter. "Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him."³

As is so often the case, a little initiative on your part can set in motion an exciting chain of events. The first link, in this case, is to simply invite Him in.

¹Hebrews 11:6 ²Ephesians 3:17 ³Revelation 3:20

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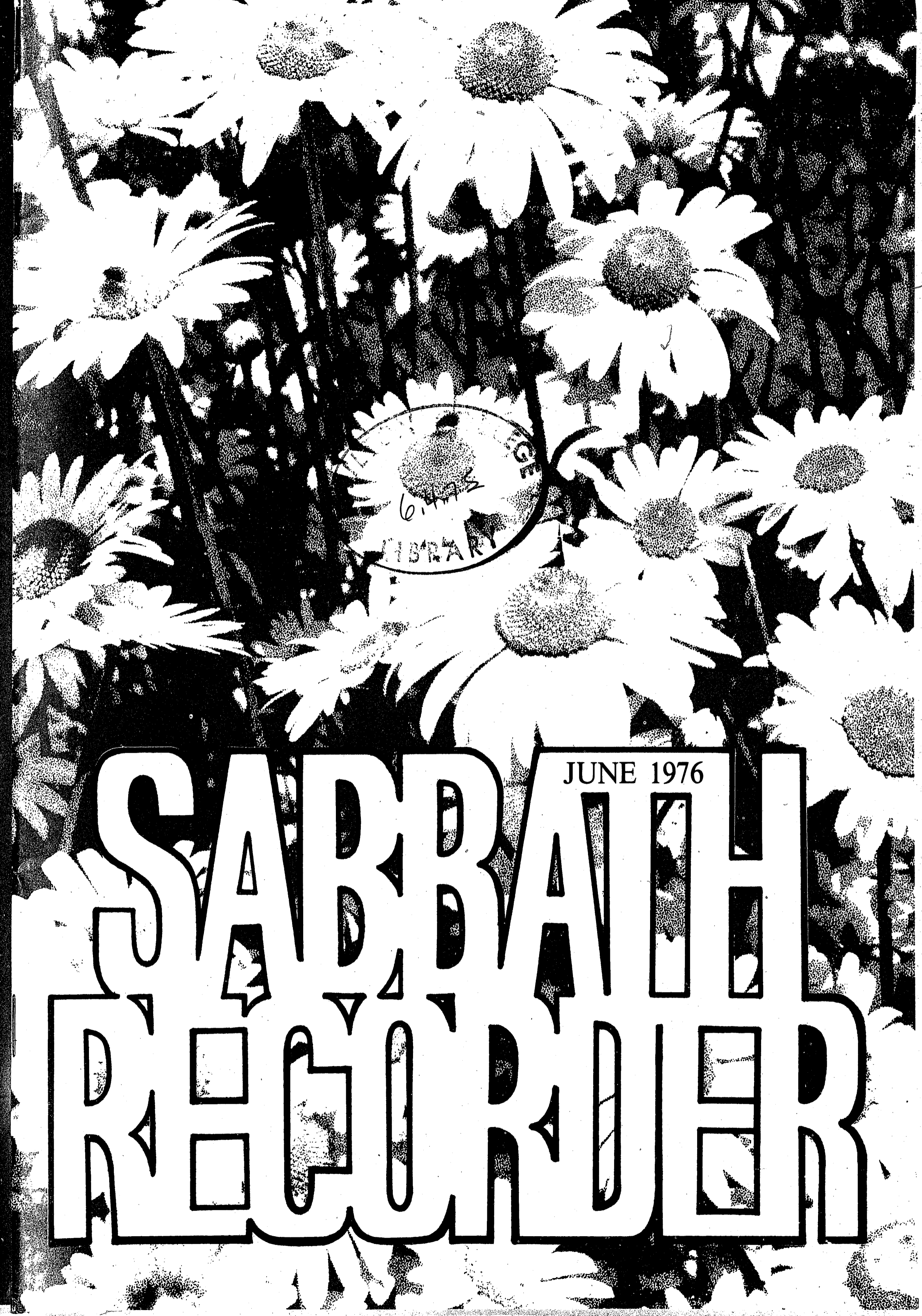
GOD'S PLAN

In fair and lovely Eden
God molded Him a man
It must have been His great desire
His purpose and His plan
That I should often think of Him
For what He's done for me;
In sending Jesus to this world
To die upon the tree.

Since He has loved me first of all
I must His love return;
The laws revealed within His Word
I really must not spurn.
I'll keep His Sabbath holy
The day that He has blessed;
I'll find great joy and gladness
In worship and in rest.

I'll try to teach my children
To marvel at His care
And learn to love each other
And all His blessings share;
So they may grow in a new world
Where freedom shall abound
When all mankind shall worship Him
In whom all love is found.

-Iris S. Maltby
Daytona Beach, Fla.



JUNE 1976

SABBATH RECORDER

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It would be hard to be without the
Recorder; it is our eyes and ears,
worldwide, as S.D.B.'s. I'd like seeing
a "Readers Forum" page in each
issue. ...There's a need for more
"grass roots" awareness.

- Ira Bond
Nortonville, KS

I am one of many lone Sabbath-
keepers across our fine country. I
receive the *Friendly Guest* from the
Battle Creek church and the Women's
Society Newsletter. These, along with
the *Sabbath Recorder*, keep me in
touch with our people. I am a
convert to the S.D.B. church. Please
renew my subscription.

- Mrs. Helen Heilman
Indianapolis, Ind.

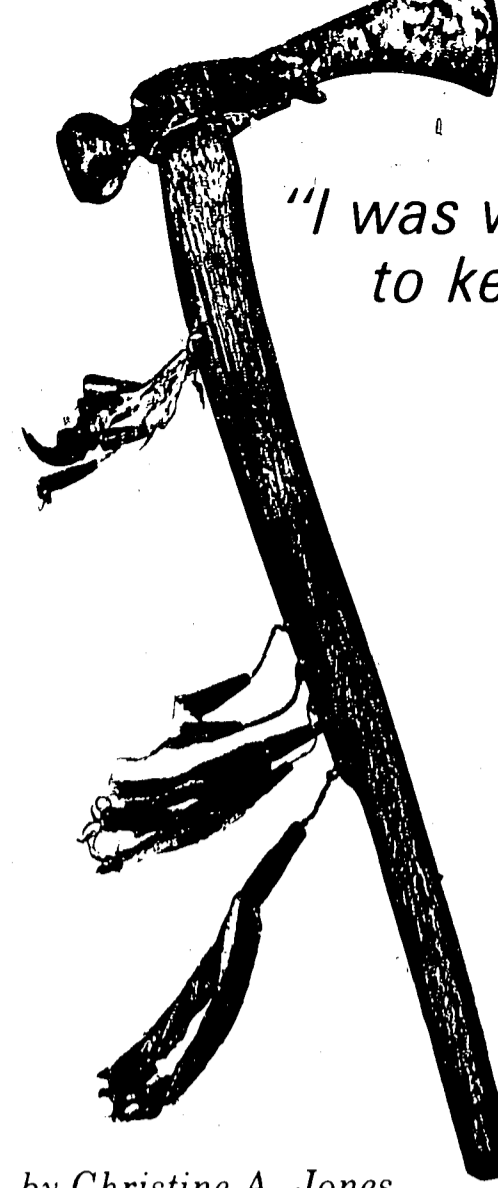
CENTER SECTION DESIGNED FOR OUTREACH

The center section of this issue,
entitled **WHO ARE SEVENTH DAY
BAPTISTS?** has been printed in
quantity for distribution by the
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booth work. Donations for postage
and printing will be appreciated as
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Off the Chest

This tiny type
is merely an editor's
ploy to catch your
eye and ear to
the one bare fact:
Comments from
readers are needed
to continue a
forum page.
Surely, some of
you have cause to
react to contents,
raise a little dust,
or let off a bit
of steam.
This is your
invitation to share
your concerns

The Sabbath Recorder



"I was warned
to keep out of her way."

by Christine A. Jones

I was a young and inexperienced
teacher. It was my first day at a
new school. One of my fellow
teachers, I soon discovered, was
known as a tyrant by students and
also by teachers. She was an elderly
lady, close to retirement, with a
venomous tongue which she used in
scathing sarcasm on all within ear-
shot. On that first day I was warned
to keep out of her way. That was hard
to do since her classroom was across
the corridor from mine.

On our coffee break that morning
in the staff room, "The Tyrant," as I
grew to call her, questioned me
closely.

"And what does your husband do?"
She asked as if I were in the witness
box. When I answered that he was a
pastor, her lip curled in a sneer, "Oh,
I don't set much store by religion.
They're all the same, these pastors —
a bunch of hypocrites, just after an
easy life and someone else's money."

I was taken back by this unwar-
ranted criticism. But it was only the
beginning. I was singled out for
special attack. Always my assailant
was so rude that I could never think
quickly enough to make an adequate
reply.

At first I tried to ignore her
unpleasantness. Then I got irritated.
It wasn't long before she made life
thoroughly miserable. This went on
for several months. Then, one Friday
afternoon, I decided I'd had enough.

I was just launching into an older
version of Show 'n Tell with my class
of grade-four boys when I was sum-
moned by the principal. It was hardly

the choicest moment to leave. They
were like thirty bottles of pop,
thoroughly shaken up, fizzing, and
ready to explode. But a summons
from the principal was not to be
ignored. I knew we had some grades
to settle before the weekend.

When I returned to my classroom,
everything was quiet — too quiet.
"The Tyrant" stood guard at my desk;
her own class was working quietly
across the hall. My heart sank.

"I'm sorry you had trouble," I
began.

"Trouble!" she snapped. "It was a
minor riot." Her face twisted into a
sarcastic smile. "Who did you think
would watch over the class while you
were gone? God?"

The boys snickered.

She was right of course. I should
have asked her to keep an eye on the
class. I didn't because it was now my
habit to avoid her.

When I returned home that night I
didn't care whether Monday morning
ever came again. But I knew it would.
I had to do something.

I was concerned about my witness
as a Christian in the school. She was
winning hands down at putting me in
my place and ridiculing what I
believed. Most of the teachers did as I
did and tried to ignore her. A few
resorted to making spiteful remarks
in return. What should I do, I
wondered. I had to admit that I
wasn't coping with the problem any
better than the other teachers were.
It was a great temptation to lash back
at her. "But," I thought, "just because
I am a Christian, should I let myself
be walked on?"

As I prayed about what my tactics
should be, this verse came to mind,
"Be not overcome of evil, but over-
come evil with good" (Romans 12:21).
What? Be nice to that old battle-ax?
It would never work. But since I
didn't have a better suggestion, I
decided to give it a try.

Monday morning at recess, instead
of waiting until "The Tyrant" had
gone to the staff room before leaving
my classroom, I left at the same time

I Learned to Love a Battle-ax

she did. As I accompanied her for our
cups of coffee I endeavored to carry on
a pleasant conversation.

The days passed, and I deliberately
sought her opinions. I included her in
my conversations with other staff
members. At first she was nonplus-
sed. And she didn't know how to
retaliate. I think she was even a
little flattered by the attention. I
began to treat her rather like my
grandmother — getting her a second
cup of coffee if she needed it and
making sure she had a comfortable
chair. It was one of these "grand-
motherly" things that finally won her
over.

One rainy night as I hurried out of
school, I saw her ahead of me crossing
the playground. She was so loaded
down with books and papers and
other packages that she could barely
shuffle along. I caught up with her
and smilingly relieved her of the
heaviest bundles. Then I waited with
her at the bus stop so she wouldn't
have to set them down on the wet
sidewalk.

For the first time "The Tyrant"
opened up in personal conversation
with me. She revealed some of the
hardships in her life. Eventually the
bus came, and she retrieved her
belongings. When she thanked me she
smiled genuinely.

From that day, I never had another
moment's trouble from her. Don't
think that the change was all on her
side either. As I got to know her
better, I learned about her loneliness
and about some of the things that
made her so caustic. I even began to
regard her with affection, and when
her day of retirement came I felt a
little sad.

But that wasn't the only change in
my life. Through this experience I
learned that loving your enemy is not
impractical pie in the sky. Like so
many of the New Testament teach-
ings, it's good psychology.

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publication.

My Invisible Guardian



Reaching Little Rock sometime later, a taxi driver filled me in on some of the story while on the way to the convention site.

"The bus from Texarkana went into Lake Hamilton," he said. It seems that the earlier bus had been forced off the highway by a large lumber truck that may have been having mechanical trouble. Two people were drowned, one child suffered a broken arm, several others were hurt in a minor way, and one person had a heart attack. The taxi driver didn't know all the details. However, he didn't need all of them, did he?

Romans 8:28 came to mind almost immediately, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose."

I knew that God wants the best for me always, and I was ashamed of myself. Outwardly calm and appearing composed, I had inwardly been seething with resentment. How He loved me and was caring for His child in the wonderful mysterious way that we often can't see. Job 23:10 says, "But he knoweth the way that I take: *when* he tried me, I shall come forth as gold."

"Dear Father," I prayed silently as we rode along, "please forgive me for being so slow in accepting your will for me. Help me to be patient - give me the peace within that passeth understanding. Help me to see that I need much polishing before I shine as one of your living jewels."

How often we pray for patience or some other Christian virtue, and end up fighting the very means through which these lessons come. I pray that I may see God more often in these moments of disappointment and trials.

Before I realized it, the driver said, "Lady, did you hear me? We're here." Undoubtedly, he must have been repeating his statement. I failed to hear him the first time around.

Yes, I was there and safe. For some reason, the Blood Bank lecture, demonstration, and workshop had suddenly been placed in the program for a later hour. Isn't that something? □

Every spare moment of that week had been spent planning my trip to Little Rock for a special medical meeting. Although the seminar would last only two days, yet it would present a new and safer method of cross-matching for patients who needed blood.

Friday evening came. Because of an influenza outbreak among the laboratory personnel, I became the technologist subject to call for the night. My telephone rang almost continuously. Finally, I gave up commuting for the night and just remained at the hospital - hoping to catch a few winks of sleep in the girl's lounge. Never had I been busier! I wanted so much to be rested and alert for the following morning. No way. The three remaining hours passed quickly.

As I left the hospital at 6 a.m. you can be sure I was tired and sleepy. Also angry and frustrated. Arriving home a few minutes later, I decided to lie down across the bed for a short rest. Suddenly, the clock struck seven o'clock loud and clear. I hurriedly gathered my things up and ran from the house to the car.

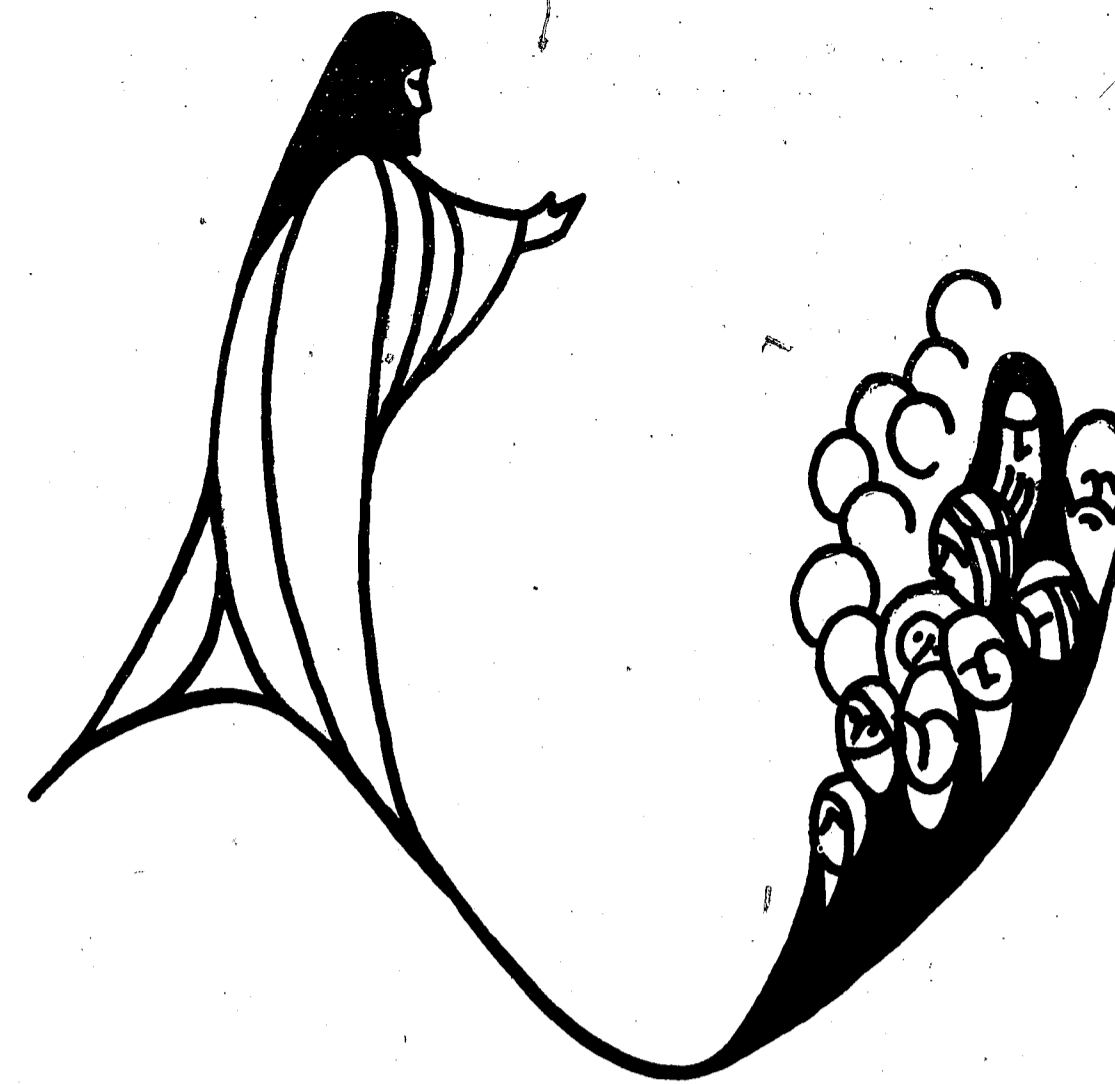
As I turned the corner near the Post Office, the Continental bus was just leaving town. Anger and frustration almost blinded my perspective. Why, of all times should this happen? I just sat down in my car outside the bus station and cried a few minutes. "Why me, Lord?" I questioned, feeling like a first rate martyr. "You know I only wanted to learn better ways of serving others!"

Although disappointment followed me, I went inside and talked to the clerk about the next bus that might be headed toward Little Rock. The fact that another bus would be leaving a few minutes later failed to cheer me up.

Soon I was seated in the second bus, and on my way at last. At different points along the way, I heard snatches of conversation about an accident someplace.

Text: Matthew 5:10

by Socrates Thompson, Pastor
New York City S.D.B. Church



FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS' SAKE

In Acts 5:41b, we are told that the apostles, after they were jailed and beaten, left the Jewish council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for the name of Jesus Christ. We read: "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force."

The Church universally and the individual Christian in particular constitute the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus knew just what faced the Christians when He was delivering His Sermon on the Mount. The words of our text: "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." The whole panorama of the Christian life, beginning with John the Baptist whose head Herod delivered to a bald woman on a charger has been shrouded with persecution - violence. The persecution has always been of a violent nature, attacking the Kingdom of God with force.

John was persecuted with force for pointing out to Herod the lack of righteousness in his act in burying his brother's wife.

Jesus Christ was persecuted, taken from the garden of prayer by a band of armed men, violently tried, and forcefully nailed to the cross. "Why - what evil hath He done?" asked Pilot. Replied the crowd: "Making himself equal with God." "Healing on the Sabbath." "Offering to raise up His eternal temple in three days."

We read in Acts that Stephen was stoned after his trial and arrest. In chapter 12:1-4 we read "Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church. And he killed James the brother of John with the sword..." This pleased the people, therefore he set out to take Peter also.

Persecution set foot in the church and has continued there ever since. Jesus knew that these things would

happen and so used the opportunity of the Sermon on the Mount to advise. Stephen in the height of his persecution said: "I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God." He ended persecution and passed his days on earth with these words: "Father, into thine hand I commend my spirit." For him, the blessedness of persecution had materialized as he, in "giving up the ghost" said, "Father, into thine hand I commit my spirit." Could it be that Stephen was having a foretaste of the blessedness of being persecuted for the cause of righteousness? Look at the words of Stephen in Acts 7:59: "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Look at these words of Fanny J. Crosby: "Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine..." Then, look at the words of our text from Christ's Sermon on the Mount, Matt. 5:10.

You, as a Christian might have difficulties in your Christian life. You might find it too much persecution to continue to hold on to the cross. Does the cross you are called to bear seem heavy?

One of the great promises to the child of God is tribulation. Tribulation in Christian vocabulary is a synonym of persecution and Rev. 2:10 bears the great promise of tribulation and imprisonment; but we are called to be faithful unto death - receive a crown of life through blessedness.

In persecution, our Lord's admonition to us is "Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing eternal Hallelujahs to Jesus Christ our King." The world about us may persecute us for righteousness' sake. This is, at times, hard to take, but Paul had some of his among "False brethren." If persecution arises from within the church, just make sure it is for righteousness' sake and the kingdom of Heaven is yours. Blessed are they that are persecuted for righteousness' sake. Theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven. □

PROPOSED SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST

The August 1975 General Conference created a Task Force to make recommendations for changes in the organizational structure which would hopefully bring increased efficiency and effectiveness to the denominational program. We trust that the proposed

RATIONALE

1 General Board: Your Task Force believes that the replacement of Commission and Planning Committee with a General Board composed of association and board and agency representatives would enable the presentation of diverse views, encourage the resolution of differences through the decision-making process, increase communication, and encourage cooperation among all elements of the denomination.

2 Unified Accounting and Reporting: Your Task Force believes that there is need for a uniform system of accounting and reporting among Seventh Day Baptists. The same system would be used by the boards, agencies and the General Conference so that everyone can more easily and clearly read, correlate and interpret the denominational financial resources, funding, and expenditures.

3 Boards, Agencies and General Conference: Your Task Force believes that the boards, agencies, and committees should continue their valuable contributions to Seventh Day Baptist programs designed to assist churches and their members in service for Christ and His Cause. In this way, planning and management expertise in such specialized areas as missionary endeavors, publications, investments, research, women's work and education would continue to be available to the denomination. Volunteer service is a major key to success in denominational work. Your Task Force affirms the principle of General Conference's having final responsibility and decision-making authority.

4 Continuing Committees: Your Task Force recognizes that there are many specific details which will need careful consideration as the suggested procedures are instituted during the transition period.

5 Location of Headquarters: Your Task Force believes there may be value in moving General Conference headquarters to a more central location.

6 Leadership and Attitudes: Your Task Force observes that denominational progress has undoubtedly been impeded by lack of aggressive, effective pastoral, executive and lay leadership and by negative attitudes held widely by our members and leaders.

These problems can be solved and must be solved if we are to accomplish the work God has planned for us.

CONCLUSIONS

Your Task Force members believe that adjusting to such procedures as those outlined will preserve the basic strengths of current denominational structure. It is felt that these procedures will be in keeping with Seventh Day Baptist polity and beliefs if we continue to recognize that the leading of the Holy Spirit is imperative in our lives and that we all have a responsibility to God and our fellowmen to work together in doing His will. It is understood that General Conference is the basic mechanism through which coordination can be achieved.

DENOMINATIONAL REORGANIZATION - SUMMARY

changes will help to accomplish those ends; but we do not see these changes as the complete answer to more basic problems of leadership and attitudes which have affected the progress and growth of Seventh Day Baptists.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1 We recommend bylaw changes for action at General Conference in 1977 which would replace Commission and Planning Committee with a General Board which would assume their functions and which would be composed of the president, president-elect and immediate past president of General Conference, and an officially-elected representative from each major board and agency and from each association. Therefore, the General Board (operating between General Conference sessions in the areas of coordination, budget analysis, policy-making, and strategy) would be composed of 18 voting members plus the executives serving ex officio.

2 We recommend that a basic "chart of accounts" be agreed upon; that the treasurers of the various boards and agencies meet at a prearranged time during General Conference in August to discuss the uniform accounting and reporting procedure; and that General Conference authorize appropriate consulting services to work with board and agency personnel during the initial phases of the system's utilization.

3 We recommend that the following steps be taken: (1) Employ all salaried executives by General Conference, with the General Board screening and presenting the candidates (men or women) after thorough consultation with denominational boards, agencies, and other groups; (2) Place all salaried executives' offices at General Conference headquarters; (3) Have each executive's responsibilities determined by General Conference on recommendation by the General Board, with the expectation that each executive might work with more than one board, department, or committee toward common denominational objectives.

4 We recommend that a special committee be authorized to analyze overall denominational administrative needs and responsibilities, to recommend the number of executives to be employed, and to suggest the appropriate initial division of assignments. Other committees may need to be activated (as General Conference directs) to study specific matters until such time as the proposed General Board is fully operative.

5 We recommend that General Conference elect a special committee to study the feasibility, desirability and possible economies of moving headquarters away from Plainfield.

6 We recommend the consideration of such procedures as the following: (1) Have the Council on Ministry give priority to a leadership development program for our seminarians and pastors; (2) Request the Council on Ministry to continue to give special attention to the recruitment of well-qualified ministerial students; (3) Ask denominational executives to implement leadership training programs for all phases of church work; (4) Urge the churches to use more completely the training services available through the boards and agencies; (5) Provide, through the Council on Ministry, special in-service training programs for ministers; (6) Establish a special ad hoc "leadership committee" to assist pastors and laymen, possibly using expertise from outside the denomination.

Pastors and churches are urged to participate in the new "Commitment to Growth" plan.

The procedures recommended will help sharpen overall objectives for church growth; they will assist us as a people in reestablishing our sense of unity; and they will set the stage for other possible refinements in organization and performance as we strive to serve Christ and His Cause more efficiently and effectively.

(Note: Supplemental information about the above proposals is available, upon request, from the office of the General Conference Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 868, Plainfield, NJ-07061.)



OPEN FORUM

ON THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

The basic issue in this discussion, it seems to me is: what is God's purpose for Seventh Day Baptists? We usually find the right answers in the Bible. An example is 1 Timothy 2: 1-6 - "First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and man, the man Jesus Christ, who gave himself as a ransom for all..."

Do we find this, or anything similar, in the teachings and actions of the WCC? The answer has been given well by David Pearson in the April issue of the *Sabbath Recorder*. As for example one quote shows us the direction the WCC invariably takes: "Greater acceptance of Marxist presuppositions." Again the Bible gives us an answer in 1 Timothy 1:5,6 - "But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. For some men, straying from these things, have turned aside to fruitless discussion..."

-Esther A. Williams
North Loup, Nebr.

ministry? Are not these the very same seminaries whose professors very often label Communism "just another form of government" which is often said to be less insidious than what the U.S. stands for abroad? Are not these some of the very same seminaries whose teachers and students often insist that "evangelicalism is a nice place to visit, but I would not want to live there"?

Are not these some of the same schools which soft-pedal homosexuality and "plural marriages" and pretend that the gospel is just one way among many others? In my own recent seminary experience I was told by a New Testament professor that remission of sins through the blood of Jesus Christ is not believable! Another professor opposed the concept of the supernatural God and looked upon Paul's conversion as worthless to the same.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, the WCC question may only be the "tip of the iceberg" for Seventh Day Baptists who must now finally begin to face the *real* reasons for the issue of WCC participation and some even more basic issues at the heart of this whole matter. □

-Kent L. Martin
New Enterprise, PA

HOW YOU VOTED IN 1973

In August at General Conference there will be a roll call vote of the churches on whether or not to retain Seventh Day Baptist membership in the WCC. A similar vote was taken in 1973 on the question of continued membership in the National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC). The total vote was 335 to withdraw and 250 to continue membership; thus the General Conference withdrew its membership.

The vote by churches in 1973 was, those in favor of retention of membership: Alfred, Alfred Station, Battle Creek, Bay Area, Berlin, First Brookfield, Second Brookfield, Buffalo,

Daytona Beach, Denver, DeRuyter, First Genesee, First Hopkinton, Lost Creek, Milton Junction, Plainfield, Richburg, Ritchie, Salem, Salemville, Washington and Waterford.

Those in favor of withdrawing from the NCCC: Albion, Boulder, Dodge Center, Farina, Fouke, First Hebron, Kansas City, Little Rock, Los Angeles, Marlboro, Milton, New Auburn, North Loup, Nortonville, Old Stone Fort, Paint Rock, Pawcatuck, Putnam County, Riverside, Seattle, Shiloh, Texarkana, Verona, and White Cloud. □

As members of the Board of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society, we often have access to mailings that come from the World Council of Churches and the National Council of Churches. These materials are often of great interest, giving information as they do about stricken areas of drought and starvation as well as facts regarding financial and other aid being sent by the churches of America to alleviate these conditions.

I, personally, would miss very much not being able to receive this information, as well as the unbiased news from the changing, developmental fronts in Africa and Asia. Nor can I condone the inconsistency of seeking to have a part in this great work, while refusing to belong to these bodies and aiding in their financial support.

-Paul S. Burdick
Waterford, CT

In response to his letter requesting information about the reported use of WCC funds to purchase weapons Rev. Paul Burdick received the following reply from Alan A. Brash, Deputy General Secretary of the WCC...

You raise the question about money intended for relief being used for guerilla warfare. We are fully aware that this charge is often made

(continued on page 24)

The Sabbath Recorder

BURMESE CONFERENCE MEETS

by Rev. L. Sawi Thanga
General Secretary, Burma Conference

The twelfth annual session of the Burma S.D.B. Conference was held March 10-13, 1976 at Tahan and was well attended with attendance double that of past years.

On Sabbath Day Mr. Lalvuana of Khampat and Mr. Manghrinthanga of Zonuum were ordained to the ministry. Both have been active in church work. This now brings the total ordained leadership to five in Burma. The churches reported increased giving during the year as well as increased membership. New fellowships were organized at Myohola and Changelzawl with membership in the Conference now in excess of 500.

It was voted to give a one-month course to all workers and with lay leaders invited to participate. The study guide for the course is "S.D.B. Beliefs: A Manual for Study" this book is scheduled for printing in the Lushai with funds made available from the United States. The course will be taught by Rev. L. Sawi Thanga assisted by Rev. Lalenga in May at Tahan.

The Constitution and Bylaws of the Burma S.D.B. Conference as prepared by Rev. Thanga was thoroughly checked by the leaders and the Planning Committee at the Conference sessions, and was adopted by the delegates.

The Conference voted to authorize the rebuilding of the Kanaan S.D.B. Church and the erection of a new church at Tuingo. Funds have been collected in both areas and the actual building will be done by the members. However, additional funds are needed to complete both projects.

The Women's Society of Burma held two meetings during Conference and completely reorganized. The Youth Fellowship also met during Conference to elect officers and to plan their program for the year.

Please continue to pray for the leaders and members of the Burma Conference as they seek to reach out to others with the message of Jesus Christ. □

The Missionary Society at its recent meeting in Westerly, R.I., voted an additional \$25 per month toward travel expenses of the Burmese Conference General Secretary. It was also voted that a grant of \$400 be sent to assist in the building of the S.D.B. churches at Kanaan and Tuingo, these funds to come from the Sabbath School Mission Offerings. The society was very much interested to learn of the possibility of a Burmese theological student and voted that \$25 per month from the Joe Lewis Ministerial Training Fund be made available for the education of a Burmese S.D.B. ministerial student for a four year course at Burma Divinity School. □



The Executive Committee of the Burma Seventh Day Baptist Conference as they met in session at Tahan.



These were the delegates to the S.D.B. Youth Fellowship conference. Elected to lead the group were Mr. Neihchana and Mr. Lalvuana. They plan another central meeting in October.



These ladies are the leaders of the S.D.B. Women's Society in Burma.



PRAYER

CORNER

A Prayer Reminder for Each Day!

JULY 1976

Verse for the month: "Don't be afraid! Speak out! Don't quit! For I am with you and no one can harm you. Many people here in this city belong to Me." So Paul stayed there the next year and a half, teaching the truths of God.

-Acts 18:9b-11 LB.

Is this not true of God's word to each of us and the place where we are?

- 1-the David Pearsons as they close ministry in Malawi in July
- 2-SDB's in London, England, in their outreach/growth
- 3- PRAISE THE LORD FOR ANSWERED PRAYER!
- 4-for those who made decisions at Bible Schools/Camps
- 5-Women's Board meeting, Colorado
- 6-India SDB churches/pastors/medical work/evangelism
- 7-Summer Christian Service Corps workers/projects
- 8-closing days at Crandall High School, Kingston, Jamaica
- 9-Philippine SDB Conference/workers/radio ministry
- 10-FOR GOD'S GIFT-CHRIST OUR LORD AND HIS SABBATH
- 11-Commitment to Growth training-Milton, WI (to 15)
- 12-Conference President Gary G. Cox, Boulder, CO
- 13-Pastor Sam Peters, Georgetown, Guyana
- 14-designated funds for SCSC support
- 15-FOR VISION! -Proverbs 29:18 KJV
- 16-Pastor Stephan Saunders, Adams Center, NY, SDB Church
- 17-THE HOLY SPIRIT'S POWER IN YOUR WORSHIP
- 18-American Sabbath Tract Society-Marlboro, NJ
- 19-Doug, Jane and Adam Mackintosh, Kingston, Jamaica
- 20-for those in need in your own community-Acts 18:9b
- 21-Rev. L. Sawi Thanga, Rangoon, Burma
- 22-for a fully raised Our World Mission budget in July
- 23-Light Bearers for Christ midwest tour
- 24-FOR YOUR PASTOR'S MINISTRY TODAY
- 25-Missionary Board meeting-Westerly, RI
- 26-Houston RON project summer ministries/outreach
- 27-for Jamaica SDB Conference pastors and leaders
- 28-Commission members in their pre-Conference session
- 29-Executive Secretary K. Duane Hurley
- 30-General Conference session-Houghton, NY/Aug. 9-14
- 31-SABBATH SCHOOL MISSION OFFERING

"The Lord sure has things all planned for us and if we just give Him a chance He will look after them. Whenever a new problem has arisen recently I have just said, 'Lord, this one is for You too!' and just let Him take it. The results have been very good." -Audrey Fuller, RN, Makapwa Hospital, Malawi, Africa.

*INDIA: Sixteen wells are at various stages of work done. On the border between Tangatur and Velagapudi in the Singarayakonda Field Association some SDB homes were destroyed by fire, but none of the persons were injured. The Government is paying Rs. 350/(about \$40.) to help rebuild. Some designated funds have been sent from the USA to help meet this need as it costs about \$90. to rebuild. Rev. B. John V. Rao has also written, "We laid down a foundation stone and are collecting raw-materials from local people" for the SDB Montessori Primary School in Nellore.

*During the midyear holiday the Crandall High School library was moved to the new upstairs classroom. This was large enough to partition so it can still be used for a Form room. Jane Mackintosh wrote, "It's really beautiful and they finished it off with a paint job and hand rail up the old wooden steps." Mrs. Elmo Fitz Randolph is to help train CHS students in library science during her visit to Jamaica the latter part of June as an American Released Time Worker.

*COMMITMENT TO GROWTH is the call to all Seventh Day Baptists in the USA! Plans are developing to have Dr. John Wimber as our consultant to give understanding, special training, oversight of a vital plan that will enable all our churches to experience significant growth in the next year. Pray for COMMITMENT TO GROWTH and anticipate hearing Dr. Wimber at General Conference Monday, August 9.

*George Babu Nyatangii of the Keore SDB church in KENYA, Africa has written: "By the time when Mr. Watson Mataka (missionary from Malawi, Africa, who returned home last December) left us we were small in number but since we have been for a short time the number has grown up to 150 people who can be seen in the church on every Sabbath... Now among the believers a great number is big people: that is to say there are 60 big people with families, 70 youths and about 20 children..." Tracts and literature have been sent to this growing church by the American Sabbath Tract Society. Other letters from H.M. David Masagege, chairman of the SDB Churches in Kenya confirm this, and other growth.

*Missionary David Pearson and family spent five days in the Central Region of Malawi in May and a Northern trip in June will include the Fullers. These are journeys where teaching of Sabbath School teachers and others is vital. Also in the North the Association usually meets and camp sessions are held. In addition Pastor Pearson has training sessions with the students at Likabulu Bible School and pastors from the churches.

*An eight day visit to Matthews Ridge by Pastor Sam Peters in March was highlighted by evangelistic meetings and plans for erection of a church structure as home meetings are full. There are many obstacles to the preaching of the gospel in this inland frontier area but souls are being reached. Malaria, chicken pox and influenza also hindered the ministry. Flood rains in Guyana have caused much damage.

*Relief funds have been made available for meeting needs in Malawi and Guyana in the coming weeks through the SDB United Relief funds. The women of Eastern Association also continue to send such funds to these fields and Jamaica as in previous years.

TO KNOW - AND BE KNOWN

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

"IF CONDITIONS CONTINUE AS THEY ARE NOW WITHOUT CHANGE, WE WILL BLOW THE WORLD TO BITS WITHIN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE!"

In essence, that is the warning the Swedish ambassador to the U.N., Olle Dahlen, gave to a group of church executives at a recent luncheon at the Interchurch Center in New York City. Ambassador Dahlen is chairperson of the WCC Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, and he was discussing such worldwide problems as the Cold War, military conflicts, hunger, repression of civil liberties, human exploitation, depletion of natural resources, and environmental pollution.

He concluded that the churches, working together, have the best opportunity to tip the scales in favor of survival. All other organizations are suspect because of political involvements. Only through the churches, which have the recognized right to deal with moral, religious, and related human and spiritual issues, can constructive dialogue be encouraged in all parts of the world among all kinds of people. For example, it is almost exclusively through the World Council of Churches that Christians in Communist areas of the world have opportunity to fellowship and carry on discussions with their brethren from the free countries.

Sharing SDB Distinctives

Seventh Day Baptists were represented at the Interchurch meeting because of the denomination's affiliation with the WCC. By being there, I had opportunity to add another "voice of concern" regarding world peace; and, as is almost always the case at ecumenical affairs, I had a chance to tell people about Seventh Day Baptists - many of them indicating that they had never before heard about our denomination. As the only Sabbath-keeping church in the World Council, we have a special,

unique opportunity - and responsibility, it seems to me - to share the distinctives of our faith.

During recent months I have had the privilege of representing our denomination at several WCC-related meetings, including one with Dr. Philip Potter, executive secretary of the organization which is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. Dr. Potter, in response to my personal inquiry about the role of a group like Seventh Day Baptists in the World Council, assured me that it is vital that all religious convictions, including Sabbath observance, be given consideration; and that the leadership of the Council will try to remember to indicate, in promotional materials and other publications, that not all Christians worship on Sunday. In connection with an expressed concern regarding evangelism, he indicated that he felt the Fifth Assembly at Nairobi marked the beginning of a new era for the Council, to be characterized by participation on the part of the individual local churches and their members in "living and sharing the gospel." "It is important," he concluded, "that the people become involved and committed!"

Getting Firsthand Information

With a roll call vote regarding WCC membership coming up at Conference time, I have felt obligated to learn as much as I can (factually and first-hand) about the Council, in order to maintain a complete file of information on both sides of the discussion and to be able to answer questions intelligently. Incidentally, the Council honors our denomination, considering its small size and limited financial support, by giving it representation on the Board of Directors of the USA Conference as well as on the important Finance Committee.

In addition to my participation in WCC affairs, I (along with others, in some cases) have also represented Seventh Day Baptists at various activities of the Baptist World Alliance, including a meeting of the North American General Council at Wake Forest, North Carolina; the Men's Department at St. Louis, Missouri; and the North American Baptist Fellowship at Washington, D.C. The most recent session was held in coordination with the National Bicentennial Convocation sponsored by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, a group which meets regularly with official Seventh Day Baptist representation. Last month, I was also invited to a meeting of U.S. Church Leaders in Nashville, Tennessee.

In all of these affairs and organizations, Seventh Day Baptists are given recognition and opportunities for participation far beyond what would be expected based upon the size of our organization; and every time I have raised the question of Sabbath observance (as I have at each meeting), there has been an immediate and enthusiastic expression of willingness and desire to recognize our unique Sabbath characteristics and honor them in the programming and publicity. Can we continue to merit such deference?

Evaluating Ecumenical Participation

We can and should, it seems to me, if we continue to do our part in promoting and supporting the organizations. It will be necessary for us to assign competent personnel to the various activities; we must allocate sufficient time to do each and every assignment well; we will have to provide adequate financial backing not only to take care of our fair share of support for the organizations but to cover travel expenses for our delegates.

(continued on page 24)

Helping Hand Subscription Upped; also Sabbath Visitor.

Due to rising costs of printing and distribution, the subscription prices of the periodicals—quarterly **Helping Hand**, and monthly *Sabbath Visitor*—will have to be raised at the next billing. The Resource Development Committee of the Board of Christian Education voted at its January meeting to increase the subscription as soon as practical. April 25, the quarterly directors' meeting confirmed the decision.

Thus, the Fall Quarter (Sept.-Nov.) of the *Helping Hand* will be billed at the new figure of \$3.50 per year in groups of 5 or more; \$4.50 per year's subscription in single mailings. A single issue of the *Helping Hand* would cost \$1.50.

The monthly *Sabbath Visitor* will be billed at a new rate of \$2.00 per year for each subscription, regardless of quantity in any mailing.

The board had backed the committee in this necessary increase, keeping the income potential in about the same ratio to costs as previously. For instance, *Helping Hand* costs (not including payment to the writer-editor) were planned at \$10,000 in 1975. Income from subscriptions in 1975 amounted to just over \$8,000. The children's *Sabbath Visitor* costs for 1975 were \$830 (the editor, circulation manager, and writers receive no pay) and subscriptions brought \$476.

As requested by the Conference Interests Committee on Communications, the Resource Development Committee has invited an evaluation of the *Helping Hand* to be returned by June 30. We believe that honest evaluation, consistent study and application and open fellowship with God and each other will enable S.D.B. persons and groups to grow in Christlikeness as they use these resources. □

Campers Interchange

A proposed system of campers' moving from their usual camp into another Association's camp was adopted April 25 by the Board of Christian Education for both 1976 and 1977 summer seasons. The Camp Program Committee accepted a suggestion, among many discussed, that they take the initiative and propose the specific exchanges two or more years ahead. Arranging for such factors as overlapping schedules has previously led the committee to negotiate *after* camps had already announced their plans. Of course, the Exchange Camper program affects Senior Campers, but many other factors in other age-group plans affect local camp committees.

DIRECTIONS TAKEN APRIL 25, 1976

An upcoming letter to camp program committees will spell out the exchange plans for '76 and '77, and the next *Beacon* will outline the program, at least for '76.

Some extensive study was made of a proposal that a travel pool fund might be established to level out the costs for all participants. The Camp Committee could not arrive at a plan, but are asking for suggestions from all the sponsoring groups and campers.

Plans for 1976 call for the campers to interchange on this basis:
Pacific Coast Association send to Southwestern; Southwestern send to North Central; North Central send to Allegheny-Central New York; Allegheny-Central New York send to Mid-Continent; South-eastern send to Eastern; Eastern send to South-eastern.

Another program of this committee is Creative Camping resources. The committee voted to express very sincere thanks to the Alfred University audio-visual staff, Keith Highbee and Dana Beckhorn, for their excellent workmanship in producing the Creative Camping filmstrip being distributed this spring. Technical problems of ours prevented their producing the sound for the filmstrip, but we hope to provide this in the near future. The two scripts with discussion guide should make possible early use, with the later review using the narration by Herbert Saunders and the Dale Thorngates. These filmstrips will become property of each camp. □

National Youth Ministries

Meeting many times during the winter, the former Youth Program Committee will no longer meet—under that title, that is. At its recent meeting it proposed to the parent Board of Christian Education that its name be changed to NATIONAL YOUTH MINISTRIES COMMITTEE. The Board of Directors accepted the idea, hoping with the committee, that the youth unit of the board will be more clearly thought of as a serving agency of the SDB youth and their fellowships. Sandy Snyder, Y.F. President Chris Mattison, and Doug Clarke are members of the board and of this committee, along with Russ Johnson as chairman and Amanda Snyder. They work with the other national Y.F. officers in the Youth Commission to discover and help meet needs of our SDBYF across the nation.

Plans for the 1977 Pre-Cons are well under way, with directors already having accepted the posts, and the hosts in the midwest already offering probable sites for both retreats.

HELPING HAND BICENTENNIAL STUDY IN FALL

Adapting the Uniform Lesson Outlines for a quarter's study on "The Bible in Church History," *Helping Hand* Editor Jinx Stonestrom has developed the fall quarter on a plan approved by the Resource Development Committee in November of last year. You will use this material in Sept.-Nov. this year.

"I would like to show how the Bible actually came into the religious experience of the common persons of each period," the editor had written her sponsoring committee in suggesting the substitute lessons. Seeking to be helpful during this Bicentennial Year for American Seventh Day Baptists, Ms. Stonestrom deals with a universal SDB concern of how to approach history. She expressed three goals in dealing with history as the Bible serves Christian experience:

1. "We should look at history critically and choose our roots. We can and should decide what was good and bad in the decisions of the church in the past and try to learn from these.
2. "We look at history to understand how it is that people made decisions, what they struggled with, how they carried on the faith—not because we want to glorify or imitate, but because we want to see their strength and creativity.
3. "History must support our struggle. Look at the statement of Stephen before he was martyred. He quotes history but it spurs him onward and clarifies his understanding of his fate."

Jinx has secured help from others to research and write part of the lessons. We believe you will be enriched in understanding how the Bible brought God's power into life as you use the Sept.-Nov. *Helping Hand*, along with supplementary books and your own observations on life.

Those who use Uniform Lesson Commentaries will discover that the summer quarter *Helping Hand* simply follows the fall quarter Uniform lessons. We made this exchange to give Jinx's special development a better sequence with Uniform Lesson development next year. □

EDUCATION MISSION AFFIRMED

"Sometimes the many-splendored mission of our board seems to demand too many different kinds of service, but such responses (a pastor's thanks for materials in a mass mailing) help confirm the worth of our efforts. 'Routine' work of correspondence, mimeographed productions and distribution, advising, promotions mean much more than routine effort," our Executive Secretary David Clarke reported to the April quarterly Directors' Meeting, April 25.

He reported several opportunities to advise SDB's on methods or materials for Christian education needs. He helped bring SDB's together for vital learning experiences and shared several conferences on programs in Christian education.

He helped lead a Sabbath School Workers' Conference at the Verona SDB Church, a World Hunger Education/Action Together seminar in the Alfred church, and sessions at the Houston Fellowship. He attended the national American Camping Convention in Philadelphia, the Uniform Lessons Committee in Atlanta, a New York State World Hunger Education seminar in Binghamton, and the SDB Area Spiritual Retreat in Boulder, Colo.

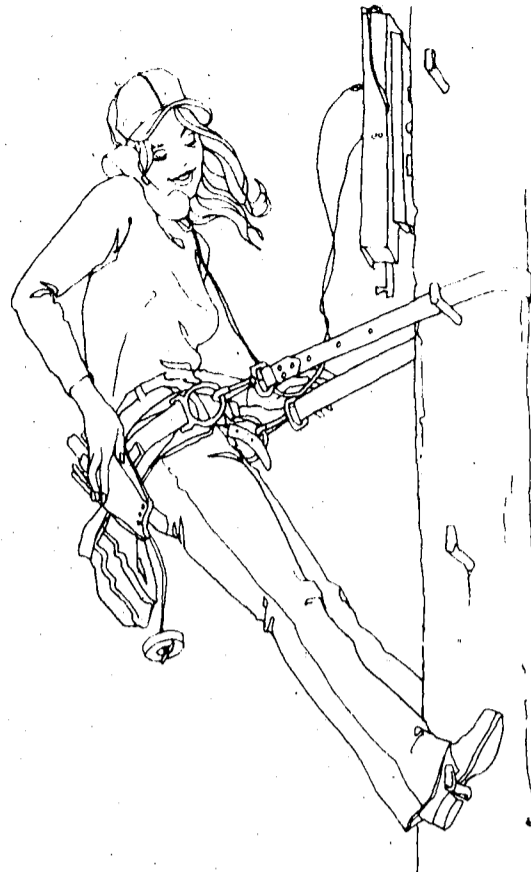
ASSOCIATED CONFERENCE GUIDES

Refining an old set of guidelines for managing children's conferences during General Conference sessions was accomplished during the winter by the Church School Program Committee. Some of these guides on parents' responsibilities have been shared with *Recorder* readers already. The other pertinent ones will be shared in Conference delegates packets.

The workshop for Associated Conference directors was briefly described in the *May Recorder*. This fruitful conference produced many good ideas for each of the directors and results in creative plans for Sabbath afternoon of Conference at Houghton.

The Church School Program Committee is also evaluating the Renewal-in-Faith series for possible revision, and for continued units. Stewardship was recommended for the next units, and investigations have been made with some of the denominational leaders on this matter. □

CREATION OF WOMAN



By R. J. Hastings

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.- "The creation of woman was not an afterthought," Dale Cowling told a state family enrichment conference which met at the First Baptist Church here.

"How could we say that an omniscient, perfect God would 'forget' to create woman, and then bring her into existence as an afterthought?" asked Cowling, pastor of the Second Baptist Church, Little Rock, Ark.

He said that at Creation, God, for example, created male and female fish, and male and female animals at the same time and that both maleness and femaleness was in the creative mind of God from the very start.

The Arkansas preacher made three observations about women which he believes the Bible teaches:

(1) Women are equal to men, and not just sex partners, domestic housekeepers, or incubators. He cited a recent wedding he attended where the minister gave the impression that marriage is for persons who just "must have sex." Cowling observed this is a shallow reason for marriage, if that's the only factor.

Cowling said he is against the idea of male authority as expressed in such books as *The Total Woman*, stating, "I think that book is a total



heresy of womanhood. It reduces a woman to the role of living only to please her husband, from the time she prepares breakfast until she serves him sex at night."

He went on to say that we are destroying the personhood of a woman, for example, if we say to a wife that if a drunken brute of a husband wants to beat her up every morning, that she's to praise God and submit, praying that God will teach her why she has to suffer so. "We're joining in her destruction when we encourage such ideas," Cowling said.

In a question period that followed, one conferee quoted a friend who said his wife was "too submissive" after following *The Total Woman* concept, and that he did not expect her to play such a passive role in marriage.

Cowling added that after doing a great deal of marriage counseling for twenty-five years, he's picked up a lot of wrecks in marriage where the wife was exploited into submission. "This works fine for a while, but the ultimate result is tragic," he warned.

(2) As a second factor, Cowling said the attitude of "putting woman in her place" is at its lowest in a society where Christianity has made the least impact. "Strangely," he added, "some Christians have twisted the Bible to teach just the opposite, whereas in reality it is the gospel message that has given the most freedom and dignity to womanhood."



NOT AN AFTERTHOUGHT

(3) The chief need of any person is wholeness—male or female. Cowling said we've often taught that a male or a female is only half a person until marriage.

"But can one person bring completeness to another?" he asked. "Marriage is not for half-persons, but for whole, mature people. Otherwise, each half-person will blame the other half-person for breakdown in the marriage."


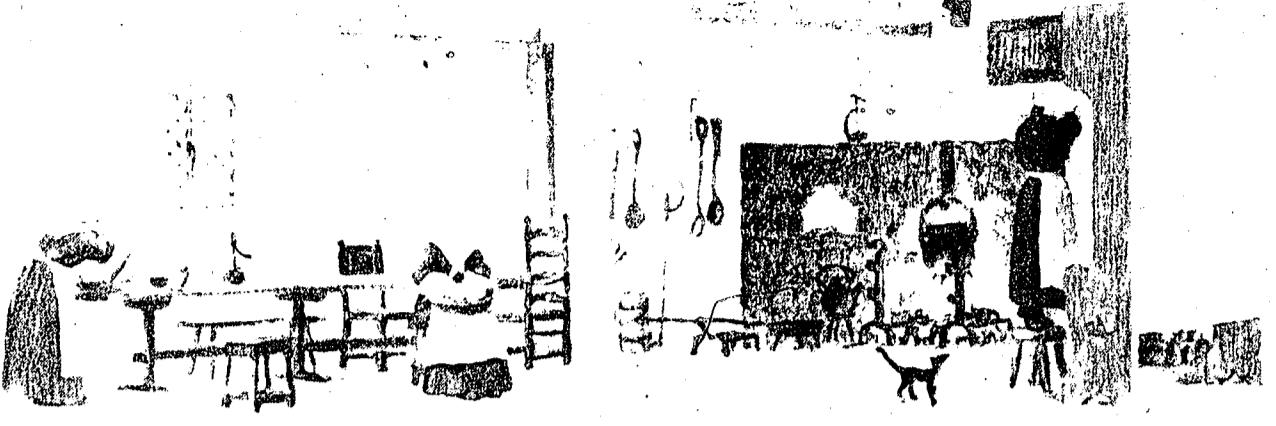
When one conferee raised the question of submission as taught in Ephesians 5:22, Cowling directed the questioner to Ephesians 5:21 which says all Christians should be in submission to their brothers. He said "submission" carries the idea of respect or reverence, and that a wife should have such toward her husband, as the church does toward Christ. But he denied that "submission," as used by the King James translators in 1611, has the overtone of servitude, as often read into it today.

He added that one of the worst things Southern Baptists have done is segregate the sexes in Sunday School classes ("presumably so they could better discuss sex and other delicate subjects"). "This means we have no cross-over of ideas in our Sunday Schools between the sexes," he explained.

Cowling was one of five speakers who addressed the two-day conference, sponsored by the Illinois Baptist State Association church training department. □

- Baptist Press

The Sabbath Recorder

"We love because
God first loved us."
1 John 4:19

by Madeline Fitz Randolph

What is women's work?

Do we feel differently about the women's work we do for our church than did those who went before us in the faith?

Were their groups larger, and interest greater because they did more dedicated service for those outside themselves?

We are still reading the book of Histories of our Societies and as the past is always a good teacher, we are learning. All of us will learn this year as we look back upon our records as a nation and people. As we read accounts of the number of members and attendance in those days now gone by, we are impressed with the size of the groups, and the amount of work accomplished. To a great degree, the women of our denomination did work for those outside our fellowship, still not neglecting the needs within the local church.

For the women in those days, "to worship was service, and service was their worship." The very names chosen for the local societies described their purposes. There were "Benevolent Societies"; "Missionary Societies"; "Church Aid" groups, and many of the projects undertaken were similar to those we now try to accomplish. They sent money to Africa; to aid the hungry in China; they supported orphanages; sent money to the Fouke School; gave to the Aged Ministers' Fund; gave to the Red Cross; contributed to rural circulating libraries; provided clothing and other necessities to the Home for the Friendless in New York City; adopted a girl in the Africa Mission; sent clothing and quilts to the Randolph's children's home; made dressings for the American Cancer Society; sent money to print tracts and cards in Chinese; sent clothing and quilts to the Guardian Society in New York, a home for poor children; and one of the first gifts recorded was "articles for the outfit of Charles Saunders to the Mission in Palestine in 1853."

During the Civil War many of the groups changed the name of their group to "Soldier's Aid," sending jellies, linens, clothing, paper and stamps and envelopes to the soldiers.

THE WORK WAS THEIR WORSHIP

It is recorded that several societies, probably all of those existing at the time when Miss Susie Burdick was serving in China contributed to her salary. All through the years her story of dedication has been a great source of inspiration.

Times were very hard for the work of the church in those years when our nation was at war. One account reads "As this was the year of the first Great War, it was a hard year for the society. Pledging to the church was discontinued and a great deal of Red Cross sewing was done as well as quilts for Belgian babies. Meetings were discontinued as all public meetings were forbidden due to the flu epidemic. At Thanksgiving time boxes were sent to the boys in the service."

Another quote: "The year 1850 was a marked milestone, establishing our first work for foreign missions. A call from Shanghai, China, to help in the building of a Chapel there for Seventh Day Baptists, the Society pledged to send \$50. This was a goodly sum when the source of revenue was such high-paying events as ten-cent dinners, and one dollar seventy-five cent quilts."

We might well go back to the saying "When We Love, We Serve," and the old record books show forth the unstinted giving of themselves which characterize Seventh Day Baptist women. We quote again from the book, "If the coming generations show the same faithfulness to their belief, to their church and their God that the past ones have shown, then the church and society should continue for many years to make this small corner of the Master's vineyard bear fruit for His Kingdom."

We have often felt a sense of loss from not having known those great women of our past history, and yet, having been privileged to work with those in the churches of our time, we know that there are "great" women who have carried on the tradition of dedicated service. The following poem expresses the continuity of love through the generations that has expressed itself in service..

(continued on page 35)

Tract Society Report by John D. Bevis, Editor

The quarterly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the American Sabbath Tract Society met in the denominational building in Plainfield, N.J., on April 25, 1976 with the Rev. Charles H. Bond presiding.

As the various reports were presented it was evident that the Lord had blessed in the work of the society during the quarter. Some 8,100 tracts were distributed from the office and twenty-nine requests for information about Seventh Day Baptists were shared with our churches. Several of the churches are currently involved in tract distribution and others have indicated plans for summer and/or fair booth distribution. We are happy that board member Charles Harris and wife Anita were able to spend several weeks assisting in the RON project in Houston, Texas. President Charles Bond left for Houston the day after the board meeting. He and Mrs. Bond will carry on with the work in Houston for the next few weeks. We pray God's blessings on them in this outreach endeavor.

The Audiovisual Committee prepared a poster which was sent to the churches in the spring and is preparing another for summer promotion of the Audiovisual Library. It was reported that forty-two items were loaned from the library during the quarter. Considerable discussion centered around the future of the Sound Studio. Due to lack of funds and technical as well as programming personnel the studio stands pretty much idle.

The Publications Committee reported the printing of a Sabbath denominational calendar, new church directories, and 500 copies of *Steps in Growth* written by Pastor John Peil. The calendars were mailed to the churches with the suggestion that they assist in the cost of publication, thus freeing funds for other projects. To date twenty-three of our churches and fellowships have responded for

which we are thankful. In production are 10,000 copies of the tract "Salvation by Faith." The committee approved the printing of 5,000 copies of a salvation tract "Abundant Life" and 10,000 of another salvation tract "Change Your Mind."

The Sabbath Promotion Committee reported that materials for Sabbath Renewal Day had been sent to the churches. The committee has sent matching funds for fair booth work in Little Rock, Ark.; and Kalamazoo, Mich. Funds were also sent to assist in newspaper advertising in the New Auburn, Wis., area. Advertisements have been placed in *Travel*, *Grit* and *Alternatives* magazines. The response has been good with many inquiries and substantial orders for tracts and books. Some comments from the letters of those who wrote in included the following:

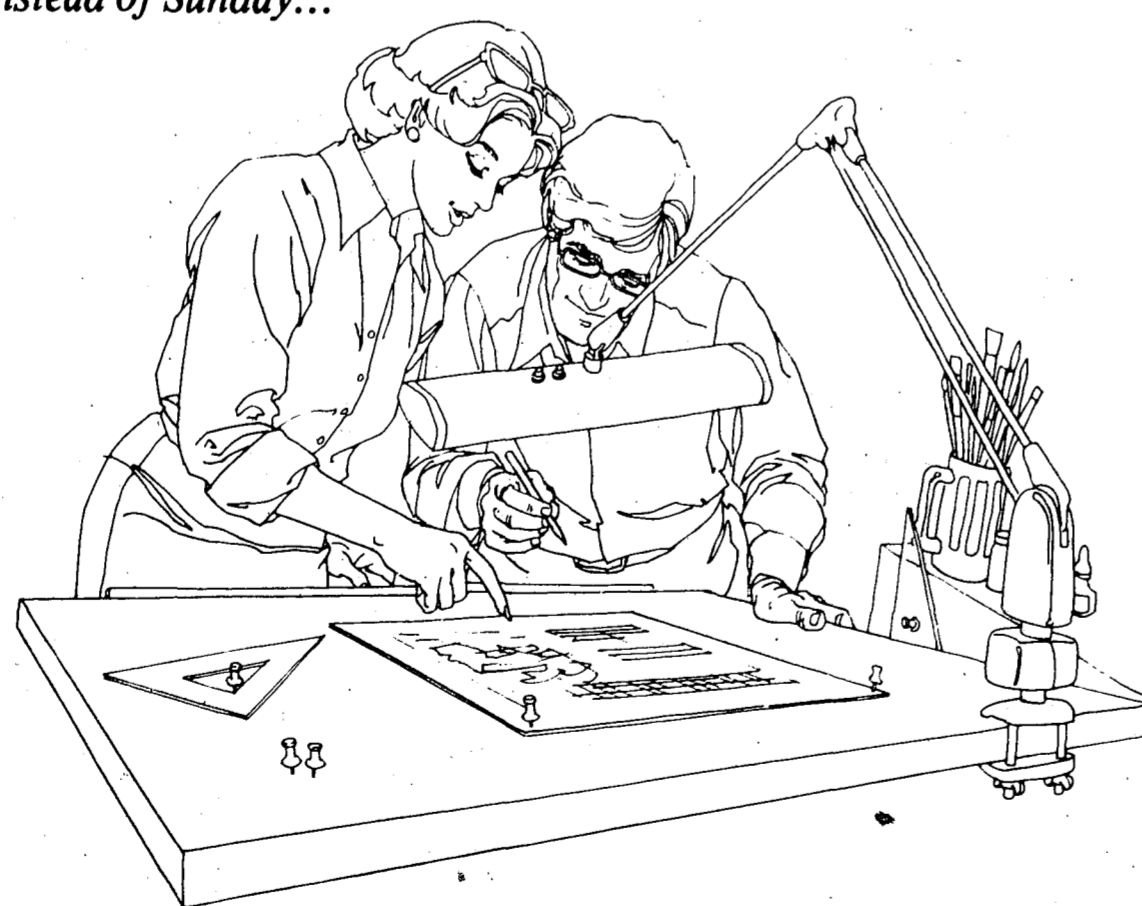
"Praise the Lord! I haven't been living in a world of dreams. There are Seventh Day Baptists! Thank you very much for the tracts you sent...I am now keeping the Sabbath as the Lord's Day instead of Sunday..."

"I am very much interested the S.D.B. Church. I have been a Baptist all my life and have done much study. I am so pleased with the tracts and booklets you have sent...I feel so much a part of the S.D.B. already that I am just thrilled."

The committee plans to sponsor additional advertising as funds are available.

The board approved the treasurer's report for the year as audited as well as projected budgets for coming years. It was announced that Calvin Babcock will be in charge of audio-visual services during Conference week again this year. The board appreciates his dedication to this important part of our service to the denomination.

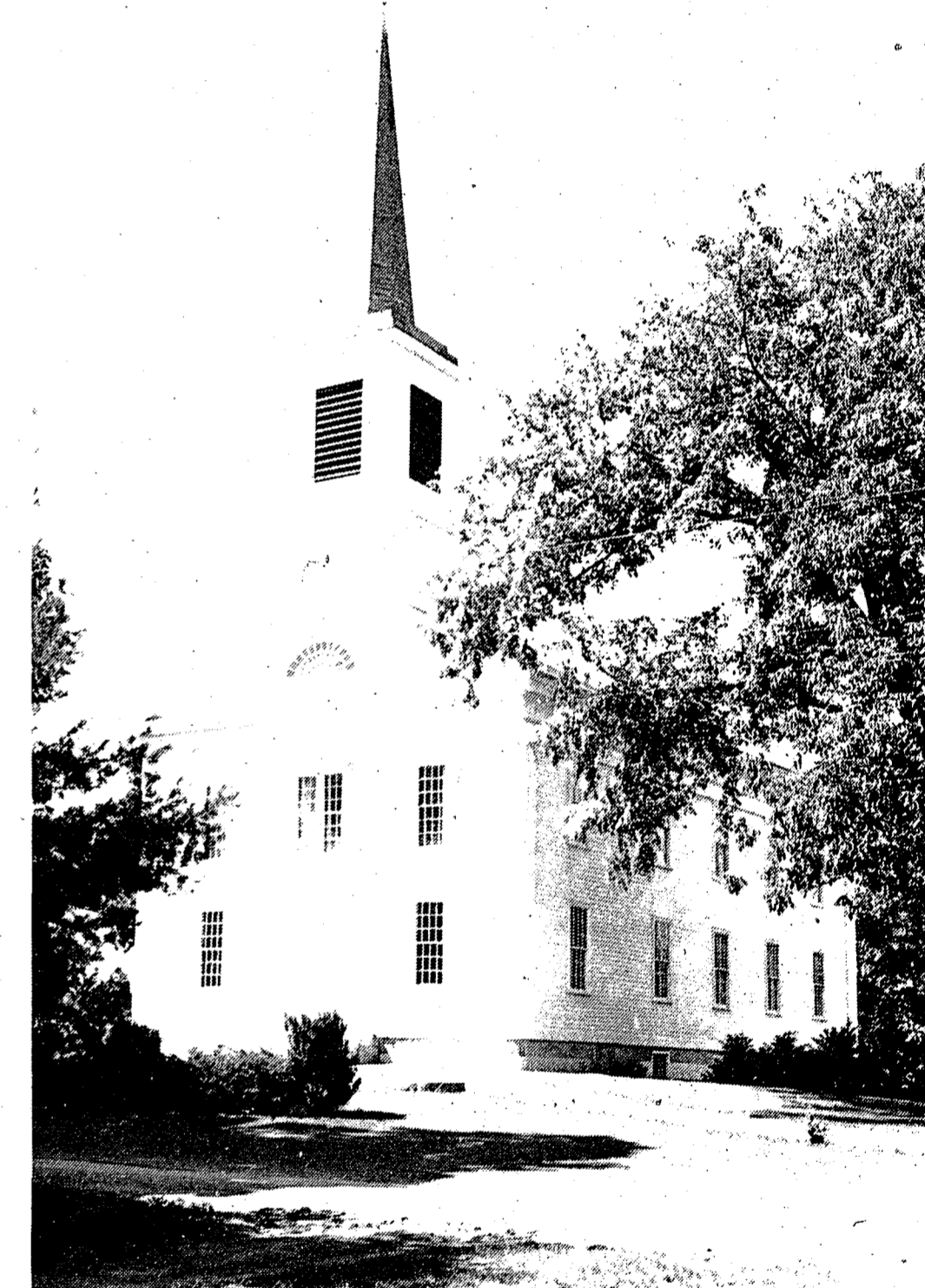
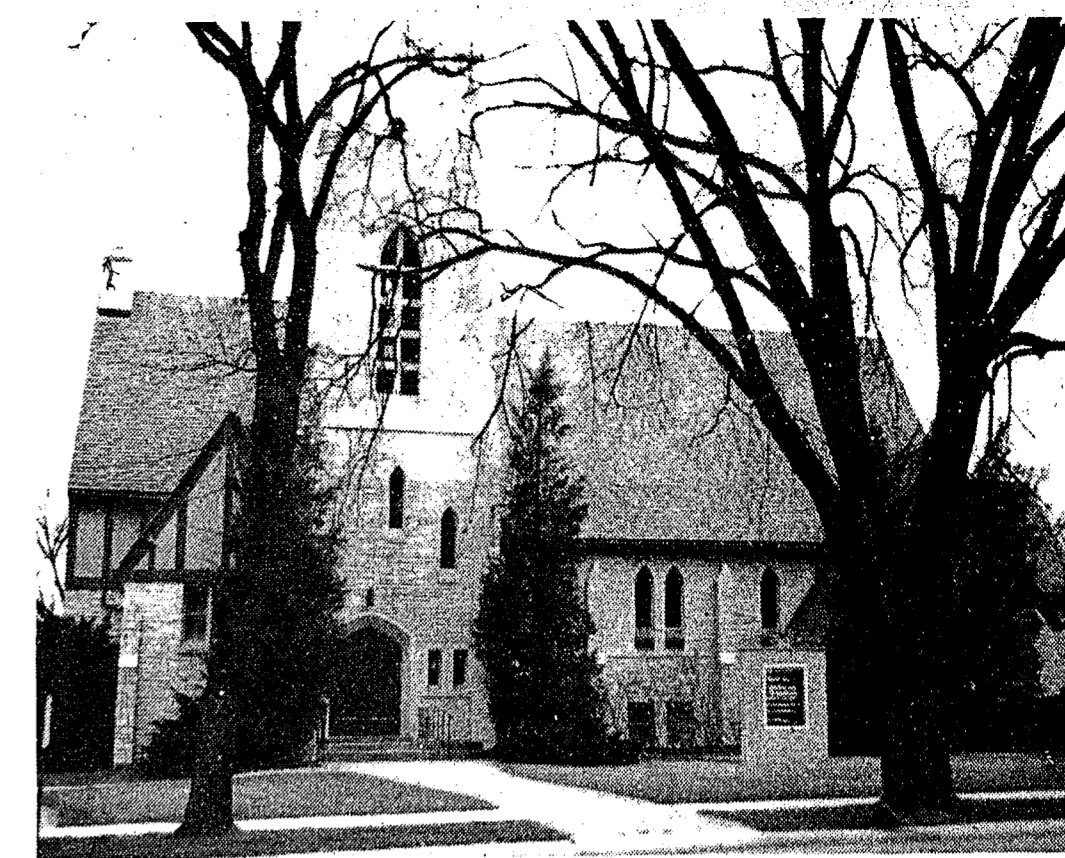
The board voted \$1,000 to assist in the Commitment in Growth program as recommended by the Planning Committee. The next board meeting will be held at the Marlboro, N.J., S.D.B. church on Sunday, July 18, at 1:00 p.m. □



Your gift to Our World Mission makes improvements in our publications possible.

Who Are Seventh Day Baptists?

Walls and windows do not tell what our church is all about. It has to be experienced in people and music and events. Ours is a church that cares, because He cares.



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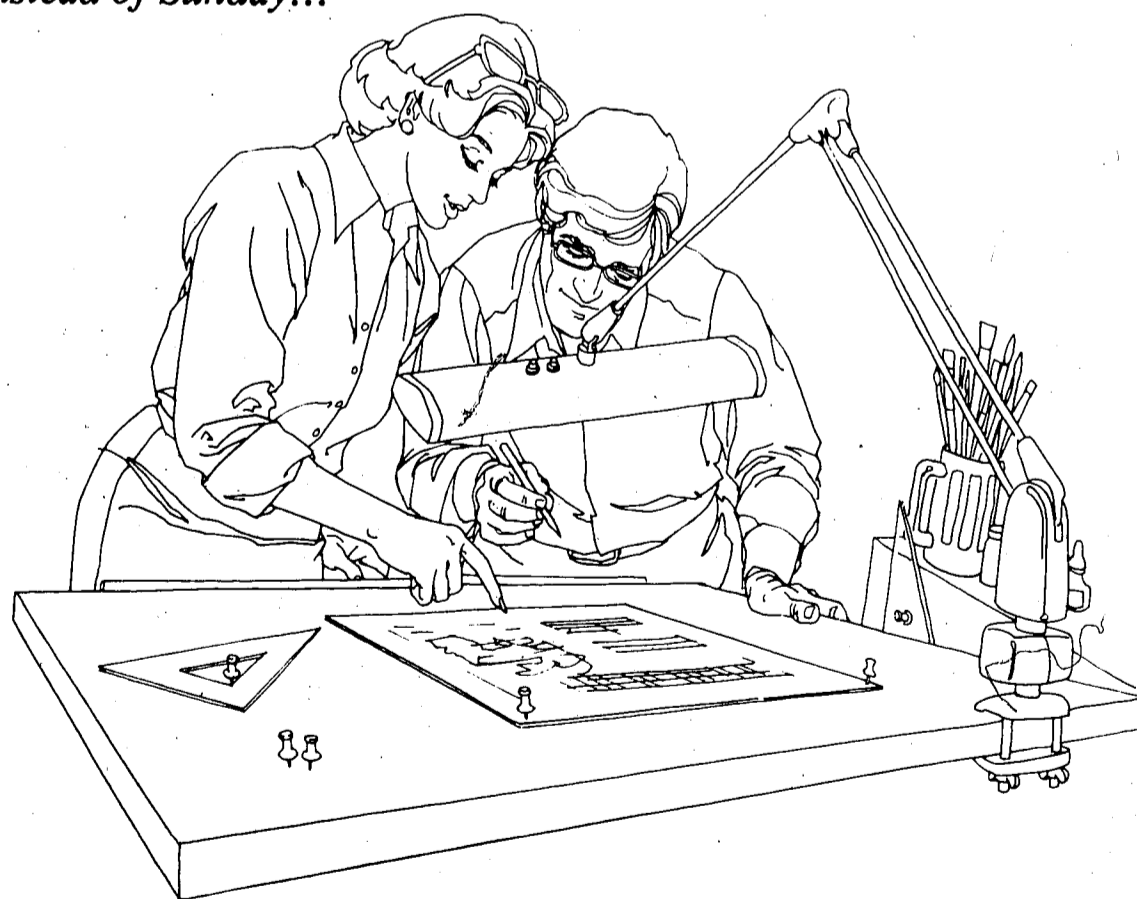
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"I am very much interested the S.D.B. Church. I have been a Baptist all my life and have done much study. I am so pleased with the tracts and booklets you have sent...I feel so much a part of the S.D.B. already that I am just thrilled."

The committee plans to sponsor additional advertising as funds are available.

The board approved the treasurer's report for the year as audited as well as projected budgets for coming years. It was announced that Calvin Babcock will be in charge of audiovisual services during Conference week again this year. The board appreciates his dedication to this important part of our service to the denomination.

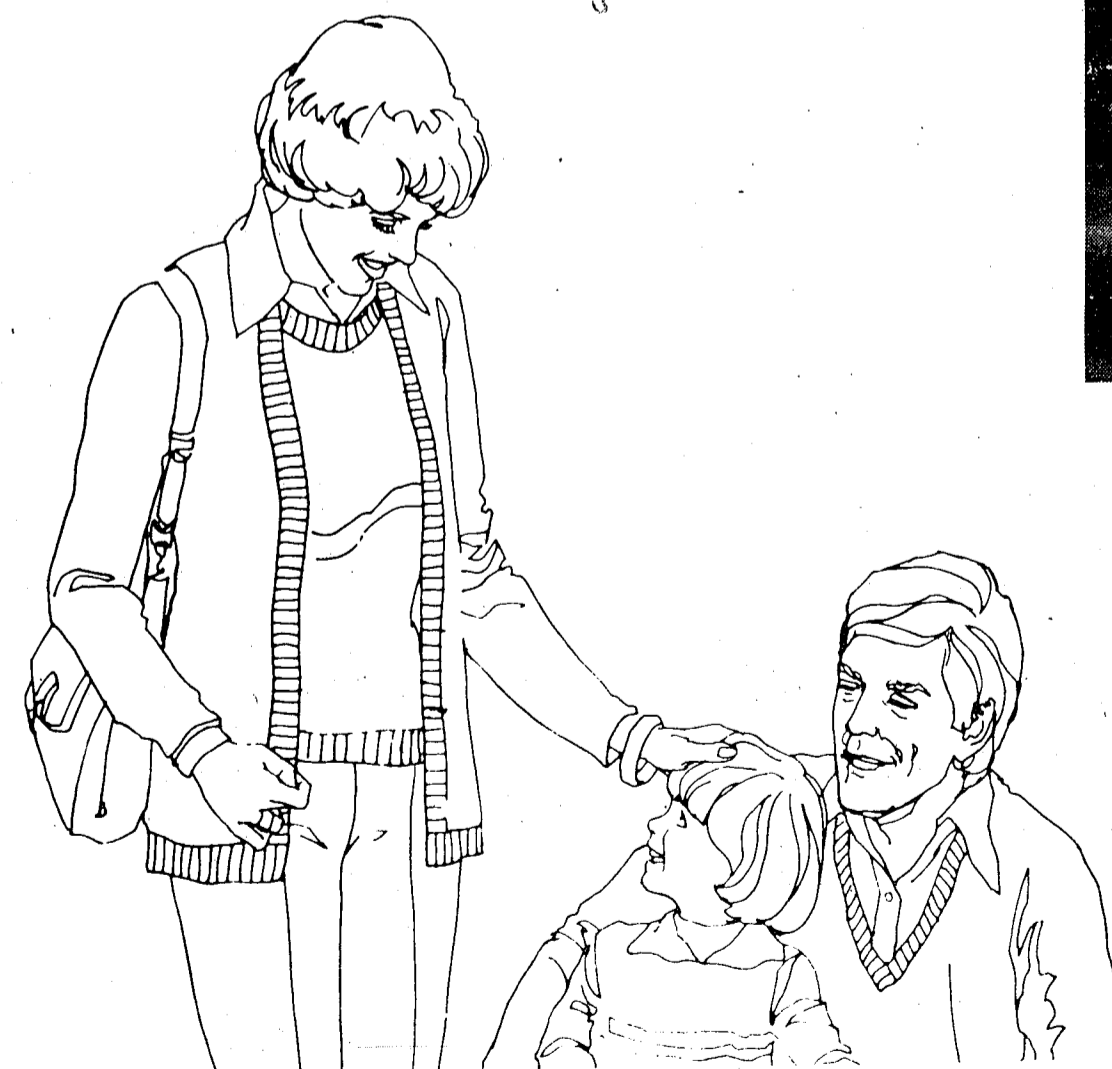
The board voted \$1,000 to assist in the Commitment in Growth program as recommended by the Planning Committee. The next board meeting will be held at the Marlboro, N.J., S.D.B. church on Sunday, July 18, at 1:00 p.m. □



Your gift to Our World Mission makes improvements in our publications possible.

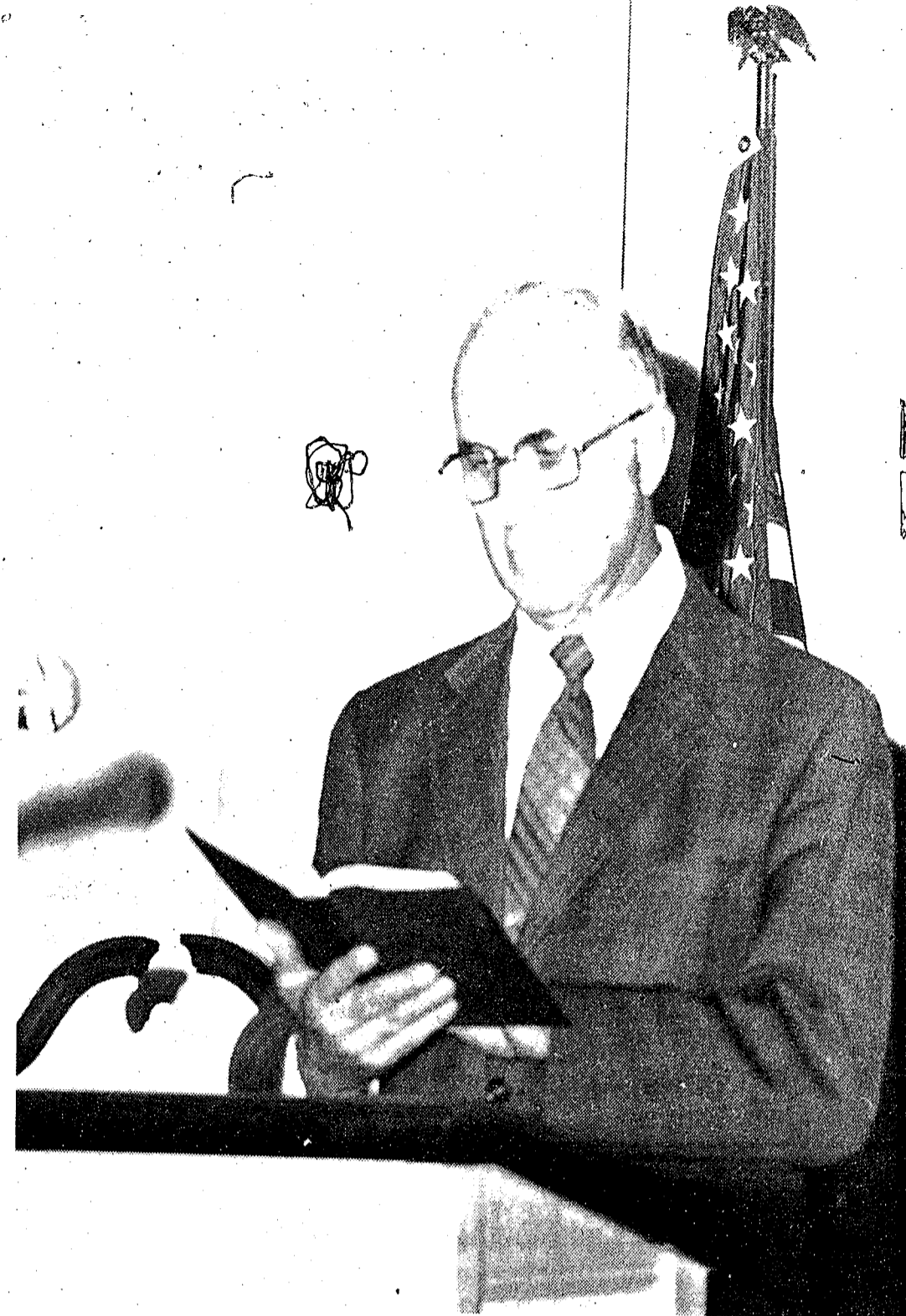
Who Are Seventh Day Baptists?

Walls and windows do not tell what our church is all about. It has to be experienced in people and music and events. Ours is a church that cares, because He cares.



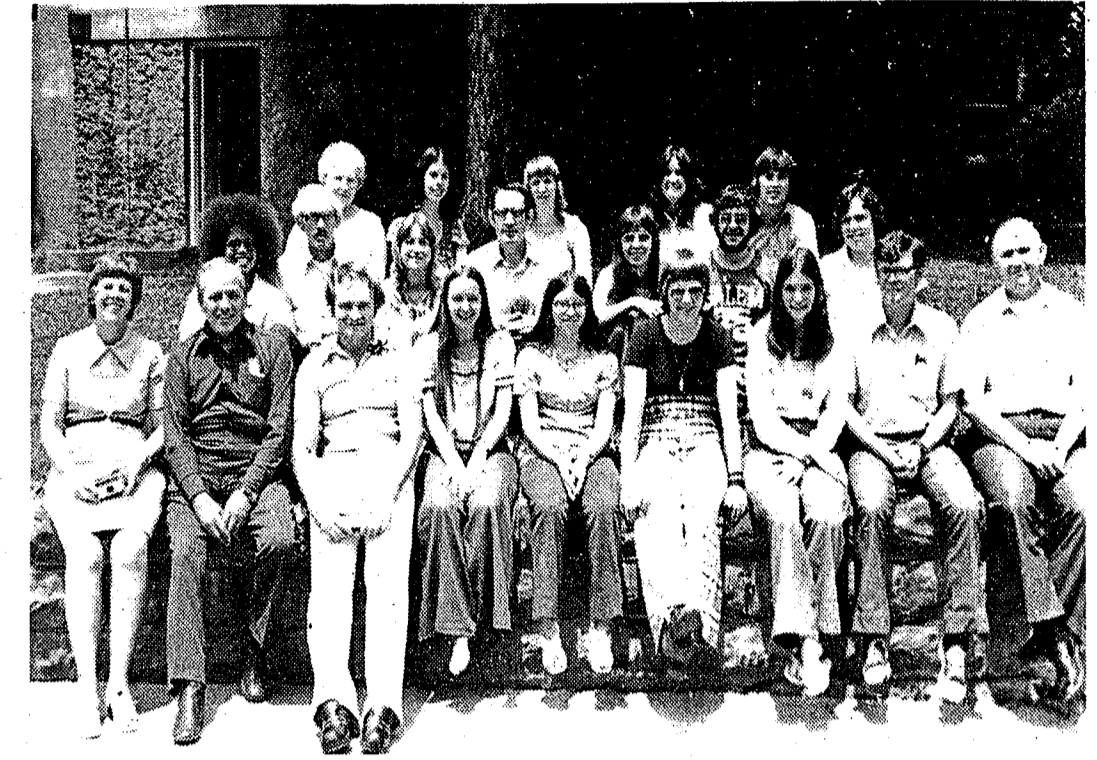


We believe that the needs of all people can be met in an encounter with Jesus Christ.



Seventh Day Baptist ministers have one authority – the Word of God.

The arms of our concern encircle the varied needs and interests of people, whoever they are and wherever they are found. We are convinced that the "whosoever" of John 3:16 means everyone can and must believe in Him . . . God's Son.



Each year Summer Christian Service Corps workers share their faith in a variety of projects.

Because He Cares . . .

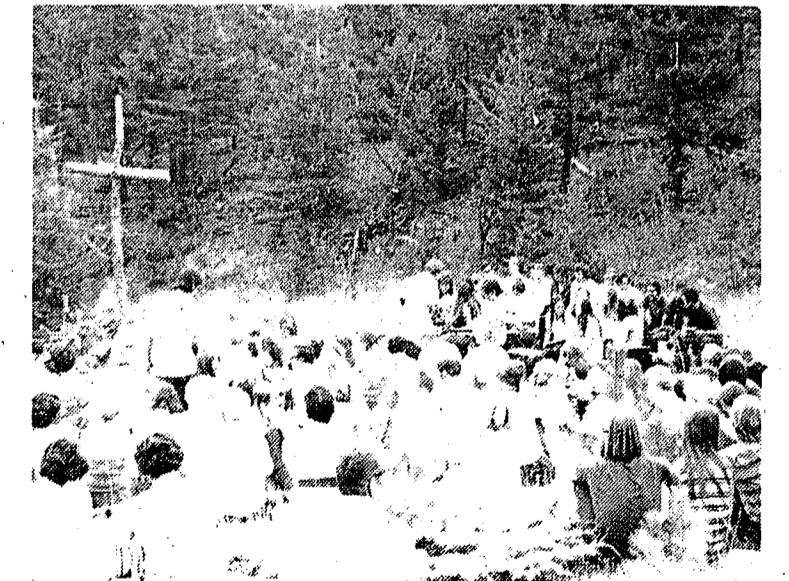
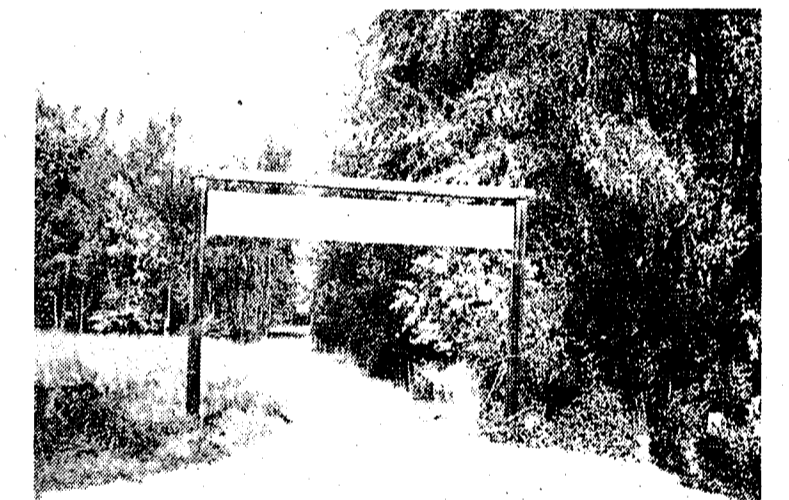
Ours is a church that cares,



Becoming a Seventh Day Baptist means acceptance of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ and His atoning death.



The Seventh Day Baptist General Conference meets annually to conduct business and to have fellowship with those of like faith.



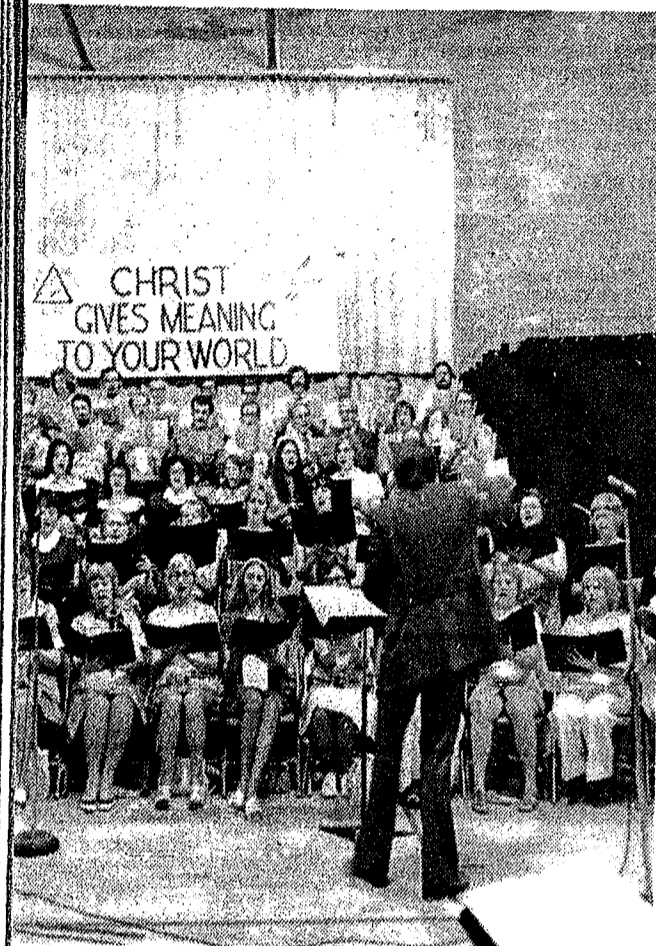
Our concern for youth has led in the establishment of a strong nation-wide camping program.

by Thomas Merchant, Historian
Presented at the annual meeting
of Eastern Association, May 8, 1976



You've Come a Long Way, Baby!

It is not with
buildings or with
statistics but it
is His Spirit that
makes the Seventh
Day Baptist Church
all that it is.



Music is an important part of the worship experience for Seventh Day Baptists.

SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS? Yes! Though you may not have heard of this church it is no new group. In England the first congregation dates to soon after the Reformation — 1617. In America the first church was organized in Newport, Rhode Island, in 1671.

SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS hold that the Scriptures are sufficient for man's faith and practice. They have no "leader" or founder, looking to Jesus Christ alone as the Head of the Church.

SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS believe that each individual stands before God, accountable and responsible to Him above all else. They believe that a Christian, following his initial "birth" through personal faith in the work of Christ on the cross, should grow and mature in faith, understanding and service. Therefore there is freedom for the individual to be led by the Holy Spirit and the truth of Scripture. There is likewise the opportunity to relate oneself to other believers in helpful and loving ways recognizing those whom God call shepherds or spiritual leaders.

SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS welcome those of all faiths, or no faith, to come and worship and study God's Word. You will find a friendly people and a place to understand and grow in the Kingdom of God.

For more information about Seventh Day Baptists and the location of the church nearest you write: The Sabbath Recorder, P. O. Box 868, Plainfield, N. J. 07061

The American Bicentennial celebration is probably the longest birthday party on record; it is certainly broader in scope than most observances:

not only does it commemorate the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776, but it recalls the events leading up to that great cry for freedom;

not only does it focus on the Revolutionary War, but it reviews in detail the 200 years hence;

not only does it reflect the past; but it challenges the future;

it has involved federal, state and local governments; it has recognized national heroes and common man; it has celebrated the science, the industry, the commerce, the government, the culture of this great land.

Nor has it been forgotten that this nation was created "under God." The religious community remembers the pursuit of religious liberty that brought many of our forefathers here; it evaluates the progress of religion in America; its pulpits appeal for a heightened sense of religious values in the future.

Seventh Day Baptists rightfully share in the Bicentennial observance: our first church was constituted more than a century before the birth of our nation; our forefathers were leaders in the battle for freedom; and with a 300-year heritage we look forward to a deepened commitment to God's purpose for us in this land.

By 1776 there were approximately fifteen Seventh Day Baptist churches in America — some were considered to be branches of other churches, and some had not formally organized, but in reality there were about fifteen churches — and many of their records have come down to us. From the history of our colonial churches we may learn about early Seventh Day Baptist religious life; we may see more objectively, by comparison, our religious life today, and we may discover more surely, by self-appraisal and meditation, God's will for us tomorrow.

We read of persecution:

The first Seventh Day Baptist church in America was the direct result of unceasing attacks upon Sabbath-keepers by the leaders of the Baptist church in Newport; this is common knowledge among Seventh Day Baptists, but it is not so well-known that the early Sabbatarians of Connecticut were persecuted, even imprisoned, for their Sabbath belief —

in Connecticut, Congregationalism was for all purposes the state religion, and the civil as well as the church authorities attempted to enforce observance of the Lord's Day; the Rev. John Crandall was imprisoned in Hartford, and several members of the Rogers family were jailed for working on the first day; such was the early history of the Waterford church, and a century later, a petition

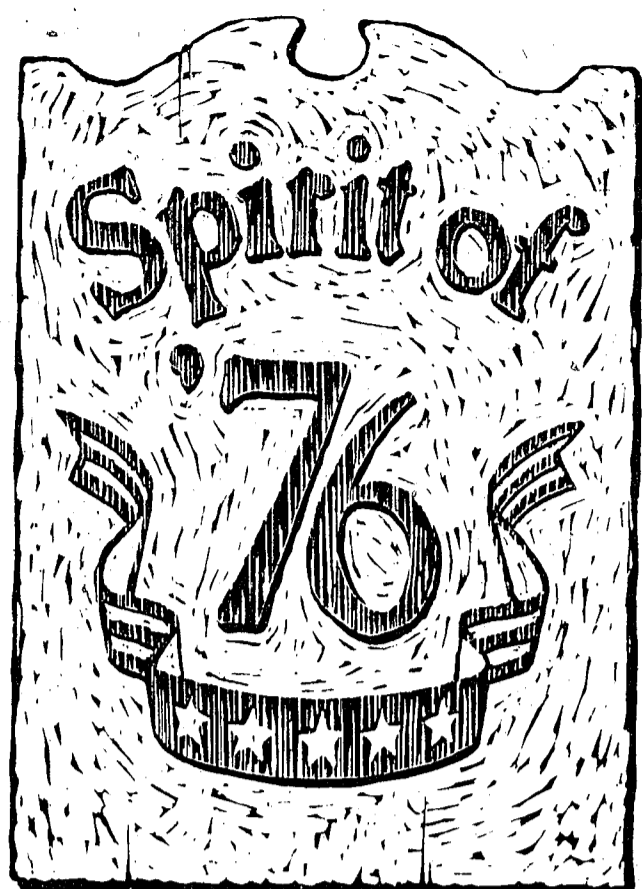
from the Burlington church to the Connecticut General Assembly is evidence that the situation had not yet been resolved —

To the honorable General Assembly sitting at Hartford in May 1783, wherein there is an unhappy misunderstanding amongst the people in this state, especially in the society of West Britten, concerning the Sabbath. It is according to the laws of this state offensive to do any servile labor on the first day of the week, and there is a number in the society that holds that by the authority of the Sacred Scripture they are obliged to keep the seventh day of the week as a Sabbath, and they hold that they are commanded to labor six days, and that of God, and to rest the seventh day from all their labor...

and in Chester County, Pennsylvania, the Episcopalians attacked the new churches with such vigor and persistency that they were nearly destroyed — and these are but a few examples, and little detail, of the persecution faced by early Seventh Day Baptists in America.

There were many aspects of Seventh Day Baptist church life in the 1700's that differ from ours today, but the most notable is the practice of discipline. According to the Rev. Theodore L. Gardiner:

(continued on page 24)



General Conference sessions will be held in this lovely chapel at Houghton College.

CONFERENCE '76

The Host Committee for General Conference (Luan Ellis, chairman, Alfred Station, NY 14803) continues to lay plans and initiate actions, for the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference which will be held at Houghton, New York, August 8-14, 1976.

Mos of the committee and other meeting rooms have been assigned. All but two are in one building.

Two of the buildings are air-conditioned: the Science Hall, where the meeting rooms are, and the Campus Center which includes the dining area. Unless we have a terrific heat-spell, the auditorium and dormitories will be quite comfortable without air-conditioning.

The nursery room, which is well-equipped, and two adjoining rooms, will be used for our young offspring. Mrs. Gloria Palmer of Leonardsville, New York 13364 is in charge of the nursery. Volunteers for work in the nursery may contact her.

Please, disregard earlier information about camp accommodations on the campus. The fact is that there is room for eighteen rigs on the campus. All rigs must be self-contained. All camping sites are within walking distance of campus facilities, and \$2.75 a night will be charged for each recreational vehicle. About 8 RV's may park immediately behind one of the dormitories that we will be using. Conference registrar, Richard Burdick, will make the assignments.

Preregistration materials will be sent to all churches so that your registration can be back in our hands by July 15.

Registration fees are as follows:

Meals and lodging for the week (Sunday supper through Sunday breakfast) \$57.50 for adults; \$43.00 for children ten years of age and under; \$28.00 for a person using a cot in a room (limit two cots added to a room); \$25.00 for person occupying a sleeping bag on the floor.

Registration: Adult for the week, \$9.00 Child, age ten or under, \$3.00; a person for the weekend, \$3.00.

Prices for less than complete registration for the week: (These are set by our campus hosts) Breakfast, \$1.00; Lunch, \$1.65; Dinner, \$2.60; Banquet, \$3.25.

Lodging: \$3.75 per night with all linens furnished except washcloths;

\$1.75 per night for a camp cot set up in the room, includes linens;

\$1.00 per night for children using their own sleeping bags on the floor.

\$2.75 per night to part a recreational vehicle.

No blankets will be furnished. The nights may be cool.

Information will be forthcoming on Trailer Courts and other conveniences in the general area. □

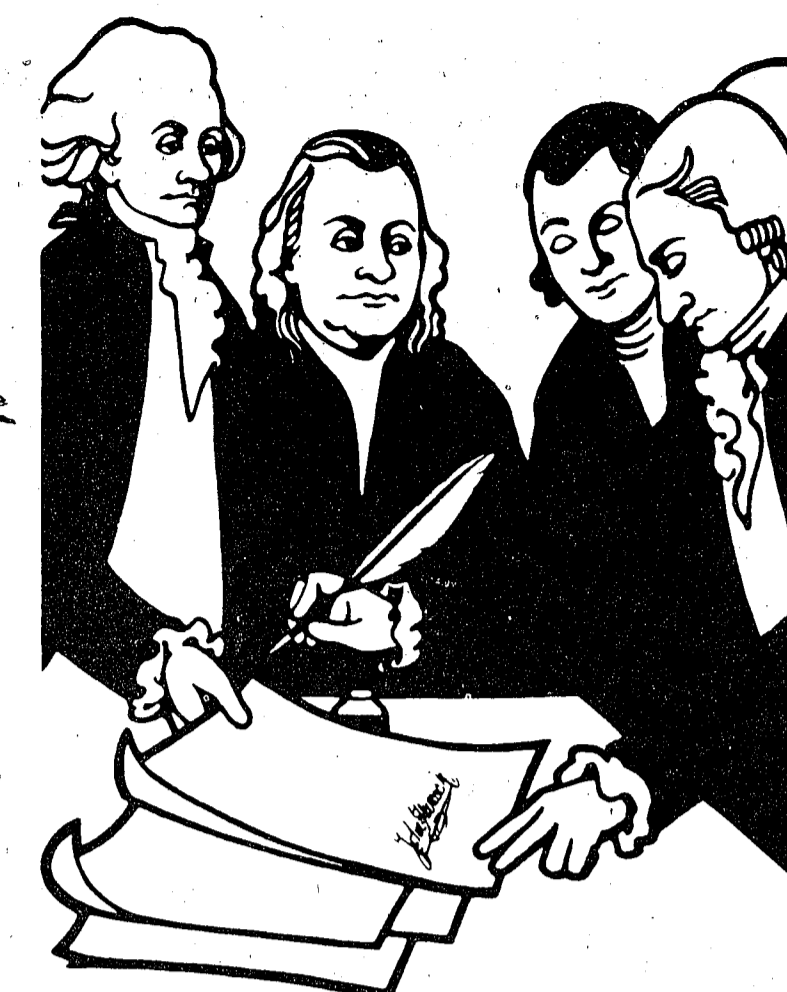
-Rex Zwiebel, Publicity Agent

INTEREST COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Attached is a roster on committee chairmen assignments. This may be helpful in establishing communications prior to Conference time. Each committee chairman is interested in coming to Conference well prepared. Please help in every way you can in forwarding ideas and early reports that may help prepare advanced thinking and lay ground work.

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Christian Education | Don Sanford - 346 College St., Milton, Wis. 53563 |
| Christian Social Action | Dale Thorngate - 6602 Temple Hills, Temple Hills, Maryland 20031 |
| Communications | Helen Bond - 8989 Dustin Rd., Galena, Ohio 43021 |
| Courtesies | Garth Warner - 4124 Sholtz Rd., Oneida, N.Y. 13421 |
| Credentials | Ron Goodrich - North Loup, Nebraska 68859 |
| Ecumenical Interests | Jerry Van Horn - 629 Greendale Drive, Janesville, Wis. 53545 |
| Ministerial Interests | Hope Bevis - 1079 Kenyon Ave., Plainfield, N.J. 07060 |
| Missions - National | Daryl White - 2032 S. Yank Way, Lakewood, Colo. |
| Missions - Overseas | Tibbie Maddox - 8555 Torbett Way, Riverside, Calif. 92504 |
| Nominations | John Camenga - 1008 N. Polk St., Little Rock, Ark. 72205 |
| Reference and Counsel | Dale Curtis - 3716 San Rafael Way, Riverside, Calif. 92504 |
| Budget | Oscar Burdick - Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, Calif. 94709 |
| Vocations | Wayne Babcock - Dodge Center, Minnesota 55927 |
| Women's Work | Janette Rogers - R.D., Alfred Station, N.Y. 14803 |
| Youth Work | Edgar Wheeler - Box 238, Ashaway, Rhode Island 02804 |

During recent years, many individuals have indicated an interest in developing more family type activities and programming of such in our homes, local churches, and our annual General Conference. To give attention to this concern, the Women's Society is working with the Conference president in developing a "Family Sabbath Welcoming Service" for the Friday evening of Conference. We will broaden our families to include all who attend Conference even though they come alone, leaving other family members at home. Our evening meal will be family oriented with Communion a part of the same setting. Following Communion, various family groups will share in activities which they find meaningful. A musical presentation will lead us into the evening worship. I hope that this will prove to be an important emphasis during the Conference week. □



July 4, 1776: "The foregoing Declaration is, by order of Congress, engrossed and signed."

July 1976						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

DENOMINATIONAL DATELINE

June 25-27
Southwestern Association
Texarkana, Ark.
Theme: "Press On"

June 25-27
Southeastern Association
Dr. K. D. Hurley
Middle Island, W.V.

July 11
Memorial Fund Trustees
Plainfield, N.J.

July 18
Board of Christian Education
Quarterly Board Meeting
Alfred, N.Y.

July 18
American Sabbath Tract Society
Quarterly Board Meeting
Marlboro, N.J.

July 25
Missionary Society
Quarterly Board Meeting
Westerly, R.I.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
(continued from page 11)

Legitimately, we should ask ourselves certain basic questions: Can we afford the time and expense to participate in these "extra" activities? Should we be affiliated with others who sometimes do things and make pronouncements with which we do not totally agree?

Such questions have to be evaluated in the light of potential values received from participating in the larger Christian fellowship. Membership in ecumenical organizations can provide *contacts* with national and international leaders; *opportunities*, at least for a core group of our church members, to know about and understand better the social, political and spiritual conditions in other groups and in other parts of the world (they should then share what they learn with as many other church members as possible); *chances to witness* in regard to the Sabbath; *inspiration* to look beyond ourselves, to gain a greater vision of what our specific mission should be in modern day society.

Whether or not "to know and be known" is the question. The value of "being known" cannot be measured. It is like bread cast upon the waters. It returns in blessings, many times over.

"To know and be known" is undoubtedly a worthy objective - particularly, if in the process, we strengthen our own church's pattern of growth and development. □

OPEN FORUM
(continued from page 8)

but it is totally without foundation. The World Council of Churches, as the documents will indicate to you, raises for church relief and development projects something like US\$ 25 million a year. This money is handled by the World Council without any deductions of any kind, not even a commission for administration. This money all goes to church agencies in the Third World where there are refugee or disaster situations or development projects which have been screened carefully by the churches in the area. Quite apart from that, we have a small operation in which we have granted a limited amount of money (approximately \$200,000 -

\$300,000 a year) to groups that are oppressed on a racial ground. These include groups all over the world, such as among the Eskimos, South American Indians, the Australian Aborigines and so on. They also do include some organizations of black people in Southern Africa. Some of these organizations, though not all, are in fact engaged in military activity, but the World Council of Churches' grants are given exclusively for social service work such as clinics or schools in the primitive areas in which these organizations are "virtually the *de facto* government. I can assure you beyond question that no such money has ever been used for military purposes. It is true that some of the organizations, as I have said, are engaged in warfare but to suggest that the World Council is supporting that is equivalent to saying the same kind of things about the Red Cross in its work among people suffering from war conditions... □

HISTORICAL SOCIETY
(continued from page 21)

Ruling elders were also appointed and ordained, whose business was to look after the members who might stray, admonish to duty, and to assist in the pastoral duties. The ruling elders were also to act as arbitrators to settle and adjust all difficulties usually settled by law. The members were not to sue each other at law, but resort to the elders with their cases.

In some churches, the deacons assumed these responsibilities, and in others, the church at large, but the records amply demonstrate that all of the churches exercised this shepherding function. The idea was not punishment but to encourage, strengthen and edify, as well as to reprove and correct. Although there were a number of business suits and personal differences, the great majority of the cases involved straying members.

Sometimes the cited member could establish innocence or justification, or would confess error, and be welcomed back into full fellowship; sometimes the transgressor would not satisfy the church and would receive an admonition, which usually was accompanied by the withholding of Communion; and sometimes the member would fail to correct his ways after numerous citations and admonitions and the church would be forced to exact the "awful sentence

of excommunication." It should be noted that the church was always extremely patient - some cases continued for years before the church took the final step.

With relief we sigh, "You've come a long way, baby!" ...or have you?

What is the point of bringing out these 200-year-old matters of persecution and discipline? In a word, "commitment."

It was not easy to be a Seventh Day Baptist in the 1700's: persecution was real, and it meant real hardship, not mere inconvenience; one had to be COMMITTED;

and one's COMMITMENT was checked by the system of discipline, not to be judgmental, but to be supportive of one another;

and finally, it was not easy to become a Seventh Day Baptist - the churches all required either a lengthy oral or written testimony, or questioning in front of the congregation - one had to be truly COMMITTED to request membership.

In this Bicentennial year it would be good for all Seventh Day Baptists to examine their degree of commitment:

Could we suffer for our beliefs?

Could our practices stand up to the watchful eye of our caring brothers and sisters?

Can we affirm the articles of faith authored by the Shrewsbury church in 1774?

1st. Your duty towards your God. Do you own God to be your God and only law giver, the strength of your life, and the life of your soul?

2dly. Do you promise to obey His commandments as far as God shall enable you?

3d. Do you promise to look to Him as your supporter, guider, and director in all things agreeable to His will?

4th. Do you think His Son Jesus Christ to be your king to rule over you, and in you and for you as a prophet to teach you and direct you?

5th. Do you believe that atonement that Jesus made by the sacrifice of Himself, that he made satisfaction to God and by his glorious victory over sin, Satan, death, and the grave you expect to be a conqueror through Christ over sin and Satan in this life, and over death, and the grave at the resurrection?

6th. Do you depend upon the atonement of Christ for the salvation of your souls looking for it in God's way?

In the second place your duty as a church member in relation to this church in particular.

1st. That you pray for the growth of the church and for her peace and safety and for grace, wisdom, and understanding to be conferred on the ministers thereof.

2dly. That you are constant as far as you can in attending on the public worship of God upon the Holy Sabbath.

3d. That you shall attend on meetings of conference that is appointed for public consultation of the affairs of the church, and be a useful member in the same.

4th. That you endeavor as far as God shall enable you to assist in the support of the Gospel in general and this church in particular.

In the third place your duty to your brethren as church members.

1st. You shall live in peace with all brothers and sisters and endeavor when opportunity serves to speak about the things of God.

2d. That you shall watch over your brothers and sisters that you are in communion with, if you see them going astray you shall endeavor to reclaim them in love and meekness.

3d. That you shall be willing at all times, not only to give reproof, but to take reproof from your brothers and sisters when you go astray yourself.

4th. That if your brothers or sisters shall offend you in word or action, you shall not divulge it to any brother or sister or any other person until you have been to the offender and made it known to him; and if he repent forgive him, and if not you shall not make it known to those without, but take the gospel rule,

5th. That you shall not speak reproachfully of nor backbite your brothers or sisters that you are in communion with.

6th. That you shall walk honestly towards those that are without, that you give no offence to Jew or Gentile or the church of God.

In the 4th place, of private duties respecting yourselves and families.

1st. That you search the scriptures to prove the word you hear preached and that you are diligent in reading the word to yourself and families, that you pray for wisdom and understanding what you read, and for the blessing of God on your labour and family.

2d. That you bring up your children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord as far as God shall enable you.

3d. That you watch over your words and actions, that your conversation be as becomes the gospel of Christ with a holy temper, disposition, and composure of mind agreeable to the Gospel rule.

4th. That you shall be courteous and kind in entertaining the poor when called thereunto as far as your ability will allow.

5th. And lastly, it is required that you have God's glory in view in all your religious and civil affairs. □



HOB AND THE RUNAWAY

Jamie thought his parents were much too strict with him. They loved him, and showed their love, but they demanded obedience. He had work assignments around the house. There were things he was not allowed to do. He pouted at their discipline, many times.

It often occurred to him he should run away.

So one day he and his dog Hobo sneaked away from the house.

"We'll show them!" Jamie scowled.

They made their way to the railroad tracks.

Making sure no one saw, the boy and his dog climbed into an empty box car.

And that's where Jamie's adventure - and some important lessons - began.

A charming, colorful, action-packed film with lessons vital to both children and their parents.

Ken Anderson Films

P. O. BOX 618
WINONA LAKE, INDIANA 46590

COME TO THE FAIR

SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST FAIR BOOTH WITNESS

This recently published booklet contains suggestions on how to set up a booth at the fair. The booklet includes suggested goals, procedures, and fair booth layout. Send for your copy today - \$1.25. Order from The American Sabbath Tract Society, P.O. Box 868, Plainfield, N.J. 07061.

GOOD NEWS GOES TO THE FAIR

The bright folder contains scenes of midway action typical of fairs and carnivals, with portions of Scripture from John and Acts. Order number 06878 \$.03 each. Order from: American Bible Society, 1865 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10023.

BAPTIST VISITORS' CENTER OPENED IN NATION'S CAPITAL

WASHINGTON.- First Baptist Church here, a historic landmark in the nation's capital, has opened a Bicentennial Visitors' Center in hopes of making a spiritual contribution to persons visiting Washington this year.

U.S. Sen. Mark O. Hatfield (R.-Ore.), a Baptist layman and keynote speaker at the center's opening, said, "The Bicentennial year and the activities planned in and around this visitors' center give Christians of First Baptist Church an opportunity to call fellow Americans to an allegiance in the authority outside man."

First Baptist Church, located at 16th and O Streets, N.W., eight blocks north of the White House, is a historic landmark and a tourist attraction in itself. The Visitors' Center will be open daily from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Information on it is available by writing the church (zip code 20036) or by calling (202) 387-2206. □

The Church in Action

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP ORGANIZED

BERLIN, N.Y.—Greetings from the Berlin, N.Y., church. We would like each of you to know about some of the events that have occurred in our area in the past several months.

In October, our church voted to call the Rev. C. Rex Burdick to serve as our pastor for another year, this being his fifth year at Berlin. Also in October, we joyfully hosted the Light Bearers for Christ and Rev. Charles Graffius for a weekend. One evening, there was a concert by the Light Bearers for the entire community.

Since last fall, it has been a challenging and exciting time for the youth of our church. A youth fellowship has again been organized after several years without an active group. The officers are: Pam Burdick, president, Carole Stuart, vice-president, Russell Bonesteel, secretary and Wesley Greene, advisor. Two of the main activities of the youth were witnessed at Christmas time. They sent Christmas messages to shut-ins and planned the entire Christmas eve candlelighting service, including the decorations.

In April, the Schenectady SDB Church joined with us in the commemoration of the Last Supper. Their pastor, David Taylor, had the morning meditation. Pastor Burdick, Pastor Taylor, and Rev. Paul Maxson, pastor emeritus of our church, administered the sacraments. Following the worship service, we had a fellowship dinner. Later in the afternoon, the youth met together as did some of the adults.

"The Sabbath means infinitely more since in Jesus Christ men may behold God in clearer light, and experience Him in a more intimate fellowship. The Sabbath ever beckons the Christian on to a deeper and more joyous experience in a richer fellowship with Jesus Christ who is Lord of the Sabbath."

—A. J. C. Bond



Berlin, N.Y., Seventh Day Baptist Church

JOINT COMMUNION SERVICE HELD

BASKING RIDGE, N.J.—Sabbath, April 17, was a special day for the members of the North Jersey church as they were joined by the members of the Irvington, N.J., German church for a special joint Communion service. Special music was provided by our children's choir and Mrs. William Vis. Charles Bachman led in the Communion meditation and service. It was a very meaningful service and we were happy to have several visitors present.

—Wesley A. Greene

The church has voted to sponsor a fair booth at the Flemington fair the latter part of August. We feel this will be an excellent way for us to share our faith in this area. The church has also voted to purchase a console piano to be used in our Sabbath services.

In addition to our monthly support of the Sabbath School Missions Offering the church has a special project each quarter. Last quarter we were happy to send \$110.20 to the Philippine Conference of S.D.B.'s to be used in their Project '76 - to build a headquarters church in Cebu City. We will again assist with this worthwhile project this quarter. □

—Janette Crouch

HOMECOMING CELEBRATED

DAYTONA BEACH, FL.—At the annual church business meeting in January, the Daytona Beach Seventh Day Baptist Church elected new officers and appointed committees for this year. The Rev. Leon Maltby now serves as president. Kay Bee leads the Sabbath School as superintendent. We appreciate the many years of dedicated service Bernice Davis gave as superintendent.

We are grateful to have a new roof over our sanctuary. Members and friends of our church gave generously to make the new roof possible.

March 12-14 our church family celebrated its annual Anniversary and Homecoming in worship and fellowship with as many as ninety in attendance. Kenneth Kenyon and Hannah Burdick made an interesting historical presentation during Sabbath School. They included excerpts from Rev. Elizabeth Randolph's notebook, written when she was pastor of our congregation. We are proud to have Rev. Randolph as a faithful member of our church. The Lynch family quartet provided an added inspiration with their music. After the fellowship dinner, Dr. Ruth Rogers showed movies and Pastor Van Horn showed slides depicting past events in our church life. Young and old (6 months to 94 years) joined together for the final Homecoming event, the chicken barbecue.

Many friends from our northern churches have worshipped with us since the beginning of this year. We appreciate their presence and the willingness of some to participate more actively by singing in the choir, helping with Communion, teaching a Sabbath School class, or directing the choir. □

THE LIGHT BEARERS WERE HERE

EL PASO, TX.—The Light Bearers for Christ were here - in El Paso - March 24 and 25. Their stay was brief -- two public concerts and a Seventh Day Baptist luncheon. Their impact on us who received the inspiration of the music and witness cannot be measured. We are stronger in faith and deeper challenged for more faithful Christian living.

Wednesday, March 24, a concert, preceded by a church potluck supper, was held at the Mt. View United Methodist Church in northeast El Paso. The small church was well filled and response enthusiastic. People still talk about them and insist should they come this way again by all means include Mt. View.

Thursday, March 25, another concert, preceded by a potluck supper, was held in the recreation room of the Casa Mobil Home Park (where the Suttons live). Again the reception was excellent. Lodging for the Light Bearers Wednesday night was provided by members of the Mt. View church. Thursday lodging had been arranged at Casa Mobil but the group thought it best to move on that night.

A noon luncheon for the Light Bearers and the group (a happy surprise) of twelve others who came to El Paso from Colorado, Nebraska, Rhode Island, and Torreon, Mexico, was served by Mr. and Mrs. E. Don Leach of Dawson Creek, B.C., Canada (wintering in El Paso), and Trevah and Mary Sutton. Sponsors of the Light Bearers - Mynor and Marian Soper, Ewald Fick, Dan Richards, and Daryl and Barbara White, as well as Leon Lawton of the Missionary Society (enroute to Denver)

- met with the delegation of five from Torreon to discuss a prospective trip of the Light Bearers to Mexico.

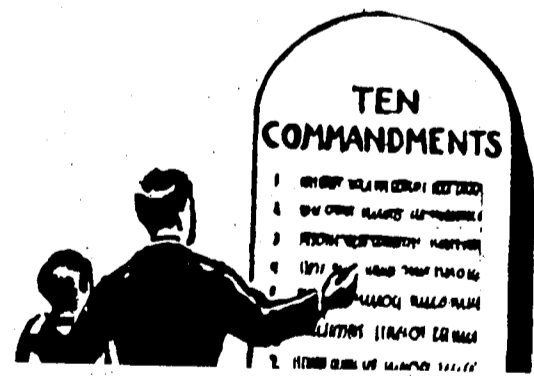
The concerts were nondenominational. However, those from the church and Casa Mobil cooperating in the project knew the group were Seventh Day Baptists and a good impression was made. The Light Bearers, the Sopers, and the Mexican delegation moved on. The Whites and Leon Lawton remained until Sabbath noon. These with the Leaches and Suttons met at the Mt. View church for a Sabbath morning worship, with several guests - Leon Lawton preaching. After a luncheon at a nearby cafeteria the visiting people left for other duties. As far as we know history was made that day by the first Seventh Day Baptist worship service in El Paso. Never before have so many Seventh Day Baptists (25) been known to have been in El Paso at one time as March 24 and 25 - not recorded in city records but in our memories. May this be the beginning and not the last. Please submit names of Seventh Day Baptists and others interested in this area to us. □

Trevah and Mary Sutton
6145 Quail #808
El Paso, Texas 79924

LEWIS CAMP COMMITTEE PURCHASES LAND

Dreamers have been dreaming! Plodders have been plodding! Critics have been criticizing! Givers have been giving! Workers have been working! Hoppers have been hoping! Pray-ers have been praying!

And now, at last, the dream has materialized; the plodders have been



This attractive tract display is located in the Denver church. Are tracts easily accessible in your church? For a free catalog of tracts and booklets write to the editor.



Denison Barber, Lewis Camp Committee treasurer (left), and Stephan Saunders, chairman of the Lewis Camp Committee, finalizing the purchase of the land for the new camp site for Lewis Camp.

vindicated; constructive criticism has had its creative impact; givers have received their reward, workers their compensation, hoppers their realization, pray-ers their answer! The land purchase is final! The new Lewis Camp is a reality!

The Lewis Camp Committee with representatives from five New England and two New York Seventh Day Baptist Churches, has finalized the purchase of 42.4 acres of land in North Stonington, Connecticut. The committee, now working on plans for incorporation, is continuing, with hope in God, whose help has been evident in overcoming obstacles, and with the support of the churches whose programs are involved in Lewis Camp, to expand the effort with plans for an extensive building program, coupled to an ever-increasing opportunity for outreach for Christ in the camping ministry.

With trust in the Heavenly Father, the committee feels sure that this is a new beginning for the oldest S.D.B. camping program in our nation. □

"The Lord gave the Word: great was the company of those that published it."
Psalm 68:11.

OUTREACH GROWS IN HOUSTON

HOUSTON, TX.— The Houston Fellowship is most grateful for the dedicated workers who have helped us in recent months.

The Light Bearers for Christ sang twenty-one concerts during their two weeks here. They were warmly received by residents in three retirement homes. One elderly gentleman felt so moved by the message and purpose of the team that he initiated an unexpected offering.

Two evenings were spent in the International Seamen's Center, Port of Houston, where the team witnessed to about eighty foreign men and women. Music carried the message of Christ across language barriers.

The T.V. appearance developed from a short spot into an interview with Jerry Van Horn concerning the team work and several songs. The studio audience seemed very receptive.

Students at Baptist Student Centers at Rice U, Baylor Medical School, and San Jacinto College shared food and enjoyed Christian fellowship with the team. A note of thanks for

caring and sharing came from the C.S.U. at Lamar High School, where forty students attended the 7:15 a.m. concert. One of the sponsors requested the Light Bearers to sing that evening for the Salvation Army.

The fellowship and friendship experienced with the Light Bearers at the Fresno Methodist Church enriched the lives of all those who participated in the activities of the day. Sunday, March 28, after the singing team had gone on west, Rev. Mynor Soper gave the sermon, Marian Soper, Ewald Fick, Dan Richards, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Elno Davis, and the George Stillman family shared in the worship and fellowship experience.

The last concert of the Light Bearers was at an Episcopal Coffee House where music, movies, and refreshments are available each Sunday evening. Patty Burdick gave her personal testimony and the team closed the evening with their testimony in song, the encore being "The King Is Coming."

We were blessed with the enthusiasm and devoted witness of these young people. The youth sponsor at Central Presbyterian Church expressed it this way: "The Light Bearers were like a breath of fresh air... They created such a very warm atmosphere with our group, and their singing is fantastic... Their real charm is in their simple and open manner. We loved them all and thank them for a beautiful evening we will never forget."

Also much appreciated is the work of Charles and Anita Harris and Elno and Ada Davis, who have surveyed the area near our new meeting place at 1321 Wirt Road, which we rent from a Unitarian group, making many contacts, and doing follow-up on our earlier contacts. They have been aided by Rev. David Clarke, who also delivered two Sabbath sermons while he was here. The dedicated labor and Christian fellowship of these folks has meant much to the Houston Fellowship. We praise the Lord for all their efforts.

We covet the prayers of all Seventh Day Baptists as we attempt to Reach Out Now in the Houston area. We feel that the potential in this booming area, where both unemployment and cost of living are lower than most other areas, is great.... But the laborers are few. Pray with us as we Reach Out Now. □

— George S. Stillman

DODGE CENTER NEWS

DODGE CENTER, MN.— As requested at the Annual Church Business Meeting in January, various organizations have been sponsoring activities to raise money to furnish a room at the new Fairview Nursing Home. To start the fund the Ladies' Aid contributed \$55.00; next the Christian Fellowship had an old-fashioned homemade ice cream social with a free will offering which netted \$50.15. Then on Valentine's Day the choir held a box social which added \$90.05 to the fund. The Ladies Aid birthday social March 27 earned \$35.86 by charging .02 cents for each year of age up to 55 and .01 cent a year after that. This makes a total of \$231.06 in the fund now besides having provided us with much fun and fellowship. Now it appears that our money may be needed to furnish the chapel or some other part of the home so after the Youth Fellowship's fund raising event we will hold the total amount until we see where it is needed most.

Tom Merchant, representing the Historical Society, brought the Sabbath morning message March 20. Following the Meal of Sharing, held then rather than the last Sabbath to give us a chance to visit with Tom, he answered many questions about his work for the denomination and shared things that happened at the Planning Committee Meeting in Denver which he had just attended. His sincerity and zeal are inspiring.

At our quarterly business meeting, April 3, the trustees reported having purchased an electric mimeograph for the church and disclosed plans to shingle the parsonage this spring. The new garage at the parsonage needs painting as well as the entire exterior.

Revision of the church Bylaws is nearing completion, portions having been assigned to each member of the Advisory Committee and probably will be considered at a special business meeting early in the summer. The revision of the Constitution had been approved previously.

We hope our church will be well represented at the Lay Retreat at Camp Wakonda near Milton, April 27-May 2. Plans are being finalized for the Semiannual Meetings to be held here May 7-9 when Conference President Gary Cox will be our guest speaker.

Interest in having a Lay Witness Mission in our church has prompted

the Advisory Committee to secure more information on this type of program.

The Sabbath School continues to send aid to Mrs. Trinidad Menor through the Cebu City Seventh Day Baptist Church in the Philippines.

Our Friday night Bible study is beginning the study of the book of Romans with many of those who attend sharing in both devotional and study leadership.

We have committed ourselves to cooperation with the Bicentennial Committee's July 4 weekend activities, which include a historical display in our church, a community church service, and parade. □

—Mrs. Clare Green, reporter

PLAINFIELD HAS BAPTISM AND RECEIVES MEMBERS

PLAINFIELD, N.J. — Resurrection Sabbath, April 17, was an exciting day for our pastorless church. Five adults and four young people were baptized by Dean Herbert Saunders and Rev. Kenneth Smith, and seven adults and three young people were received as new members by Douglas Wheeler, Norma McAllister, and Ruth Parker. Charles North sang "The Holy City" and many testimonies were shared. The baptistry was beautifully decorated with Easter flowers. After the service a reception was held for those baptized and the new members.

At our 138th annual meeting April 11, with Douglas Wheeler as moderator, eight letters from absent members were read. Our treasurer reported total giving of over \$19,000, including OWM. We instructed our Conference delegates to vote in favor of remaining in the World Council of Churches.

The following officers were elected: moderator, Ruth Parker; assistant, Frederik Bakker; clerk, Anna North; assistant, Diane Merchant; treasurer, Charles North; assistant, Phillip Van Horn; trustees, Janet Whitford and Thomas Merchant; Sabbath School superintendent, secretary, and treasurer, Kay Maltby, Etta O'Connor, Lynne Skaggs; Board of Christian Education chairman, Barbara Saunders.

Rehearsals have been held each Sabbath afternoon for the inspiring young people's musical, "It's Cool in the Furnace," directed by Barbara Saunders and scheduled for May 1 during worship service. She directed



Representing Seventh Day Baptists at the Laymen's Leadership Meeting of the Baptist World Alliance were Dr. K.D. Hurley and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest F. Bond.

BAPTIST MEN MEET

Representing Seventh Day Baptists at the International Laymen's Leadership Meeting in St. Louis, Mo., March 25-27 were Executive Secretary K.D. Hurley and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest F. Bond. The purpose of the meeting was an in-depth study of the work, objectives and possibilities of the Men's Department of the Baptist World Alliance. Those present realized the great potential of reaching, encouraging and motivating over ten million Baptist men throughout the world.

Dr. Hurley conducted the opening worship experience of the conference. Ernest F. Bond was elected to the steering committee which will plan a World Congress for church men to be held in the United States in April of 1978. There were approximately seventh-five Baptist laymen and their wives present at this meeting from all parts of the world. David Y.K. Wong, of Hong Kong, president of the Baptist World Alliance, was present and participated in the sessions. □

STEPHAN Receives Degree

Melvin F. Stephan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin E. Stephan of Lafayette, Colorado, received his Master of Divinity degree from Wesley Theological Seminary on May 3, 1976.

Mr. Stephan received his B.A. degree from Milton College in 1968. For the past five years he has been pastor of the Seventh Day Baptist

—Ruth Hunting Parker

Church in Salemville, Pa., and plans to continue his present pastorate. Before entering the ministry he was chaplain's assistant in the U.S. Army, Ft. Leavenworth, Kans., and Gelnhausen, W. Germany; and was employed by Public Relation Title Inc., Denver, Colorado.

Mr. Stephan is married to the former Yvonne L. Swanson of Northbrook, Ill. They have two children, Karl Joseph, and Richard Kirk. □

THE GOOD LIFE CONFERENCE A Conference Based on the Bible

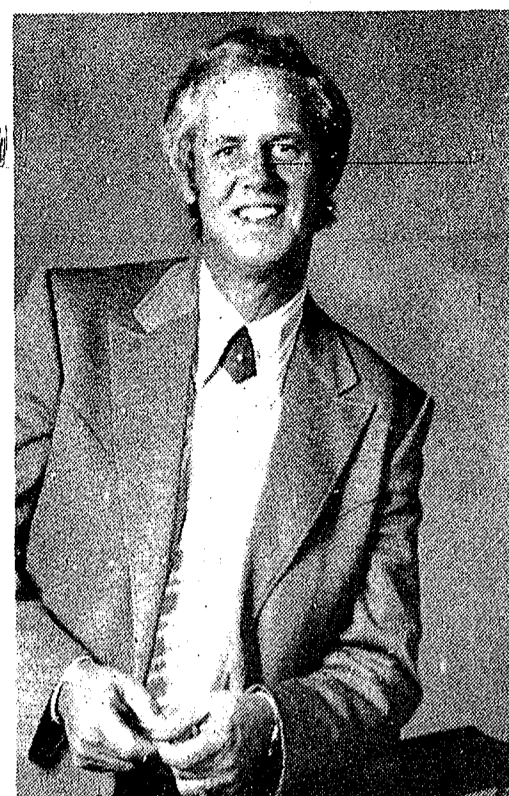
North Loup, Nebraska, is the setting for "The Good Life" Conference which will be held May 30 through June 5, 1976. The Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society with Mynor Soper, Director of Evangelism, will sponsor this conference in cooperation with Light Bearers for Christ. The idea developed after planning a session of Bible training for Light Bearers staff members. Then it was decided to make its scope much broader and open it up to others who might like to attend.

Guest lecturers for these Bible centered sessions will be Peter Todd of Trenton, Nebr., and Mrs. Jerome Van Dyke (Gerry) of Longmont, Colo.

Peter Todd, an independent evangelist, is a very popular speaker for evangelistic services, Church Renewal Seminars, and retreats. He will be presenting two series of studies: one on prayer and the other on the Christian Life. He will also be available for counselling.

Gerry Van Dyke, a member of the Denver Seventh Day Baptist Church, is a busy wife and mother and is also an accomplished singer. She presently teaches "Fascinating Womanhood" and is on the staff for training SCSC workers. Gerry will conduct sessions on "Fellow and Girl Relationships" and "Man, Wife and Family Relationships." Gerry relates beautifully to all ages and is a gifted counsellor and an understanding confidante.

During the day between sessions there will be a free time for meditation, prayer, fellowship and recreation, including horseback riding. Each evening there will be public evangelistic meetings in the community building



Guest Lecturer Peter Todd



Gerry Van Dyke of Denver, Colo.

with Peter Todd as speaker. These will be followed by informal campfire sessions for those wanting to participate.

Saturday night will be a big rally for celebrating our relationship with the Lord—a time of singing, sharing and praising God. The Light Bearers will give a concert that night, also!

We will be using the facilities of the Seventh Day Baptist church and Light Bearers' headquarters. Housing will be in local homes and meals will be served in the church. □

WEEK OF PRAYER OBSERVED

MARLBORO, N.J.— The services for the New Year began in our church with Joint Communion with Shiloh. The message by Pastor Bond was "Things That Cannot Be Shaken."

S.D.B. Week of Prayer was observed January 4-10. Several meetings were held in the homes. Rev. Francis S. Johnson of New Zealand edited the study booklet; theme, "The Commandments of God and the Faith of Jesus." All church members and friends were listed in six study groups. At the end of six days all were held before God in intercessory prayer.

One Sunday a service was held at Rainbow Convalescent Home. Talent Night sponsored by the Ladies' Aid was much enjoyed. Mrs. Lucy Davis and Mrs. Estie Carlaw were in charge. Pastor Don Richards has been on radio WSNJ "Windows for Living" several times.

On February 21, *Sabbath Recorder*

Day, Dr. and Mrs. K.D. Hurley were our guests. Dr. Hurley gave the morning message. A fellowship dinner was served during noon hour followed by another talk.

Miss Charlotte Ferguson, our new organist from Roadstown, has a Bachelor of Music Education from W. Va. Wesleyan College. "The Christian and Witnessing" is a new series to be studied on Friday evenings at Prayer Meeting and Bible Study.

One Great Hour of Sharing was observed with noon meal and film "Between the Dark and the Daylight." Mrs. Letha Miller and Mrs. Lucy Davis supervised the meal of sandwiches, water, and dessert. The offering went to Church World Service through our S.D.B. Relief Fund, with emphasis on Guatemala.

Christian Endeavor meets at 3 p.m. on Sabbath afternoon with Miss Sharon Davis as leader. The SDBY groups sponsored a pizza sale recently.

A newly painted church sign has been completed in memory of Albert and Lavinia Ayars. Much appreciation is extended to the donors.

Youth week was observed under the leadership of Edna Ruth Richards and Sharon Davis. They did an excellent job. The theme was "Christ in Our Nation, Past, Present, and Future."

It was a joy to see the enthusiasm of the young people as they conducted the meeting by both voice and song. Praise our Heavenly Father for our youth! □

—Mrs. Ella T. Davis

**Your Gift is Needed
SUPPORT
OUR WORLD
MISSION**

The Sabbath Recorder

News Notes

● Stephan Saunders, son of Rev. Francis D. Saunders, and a layman of the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church in Westerly, R.I., has accepted the call of the Adams Center Seventh Day Baptist Church to become their pastor. Mr. Saunders and his family will move to Adams Center and begin their work in July.

● Mrs. Dorothea DeLyle of Dodge Center, Minn., has now made her home in Australia. She is employed as a house mother in a dormitory at the Methodist Ladies College which is about an hour's drive from her son Gary and family. She is enjoying her family and learning the Australian way of life. Her address is: Methodist Ladies College, 45 Park Road, Burwood, N.S.W., Australia 2134.

● Senator Jennings Randolph recently spoke at the worship services at his home church in Washington, D.C. The service was led by Deacon Dale D. Thorngate with Joyce Kennedy and Polly Medlin of the Senator's staff sharing their testimony. The Senator's message was entitled: "The Faith of Our Founding Fathers."

● "Why My Name Was Changed" a children's story by Mrs. Iris Maltby was reprinted in the April issue of *The Sermon Builder*.

● Reprints of an article in *Christian Herald* entitled: "Who Runs the WCC?" are available upon request from the Editor, P.O. Box 868, Plainfield, N.J. 07061.

● We are informed that travel to General Conference sessions as an "official" delegate of a Seventh Day Baptist church is tax-deductible, when you pay your own expenses.

● John Bevis represented Seventh Day Baptists at the 160th Annual Meeting of the American Bible Society on May 13 in New York City.

● Copies of an article by James E. Wood, Jr. "Tax Exemption and

the Churches" are available from the *Recorder* office. The article is shared with us by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

● Rodney Henry has accepted the call of the Los Angeles Church to serve this summer at Ventura, Calif., in a ministry of outreach. Rodney and Camille have secured an apartment and are now located in Ventura. Negotiations are under way for the rental of facilities where services may be held each Sabbath. Let us all continue to pray for the success of this outreach in Ventura. □

SUMMER ASSISTANT PASTORS:

● Several Seventh Day Baptist ministerial students are working in summer pastorates:

John Rau of Trinity Evangelical Divinity School will be in Alfred, New York, for the summer.

Gordon Lawton of Central Baptist Theological Seminary, will be serving in Shiloh, New Jersey, this summer.

Larry Watt, also of Central Baptist Theological Seminary, will be the assistant pastor in Salem, West Virginia, during the summer.

Leon Clare, of Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, is going to Battle Creek, Michigan, to work in their summer program.

Larry Graffius, of North American Baptist Theological School, will be

the summer assistant at the German Seventh Day Baptist Church in Salemville, Pennsylvania.

Kenneth Burdick, of Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, is serving this summer as the assistant pastor in the Milton, Wisconsin, church. □

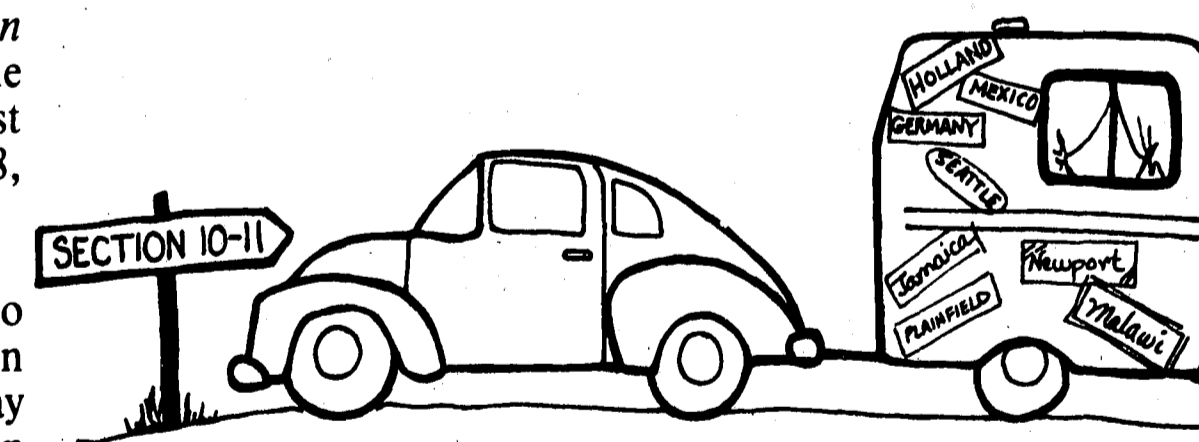
WORKSHOP HELD AT ALFRED

ALFRED, N.Y.— The Rev. David S. Clarke, executive secretary for the Board of Christian Education, recently held a workshop concerning World Hunger for the Alfred church. It was based on WHEAT (World Hunger Education Action Together) material he received at an National Council of Churches meeting at which time he represented the New York State SDB Council of Churches.

Preceding the workshop the Committee for Christian Education was host to a Meal-of-Sharing. The menu consisted of CSM and an apple plus beverages. CSM provides a completely balanced meal and is used for indigent people. Those attending the meeting found the meal satisfying and enjoyable.

CSM for fifty-four people: (We mixed half the recipe at a time to ensure a smooth mixture.) 6 cups corn meal, 3 cups soy flour, 2 cups

A service of the American Sabbath Tract Society.



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dry milk, 3 tablespoons salt. Mix together thoroughly, add 11 cups cold water and stir until smooth. Add 5 cups hot water stir while adding. Pour this mixture into 20 cups hot (boiling) water, mix well. Cook about two hours in double boiler (less over direct heat). Stir often to prevent sticking.

The church has recently entered into Friday night "Prayer Power" meetings at which time the book "Hot Line to Heaven" by Frances Hunter was used as basis for discussion before a season of conversational prayer. Three sessions for study about the Holy Spirit—"The Person," "The Work," and "In You"—were held by Pastor Johnson.

The week before Easter was especially meaningful: the Maundy Thursday Communion and covenant meeting included a service of Tenebrae; a Sabbath Eve baptismal service was held for Carol Lewis; and on the night after the Sabbath the Salem Church Youth Choir presented "Lightshine." The annual Easter sunrise service was led by the Alfred Ecumenical Youth Fellowship. □

—Mary Clare

CORRECTION!

S.C.S.C. Training Sessions will be held at the North Loup, Nebr., S.D.B. Church June 15-24 and not at Westerly, R.I. as previously announced. Also note the correction in dates for the Southwestern Association meetings in Texarkana, Ark., June 24-27, 1976. □

ACCESSIONS

ALFRED, N.Y.
Russell G. Johnson, Pastor

By Letter:
Rev. Albert N. Rogers
Janette L. (Mrs. A.N.) Rogers

ALFRED STATION, N.Y.
Rex E. Zwiebel, Pastor

By Baptism:
Kelly Horton
Laurie Allen

NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.
Socrates Thompson, Pastor

By Baptism:
Beverly Powell

NORTH JERSEY, N.J.

By Testimony:
Mrs. Madeline B. Proffitt

NORTH LOUP, NEBR.
Victor W. Skaggs, Pastor

By Baptism:
Susan Soper (Mrs. Ivan Soper)
Mark Tolfa

By Letter:
John Ryschon

PLAINFIELD, N.J.

By Baptism:
Shirley Diange
Vincent Diange
Sharon Maltby
Arthur J. Paquette, Sr.
Douglas Paquette
Dorothy L. (Mrs. Robert) Pociatek
Robert J. Pociatek

By Letter:
K. Duane Hurley
Shireen (Mrs. K.D.) Hurley
Lynne Skaggs

SCHENECTADY, N.Y.
David Taylor, Pastor

By Letter:
David L. Taylor
Margaret (Mrs. D.L.) Taylor

SHILOH, N.J.
Charles H. Bond, Pastor

By Baptism:
Karen Lynn Mayhew
Kelly Sue Mayhew

MARRIAGES

Bond-Casey.—Richard W. Bond and Mabel E. Casey of Salem, W.Va., were married on March 18, 1976 at the United Methodist Church in Elkton, Md.

Clark - Ebersole.—James M. Clark of Clarksburg, W.Va., and Cathy S. Ebersole of Salemville, Pa., were united in marriage, April 10, 1976, in the Salemville Brethren Church. They were given a reception at the Salemville Seventh Day Baptist Church in their honor. They will make their home in Clarksburg, W.Va.

Duryea - Bascianelli.—Wilbur Guy Duryea, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Duryea of Piscataway, N.J., and Carmella P. Bascianelli, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Picklo of Raritan, N.J., were united in marriage at the New Market First Baptist Church on April 10, 1976, with Dean Herbert E. Saunders officiating. They are making their home in Finderne.

BIRTHS

CRUZAN.—Nicole Erin to Jonathan and Susan (Fitz Randolph) Cruzan on March 15, 1976.

Matthes.—A daughter, Sarah Marie, to Lt. Gregory W. and Cyndi Sanford Matthes of Fairport, N.Y., on November 28, 1975.

OBITUARIES

DAVIS.—Lewis C. (94), son of the late Eber M.R. and Elizabeth Glaspey Davis, was born on June 17, 1881, and died at the Cumberland County Medical Center on April 2, 1976, where he had been a patient for two weeks. However, he had been in failing health for the past two years.

He was married to Anna Luella Davis on March 2, 1910, and in March of this year they celebrated their sixty-sixth anniversary.

They spent their many years together in the Shiloh area where Mr. Davis was self-employed as a farmer most of his life. He was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Marlboro, N.J.

Surviving beside his wife are two daughters: Mrs. William (Ruth) Swing, and Mrs. Michael Petrunis, both of Bridgeton; five grandchildren; twelve great-grandchildren, and two brothers: Frank G. and Morton R. Davis, both of Marlboro.

A graveside service was held in the cemetery of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Shiloh on Monday, April 5, 1976, with the Rev. Charles H. Bond officiating.

—C.H.B.

KUYPER.—William (82) was born in Holland, March 30, 1894, and died in the Bridgeton Hospital, Bridgeton, N.J., after a brief illness on March 31, 1976.

He was married to Marie VanDerKolk on April 18, 1920, in Shiloh, N.J., where they lived during their fifty-six years together. Mr. Kuyper was a baker by trade, and was an active member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Shiloh until his death.

Surviving, beside his wife, are two sons: William H. Kuyper of Tallahassee, Florida, and Derk R. Kuyper of Winter Park, Florida; two daughters: Mrs. Joseph (Alice) Weaver of Salem, N.J., and Mrs. David (Nellie) Randolph of Shiloh; eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held in the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Shiloh, N.J., on Friday, April 2, 1976, with his pastor, the Rev. Charles H. Bond officiating. Interment was in the Shiloh Church Cemetery.

—C.H.B.

SANFORD.—Mark O., was born in the Town of Genesee, N.Y., April 14, 1892, a son of Albert and Salina Barber Sanford. He married the former Edna Burdick in New Market, N.J., in 1921. She died in 1957. He then married the former Grace Burdick in 1958, who died in 1970.

Surviving are two sons, Gordon L. Sanford of Little Genesee, N.Y., and the Rev. Don A. Sanford of Milton, Wis.; nine grandchildren and a great-granddaughter; and several nieces and nephews.

Mark was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Little Genesee; a teacher in the Sabbath School; a deacon, trustee, and a licensed (life license) lay minister of his church. He served as lay pastor of the Waterford, Conn., church and was also a missionary pastor of the church at Fouke, Ark.

He filled many other responsible positions in the community and of Western New York. He was noted for the maple syrup which he boiled down on his farm at Little Genesee.

Memorial services were held at the Little Genesee church with his son, the Rev. Don A. Sanford, giving the tribute. Rev. Kenneth B. Van Horn officiated.

—K.B.V.H.

Children's Page



BOWED HEADS

In a beautiful valley of peace and quiet, a farmer had planted four kinds of grain. Barley, Wheat and Rye were waving their golden heads back and forth in the sunshine. The fourth kind of grain did not stir. It was Buckwheat. I do not know very much about grain, but the field of Buckwheat did not act very friendly with the other fields of grain. Somehow the Buckwheat thought that it was a better stock than the others, for it always stood straight and tall even when the wind was blowing. Branching high above the heads of the stalks of grain, a willow tree waved its arms back and forth with every breeze. The willow had been there for many years, and the young grain asked for advice now and then — that is, all except the Buckwheat. The Buckwheat thought it was wiser than the willow or anyone else, for that matter. Next to the willow stood a maple tree. The maple tree was very important to the neighborhood, because whenever a storm was on the way, the maple would warn them by turning her leaves over. Everyone watched these storm warnings, that is, everyone but the Buckwheat. The Buckwheat stood straight and tall and spoke to no one.

One day the willow tree noticed that the maple tree held her leaves bottom side out. Certainly a terrible storm was coming soon. The willow thanked the maple for her warning and then she began to advise the grain fields.

"When the storm arrives," she said, "bow your heads away from the wind and keep down." The Rye, the Wheat and the Barley began to get ready for the storm. The Buckwheat held its head high and paid no attention.

It was not so very long before the willow and the maple began to toss their branches about in the strong wind, and everyone knew that the storm was just arriving. As the first flash of lightning lit up the sky, the grain stalks began to bow their heads and to bend back and forth in the gale. That is, everyone except the Buckwheat. The willow called out loudly to the Buckwheat above the noise of the thunder and the roar of the wind. "Get down, Buckwheat," she called, "Bow your head for the wind."

"I shall never bow my head for anyone," answered the Buckwheat. "I will always stand straight and tall."

And so through the long night the thunder roared and the lightning flashed. The willow tree could not remember a worse storm. The wind blew with all its might and the Barley, the Wheat, and the Rye, bowed their heads and waited for morning.

When the sun came over the hill and shone down on the valley below, the willow tree looked around her. The Barley and Wheat and Rye were standing straight and tall, but there was no Buckwheat in sight. Every single stalk of Buckwheat lay broken on the ground. It lay there stiff and straight. It had never bowed its head.

Jesus said that people who make themselves weak before Him, will be very strong in the world. He said, "Blessed are the meek." That means that people who are not so sure that they are always right are the happiest people. I would rather bow down than be like the Buckwheat in the story, wouldn't you? □

Dr. Kenneth E. Smith

WE CAN DO IT!

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

Let's oversubscribe this minimum budget - raise 110%, so special programs of expansion and outreach can be undertaken!

OWM BUDGET RECEIPTS FOR APRIL 1976

	April	4 mos. total	April	4 mos. total
	OWM	Reported Boards	OWM	Reported Boards
Adams Center NY	\$	\$ 224.72	Schenectady NY	171.92
Albion WI	90.33	198.19	Seattle WA	809.06
Alfred NY	10.00	1,969.40	Shiloh NJ	870.25
Alfred Station NY	357.50	1,381.34	Stonefort IL	100.00
Ashaway RI	363.92	2,314.61	Texarkana AR	30.00
Associations and Groups	425.95	1,295.11	Verona NY	400.58
Battle Creek MI	583.36	2,570.11	Walworth WI	100.00
Bay Area CA		105.00	Washington DC	250.00
Berea WV		115.00	Waterford CT	174.07
Berlin NY	166.07	1,142.13	Westerly RI	1,884.96
Boulder CO	362.09	715.09	White Cloud MI	64.11
Brookfield NY	120.00	120.00		
Dallas-Ft. Worth TX	13.20	59.80	Total	\$11,497.36
Daytona Beach FL	390.27	753.94	Non-Budget	90.00
Denver CO	770.67	2,684.19	Total To Disburse	\$11,587.36
DeRuyter NY	103.00	678.60		
Dodge Center MN	372.93	1,271.19		
Farina IL	35.05	225.05		
Fouke AR	87.63	442.65		
Hebron PA	99.45	632.75		
Hopkinton RI		10.00		
Houston TX		234.13		
Individuals		260.00		
Irvington NJ		1,200.00		
Kansas City MO	75.25	330.08		
Leonardsville NY	30.00	47.00		
Little Genesee NY	209.47	816.34		
Little Rock AR	12.50	159.75		
Los Angeles CA		1,610.00		
Lost Creek WV				
Marlboro NJ	437.78	2,400.32		
Middle Island WV	60.00	240.00		
Milton WI	2,153.53	5,643.12		
Milton Junction WI	45.00	350.00		
New Auburn WI		222.22		
New York City NY	97.25	233.65		
North Jersey NJ	158.55	656.72		
North Loup NE		1,553.00		
Nortonville KS	297.31	1,233.31		
Ohio Fellowship OH	150.00	1,014.00		
Paint Rock AL	115.00	310.00		
Phoenix AZ		1,155.00		
Plainfield NJ		1,222.70		
Richburg NY	100.00	871.10		
Riverside CA		2,033.00		
Rockville RI		10.00		
Salem WV	827.92	1,632.64		
Salemville PA	204.00	364.00		

APRIL DISBURSEMENTS

Board of Christian Education	\$ 837.85
Christian Social Action	157.28
Council on Ecumenical Affairs	63.72
Council on Ministry	1,531.79
General Conference	2,758.82
Historical Society	4.73
Ministerial Retirement	909.47
Missionary Society	3,789.83
Tract Society	1,181.15
Trustees of General Conference	4.73
Women's Society	347.99
Total Disbursements	\$11,587.36

SUMMARY

1976 Budget	\$205,749.00
Receipts for four months:	
OWM Treasurer	\$49,736.49
Boards Reported	4,659.27
To be raised by December 31, 1976	\$151,353.24
Percentage of year elapsed	33 1/3%
Percentage of budget raised	26.4 %
Four months:	
Due	\$68,583.00
Raised	\$54,395.76
Arrears	\$14,187.24

Gordon Sanford
OWM Treasurer

FREEDOM FOR VINS URGED

Sabbath Day, June 5, has been designated Religious Liberty Day in Seventh Day Baptist churches. Certainly we in the United States have much to be thankful for as we may freely assemble to worship God on His holy day. However, perhaps we take our religious freedom too much for granted. We know that many of our forefathers suffered much for their religious beliefs - and in part our freedom today is due to their heroic faith.

Sad to say in many parts of the world religious toleration does not exist. One such place is the Soviet Union. There is a movement in the United States Congress at the present time, led by Representative John H. Buchanan (Republican of Alabama and a Southern Baptist), seeking to bring pressure on the USSR to release Georgi Vins from Prison.

Vins is a Baptist minister whose "crime" is that he would not submit his church (the Council of Churches of Evangelical Christians-Baptists) to the repressive restrictions imposed by the Soviet state. In a speech before the House Buchanan stated:

"Repression of 'prisoners of conscience' by the Soviet Union continues today, despite the guarantees of that country's own constitution and the provisions of the United Nations. Vins was accused and subsequently convicted of vagrancy, using religion for crime against the rights of citizens and violating church-state separation laws... Appeals have been pouring into the west in recent months from Soviet evangelical Christians, seeking relief from oppression by authorities in their country... Unless some action is taken on his behalf, Pastor Vins will surely die in a hard labor camp in Siberia."

The House resolution, if approved, asks Congress to say "that the Soviet Union should immediately release Georgi Vins from imprisonment and allow him and all other Christians and other religious believers within its borders to worship God freely according to their own conscience."

Several organizations are now working to bring pressure to bear on the Soviets, not only to free Pastor Vins, but to make good their promises for religious toleration for all people. The Baptist World Alliance has been active in quiet efforts to obtain relief for Vins and other persecuted groups in Russia. The All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians in the U.S.S.R. has also appeared officially before Soviet authorities with appeals for Vins release. The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs and several other organizations have entered the cause. Absent however is the World Council of Churches. Since 1961 when delegates from the Russian Orthodox church joined the WCC there has been a tacit agreement to spare these Moscow delegates any embarrassment and thus Soviet sins have gone largely unnoticed and uncondemned. Scottish Episcopal Priest Richard Halloway has called the WCC attitude a "conspiracy of silence."

In spite of all protests and mounting evidence to the contrary, the Soviet government maintains that there is religious freedom in Russia and that those who seem to be suffering for their faith are actually in prison because of violation of state laws - not because of religious intolerance. Let us continue to pray for Pastor Vins and the untold thousands who suffer for the cause of Christ in the USSR.

While we have ample reason to be proud in this bicentennial year of the religious freedoms we enjoy in this country, we would be well advised to avoid complacency. Let us remember that eternal vigilance is indeed the price of liberty. □

ANNOUNCING!

Salem College and the Seventh Day Baptist Center on Ministry announce the establishment of a Career Development Program for undergraduate students anticipating the vocation of professional clergymen. The program will constitute a semester's work-study program at the Seventh Day Baptist Center on Ministry in Plainfield, New Jersey. Students would be enrolled at Salem College and would receive sixteen (16) semester hours credit for the work when satisfactorily completed. Students of all Christian denominations, and Jewish students as well, would be eligible for participation in the program. Interested students should write to Dr. Melvin Nida, Salem College, Salem, West Virginia 26426 or to Dean Herbert E. Saunders, Seventh Day Baptist Center on Ministry, Box 868, Plainfield, New Jersey 07061.

WOMEN' SOCIETY
(continued from page 15)

In Memoriam

*"It singeth low in every heart
We hear it each and all,
A song of those who answer not,
However we may call.
They throng the silence of the breast.
We see them as of yore,
The kind, the brave, the true, the sweet
Who walk with us no more."*

*"Tis hard to take the burden up,
When those have laid it down,
They brightened all the joy of life,
They softened every frown.
But, Aye, 'tis good to think of them
When we are troubled sore.
Thanks be to God that such have been
Though they are here no more."* □
John White Chadwick

- taken from the Book of Histories of
S.D.B. Women's Societies

1976 Annual Conference

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SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS IN 1776

WEDNESDAY
TO BE
BICENTENNIAL DAY



Costumes for everyone is the order of the day! In keeping with this Bicentennial theme, Wednesday will feature an emphasis on our heritage. While regular business, committee work, and worship will be conducted, special events throughout the day will remind us of the past history of Seventh Day Baptists. I encourage all to begin planning and preparing costumes for each family member. It is not intended that this day should create financial problems with rental or elaborate costumes, but rather to have the day help develop a "fun fellowship" within the Bicentennial observance. With everyone in costumes, the children, the teen-agers, and the adults, we think this fun fellowship will add significantly to observing our rich background. Come with a costume - enjoy the day! □

President Gary Cox



The Sabbath Recorder - Bicentennial Issue

I am proud to be a member of the Sabbath Recorder