

76

A time for
Commitment!

The Sabbath Recorder
510 Watchung Ave., Box 868
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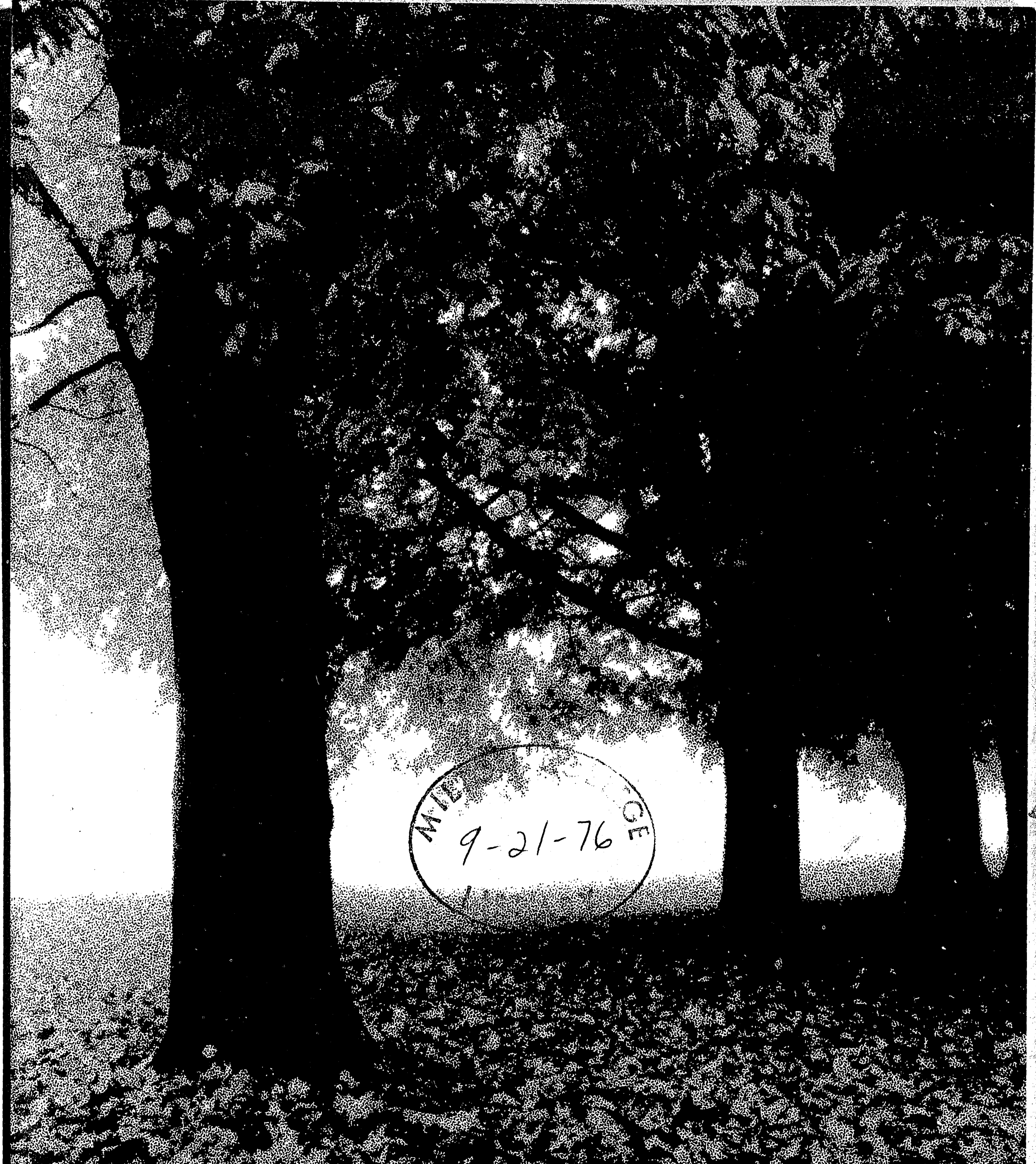
Special training sessions for the Commitment to Growth Plan were held at the Seventh Day Baptist church in Milton, Wisconsin, July 11-14. Twenty-eight people from across the United States participated in the seminar with twenty-one designated as "trainers." The session was geared as an introduction to the first year of the plan which will involve workshops, Bible studies, and community activities. The trainers will help in the preparation of a Seventh Day Baptist Commitment to Growth Plan that can be adapted to each local church situation.

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We are excited about what is going to be accomplished in 1976 - in our churches. We are enthused at how God has already begun to bless in new relationships as we have stepped out in faith and seen answers to prayer. We are enlisted and committed to growth! Now is the right time, as we go forward in the right spirit - 1976 is a time for commitment!

The right time!

The right spirit!



RECORDER

SEPTEMBER 1976

MILTON COLLEGE
9-21-76

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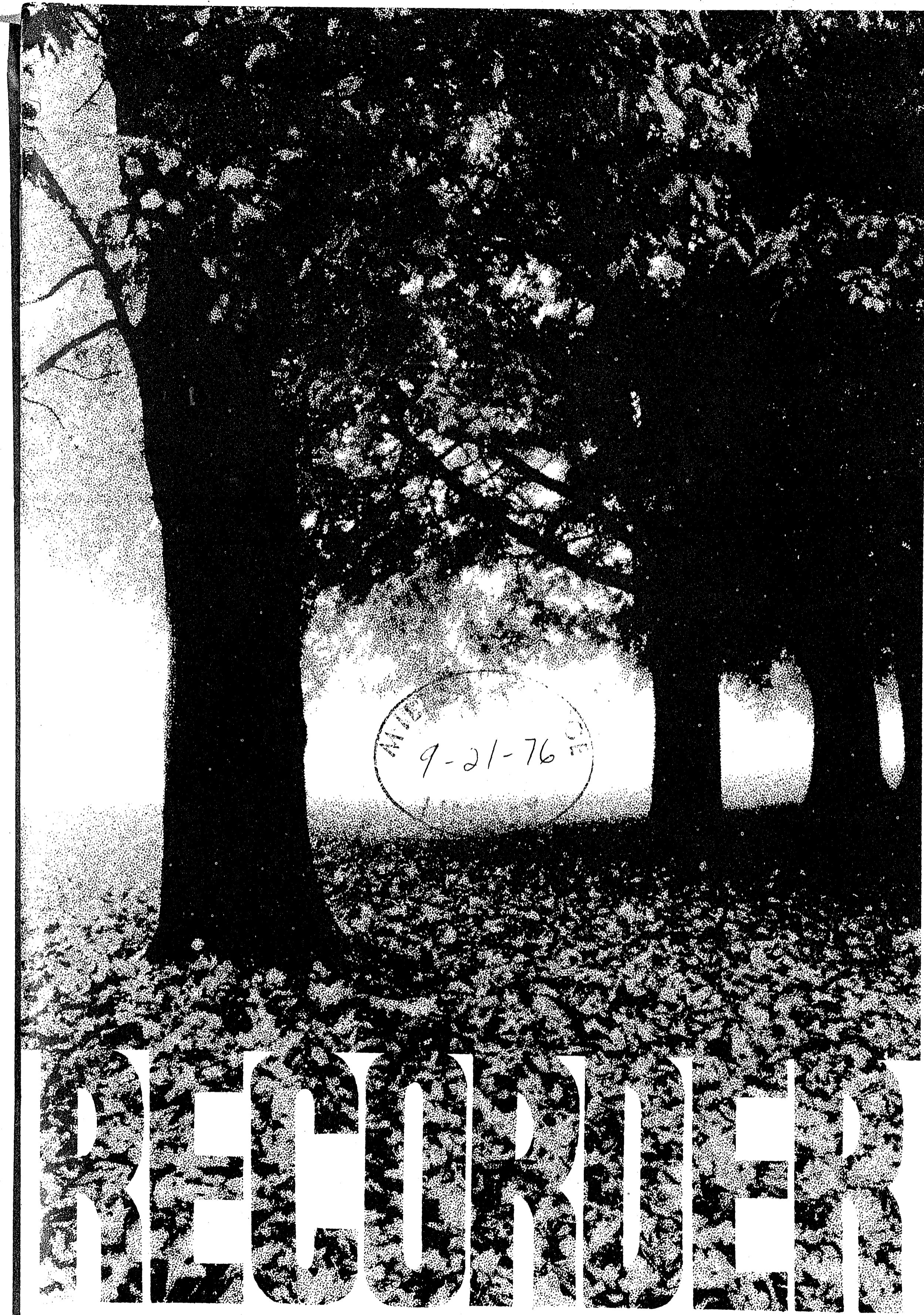
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RECORDED

SEPTEMBER 1976

A SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST PUBLICATION
Published monthly by the American Sabbath Tract Society,
510 Watchung Avenue, Box 868, Plainfield, NJ 07061.
Printed in the U.S.A. First issue June 13, 1844. Second
class postage paid at Plainfield, New Jersey.
Subscriptions: United States \$6.00; Foreign \$6.50.
Single copies 50 cents. Special rates for students, retired
Seventh Day Baptist ministers and service persons.

Member of the Associated Church Press.
The Sabbath Recorder does not necessarily
endorse signed articles.



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P. O. Box 868, Plainfield, NJ 07061.

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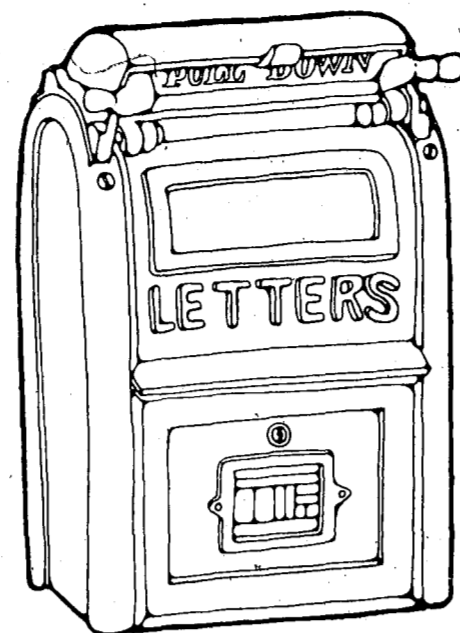
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RECORDER REACTIONS

The Bicentennial issue was very well
done in giving the history of Seventh
Day Baptists. I want to send extra
copies to people outside of our
denomination...

-Mrs. Russel J. Maxson
Milton, Wis.

Orchids to you for a job well done!
Your Bicentennial issue is really
something! ...I wish I could stick
around for your Tricentennial issue;
if it beats this one it'll be super.

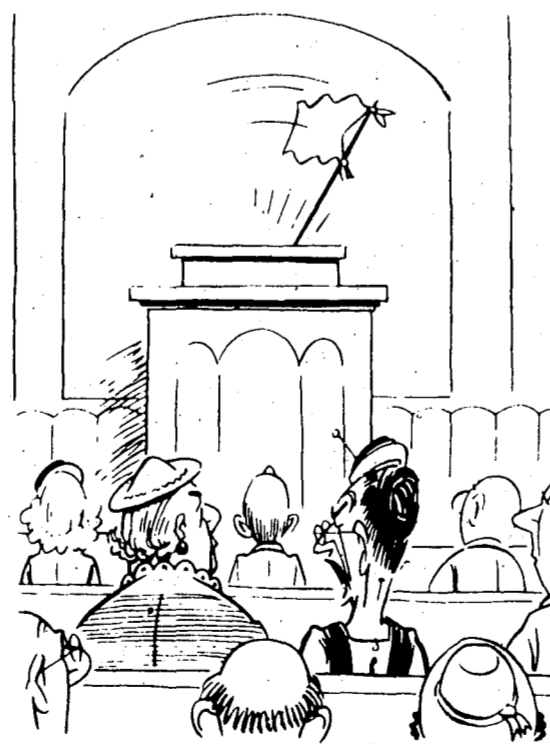
-Editor Eugene Lincoln
Nashville, Tenn.

**A SABBATH MANUAL
FOR YOUTH**

A junior-intermediate workbook
on the Sabbath with six lessons.
Designed for use in camps, Sabbath
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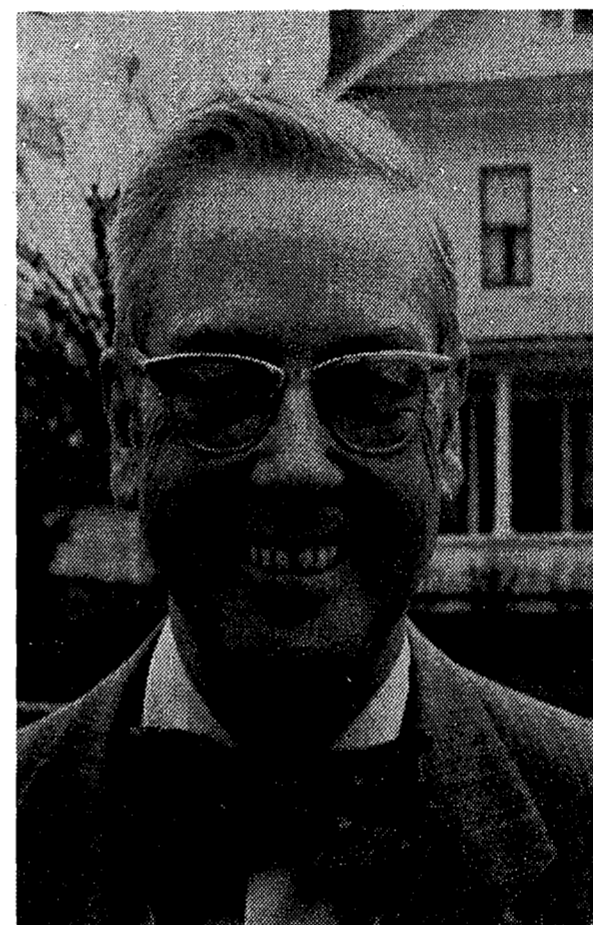
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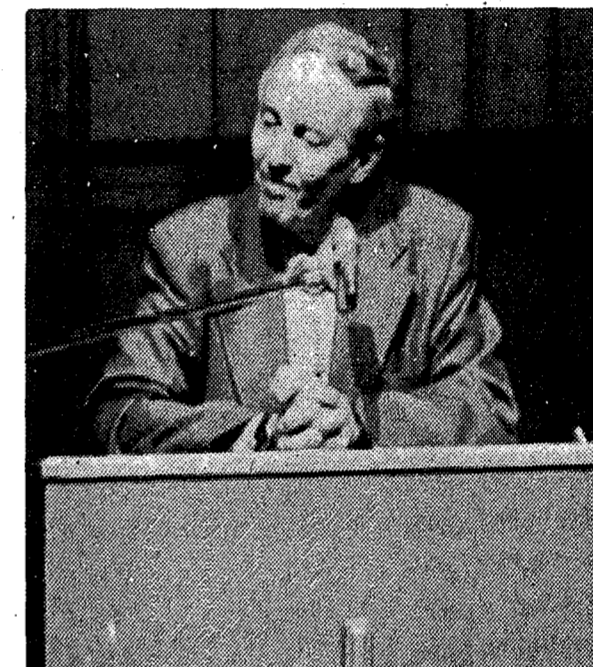
"I WISH HE WOULDN'T WAVE THAT WHITE
FLAG JUST BEFORE HE ANNOUNCES THE
WOMEN WILL BE IN CHARGE OF NEXT
WEEK'S SERVICE"

**The Church
in Conference
at Houghton**



Rev. Delmer Van Horn, President for 1976-77.
His theme is: "Daring the Impossible."

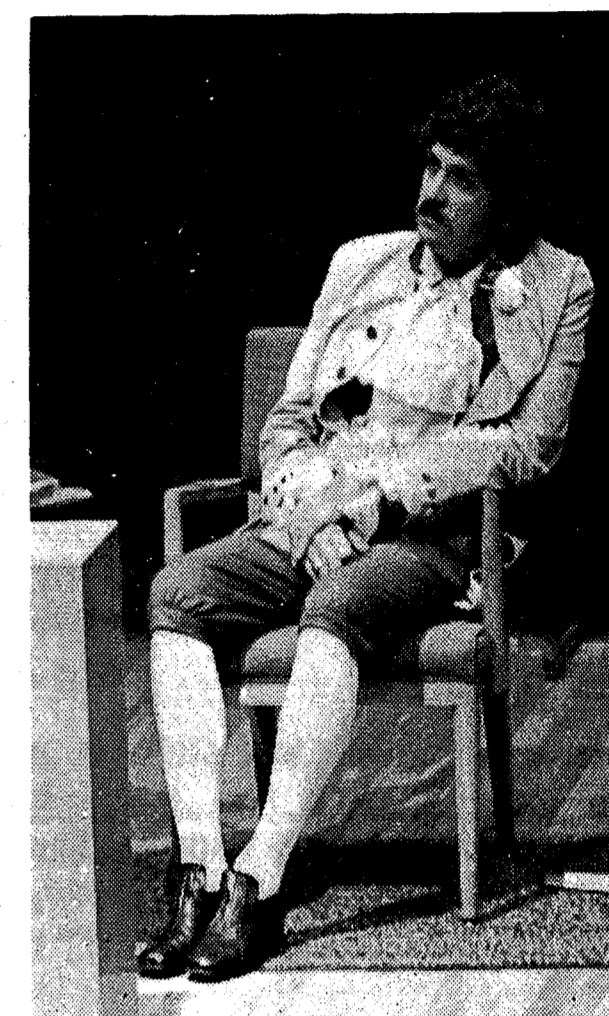
President-elect Richard Shepard



Rev. Elmo F. Randolph speaking on
"Response to the Light"



Mr. and Mrs. Gleason Curtis recently
celebrated their 50th anniversary or is this
Mr. and Mrs. G. Washington?



Our Bicentennial President, Gary G. Cox
(He never looked so good!)



The Conference choir was under the direction
of Rollie Maxson of Riverside, Calif.

Rev. and Mrs. Neal Mills of DeRuyter, N.Y.



CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Two new churches were welcomed into Conference membership: New York City, N.Y., and North Jersey, N.J.

Conference voted to establish a standing committee to establish S.D.B. Men's Fellowships. The committee consists of Ernest Bond, Robert Austin and Philip Lewis.

The two new members of Commission are: Miss Lois Wells of Los Angeles, Calif., Rev. Don A. Sanford of Milton, Wis.

General Conference voted a 1977 Our World Mission budget of \$259,315.00.

Conference President Rev. Delmer Van Horn of Lost Creek, W.Va., announced that the theme for 1976-77 is "Daring the Impossible." Conference will be held at the College of the Ozarks, Clarksville, Ark., August 7-13, 1977.

Conference registration was 769 with an estimated 1,100 present for Sabbath services.

National Youth Fellowship Officers for 1977:

President - Tom Goodson
Vice-President - Greg Lewis
Secretary - Joni Goodrich
Treasurer - Karen Seager

Wednesday was Bicentennial day at Conference with scores of delegates dressed in 1776 costumes.

Young Adult Pre-Con had an enrollment of 46 with a staff of seven. Family Pre-Con had an enrollment of 33 with a staff of eight. Youth Pre-Con had an enrollment of 62 with a staff of ten.



The Houghton College auditorium was filled for several of the Conference sessions. On Sabbath day some 1,100 gathered to worship. (Below) Wednesday was Bicentennial day with many delegates dressed in 1776 attire. Most delegates found that by the end of the day they were happy to be living in 1976!



Conference delegates were pleased to welcome Terry Ann Meeuysen, Miss America of 1973, as a part of the Bicentennial salute to the American farmers. Through special music and personal testimony Terry Ann shared her personal faith in Christ during the Wednesday evening program. (Below) Virginia Burdick Habermann, was the hostess for the special salute to America. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Burdick of Little Genesee, N.Y., Virginia made the arrangements for the program which was shown on three large screens. A special thanks to the Allis-Chalmers Corporation who made the entire program possible.



TASK FORCE REPORT

One of the major items of business was the report of the Task Force on denominational organization. (A complete listing of the proposal appearing in the *Sabbath Recorder*, June 1976).

Conference approved recommendation number one regarding the establishment of a General Board. This board would take the place of Planning Committee and Commission and would represent Associations, Boards and Agencies. This will go into effect in 1977.

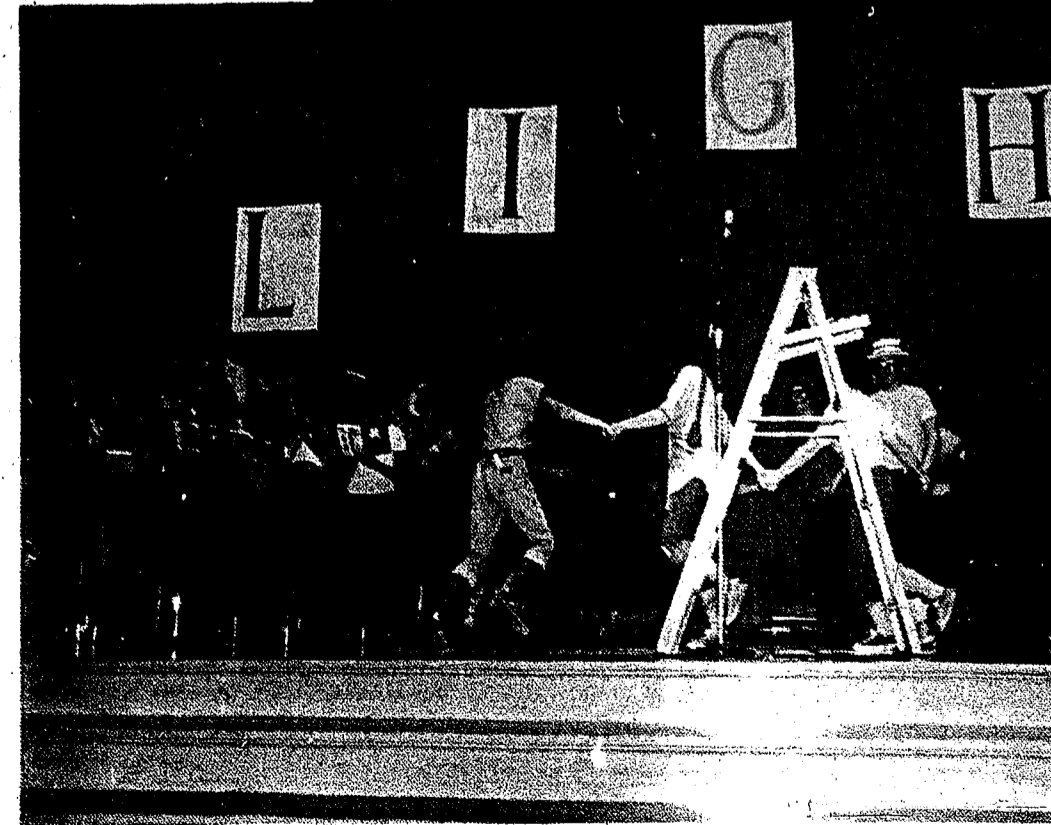
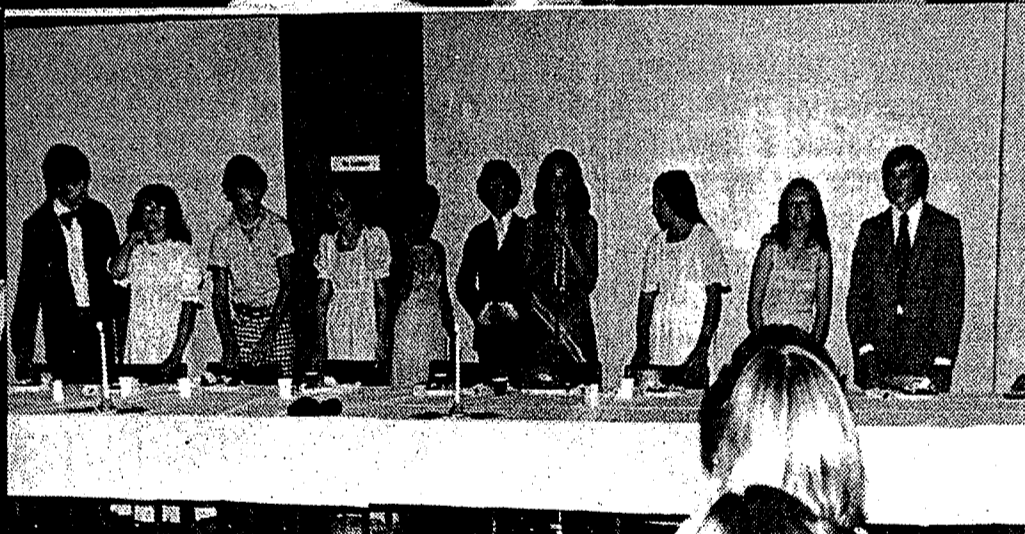
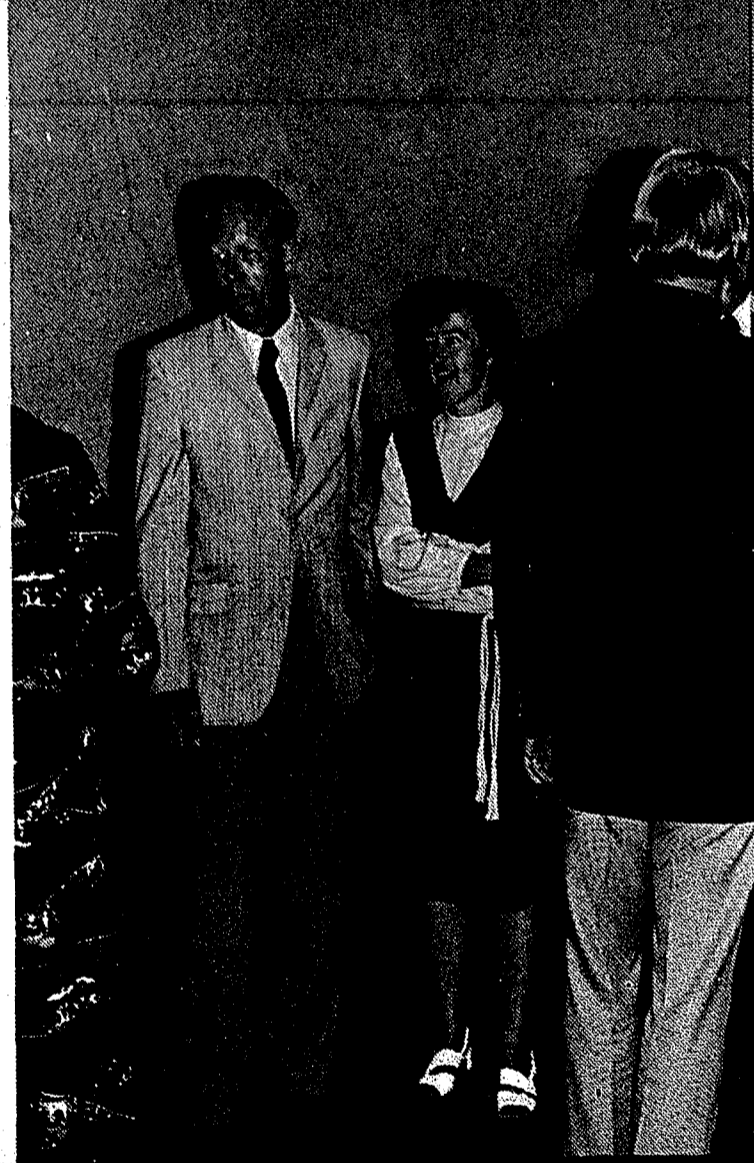
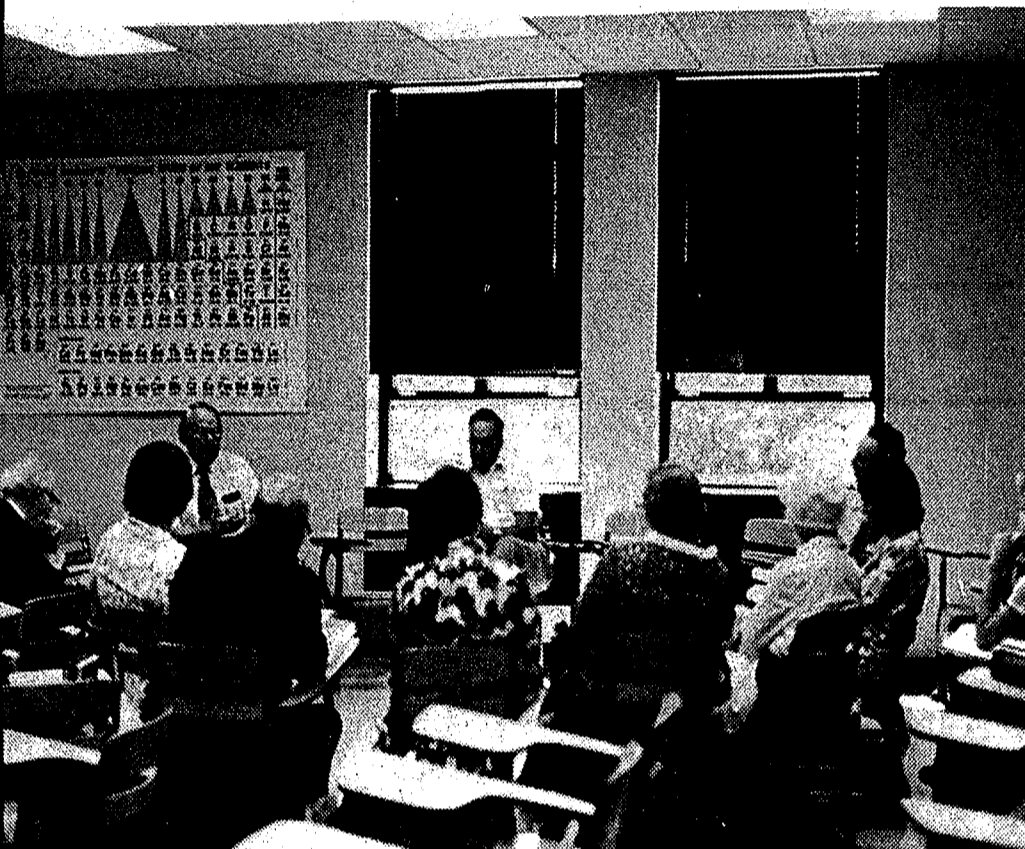
Recommendation number two was also adopted. The basic idea here is that there will be established a basic chart of accounts that will be used by all Boards and Agencies and make denominational financial statements uniform and much easier to understand.

A special ad hoc committee was established to study recommendations three, four and six. This committee will be chaired by Dr. K. D. Hurley and will be composed of three members each from the Task Force, Commission, and the Boards and Agencies.

It was voted for Commission to appoint a special committee to study recommendation number five regarding the possible relocation of denominational headquarters. □

OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

President - The Rev. Delmer E. Van Horn
President Elect - Richard D. Shepard
Second Vice-President - The Rev. John H. Camenga
Third Vice-President - (Mrs. Kenneth E.) Dorothy Smith
Recording Secretary - (Mrs. C. Harmon) Ethel Dickinson
Assistant Recording Secretary - (Mrs. Richard D.) Mary Shepard
Corresponding Secretary - K. Duane Hurley
Denominational Treasurer (OWM Budget) - Gordon L. Sanford
Assistant Denominational Treasurer (OWM Budget) - (Mrs. Gordon L.) Wilma Sanford
Treasurer of General Conference - Richard D. Burdick
Assistant Treasurer of General Conference - William F. Palmer



Robe of Achievement - 1976

----Janette L. Rogers----

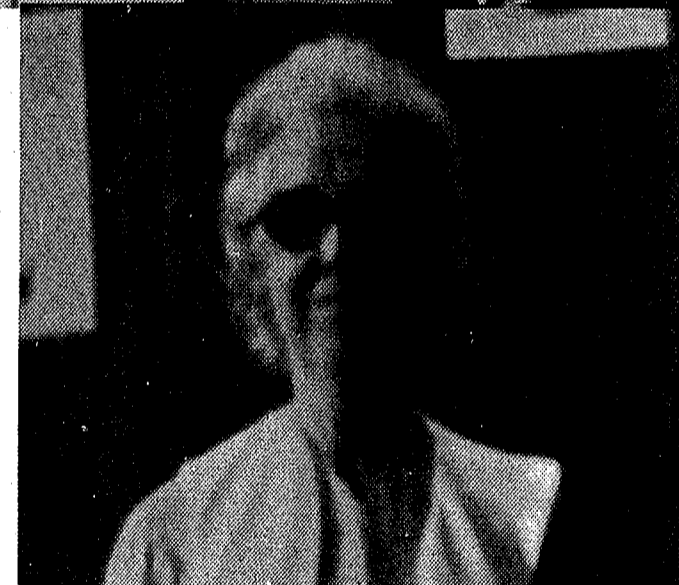
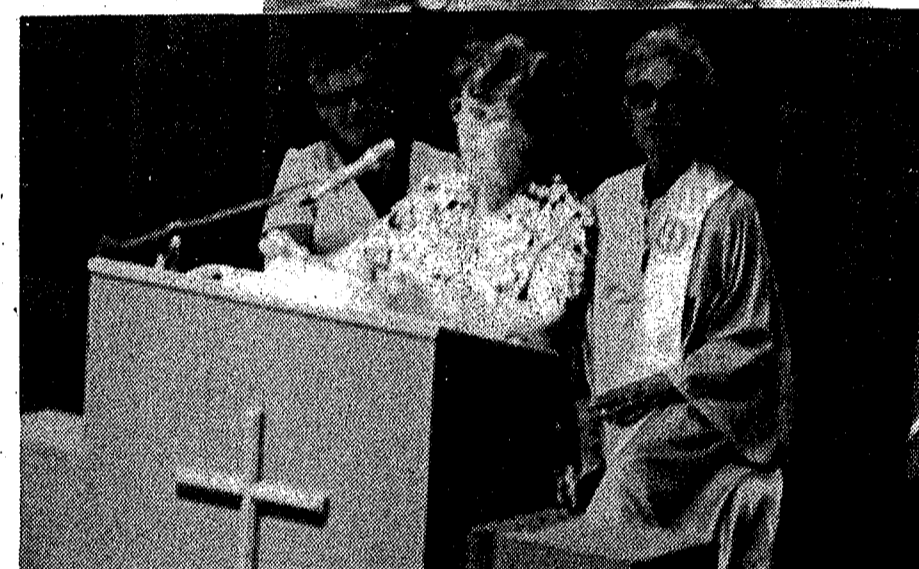
by Madeline Fitz Randolph

Janette Loofboro Rogers was born in Riverside, California, on June 18, 1911, the daughter of Rev. Eli F. and Mrs. Mary St. John Loofboro. As the daughter of a minister, Janette lived in several parsonages through her early years: in Riverside, California; Little Genesee, New York; Shiloh, New Jersey; and Lost Creek, West Virginia. She graduated from Milton College in 1933. On June 26, 1934 she was married to the Rev. Albert Nash Rogers in Lost Creek, West Virginia, and returned with him to Waterford, Connecticut, where he was pastor. Throughout the years she has been a pastor's wife, an educator's wife, and a historian's wife as she continued to serve the Lord in many places, Waterford, Connecticut; New York City, Alfred Station, and Alfred, all in New York State; Denver, Colorado; Plainfield, New Jersey; and once again back in Alfred, New York. She is one of those rare individuals who finds herself often in the background, but with the strength of personal support and love that reaches beyond recognition into the meaning of love as Christ taught it.

Janette has served Seventh Day Baptists in many ways. She has always been active in whatever local church was fortunate enough to share her presence. She has served on boards and committees, chaired meetings, and given of herself to strengthen the work of Christ in each local church. She has served on denominational boards and agencies, particularly on the American Sabbath Tract Society. When Al retired as historian and Al and Janette moved back to Alfred, the editor of the *Sabbath Recorder* expressed the feelings of many, when he wrote: "Janette is a special kind of person to all who know her—to know her is to love her. One finds it difficult to enumerate the many ways she has contributed to the work of the denomination. Many who have visited Plainfield will recall the warm hospitality of the Rogers home."

Janette is equally at home outside denominational circles. She has given her talents to many ecumenical groups, serving as vice-president of Church Women United in Plainfield during her last year there. Everyone who has ever worked with her outside our own denomination has commented on how special she is and what tremendous energy and faith she has.

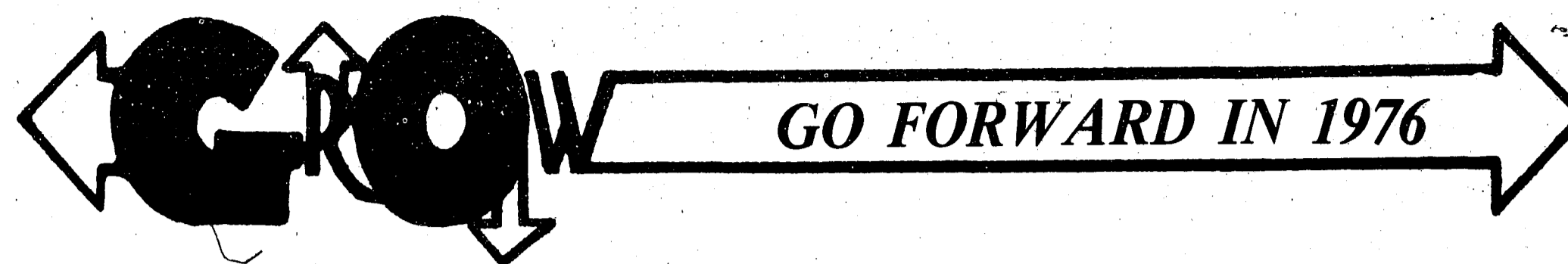
Several years ago, a popular paperback book author visited the home of Al and Janette Rogers while doing research for a book entitled *You Shall Know the Truth—The Baptist Story*. She caught the essence of Janette's spirit and personality when she wrote these lines: "I was met by a charming couple,...the Rev. Albert Rogers and his wife, Janette, who made me feel as though we had always been friends.... Janette Rogers would be perfect in a TV commercial for those young-looking grandmothers who take the world to their bosom. It was easy to imagine her feeding home-baked cookies



to visitors, because she is that rare human being, indeed, filled with unceasing love and acceptance."

Janette and Al have three children, Brian, who lives with his family in Middletown, Connecticut; Keith, whose family lives in Rockland, Maine, and Cynthia (Mrs. Steven Rudolph) who lives in Braintree, Mass. Six grandchildren enjoy calling her "grandmother."

There is quiet strength in those who can remain behind the scenes giving support and purpose to those out front. Janette has shown what faith and joy there is in support and love and serving another. Her husband has been tremendously successful and inspirational for many lives, and much of his strength comes from her support and love. She has taught many of us what it means to live the Christian life and fulfill the purpose of Christ. □



COMMITMENT TO GROWTH

For some 250 delegates Conference began on Sunday morning as they gathered in a crowded lecture room to hear Dr. John Wimber, director of church growth for the Fuller Evangelistic Association. Dr. Wimber explained to the crowded room "Seventh Day Baptists need to experience a crowd." With an air of humor and much expertise he shared proven principles of church growth with the enthusiastic audience. Later in the week Conference voted to participate in the Commitment to Growth plan as suggested by the Planning Committee.

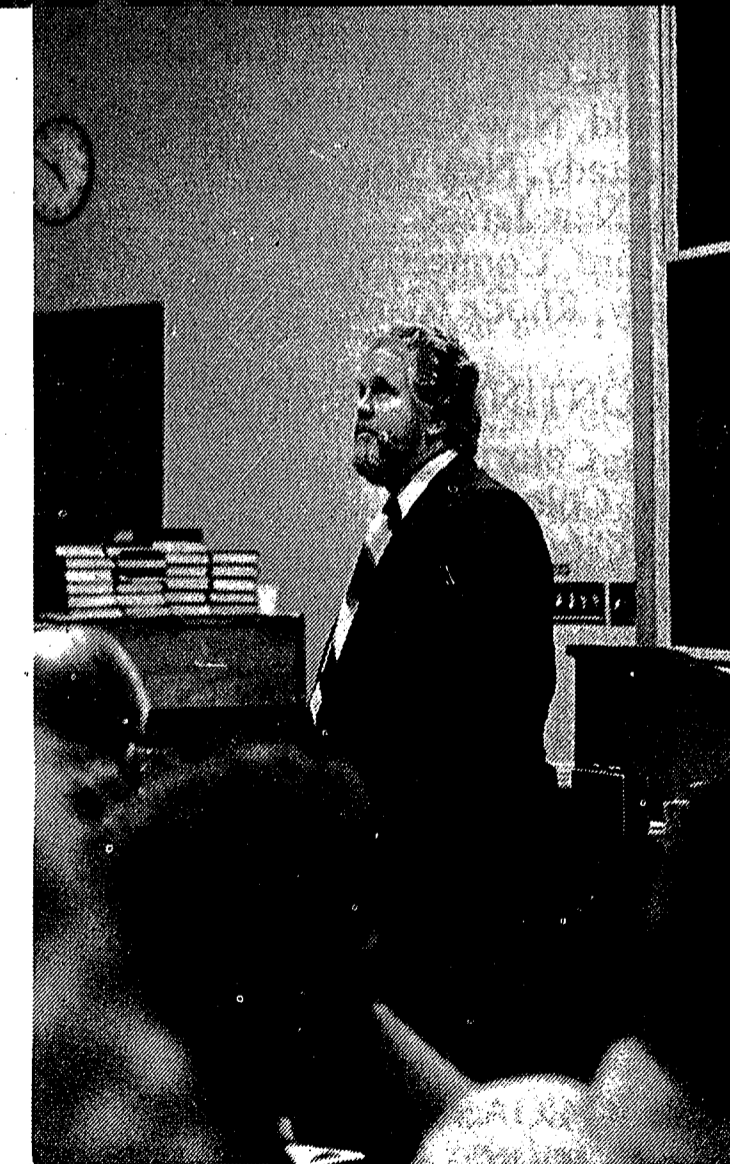
Dr. Wimber defined church growth as "evangelism with the goal of local church growth." He then cited six distinctives of church growth:

1. What satisfies the Lord Jesus is to bring the lost back to the Father. We must take on this purpose.
2. The mission of the church is to grow. We must forget all other misconceptions. Jesus *wants* His body to grow.
3. Clear goals must be articulated. We should make plans, counting on God to direct us.
4. We must discover sound communicative strategy.
5. We must use the behavioral sciences as a means of understanding people.
6. We must plan according to the specific needs of our community.

Dr. Wimber spent the weekend with our youth Pre-Connors and spoke on Monday to the entire Conference. He stressed that we should not expect people to come to us, but rather we must reach out to them. The church, in order to grow, must diagnose itself, make a faith projection, mobilize the membership, know the needs of the community and discover and use those methods that God blesses with disciples.

Perhaps as never before Seventh Day Baptists are talking about, planning for, and *believing in* church growth! We know that in every local church there are those who have the vision and zeal and desire to see their church grow. In the Commitment to Growth plan, it is hoped that up to ten percent of the active members of the local church may have such convictions and wish to commit themselves to full participation.

Twenty-one have taken the leadership courses and will be conducting workshops in various parts of the country in coming months. More information about this program will be shared in future issues of the *Sabbath Recorder*. The Lord is leading and blessing in this program - let us continue to pray as preparation is being made to implement the Commitment to Growth plan for Seventh Day Baptists. This year will be a turning point in Seventh Day Baptist history. The time is at hand. The hour has come. "We have been in camp long enough. It is time to arise and go." □



"Seventh Day Baptists need to experience a crowd!" So said Dr. John Wimber as over 250 packed the college lecture room on Sunday before Conference to learn about Commitment to Growth.

Conference

CONFERENCE WITHDRAWS FROM W.C.C.

After a year's comprehensive study of the pro's and con's of General Conference membership in the World Council of Churches the delegates in the roll call vote of the churches voted 355 to 227 to withdraw from the world body. A "yes" vote was for withdrawal whereas a "no" vote was against withdrawal. The vote was as follows:

Association	YES	NO
ALLEGHENY ASSOCIATION		
Alfred, New York	5	21
Alfred Station, New York		25
Hebron, Pennsylvania	7	1
Little Genesee, New York	4	4
Richburg, New York	3	5
CENTRAL NEW YORK ASSOCIATION		
Adams Center, New York	6	-1
Brookfield, New York	7	
DeRuyter, New York	4	4
Leonardsville, New York	4	
Verona, New York	12	
EASTERN ASSOCIATION		
Ashaway, Rhode Island	20	
Berlin, New York	4	4
Irvington, New Jersey	3	
Marlboro, New Jersey	16	
North Jersey, New Jersey	4	
New York City, New York	4	
Plainfield, New Jersey		13
Schenectady, New York	3	
Shiloh, New Jersey	37	
Waterford, Connecticut	2	4
Westerly, Rhode Island	15	2
MID-CONTINENT ASSOCIATION		
Boulder, Colorado		12
Denver, Colorado	2	16
Kansas City, Missouri	4	
North Loup, Nebraska		24
Nortonville, Kansas	10	
NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION		
Albion, Wisconsin	10	3
Battle Creek, Michigan	4	24
Dodge Center, Minnesota	16	
Milton, Wisconsin	19	23
New Auburn, Wisconsin	11	
White Cloud, Michigan	2	4
PACIFIC COAST ASSOCIATION		
Bay Area, California	2	2
Los Angeles, California	19	
Riverside, California	30	
Seattle, Washington	8	

SOUTHEASTERN ASSOCIATION	
Daytona Beach, Florida	9
Lost Creek, West Virginia	15
Salem, West Virginia	14
Salemville, Pennsylvania	1
Putnam County, Florida	4
Washington, D.C.	9
SOUTHWESTERN ASSOCIATION	
Fouke, Arkansas	8
Little Rock, Arkansas	8
Metairie, Louisiana	4
Paint Rock, Alabama	7
Texarkana, Arkansas	8

Yes 355 No 227



Fraternal delegates from other denominations were present to bring greetings and share in the Conference fellowship. Elder Floyd Turner, the Church of God (Seventh Day); Rev. and Mrs. Wilmer Quiring, North American Baptists; Dr. and Mrs. Alton Motter, World Council of Churches; and Dr. James E. Wood, Jr., Baptist Joint Committee. Second row: Elder Don A. Roth, Seventh-day Adventists; Dr. M.L. Wilson, Baptist World Alliance; Rev. N.W. Harley, Jamaica S.D.B. Conference; Rev. Paul Beech, American Baptist Churches; Rev. Jack P. Lowndes, Southern Baptist Convention. Not pictured: Rev. Fred Lessten, American Bible Society.

A Partial Report...

Houghton

Fifty-Eighth Annual Report of Commission

Your Commission, from its vantage point, is convinced that a new day is dawning for Seventh Day Baptists. Last year we had serious reservations about recommending the budget that had been sliced to "bare bones." This year we are cautiously optimistic about recommending adoption of the budget without cutting out any dreams. The adopted budget has not been raised, but the trend has changed and with the dedication of all Seventh Day Baptists we expect "to fulfill our financial commitment." Our churches have not yet grown numerically, but the thinking has changed, our spirit is growing and a large number are committed to growth.

We admire the evident growing concern of Seventh Day Baptists to oversubscribe the budget. We appreciate the openness and cooperation we have experienced in working with the many areas of our ministries. We have been delighted with the thoroughness of the Task Force. We are impressed by the wide acceptance, understanding, and appreciation for their report. We are excited with the Planning Committee members in their unified venture leading us into "Commitment to Growth."

Last December Commission developed three goals for themselves and commended them to others. They were: (1) to deepen spiritual growth; (2) to foster a spirit of unity and love among Seventh Day Baptists; (3) to fulfill our financial commitments. We are convinced that measurable progress has been made in all three areas.

So, it is with praise and thanksgiving to God for the new day, and with sincere appreciation to multitudes of people that are responding to the Light, that Commission makes its report.

Recognition of L. Wayne Babcock

We recommend adoption of the recommendation of the Council on Ministry that the General Conference

recognize Rev. L. Wayne Babcock as an accredited Seventh Day Baptist minister. *This was approved by Conference delegates.

Recognition of New Churches

After review of the credentials of the New York City Seventh Day Baptist Church and the North Jersey Seventh Day Baptist Church, we recommend that the General Conference receive them into membership. *So voted by Conference.

Task Force

Commission commends the Task Force for its dedicated service and the efforts that its members have made to provide the leadership, motivation, and insight for the study of a change in denominational structure. Changes in organization must be considered to correct, strengthen, and give a new thrust for the future. Everyone is vitally aware that this has been a most difficult assignment for the members of the Task Force. The diversity, vested interests, variety of approaches and methods, and various styles of thinking and leadership that are characteristic among Seventh Day Baptists have all surfaced and been evaluated. They must be dealt with to streamline denominational structure.

Commission commends the Task Force for the approach used during the study to seek input and insure feedback with open discussion involving boards and agencies, local churches, and many individuals.

Planning Committee

Commission would commend the Planning Committee for its growing desire to be more unified in its total efforts for the denomination.

We especially note its thrust in the Houston RON project and its initiation, implementation, and financial support of the Commitment to Growth Plan.

We would encourage its continuing coordinated efforts to visit every church in the presentation of denominational interests.

Our World Mission Budget

Commission followed OWM giving closely during 1975 and 1976. At the December meeting the best projection available indicated that 90.2 percent of the budget would be raised. When the final results were announced, 99.2 percent had been contributed, with some special giving by a few churches and individuals. We feel greatly blessed by God in this result.

However, eleventh hour giving causes many management problems for our ministries (boards and agencies) since they must stay within income constraints during the entire year.

Commission spent many hours discussing the psychology of continually cutting budgets while talking of the need to grow. It was felt that all our ministries should feel that they could and should make plans for church growth.

The other side of this approach is that all agencies must raise the budget by aggressive promotional programs. Commission asked Planning Committee in December to work out a program whereby each board and agency would have one month to promote some aspect of their OWM budget through a special appeal using various techniques and formats.

With this background, when the budgets from all ministries were received, Commission assembled the 1977 proposed budget keeping the dreams and goals. The responsibility was given to each ministry to raise the total budget to prevent wholesale cuts by Commission. Cuts in any budget can always be made, but it seems to Commission that Commitment to Growth precludes cutting the proposed budget. Our responsibility as Seventh Day Baptists should be to raise the budget, not cut it. □

MISSION

NOTES

focus

"Where there is no vision the people perish"

- Jamaica SDB Conference Treasurer Carlton Ferguson has enrolled in evening classes at Jamaica Theological Seminary and is serving as a student pastor at the Higgin Town SDB Church. He is a graduate of Mico Teacher's College and is teaching at Mountain View Primary School, Kingston, Jamaica.

- Pastor J. Antonio Barrera of Curitiba, Brazil writes: "We have four new groups in the northern states of Paraiba and Ceara. Many baptisms and children consecrations are administered in different places. Some new temples are built in Mafra, Santa Catarina and in Rio Grande do Sul. Our Heavenly Father is blessing us in this gospel field."

- Two new medical assistants are aiding in the growing work in Malawi, Africa-Mr. R.P. Hinjes, in charge of the Sandama dispensary, and Mr. Bapton Nsona at the new Thomas dispensary. Mr. E.P. Mhura at Makapwa Medical Centre has been appointed assistant medical director and will become medical director in 1977.

- Director of Evangelism Mynor G. Soper held a meeting with several SDB couples in San Antonio, TX, area in July. It is hoped that regular meetings for study of the Word and worship can be held and a fellowship established before the end of the year. Pastor Robert Babcock, Houston, TX, may visit the group regularly beginning in September. Pray for this new outreach!

- Construction of the first SDB church in South Africa, at Site and Service near Port Elizabeth, was begun in May. Built of concrete blocks, it is hoped that it can be in use at an early date and completed yet this year.

- Rev. B. John V. Rao, Nellore, India, suffered another attack of

high blood pressure in July and had to take complete rest, though he continued to direct the work from bedside. Repair and replacement of wells started before possible heavy damage during monsoon rains, and the general work of the churches weigh heavily upon him.

- Reports from Bible Clubs, Camps and Bible Schools held during the summer indicate many new children enrolled and several who made commitment of their lives to Christ. The follow-through is now under way and our prayer and personal support, wherever possible, needs to be given that these individuals may find fellowship and spiritual growth in our churches.

- A camp meeting was held August 25-28 at the Rogongo SDB Church near Kisii, Kenya. Pastoral Student Joel Omare was on holiday at the time and participated.

- The annual camp for Guyanese youth was held at Camp Mainstay on the Essequibo River coast, August 23-30, in Guyana, S.A. Summer DVBS in most churches, with evening evangelistic meetings, helped bring new contacts for participation in the camping ministry. Pastor Sam Peters also wrote of the completion of the first year of the Training Institute for pastoral leadership. Heavy rains continue to plague farmers in Guyana, making it probable that all crops will be short.

- The COMMITMENT TO GROWTH Plan, introduced at General Conference, will begin in many churches this month. Leaders will offer workshops for local church Growth Force members with evaluation and Bible study materials enabling an objective and forward looking "view" of local area needs and ministries.

PRAYER

CORNER

A Prayer Reminder for Each Day!

October 1976

Verse for the month: "Yet day by day the Lord also pours out His steadfast love upon me, and through the night I sing His songs and pray to God who gives me life."

Psalm 42:8 LB

- 1-My spiritual goals for October
- 2-My Sabbath School teacher/superintendent

3-COMMITMENT TO GROWTH workshops in October

- 4-Women's Board meeting tonight
- 5-Praise the Lord for new believers!
- 6-For a new missionary in Malawi, Africa
- 7-RON project, Houston, TX/Robert Babcock
- 8-Missionaries Doug and Jane Mackintosh, Kingston, Jamaica
- 9-Dr. and Mrs. K.D. Hurley as they tour the Southwest Churches

10-Visits to Northeast SDB Churches by David C. Pearson

- 11-Pastor Francis Saunders, Farina, IL
- 12-Follow-up on fair booth witness at Kalamazoo, MI
- 13-Menzo/Audrey Fuller, Blantyre, Malawi, Africa
- 14-Pastor Leland Davis, Washington, DC
- 15-Fair booth witness - Flemington, NJ
- 16-Your pastor as he preaches the Word

17-Tract Society meeting, Shiloh, NJ

- 18-SDB's meeting in San Antonio, TX
- 19-Kenya, Africa, SDB leaders, Kisii district
- 20-Pastor Dale E. Rood, Waterford, CT
- 21-SDB's in St. Paul/Minneapolis, MN
- 22-Conference Committee on Support and Retirement
- 23-For a new vision

24-Missionary Board meeting, Westerly, RI

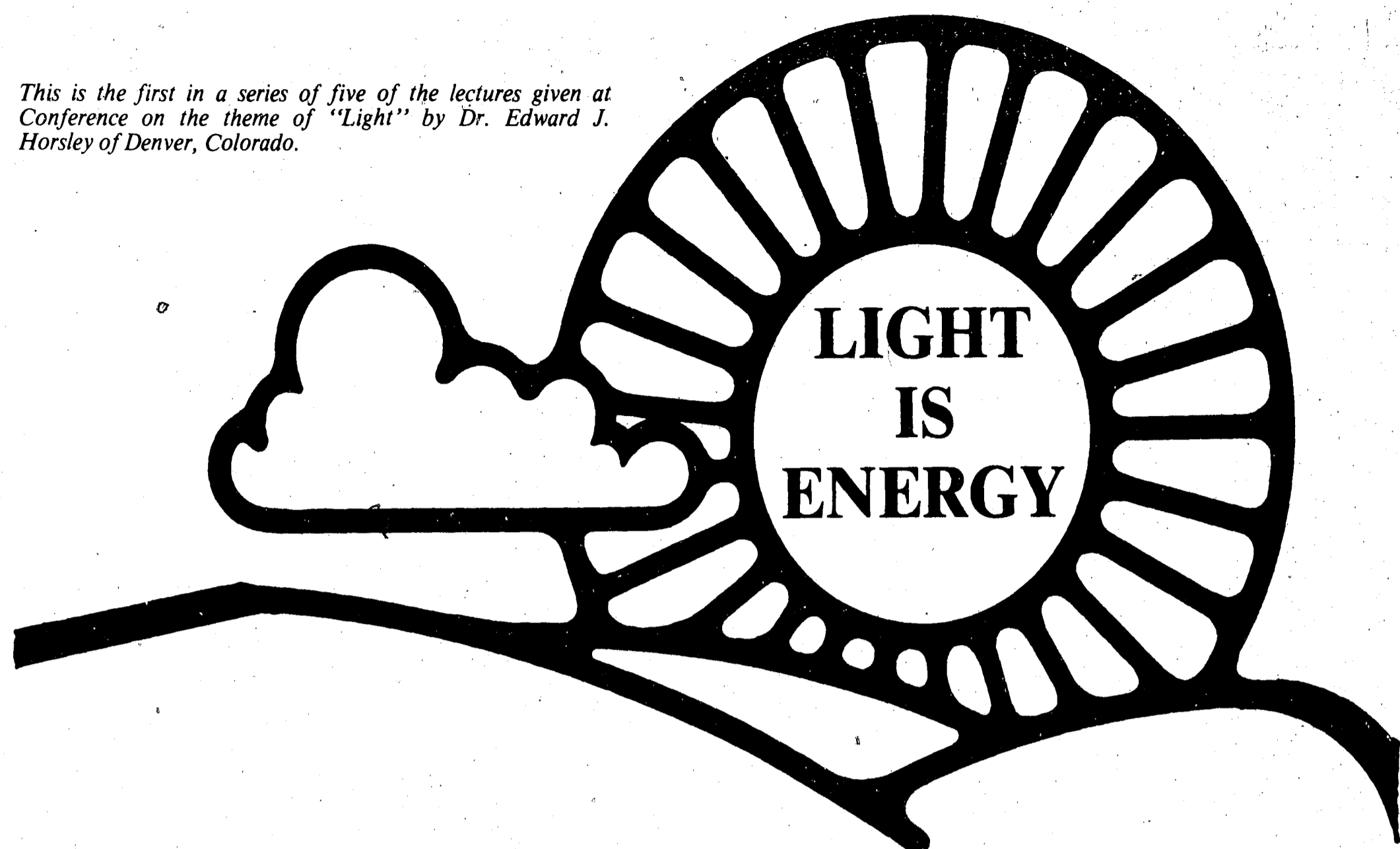
- 25-COMMITMENT TO GROWTH workshops/Bible studies
- 26-SDB leaders in England, Holland, and Germany
- 27-Pastor Robert Harris, Paint Rock, AL
- 28-Our tract ministry
- 29-South African Seventh Day Baptist pastors
- 30-SABBATH SCHOOL MISSION OFFERING

31-Canadian Seventh Day Baptists

Your Gift is Needed
SUPPORT
OUR WORLD
MISSION

The Sabbath Recorder

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



There is so much beauty in worship. But this morning I want to talk about a different aspect of God's worship and God's service. I would like to speak to you on the subject that light is energy. And I would like to use two texts, the first one briefly from the ninth chapter of the book of John where Jesus said, "We must carry on the work of Him Who sent Me while the daylight lasts, night is coming when no man can work. I am the world's light as long as I am in it." Christ gave this as a governing principle of His life and in the fourth chapter of the book of Luke He tells us how this principle was applied to His own ministry, "Then He came to Nazareth where He had been brought up and according to His custom, He went to the synagogue on the sabbath day. He stood up to read the Scriptures and the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. He opened the book and found the place where these words are written, 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me because He anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.' Then He shut the book, handed it back to the attendant and resumed His seat. Every eye in the synagogue was fixed upon Him and He began to tell them, 'This very day, this Scripture has been fulfilled while you have been listening to it.'"

Prior to His incarnation, that is, prior to His becoming a human being, Jesus Christ was an integral part of the Divine Godhead. He was the creative force forming this world and upholding it, caring for the human life and all other forms of life which were all part of His grand design for this world. And He had a unique method of accomplishing tasks. The Lord spoke and it was done - because the Word of the Lord was creative energy. "Let there be light, let there be planets, let there be water and vegetation, let there be all forms of life," and it happened. I was the most productive method of work ever conceived and everything that He made that way was very good. That was a beautiful system of work and if we could all do it that way, we'd all become productive geniuses. Infinite power and finite wisdom would soon get out of control.

When Jesus came to this earth as our teacher and our example, He left behind His divine attributes. He left behind His glory and His omnipotence, His divine wisdom. He left behind that Spirit form which allowed Him the potential for instantaneous travel. He left behind His divine power, including His ability to accomplish tasks by the word of command. Christ became a servant and servant's don't give commands, they use their hands and their feet and their backs.

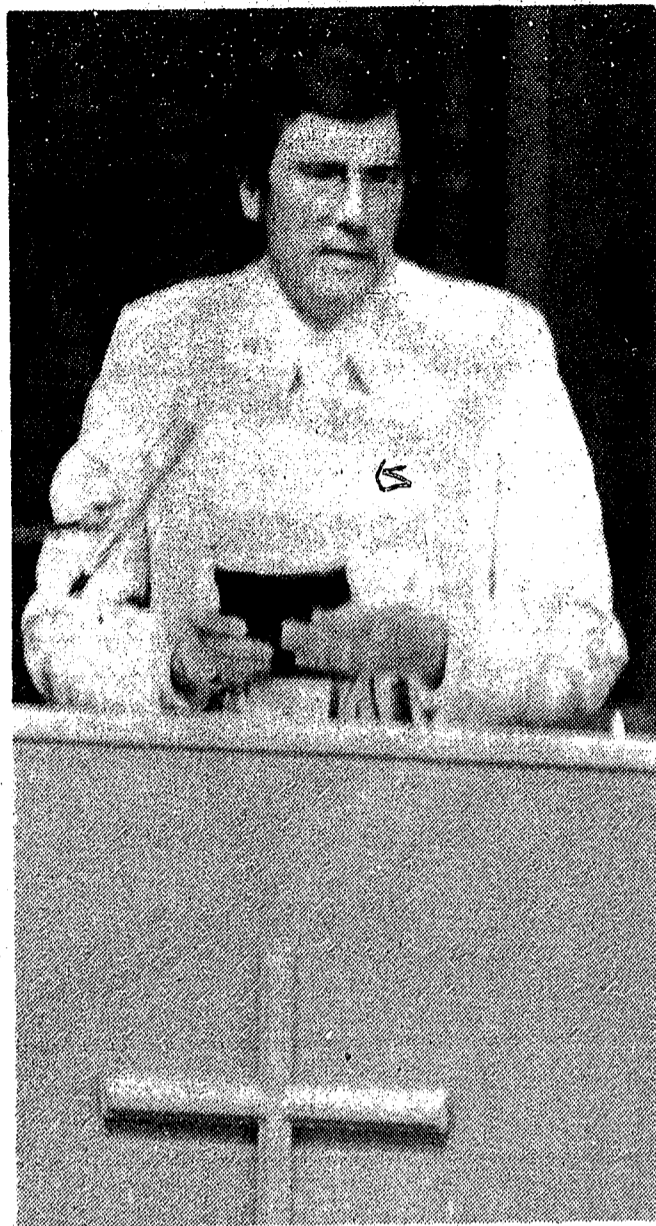
And so Jesus Christ worked as a carpenter, with His hands. He walked

how many miles in dust and heat and He sweat and He knew hunger, thirst, and exhaustion. A compelling force kept urging Him on day and night, a force that said, "I must be about My Father's business," "I must do the works of Him that sent Me." I must, I must. There was a sense of duty that compelled Him. And He looked around Him and said, "Did you say there are four months yet until the harvest? Look, the fields are already white with the harvest. What we need are reapers."

And so He who used to speak the word of accomplishment, now spent those human resources of muscle and heart and brain. He spent those human resources that produced perspiration, fatigue, and exhaustion, but they also produced results. That same hard work does produce results.

Christ came into this world as the Light of the world and light is energy. The physicists call it radiant energy or luminous energy and Christ demonstrated that energy. Creative, healing, helping, searching, saving energy - because light energizes everything that comes under its influence.

I remember very well the first experiment that I ever had in physics while I was in high school. It was a very simple experiment. There was a little glass globe or sphere and I believe that it was a vacuum. Running down through the center of that was a slender metal rod, and there were



LIGHT IS ENERGY

by Dr. Edward Horsley

four wires attached together that could rotate around that rod. At the end of each of those four wires was a diamond shaped metal disc. One side of each disc was black and the other side, silver. This was a very simple experiment. All you had to do was take this device and put it where a bright light like the sun would shine on it.

And that was one of my physics experiments, one of the few, that really worked. Because as the sun's rays hit those little metal discs, soon those wires began to rotate and they picked up speed and pretty soon they were spinning beautifully around that central metal rod. I was very impressed with that experiment. But I looked back on it in later years and I recognized that while those discs were moving, they didn't do anyone any good. With all their activity they didn't accomplish anything, all they did was go in circles. And why did they go in circles? Well the answer is obvious, they were anchored, they were tied down to one spot.

This is true in life. You can take a young dog, for instance, and tether him, and no matter how much energy he has and how much enthusiasm and how much excitement, he can run as hard as he wants and all he'll do is go in circles.

I think that Christians have known this experience. How many Christians have felt the effect of God's light shining directly on their lives? They've placed themselves where God's truth and light strike directly into their souls, just like in the physics experiment, and they feel themselves stirring. They begin to move. Their pace picks up and they feel the excitement of motion and of action and they look for opportunities to serve the Lord, to do things, to accomplish things for Him. But so often they find that they are tied to one spot and with all the energy and all the enthusiasm that they have, after a while they may become aware they are just going in circles. And what spot are they tied to? What is their tether? I think that frequently it is a church.

Many times Christians are tied to a church whose activities are all within itself. A church which constantly looks inward, whose concerns are just for those who are already inside its doors. A church that has no awareness at all of the crying needs outside. A church that has no program that touches the lives of the community, of the city, of the multitudes outside its own walls. The members of that church look back over their years of service, of being Sabbath School teachers, choir members, ushers, deacons, serving on committees. They look back over those years of going in those circles, tied to that one lovely little stunted nongrowing church and they wonder if that is what all the energy from the light of their life was meant to accomplish.

Christ did not stay inside the temple, the whole world was Christ's church. He went where the people were and where there was need. How did He find His disciples? He found one or two of them standing under trees. He found others mending their nets. He found some collecting taxes. He met them doing a thousand tasks because He went where they were. How did Christ meet the woman at the well? He was on the move and stopped for a drink, that was how. No one could accuse Jesus of going in circles, because He wasn't tied to a church building or to an office or to a study. He was where there was need and because of that He was where there was action, also. Christ moved, not in circles, but straight toward the goal of His life.

I don't know how many times I have heard Christian workers say, "Our church doors are open and I'll be happy to talk with anyone who wants to come in. Compare those words with the words of Jesus who said, "I came to seek and to save those who are lost." Mind you, He didn't say He came just to save them, but Christ came to search them out and then save them.

Look at the parables that He told. Consider the lost sheep. When would that lost sheep have been saved, if someone had waited inside the church for it. If it had known where the church was it wouldn't have been lost. Think of the lost coin, it wasn't even aware of being lost, never mind looking for a place to be found. And I think of the prodigal son. Sure, he came home after a time, but how much sooner would he have come back to the father's house if someone had gone out and helped him feed those hogs and then invited him to come home. The church was designed to train Christian soldiers, but the battles for which they train are outside the church. Those battles continue to be where Christ found them and where He won them, out in the real world.

What is the source of our energy? In our earliest science courses I think we were all taught that all of our energy comes from the sun. The sun itself is a monstrous atomic pile pouring out vast amounts of light and energy in radiant heat and energy. The sun itself is gradually burning up as it supplies this tremendous quantity of energy to our one small corner of the universe. And all the energy which you and I use every day whether it is hydroelectric power, windmill power, oil and gas or coal, all these energy sources have their original source in the sun. The sun developed the fossil fuels which we now use in such prodigious quantities and in such a profligate manner. The sun lifts the moisture from our oceans and our lakes and the soil, it lifts up that moisture and it descends again in rain and snow, forming those rivers which turn the great turbines of our power plants. Our energy, whatever its form, has its source in the sun.

Spiritual energy also has many forms. We serve the Lord in varied ways, utilizing countless opportunities. But whatever the form of our service,

wherever we serve, the source of our spiritual energy and power is the same. That source is the Son. The Son of God.

And when the Light of Christ penetrates our lives, He energizes us, He motivates us, He empowers us with the same energy that Christ Himself demonstrated here on earth. And the closer we are to the source of power, the better our connection with Him, the greater the energy to accomplish His goals for our own personal lives and for His church.

The great men and women of faith were so charged by their connection with Christ that they couldn't contain the energy. They had to let it out in purposeful action, doing those same works that Christ demonstrated to His followers. And so Paul said, "It's the love of Christ that constrains us." He said, "Woe is unto me if I preach not the gospel." You will remember that as the disciples watched the life of Jesus and they observed the passionate approach which He had to His work, they remembered the words of Scripture, "The zeal of Thy house hath eaten me up."

I wish that every Christian, every Seventh Day Baptist, every denominational worker, every minister, every lay person, was so on fire for God that we would be energized beyond any ability to keep still. Beyond our power to keep silence, beyond our ability to wait for the Spirit, and wait and wait. The Spirit is here and God's time is now. The power is available and the light from the Son is waiting to be turned into energy which will turn the world upside down. But our energy and our power must come from the Son.

How often we hear the concern expressed that the servants of God might burn themselves out by hard work and by their many hours of service. I don't know of any source of energy in this world that doesn't burn itself out, that doesn't spend itself in accomplishing its purpose. The candles burn themselves out. The gas tank becomes empty, the wood turns to ash. They give of themselves, they are expendable in order to achieve their goals. And I know of no one who is really successful in his chosen line of work, who doesn't spend himself in achieving that success.

People don't die of hard work. The human spirit is killed by boredom

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and by frustration and by a failure to achieve, not by work. The servant of the Lord, whatever his role, is defeated by going in circles instead of using that energy received from God in moving ahead toward a certain goal with positive results.

We say, "You musn't burn a candle at both ends," and I agree. That is so true. Burning the candle at both ends is mismanagement of one's resources. But that is a far different experience than Paul wrote about to the Corinthians. He said, "I will most gladly spend and be spent for your good." And to the Thessalonians he wrote, "Our struggles and hard work, my brothers, must still be fresh in your memory. Day and night we worked for you." It wasn't hard work that killed Paul and the other apostles.

Who burned himself out any more than our example, Jesus Christ? He gave Himself day and night, moved by the practical philosophy, "I must do the work while it is day, because the night is coming when no man can work." Don't worry about burning yourself out. The source of our energy is the Son and He will supply everything that we need. His supply is far greater than our capacity to receive and it is far better that we burn out than rust out.

You may remember Tennyson's great poem to Ulysses where he said, "How dull it is to pause, to rust unburnished, not to shine in use, as though to breathe were life." As though to go in the circles of routine church life was really living. And you remember very well Christ's word picture of the Final Judgment in Matthew 25 - where the King says to those on His right, "Come you who have won my Father's blessing, take your inheritance, the Kingdom reserved for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me a drink, and I was lonely and you made Me welcome, I was naked and you clothed Me, I was ill and you came and looked after Me."

The final test regarding real Christianity is: What we have done for those who are in need, the least of these, His brethren? And where do we do these things for Christ? In the church? Well, possibly so. But, far more, we do them where the greatest need is and where the people are who need them.

The city of God described in the Book of Revelation is said to have no temple at all and I think that may be very appropriate. Because the people of God, His angels, His ministers, the members of His Kingdom of every kind, are scattered throughout the city, living for Him where they are, and serving Him where they are. Because religion is not in churches, it is in lives.

Therefore our religion must reach out to lives and not remain in our churches. Churches must be lives and not institutions. That is why God's church is people and not buildings and not organizations. God's church is people in touch with other people. It is people energizing people, people transferring hope and love and life to other souls, and that takes time and it takes energy, and it wears people out. But the experience that saps our energies renews our energy at the same time as we see and feel God's power at work.

It is truly a marvelous experience to know that Christ has redeemed us. There is nothing greater in life than to know that God has reconciled us to Himself and that we are part of His Kingdom. But while that is a wonderful thing, it is a terrible thing to have no useful part in that Kingdom to which He has brought us. I think one of the most important statements that Henry Drummond ever wrote was this, "Next to losing the sense of a personal Christ, the worst evil that can befall a Christian is to have no sense of anything else." To receive the glorious light of the gospel of Christ, but to receive no energy for sharing that light. To receive no energy for lifting the burdens of those in need, that is indeed a limited salvation, that is indeed a restricted awareness of God's call to His Kingdom.

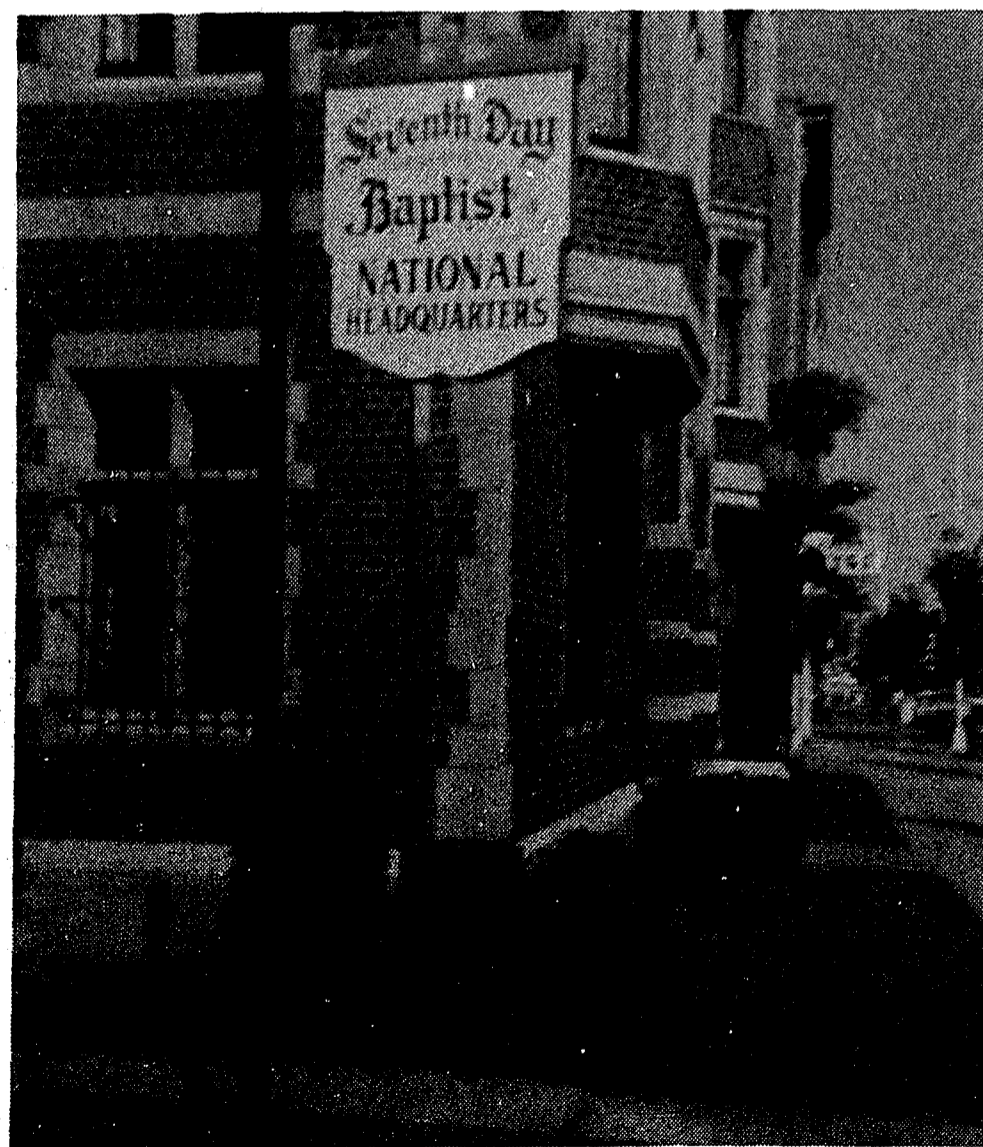
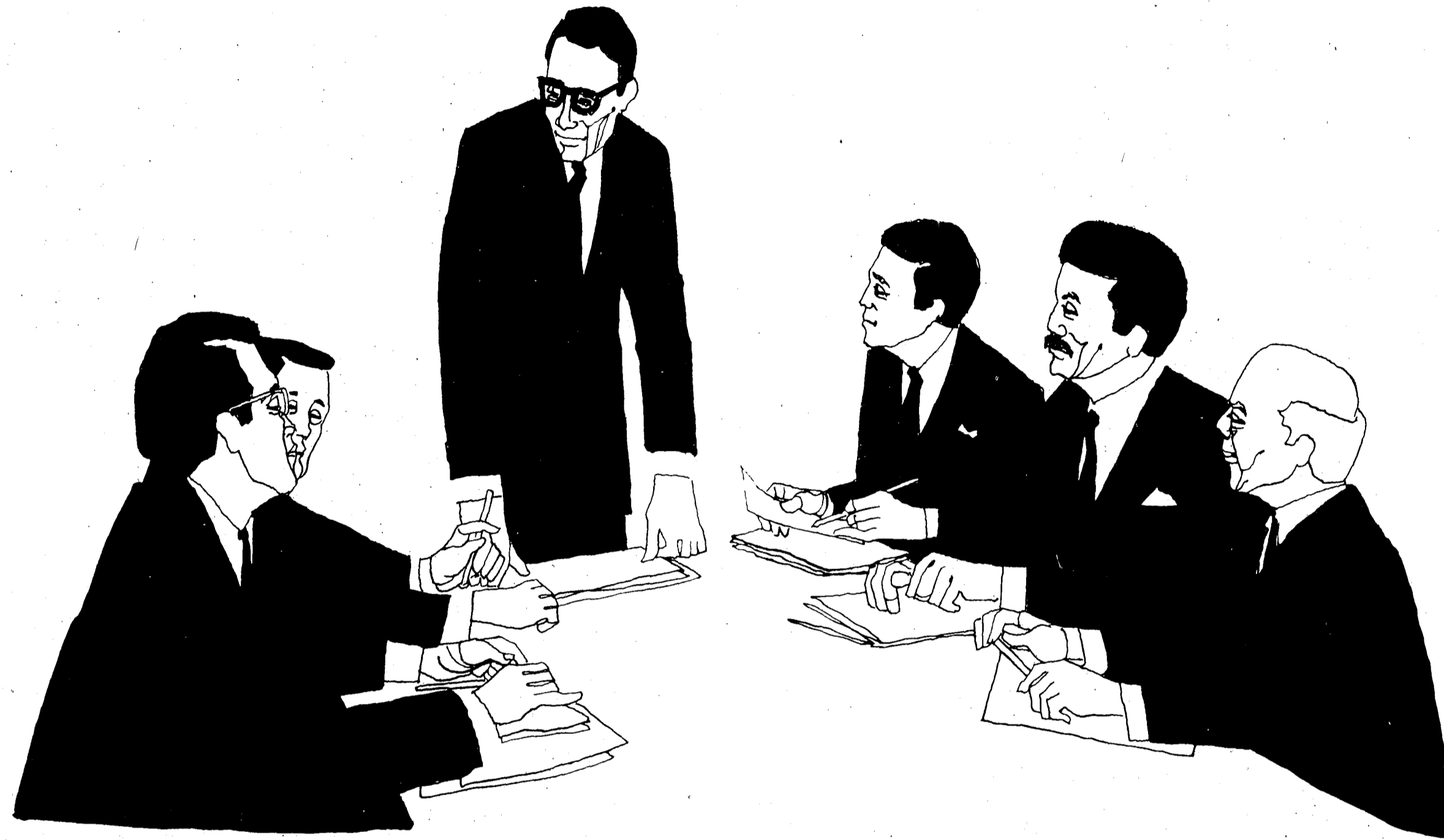
God gave a tremendous task to His followers. The task of bringing the good news to the entire world. To every nation, kindred, tongue and people, and for that task He promised us "all power," all the power in Heaven and on earth. All of that energy is available. The limitless energy of God is at our disposal but if it's to be effective energy, it must be harnessed. It must be channeled into purposeful work.

You can take a gallon of gasoline and set it on fire and that will

(continued on page 28)

Our World Mission

Through General Conference



The total program of Our World Mission is propagated through the efforts of many agencies, one of which is our General Conference - the corporate and spiritual body of all Seventh Day Baptists.

The administrative work of our Conference is carried on by Commission and the executive secretary. Programming is accomplished specifically for General Conference through the Council on Ministry, Women's Society, Council on Ecumenical Affairs, Christian Social Action Committee, and other committees. Some other denominational boards and agencies are independently incorporated and coordinate their activities through General Conference.

Members of these agencies are dedicated, non-salaried church members who serve God and you.

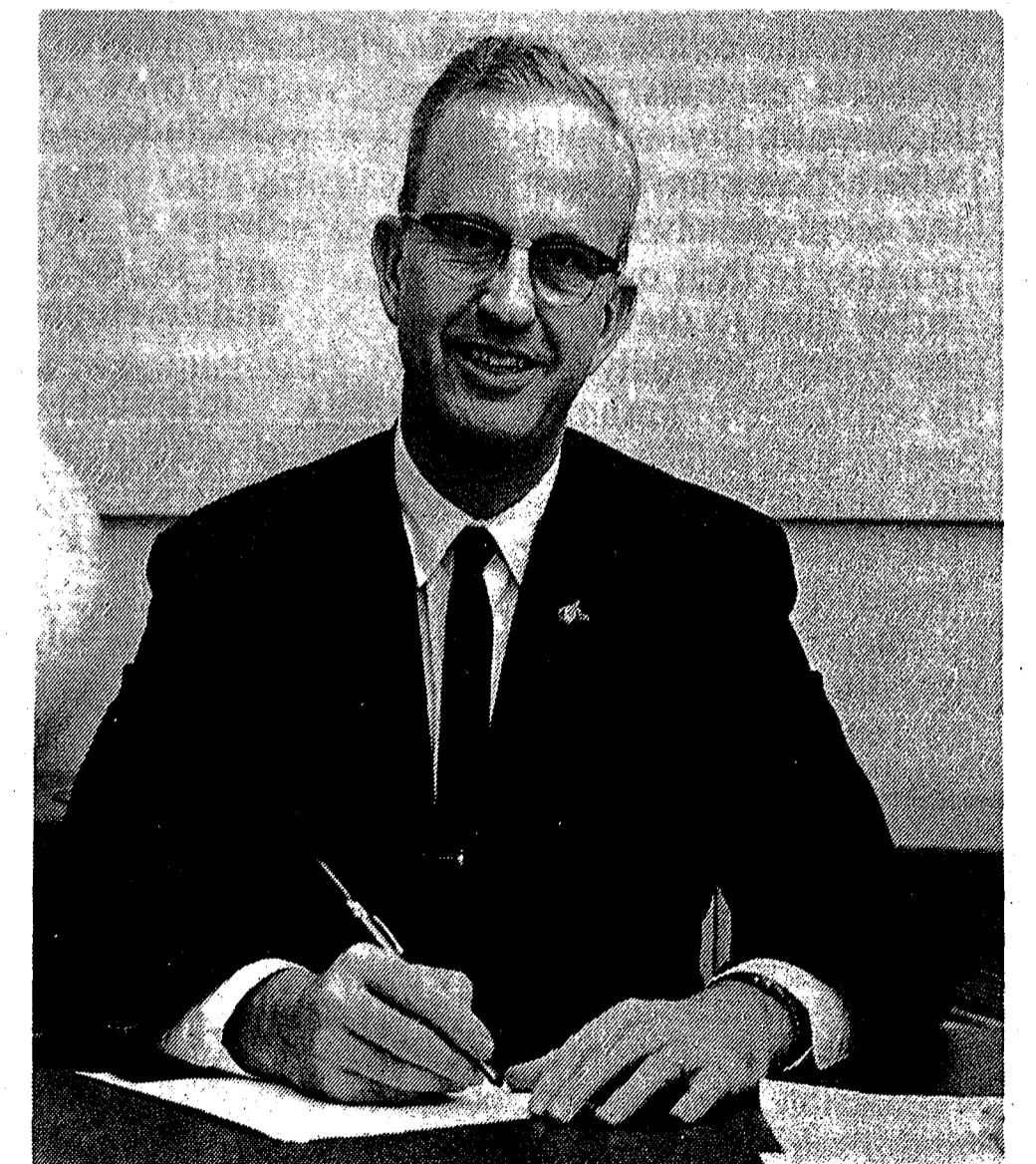
The executive secretary of General Conference is the man with the oil can for Our World Mission. He tries to foresee any possible breakdown in denominational machinery before it occurs and comes to the rescue before progress is hindered. He also lubricates squeaky parts and facilitates smooth operation of our denominational mechanism.

Active participation, this year, in the Task Force-related special committee, the Commitment to Growth plan and study relative to the formation of a General Board will take much of his time and effort. He is required to travel a great deal in the pursuit of these and other efforts. He is salaried and so is his secretarial staff.

Additional funds are necessary for the maintenance of our Denominational Building: paint, repair, heat, electricity, insurance, and the like. Our Board of Trustees oversees the maintenance of our building.

Contributing money to these administrative functions of our General Conference may be to some, less glamorous than to the more visible programs of missions, publications, social action, etc., but funds are necessary.

A dollar a month from each Seventh Day Baptist is all that it takes to keep our denominational administration operating. Please do your part.



PERPETUATION OR ACCOMPLISHMENT

In some of our minds, the Church exists in order to perpetuate its existence. The Church should exist in order to accomplish the goals its Lord has put before it.

With these words, Rev. Olan Hendrix begins one of the chapters in his new book, *Management for the Christian Worker*.

He analyzes two basic mentalities which prevail at the opposite extremes of group situations: the *centric* group and the *radic* group.

The author explains that the *centric* group is an association of people - religious, educational, social, or industrial, in which the general level of personal concern is greater than the general level of group concern. The result is an introspection, a turning in upon the group itself.

With the *centric* group, Mr. Hendrix explains, there is an incompatibility of objectives. Where there is an ingrown aspect, the people involved tend to give primacy to their own objectives rather than to the objectives of the group. Not only that, there is resistance to authority in the *centric* group. The *centric* group is generally control-oriented. Everyone is demanding to be heard. The *centric* group gives primary consideration to this question - "Are we structured so that everyone can have his say?"

An organization that is *centric* in its association and functions from a group point of view is generally made up of mature people. Alone, they are spiritually responsible, imaginative, poised and disciplined. But in a group situation all of the aspects of

the *centric* group come to the fore.

Every form of government can degenerate into a *centric* group and any form of government can be a goal-oriented group.

The goal-oriented type of group, says Mr. Hendrix, is the *radic* group. This is the group in which the level of group concern is greater than the general level of personal concern.

Now, in discussing the *centric* and *radic* groups, the author warns that we should not assume that one is secular and the other is sacred. That is not necessarily true. Some of the most *radic* groups are almost totally secular, he points out, using the U.S. Peace Corps as an example. A lot of the humanitarian enterprises of the world are *radic*. The point is that this group tends to radiate out rather than turn in. In this group you have goal-orientation and perceptive team work. The author concludes that this (the *radic* type of group) is the one "that Jesus Christ designed in both the apostolate and in the Church in its growth and development."

In the light of recent denominational development - the action taken at General Conference, the research and recommendations of the Task Force, and the Planning Committee's initiation of the Commitment to Growth plan - it is thought-provoking and challenging to consider Mr. Hendrix' conclusions:

The Church was always to be a radic group, and it is a sign of our degeneracy when we become centric.... Do we (Seventh Day Baptists as a denomination) exist to perpetuate our existence? This is centric. Do we exist to accomplish our Lord's goal?

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

This is radic. Generally, a group starts out radic and degenerates to centric. The extent to which we have become centric is the extent to which we have passed down the line through work-orientation or task-orientation to the bitter dregs of control-orientation....

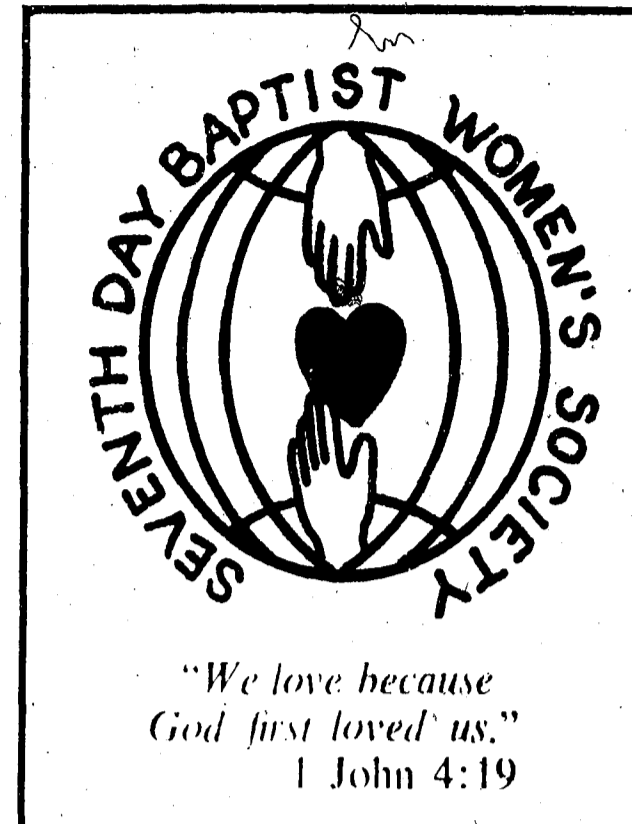
The chief danger for the radic group is in becoming so fragmented in its purposes that different groups and different individuals have different purposes and they begin to compete. This will always lead back into a centric orientation. It is not that any group is solidly radic. One aspect or the other tends to dominate.

Does the goal still grip us? Is it still worthy of our commitment? The danger here is to have one thing in writing and another thing in practice - a Jekyll and Hyde management practice....

What holds the radic group together? It is the goal. The more we are obsessed with the goal, the more we are willing to tolerate individual differences within the organization. The less we are obsessed with the goal, the more we need to have personality conformity within the organization. Somebody comes to you and he does not say things just the way you would say them. If we are goal-oriented we say, "This man has something to contribute and we will endure much from him because he is going to help us reach our goal." The breadth of tolerance in the radic group is much greater than the breadth of tolerance in the centric group.

"A strong goal-oriented mission will tend to reproduce a strong goal-oriented church." That is Mr. Hendrix' main point.

My hope and prayer is that we, as Seventh Day Baptists, can become so completely united around the goal of church growth that we will experience a resurgence of God's power in our personal and in our church lives; that mere perpetuation of our denomination will be transformed into real accomplishment for Christ and His Cause! □



by Madeline Fitz Randolph

Three weeks in July were spent in Jamaica, West Indies, and might well be described as the most diversely interesting three weeks of my life. As a school librarian, your editor went there to work in the library at Crandall High School, to help organize the materials there; to ascertain what the needs might be and to plan for the future development of this facility.

In any sort of accounting which deals with a project or an adventure, the story can almost never be told "all in a piece." If time and space allowed I would describe for you the events of the three weeks' stay there, but since there is not space or time some of the memorable events and impressions must have priority.

Most importantly, a real beginning was accomplished in the organization of the library. A retrieval system was set up and books are now in place on the shelves, ready for use by the students. They are labelled, numbered with Dewey decimal numbers and a card catalog is ready, filled with more than 2000 cards bearing Author, Title, and Subject headings. Some 780 books were catalogued during this time. A colossal task of sorting took place; many were discarded and many were placed in the teacher's room for their use. It was interesting to find many familiar names in the books which have been sent down to Jamaica from our people. It shows to me the widespread interest which our people have had in the Crandall High School project, for almost every church was represented there by some kind of gift. However, this kind of "chance" contribution does not make for a well-rounded collection, and plans for enlarging the "thin" areas are now in motion. More reference books are needed, as well as high-interest reading materials. This project did not end for me when I boarded the plane for home, but is a continuing object of prayer, planning and concern.

It was an unending source of interest to me to observe the people of this country. I mingled with the people of the SDB churches, feeling very much at home, and I also went about in Kingston, eyes opened to a society different in many ways from my own. One trait which is outstanding in Jamaicans is the dignity with which they go about their daily lives. It is evident even in the very young; a feeling of pride and self-esteem. The

curiosity of the children as they stare at you gives you the feeling that you are "different", but "accepted". A part of the pride of the Jamaicans is expressed in the manner in which they dress. You rarely see anyone who is not dressed in high fashion. No patches or recycled materials here; ladies are in platform shoes, beautiful dresses or slacks; the men, too, are resplendent in suits cut in the latest style of fine materials and interesting colors. There's nothing dull about the dress of the man or woman on the streets of Kingston! Of course we observed the opposite condition of life, also. There was the other extreme—but we did not see much of this.

It was a privilege to attend three churches while there. The Charles Street church was well filled on Sabbath, July third. That day those of us from the States all wore red, white, and blue, and when birthdays were called for by the Sabbath School superintendent, we asked for a song for the United States, which the congregation rendered with enthusiasm. Pastor Joe Samuels led the worship. The memory work which the children did was quite impressive. It is obvious that much time is spent on this activity, for in each of the churches I visited, there was time given at the close of Sabbath School for reciting memory passages learned that day.

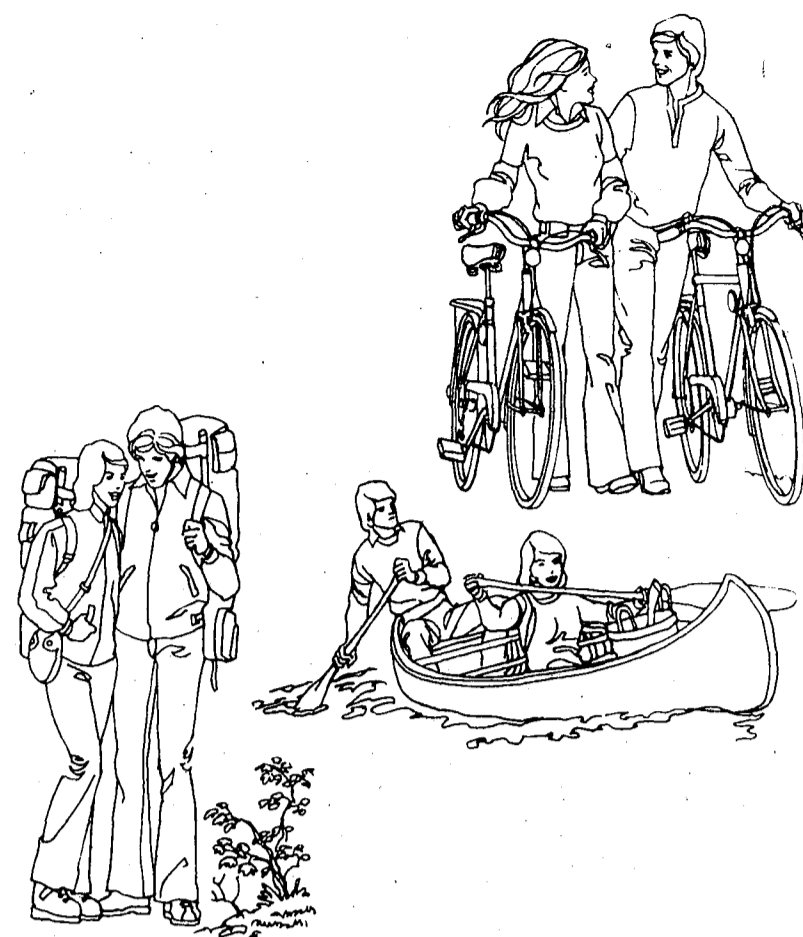
The second Sabbath of my stay there, my hosts, the Mackintosh family, took me up into the mountains to the Luna church. As the road wound up and up it reminded me of the back hills of West Virginia, and as we climbed higher and higher the scenery became more and more beautiful. There at the top of the climb sat the Luna church, a beautifully cared for and nicely decorated building. There are three or four rooms in addition to the sanctuary, with a furnished bedroom upstairs, since some pastors come and stay overnight. This church too is served by Pastor Samuels. The congregational singing was beautiful, and I became so interested in the number of children present that I counted them and there were more than fifty!

On the third Sabbath we worshipped at Mountain View in Kingston. There, too, I was excited by the large group of children in the congregation. In all cases the churches were practically full, and the participation of the people in the songs and prayers made for a real time of worship.

It was interesting to visit with some of the women of the churches. As I talked with them about the local organizations which they call "Leagues", I asked, "What do you feel is the biggest problem you have with your Leagues?" The answer was, "We just can't seem to get all of our women interested in taking part in our programs and meetings; it's the same few who do all the work!" Does this sound familiar to anyone? It does to me, and I think we need to evaluate what we are doing, both here and in Jamaica, in relation to the needs of Seventh Day Baptist women.

How surely the Heavenly Father made us of one blood! We truly do have all the same kinds of problems, no matter where we are on this earth of His. Our concerns for our family life, our children, our government....all these we do share with people of all lands and we must pray without ceasing for each other and for our world. □

EXCHANGE CAMPER'S "FANTASTIC" EXPERIENCE



High school youth are chosen by their home camp to go to another Association's camp for the week's program. The national exchange is arranged by the Camp Committee of the Board of Christian Education. Report forms were sent with the original letter suggesting where exchange campers should go, asking for ideas on the program and the camper's experience.

The first camper to report shared some inspirational ideas. Where he came from and where he camped with new friends in a new situation is not important, at least for this *Recorder* report. Let's hear the board's camp questions and his replies:

Q: What benefits for your Christian experience did you gain in fellowship, inspiration, service, learning and earth stewardship? Camper: I learned that with Christian people a stranger can be accepted in a very short time. The fellowship was full of love, the learning experience seemed to keep your attention at all times.

Q: What was your most meaningful experience and why? Camper: Two experiences were a foot-washing and communion service. The spirit aspects were so fantastic I couldn't put them into words. (PTL) One reason is, my camp never went into such great spiritual deepness.

Q: What would YOU "do differently next time" in any of the camper exchange experiences you had? Camper: I couldn't change it. It was fantastic.

Q: How did you enter into leader or follower roles in the camp you

visited? Did you feel free to offer service? Camper: After a few minutes I felt a big member of the group, and would help anybody who asked.

Q: What did you learn from the host camp's facilities and how they were used in achieving Christian camping goals? Camper: That because the facilities weren't that good it didn't bother the Christian experience.

Q: What would you like to see done in your home camp as a result of participating in another camp? Camper: Less recreation and more spiritual activities.

Q: What unique experiences did you have in any (or all) of these activities—worship, study, recreation, nature study, vespers, group projects, etc.? Camper: I felt a love for each person through all worship.

Q: Do you have suggestions on how the Board of Christian Education and/or your own camp program committee might improve the SDB Camper Exchange program, and the sharing of personal skills or group experiences? Camper: They are doing a super job.

We here at the board office feel much hope in getting reports like this. We hope it is only the first of many. We shall be open to radical criticisms but hopeful of constructive intent. We want to make the "exchange" of campers a real "fantastic" experience for sending camps, campers, host camps, staffs and campers, and local SDBYF's! Keep the reports coming—campers and committee leaders! □

HELPING HELPING HAND HELPERS!

The Fall Quarter of the *Helping Hand* is an adaptation of the Summer Quarter of the Uniform Lesson Series. The Resource Development Committee of the Board of Christian Education asked the editor to produce the lessons, into which she and several other writers were putting much effort, at a time when a most consistent attendance would occur. So it wasn't Jinx Stonestrom's idea to create the switch of quarters, which caused adjustments for those who supplement *Helping Hand* lessons with International Uniform Lesson guidebooks.

So don't misplace your '75-76 Uniform Lesson Teacher's Manual (by whatever name) if you want help in preparing the Fall Quarter of *Helping Hand* lessons. You will find a challenge to study more SDB history, but you may also find the supplemental Uniform Lesson materials helpful in rounding Jinx's study of how the Bible was used in churches and homes through the centuries.

The Board of Christian Education has distributed, with requests for data on Sabbath Schools, Vacation Church Schools, Camps and Youth Fellowships, a list of complementary lessons in the Uniform Series and the Fall '76 *Helping Hand*. More copies can be had by writing to the Board, 15 South Main St., Alfred, NY 14802. □



Mrs. Ruth Rogers

FILMSTRIP DEDICATED TO SUNNY ROGERS

On behalf of the Camp Planning Committee of the Board of Christian Education I would like to take a few minutes at this time to thank those who made the Creative Camping Retreat a "Living Reality," namely Elmo Randolph for the idea of such a retreat and to the Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund Board for making funds available for the retreat, the Creative Camping Manuals, filmstrips and scripts of the actual retreat. We are deeply indebted to the work of Herbert Saunders, Dale and Janet Thorngate, for the filming and script of the activities.

The Seventh Day Baptist camps in the United States have and will prosper from the activities of the "Creative Camping Retreat," so we feel it only proper and fitting to dedicate this filmstrip to the person who worked so hard to help promote Randy's idea and who was the person who convinced the Memorial Board to fund the project. This individual has worked hard to promote Seventh Day Baptist Camping and, as president of the Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund Board, to help to have funds available for camp improvement and leadership training.

It gives me great pleasure to present this filmstrip and script to Mrs. Clarence Rogers in loving memory of Clarence Rogers, who brought "Fellowship in the Light" to our camping programs. Clarence Rogers was better known as "Sunny" Rogers and it was very appropriately presented in camp, as one of the happiest times for him was to be in a camping situation. □-Robert Stohr

THANKS TO RESPONDENTS

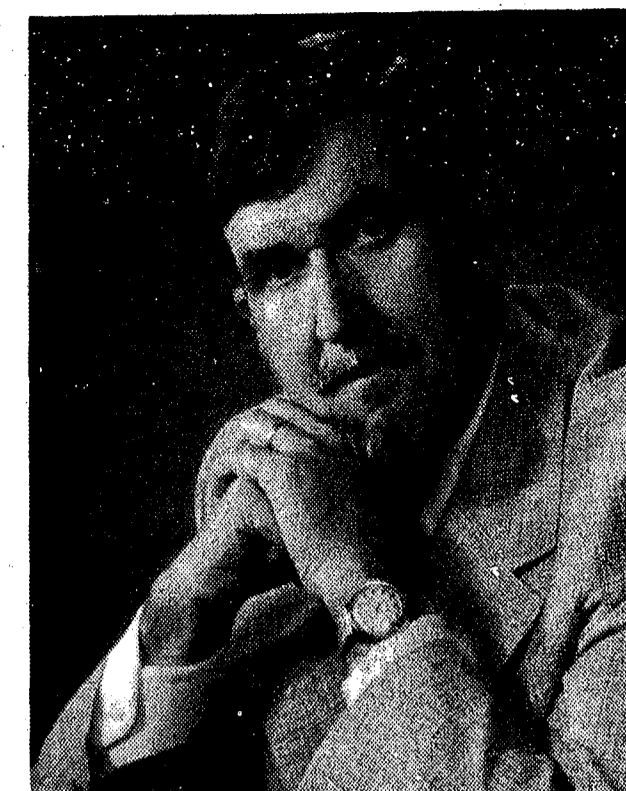
Editor of the *Helping Hand*, Jinx Kuehn Stonestrom, joins the Resource Development Committee and Mrs. Helen Bond who chairs the Communications Interests Committee this Conference, in gratitude for the almost 100 responses to the questionnaire on the *Helping Hand*. Ninety-four individual questionnaires were returned, some of them prepared in group discussions, but most of them seeming to have been written as individual respondents.

The Resource Development Committee, in studying the responses and making up a summary sheet, reported to the board at its July 18, 1976 meeting: "We are happy to report that the vast majority are generally satisfied with the work of our diligent editor, and she is to be commended."

We are always grateful for criticism aimed at improving our educational ministry among you with Christ. Some calls for changed ways demand more grace than others to receive and creatively use for improvement. Sometimes we are caught in the pressure of prior demands and may seem to prove blind to the sense or intent of constructive criticism. If we can learn from each other, we shall better enable our members, friends, neighbors, associates—even our "enemies"—to grow toward the full stature of Jesus the Christ. (Dave Clarke, on behalf of Ms. Stonestrom and the RDC) □



Official General Conference accreditation was voted to Rev. Wayne Babcock, pastor of the Dodge Center, Minn., church. We pray God's blessings on Pastor Babcock as he continues to minister the Word of God.



Rev. Don A. Sanford

SANFORD AUTHORS NEW BOOK ON S.D.B. HISTORY

"A Free People in Search of a Free Land" is the title of a recently published book by the Rev. Don A. Sanford. The work traces the history of Seventh Day Baptist expansion from the first church in Newport, R.I., in 1671, through the various stages of frontier migrations to the present.

For sixteen years, Rev. Sanford was the editor of the *Helping Hand* and has pastored churches in New York, Michigan, and Wisconsin. He is currently teaching in Ft. Atkinson, Wis.

The book was written as a partial fulfillment of requirements for the master's degree from the University of Wisconsin. It was introduced at the recent General Conference session at Houghton College and was an immediate sell-out. The book is a joint publication of the S.D.B. Historical Society and the American Sabbath Tract Society, and was published at the S.D.B. Publishing House.

To order your copy send \$5.00 to the S.D.B. Publishing House, P.O. Box 868, Plainfield, N.J. 07061 - the supply is limited. Also for those who purchased books at Conference and would like a copy of the bibliography these will be sent upon request - please send a postpaid self-addressed envelope. □

The Church in Action

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

NEW BOOK OF POEMS PUBLISHED

Expressions of Faith, a collection of the poems of Margaret (Mrs. Wardner E.) FitzRandolph has recently been published. Mrs. FitzRandolph writes: "For many years I have written poetry as a pastime with no thought of sharing it with friends. Now I feel I have been given a commission to publish it so that others may share with me the expressions of faith given to me by God."

The eighty-five page book contains over 125 of Mrs. FitzRandolph's favorite poems. The book is available for \$2.95. For your copy write to: Margaret FitzRandolph, 1401 Orleans St., Texarkana, AR 75501.



Margaret FitzRandolph

News Notes

● "Fair Time Is Harvest Time" was reprinted from the *Sabbath Recorder* and published in *The Sower*, publication of The World Home Bible League. The article, written by Mrs. Jessie Pitts, tells the story of the successful S.D.B. Fair Booth at the Ventura, California, County Fair.

● Pastor Leroy Bass and Walter Loofboro of the New Auburn, Wis., church recently attended the *Decision* magazine School of Christian Writing in Minneapolis.

● Day Camp was held the week of July 12-16 at the Milton, Wis., church with forty-one children in attendance. Eleven of these children came from non-SDB homes. Assisting in the camp were the SCSC workers, Robin Garton of Riverside, Calif., and Maurice Soper of North Loup, Nebr.

● The summer Vacation Bible School sponsored by the Washington, D.C., church had an enrollment of thirty-seven, with ten staff members.

● The British S.D.B. Conference recently sent a cassette player to Rev. Ralph Cann, S.D.B. leader in Ghana. It is reported that Pastor Cann recently celebrated his 73rd birthday and continues to conduct evangelistic meetings. By his membership in the Christian Council of Ghana Pastor Cann is able to broadcast from time to time over area radio stations. Through the years the British Conference has been very supportive of the work in Ghana.

● A new book has been issued by Judson Press that is of interest to all Baptists. *Baptists and the American Experience* is edited by James E. Wood, Jr., and is based on the presentations made at the National Bicentennial Convocation on this subject in Washington. The price is \$16.50 and may be ordered from Judson Book Stores, Valley Forge, PA 19481.

MARLBORO, N.J.—The Easter Sunrise Service was held at Jersey Oaks Camp with a good attendance. The Salem, W.Va., youth group was served dinner. They presented a musical in the Shiloh church "Light Shine," in connection with the Beatitudes. Several from our church attended the Eastern Association in Plainfield.

Seven of the congregation took the training course for "Here's Life," Cumberland County. The Senior Citizens Dinner was held at the church; visitors were made to feel welcome. Carnations were presented to all who were seventy-five and over by Mrs. Mary H. Green.

Sabbath Renewal Day on May 15 was observed. We were glad to have Pastor Russ and Jenny Johnson and son from Alfred, N.Y., as our guests on that day. A fellowship dinner followed the service. Pastor Don Richards has been on Station WSNJ for the Bicentennial program on Sunday.

On June 12 a fellowship dinner was served after church honoring the graduates from college: Mary Jane McPherson (in December) and Sharon Cobb; from high school: Holly Hiles and Betsy De Richards; from eighth grade: Lynn Dee Davis and Diane Cruzan. Donna Harris was presented with a gift in recognition of her splendid work as choir director. A poem written by Mrs. Letha Miller sanctioned Donna's accomplishments. Our loving wishes are with Betsy De Richards as she goes into S.C.S.C. training in Texas.

Children's Day was observed with much enjoyment under the direction of Barbara Froding and Edna Ruth Richards. Letha Miller and Lynn Dee Davis were the pianists. It was a service of dedication of parents and children. Later a picnic was held for the children at Jersey Oaks Camp.

A farewell was held on the church lawn for Harold and Dorothy Davis who are leaving for Florida. They will be greatly missed. Our blessings go with them.

The C.E. picnic was held at Centerton Park. Barbecue chicken dinners were enjoyed at the Jersey Oaks on Camp Fellowship Day.

We miss the Myron McPhersons who have joined the North Jersey S.D.B. Church and Mayanna Van Meter Young who will join the Trinity Baptist Church, Cartersville, Ga. May they be blessed in their new surroundings and find true fellowship.

—Mrs. Ella T. Davis

CHURCH SHELTERED BY NEW ROOF

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Washington church has approved a new roof for the church center. The old tile roof is to be removed, the roof boards repaired, new tar paper applied and the new tiles installed.

Upon the recommendations of the diaconate, it was voted to establish a church training program for our membership using the manual "Seventh Day Baptist Beliefs" to prepare for sharing with others our beliefs. This program is scheduled to begin in late fall or early winter.

The Washington church has also voted to establish a suburban ministry in Northern Prince George's County and the Martinsville, W.V., area.

Pastor and Mrs. Leland Davis will assume the pastorate the first of November. The church is eagerly awaiting their arrival. □

—Washington Scene

TENTMAKERS

SCHENECTADY, N.Y.—A little over a year ago, July 1975, the members of the Schenectady Seventh Day Baptist Church sat down with Rev. Lawton of the Missionary Society, to discuss various possibilities of pastoral leadership for the church. Even with financial assistance it appeared difficult for our small church to support a full-time pastor and all the other expenses of the church. One possibility discussed was to find someone who would be fully or partially self-supporting and willing to take on this responsibility. One question was, "How do you locate such a person?" We talked about various ways of making our desires known. It was suggested that information be put into the *Crier* at Conference. We decided to give it a try and after prayerful consideration wrote of our decision. At Conference in California the information was published in the *Crier*. The church name was not mentioned and interested parties were to contact Rev. Lawton.

On September 17, 1975 we received a letter stating that while there had been no response at Conference, one young couple had seen the ad in the *Crier* at their home church. Dave Taylor and his family had been giving some thought to further serving the Lord.

As Dave puts it: "Until two years ago, I thought I was happy. I was active in the Richburg SDB Church; a member of the choir, a Sabbath School teacher; but not a Spirit-filled Christian. I had a home, a good job, and was well liked by most people in the community; but was not a Spirit-filled Christian. I had accepted Christ as my Savior but I still wanted to have control over my life; where I was going, what I was doing, etc. And I fought God every day to retain that control.

"Then I realized that I wasn't as happy as I thought I was. As I became more involved with teaching Sabbath School, I found that the Bible was telling me that without God at the control of a person's life, that life is useless and leads to doom. And I realized that I was headed that way for sure. I knew that God wanted control of my life, but I had to give it to Him. So, one night, I knelt and asked God to take complete control of me.

"Throughout the next few months I spent much time in prayer and Bible study. I learned much and became convinced that God had plans for me that would mean a big change in my life, and the lives of Margaret and the children. Little did I realize what a change it would be.

"I grew spiritually with God's help but I also grew because of Margaret's love for God and me. And I praise God for the love of Pastor Harmon Dickinson and the people in Richburg.

"After General Conference last year, we received copies of the *Conference Crier*. Upon opening them up, the first thing that I saw was the appeal for lay pastors and dedicated workers. It was as though God was telling me this was the change He wanted for me. After much prayer, I knew that God wanted me to take this step.

"I then wrote to Rev. Leon Lawton and told him of my decision. Two weeks later, he replied saying that Schenectady would like to meet with me and my family. We agreed and on October 4 we met and fell in love with Schenectady and its people. We were issued the call."

On January 1, 1976 Dave and his family came to Schenectady on faith. He gave up his job, sold his home and moved to Schenectady. Dave

had no income when he arrived. We agreed to provide a house and utilities and he agreed to seek employment. Dave testifies:

"We came knowing God wanted us here. God provided me with a good job, one that was God-made for my situation. God does move men to greater service. If we would only let Him work without restraint in us, miracles will happen. PRAISE THE LORD."

On July 3, 1976, as an expression of faith in David Taylor, the Schenectady Church licensed him.

We do want to thank Rev. Lawton for his concern and efforts on our behalf.

We thank Dave and family for their act of faith and dedicated service to our church and to our Lord.

Most of all we thank God for answered prayer.

With not enough pastors to go around and the lack of finances in small churches, it appears that dedicated lay pastors may be the answer for many. Perhaps, others will yield to God's Call and make themselves available to serve. □

—Gordon Kilts, Deacon

ACCESSIONS

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

By Baptism:
Gary Lewis

By Letter:
Marguerite C. (Mrs. Norman) Matteson

By Testimony: (Associate Member)
Norman Matteson

DODGE CENTER, MINN.
Wayne Babcock, Pastor

By Baptism:
Maria (Mrs. Robert) Bonser
Tami Kloppstein

SALEM, W. VA.
J. Paul Green, Pastor

By Baptism:
Theodore Hurst

BOOK REVIEW

Data ranging from reports of ancient pilgrims to photos by NASA satellites presents impression evidence that the Biblical Ark of Noah rests on the treacherous slopes of Mt. Ararat in eastern Turkey.

These scientific findings form the basis of a new book entitled, *In Search of Noah's Ark*. The \$1.95 book is being released by Sun Classic Books, Los Angeles, in conjunction with a major motion picture of the same title, by Sun Classic Pictures.

The 260-page work, containing 32 pages of startling photos, is authored by Ark historian Dave Balsiger and Charles E. Sellier, Jr., writer and producer of family motion pictures.

"We believe the book is the most comprehensive account ever written on the subject of Noah's Ark," says Balsiger. "The book's 14 chapters contain the latest Ark information, scientific test results, exploration accounts, and various photos of the Ark resting on Mt. Ararat."

Sellier, at 31, has produced more than twenty family pictures including such highly successful films as "The Life and Times of Grizzly Adams," "The Adventures of Frontier Fremont," "Birth of a Legend" and "The Mysterious Monster." He was the producer and co-screenplay writer of the motion picture "In Search of Noah's Ark."

The picture will be test marketed during the summer, with major release of the film planned for around Thanksgiving.

The book is available at local bookstores or directly from Sun's religious bookstore distributor, Praise Distributors, 13102 Halldale, Gardena, CA 90249. □

MARRIAGES

EBERSOLE-KOLLER.—Wayne L. Ebersole, son of Mr. and Mrs. Duane Ebersole of New Enterprise, Pa., and Pamela J. Koller, daughter of Edward Koller of Altoona and the late Mrs. Wilma Koller, were united in marriage Saturday, June 12, 1976 at St. James Lutheran Church, Altoona, Pa. The Rev. Edward Harshbarger, pastor of the church officiated at the double-ring ceremony.

LOOFBORO-YOUNG.—LeRoy Douglas Loofboro of Milton, Wis., and Denice Dawn Young of Janesville, Wis., were united in marriage at the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church on July 17, 1976 with Brigadier Augustus Rush, grandfather of the bride, officiating, assisted by Pastor Earl Cruzan. They are making their home in Milton.

THORNGATE-MIN.—Dr. George Thorngate and Miss Sam Kih Min were married on Sabbath morning, June 5, 1976, at the Pebble Beach, California, home of his son, Stephen. Dr. Wayne Rood performed the ceremony.

Mrs. Thorngate teaches Korean at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey. They are residing in Monterey.

BIRTHS

CALL.—A daughter, Lisa Ann, to Steven and Cathy (Applegate) Call of Milton, Wis., on July 18, 1976.

CHRONIGER.—A daughter, Heather Lynn, to Kenneth and Barbara Chroniger of Kansas City, Mo., on July 6, 1976.

CRUZAN.—Benjamin Ferguson, son of Daniel and Diane (Ferguson) Cruzan, of Bridgeton, N.J., on March 30, 1976, at Bridgeton Hospital.

SAUNDERS.—A son, Jerome Davis, to Dan and Jessie (Curry) Saunders of Lost Creek, W.V., on August 1, 1976.

WILLHOIT.—Darcy Ann, daughter to Don and Carol A. (Hastings) Willhoit of Wheat Ridge, Colorado, on July 26, 1976.

OBITUARIES

COOK.—Arabella Husted, of Bridgeton, N.J., daughter of the late William D. and Mary Margaret Cook Husted, was born in Stow Creek Township, Cumberland County, Feb. 26, 1902. She was released from this life in Rainbow Convalescent Home, Vineland, on Aug. 10, 1976.

On Oct. 15, 1919 she married Edward B. Cook, who preceded her in death on Sept. 22, 1962, as did two sons, Allen B. in 1942 and John Alfred in 1935. She joined the Marlboro Seventh Day Baptist Church in 1931.

Surviving are: a daughter, Mrs. Paul (Mary) Lewis, Bridgeton; a son, Edward B., Jr., Elmer; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; two sisters, Mrs. Ethel Dunn, Salem, and Mrs. Harry (Betty) Gatanis, Bridgeton.

Funeral services were held at Garrison-Sray Funeral Home, Bridgeton, on Aug. 12, by her pastor, Rev. Donald E. Richards. Interment was in the family plot in Marlboro Cemetery. —D.E.R.

DAVIS.—David S., son of the late Henry L. and Mary Ida Shimp Davis, was born Mar. 21, 1894, in Marlboro, N.J., and died in the Bridgeton Hospital, Bridgeton, N.J., Apr. 18, 1976.

He was wed to Florence Cordrey on Feb. 10, 1917. She preceded him in death Mar. 20, 1961. He was a member of the Marlboro Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Surviving are: three sons, Harold L., Sr., of Shiloh, Donald L., of Vineland, and Glendon of Elizabethtown, Ky.; three

daughters, Mrs. Harmon (Dorothy) Van Meter of Mannington, Mrs. Joseph (Mildred) Poole of Woodruff, and Mrs. George (Nellie) Chann of Bridgeton; nineteen grandchildren and eighteen great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Apr. 21, at the Garrison-Sray Funeral Home, Bridgeton. Interment was in the Shiloh Seventh Day Baptist Cemetery. —D.E.R.

MOLAND.—June B., daughter of Allie A. Burdick and Evalena Clarke Burdick, was born in Alfred, March 1, 1890, and died in the Wellsville, N.Y., Hospital on July 24, 1976. She married Harold Moland who preceded her in death.

She was a member of the Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church, a 64-year member of the Order of the Eastern Star, a member of the Alfred Historical Society, and the Forcythe-Willson Club.

She is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Roger (Evelyn) Thomas of Alfred, where Mrs. Moland had been living since February; two sisters, two grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held on July 31, in the Alfred Church. The Reverends Russell Johnson, Rex Zwiebel, and Albert Rogers participated in the service. —M.G.C.

RASMUSSEN.—Dorothy Burdick, was born August 28, 1903 at Albion, Wis., and died at Monroe, Wis., on July 14, 1976. She was the daughter of the late Harvey L. and Beulah Burdick. She lived most of her life in Milton. She was married to Leroy B. Rasmussen on Nov. 10, 1928. He died in 1966. She is survived by two sons, Leroy R. of Monroe, Wis. and George E. of Bellevue, Nebr.; six grandchildren; and three brothers, Dr. H. Lawrence Burdick of Milton, Ralph Burdick of Edgerton, Wis. and George Burdick of Berlin, N.Y.

Funeral services were held from the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church by her pastor assisted by her nephew, Kenneth B. Burdick. Burial was in Milton Cemetery. —E.C.

SEVERANCE.—Leonard O., (69) of Cloverdale, Mich., was born in Gentry, Ark., in 1907 and died in the Borgess Hospital, Kalamazoo, Mich., July 12, 1976, where he had been a patient for three months.

He came to Battle Creek in 1928. He retired in 1970 as a machinist at Post Division, General Foods Corp., where he had been employed for thirty-six years. He was a member of the Post 25 Year Club and of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Garwin, Iowa.

His wife Donna Northrop died in 1974. Surviving are his widow, the former Betty (Bush) Schwartz; a daughter, Mrs. James (Marjorie) Jacob of Pomona Beach Park, Fla.; a stepdaughter, Miss Barbara Fancker of Battle Creek; stepsons, Peter Schwartz of Battle Creek and John Schwartz of San Bernardino, Calif.; sisters, Mrs. R.S. (Mildred) Howard of Milton, Wis., and Mrs. Carl (Elda) Handtke of Edgerton, Wis., and five grandchildren.

Services were held at the Farley Funeral Home, July 15, with the Rev. S. Kenneth Davis of the Battle Creek Seventh Day Baptist Church officiating. Interment in Flosal Lawn Memorial Gardens. —S.K.D.

BIBLE SCHOOL HELD

DODGE CENTER, MINN.—Activities have been many and varied since our last report. Semiannual Meetings were planned for the first weekend of May so Gary Cox, Conference president, could be with us while in this area. Attendance was good from the New Auburn, Wisconsin, church also which always makes our fellowship more complete. Noon meals were provided at the church and the Sabbath night fellowship hour featured homemade ice cream furnished by the Christian Fellowship Group. President Cox brought the Sabbath morning message and helped Bob Austin answer questions about the proposed restructuring of the denomination during the afternoon session. Loyal Pederson led the Sunday morning devotions and Clare Greene presided over the business meeting which followed.

Word was received that same Sabbath of the death of Phyllis (Payne) Larson following a canoeing accident. Although saddened by this news we rejoice that she has gone to be with her Lord, knowing that her loved ones and friends have been blessed by her life of service to Him.

Pastor Babcock was in Milton two weeks in June for camps. He counseled at Senior Camp and directed Intermediate Camp. Maria Bonser was craft director and counsellor at Intermediate Camp. Tami Kloppstein attended Intermediate Camp and Barry Babcock the Senior Camp. After camp Tami requested baptism and both she and Maria later joined our church. During the pastor's absence at camp Milo Zincke and Phillip Greene brought the messages with Claston Bond and Ted Neher as worship leaders.

Sheila Crane is president of the Ladies' Benevolent Society again this year with Shirley Stoeckel, vice-president; Charlotte Lindahl, treasurer; Ida Babcock, secretary. We're beginning to use the Bible study book, *A Gracious Woman*, in August.

Many of our membership were involved in the Bicentennial Celebration in Dodge Center including the Planning Committee, having a float in the parade, setting up a historical display in our church, and the Sunday morning Union Worship Service. Some also participated individually in the program and other areas.

The Christian Education Committee sponsored Bible school in mid July

reached about fifteen to twenty children who do not regularly attend Sabbath School. Loretta Neher did a beautiful job of organizing and directing. Other staff members were: Music - Linda K. Greene, Pianist - Vivian Kloppstein, Worship - Nancy Babcock, Recreation - Bette Bond, Linda G. Greene, Maria Bonser, Pastor Babcock and Diann Greene taught with Tami and Kris Kloppstein and Michele Stoeckel able helpers wherever needed. Lorna Zincke took care of infants for mothers who taught and many others helped with clean up, refreshments and prayer support. The closing program Friday night gave everyone a chance to share their experiences.

The summer quarter's Meal of Sharing offerings will be given to Valerie Crane who served at Seattle, Washington, following SCSC training sessions this year. She has been keeping us posted on the work there.

At a special business meeting called for July 18 we considered at length the proposals about restructure and General Conference Bylaws changes. We also voted to instruct our Conference delegates to vote in favor of withdrawal from the World Council of Churches.

Those in charge of the Commitment to Growth Program have selected Bob and Lorna Austin who attended the first training session led by Dr. John Wimber in Milton in preparation for being sent out as trainers later in the program.

A belated farewell for the Duane Pedersons and Dennis Lippincotts was held at the June Meal of Sharing. Duane and Lois moved to New Auburn, Wisconsin, and Dennis and Leann to Swea City, Iowa. Though we miss these families we wish them Godspeed and hope they come back often.

We were blessed by a visit from the Light Bearers for Christ the weekend of July 10 when they gave a concert in our church and also the First Baptist Church at West Concord. We especially enjoyed getting acquainted with Dan Richards again.

Among those who have visited in Dodge Center this summer are: Larry and Jani Graffius, Roy and Dorothea Shettel, Joel and Tim Osborn, Kirk Clapper and family, the Dork Lippincotts, Bob Babcocks, Bette Bond, the Warren Swensons, David Paynes, Richard and Martha Buehle, Herb and Alton Bennett, Derwin Bird. Although this is not a complete listing, you can see that few weeks go by without our of state visitors. □

—Ardith Greene

FAIR BOOTH SPONSORED

RICHBURG, N.Y.—The year 1976 has brought pleasant experiences and some changes among the Richburg church people. In March Earl and Genevieve Saunders Stohr celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary with a reception in the church social rooms. This was given by their son C. Robert Stohr and other close relatives.

Reports from David, Margaret, Dana, Dina, and Duane Taylor who are working with the good people in Schenectady are encouraging. Their fellowship is truly missed in Richburg, however, we feel grateful that they are advancing God's work in that field.

Several young people participated in the summer camping program at Camp Harley Sutton, either as counselors or as campers. Also, three youth—Sue Bucher, Rachel Drake and Lynne Stout—attended Pre-Con Camp at Camp Vick.

Rachel Drake attended Camp Riverview near North Loup, Nebraska. She was the exchange camper from the Allegheny Association to the Mid-Continent Association.

Since the young people of the church are few in number, they are now joining with the young people of the Little Genesee church. Gregory Bucher was graduated from Alfred Tech College in June and has a position with Corning Glass Company, Corning, New York. Sue Bucher was graduated from Bolivar Central School, Bolivar, New York, this year and is attending Delhi Tech College, Delhi, New York.

Rev. C. Harmon Dickinson had charge of the Association booth at the Allegheny County Fair in Angelica, New York. Mrs. Mary Clare of Alfred was in charge of the Pixie Park booth for the children.

The Allegheny Association will meet October 15 and 16 at the Richburg Church for the Semiannual Meetings. We are looking forward to hearing Rev. and Mrs. David Pearson, who will present highlights of their work in Africa.

We pray for God's blessing upon our church as we continue our outreach in the service of our Master.

—Thelma Stearns □



October 26, 1774: Massachusetts' militia purges Tory officers and the Minutemen are organized.

TENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BRITISH Seventh Day Baptists

This Conference was held in the Congregational Church Hall, Algernon Road, Lewisham, London, during the weekend beginning Friday, July 30, 1976. Pastor McGeachy came down from Hull by rail that morning, and was kindly entertained by Brother and Sister Allen at their home near Deptford.

On Friday afternoon a meeting of the Executive Committee was held and Brother Owen Lynch from Birmingham explained the booklet he had printed, giving the agenda, and programme of meetings, the Constitution, and other information.

The evening service was opened by Brother Henry Wright of Herne Hill. Brother Marshall played his melodian. Brother Willard Smith welcomed all to the Conference, and pointed to the theme of the Conference which had been beautifully hand printed by Brother Barrett, and appeared above the platform, "The Kingdom Come."

This is our hope as Christians, and Jesus has promised that it is our Father's good pleasure to give us the Kingdom. He alone can lead us into it. We have to seek the old paths, and uproot the weeds which grow in our lives and grow as trees planted by rivers of water, and so be ready to enter the Kingdom. The King of kings invites us to the banquet.

On Sabbath morning the Sabbath School was opened by Sister Slack. Brother Slack taught the adults and Sister Kelly took the children. The lesson was, "Security in God's Love."

This was followed by the morning service, with young Brother Marshall leading out. Prayer was offered by Pastor Parr. The sermon was preached by Rev. J. McGeachy. His subject was the Conference theme, "The Kingdom Come." The service was closed with the singing of "Ye servants of God your Master proclaim," and prayer by Pastor Peat.

The Young People's service was held in the afternoon with an interesting programme of recitations, songs, and choruses. Brother Cover spoke about the Kingdom of God coming soon. The parables of the

Kingdom in Matt. 13 were read. Brother Barrett spoke in the evening on the enemy's work within the spiritual kingdom, and announced a series of meetings to be held the following week, for which we were urged to pray.

The business session was held on Sunday morning. After opening by Pastor Peat, Brother Willard Smith read greetings from the U.S. General Conference, to which Sister Lynch, now in Jamaica for a holiday, had replied.

The minutes of the last Conference session of 1975 were read and accepted. Reports were read from the groups at Holloway, Herne Hill, and Birmingham. The German brethren had sent us £300 towards our building fund. Various sums had been sent by the Mill Yard Church to other fields abroad, such as Jamaica, India, and to lepers in the Philippines.

Reports were given by the Finance and Nominating Committees. Most of the officers were reelected, and the budget for 1977 was presented and discussed, also the invitation to send a delegate to the World Federation in 1978, and how much we could contribute to the cost.

Meanwhile Pastor McGeachy with Brother and Sister Cover made a visit to Sister Anderson's home. She was in bed with an injured leg. This aged sister has been the means of gathering the Lewisham group together. We appreciate her zeal for our cause.

After the concert the reelected officers stood on the platform, and were admonished to faithfulness in their duties by Pastor Parr, who preached in the evening after Pastor Peat explained a prophetic chart he had brought from Israel. Pastor Parr pointed to the signs of the times declaring the Kingdom of Heaven to be at hand, and how it will be set up at the Second Coming of Christ. We must put on the Wedding Garment to be accepted when the King comes in, and so shine as the stars forever. □

The Conference of Seventh Day Baptist churches in The Netherlands met in Haarlem August 27-29; the theme was "Not by Bread Alone" based on Matthew 4:4.

DUTCH CONFERENCE

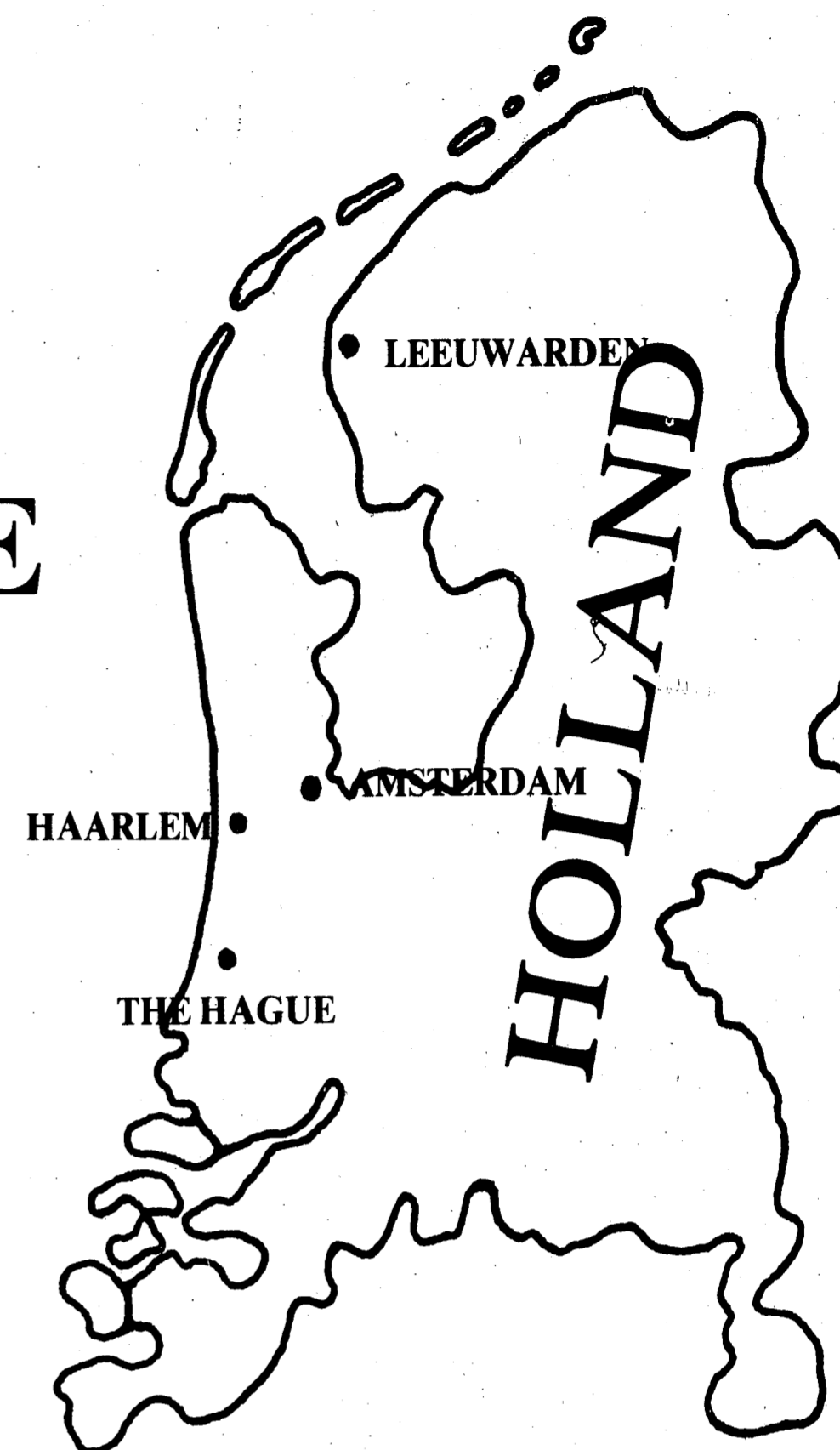
AMSTERDAM, HOLLAND— This time I not only bring you the greetings from Holland but from Germany, too. The Lord is at work and even though our numbers are small the churches are very much alive. In Amsterdam we had a very good movie about the underground church in the Soviet Union and our eyes were opened for the tremendous needs in the Communist world for Bibles and fellowship. So many years we just didn't know what was happening behind the Iron Curtain but now with more and more news coming through we may assist the Christians there through financial aid and the mailing of post cards to those in prison for their faith.

Personally, I'm still involved with Friends of Turkey, a group of people working among the Turkish migrant workers in Holland and Germany and a Postal Evangelism to Turkey. The Lord has been working in a wonderful way and beside a good number of tracts 500 New Testaments went out last year and the first months of this year. With so many Turkish people in Holland we found it a MUST to reach them with the Good News of Jesus Christ before they go back. Your prayers for this faith ministry will be appreciated very much.

May 21 I had the privilege to travel to Hilden, Germany, and visit the Sizmann family. They are members of the Harlem Church but live in Germany. It was a real joy and I greatly enjoyed the warm fellowship. Although there wasn't a church service on Sabbath, the Lord's Day got a very special meaning as we walked through the forest and saw God's loving hand in nature. On Sunday Irene Sizmann, a very dedicated kindergarten teacher in a school for children whose parents don't give

them the love and care which they need, had to walk 10 kilometers—about 6 miles—with "her children" and I walked with them. Language problems or not, I soon had a nice little German girl on my hand who kept me company all the way. The event was part of a sportweek and at the finish we received a very nice silver medal and pea soup.

With churches which are small and people living far away from each other I believe it's important to open up the communication channels more than ever and keep in touch. The weekend of May 27 took me again to Germany and this time I was invited as guest speaker at a Conference for Turkish Mission work in Germany. After a ten-hour journey I arrived in the beautiful village of Seeheim-near Darmstadt—where we stayed at the Bible School. It was a thrill to see several Turkish believers and hear their testimony. God can use a simple tract to speak to us and my ministry received a great push forward when I saw the results of what God can do through it. The meetings were in



English with translations in Turkish. Books and cassette tapes were purchased to be used in Holland. New contacts were made and old ones renewed and it was a blessing to worship and learn together. Sunday on my way home it was impossible to travel past Dusseldorf without making a stop in Hilden again.

This time, too, was a highlight of my vacation and the Lord gave us wonderful days together. When I had to leave for Amsterdam my heart was very sad with the thought that it will probably take some time before I can visit them again. My vacation which was spent close to home this year will long be remembered. While I was at the Conference in Seeheim the Dutch churches had a study weekend at the Harskamperdennen.

News about this weekend was not received yet so I can't pass it on to you. I hope to inform you more regularly with the news from Europe than in the past and will close with warm greetings from this side of the Atlantic Ocean. □

—John Farenhorst

October 1976						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

DENOMINATIONAL DATELINE

September 26-28
Planning Committee
Plainfield, N.J.

October 8-10
North Central Association
Battle Creek, Mich.

October 10
Memorial Fund Trustees

October 17
Tract Society - Shiloh, N.J.
Christian Education - Alfred, N.Y.

October 16
American Bible Society Sabbath

October 24
Missionary Society - Westerly, R.I.

produce just as much energy as a gallon of gasoline used in a car. But what difference in results. The electrical energy in those summer thunderheads building up over the Rockies is enormous but the little bit of electricity running our refrigerator accomplishes far more. And you can take all of that kinetic energy pouring over Niagara Falls; it doesn't do any good unless it is harnessed and put to work. I firmly believe that spiritual power must be organized and channeled into purposeful activities, if God's work is to prosper.

We may look at the ministry of Christ and His activities may appear very casual, but all of that work was in support of the known goal of His life. And you will remember that when He sent out seventy of His followers, He organized them. He divided them up two by two. He sent them into specific areas and gave them specific tasks to do. And throughout the history recorded in Scripture, when God has led His people it has always been in an organized efficient way, moving effectively toward an established goal.

Children sometimes ask a question: they say, "What does God do all day?" And I must confess that I really don't know what God does all day. I have no idea what God does all day. But I know what Christ did all day, all day and much of the night. He was busy doing His Father's work. Helping those in need, lifting burdens of every kind. Searching for the lost and saving them. And I know what He wants His followers to be doing. The same thing He did, with the same dedication, with the same energy, and it will produce the same results.

Has the Spirit of the Lord touched your life? If the Spirit of God has touched you, and I know He has, then He has anointed you to preach good tidings, not as a preacher necessarily, but as a witness. He has anointed you to release the captives, to bring sight to the blind, to free those who are bruised and to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord. This speaks of *liberty* and of *comfort* and of *beauty* and of *joy*. When does it begin? "This very day while you are listening." "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in Heaven." □

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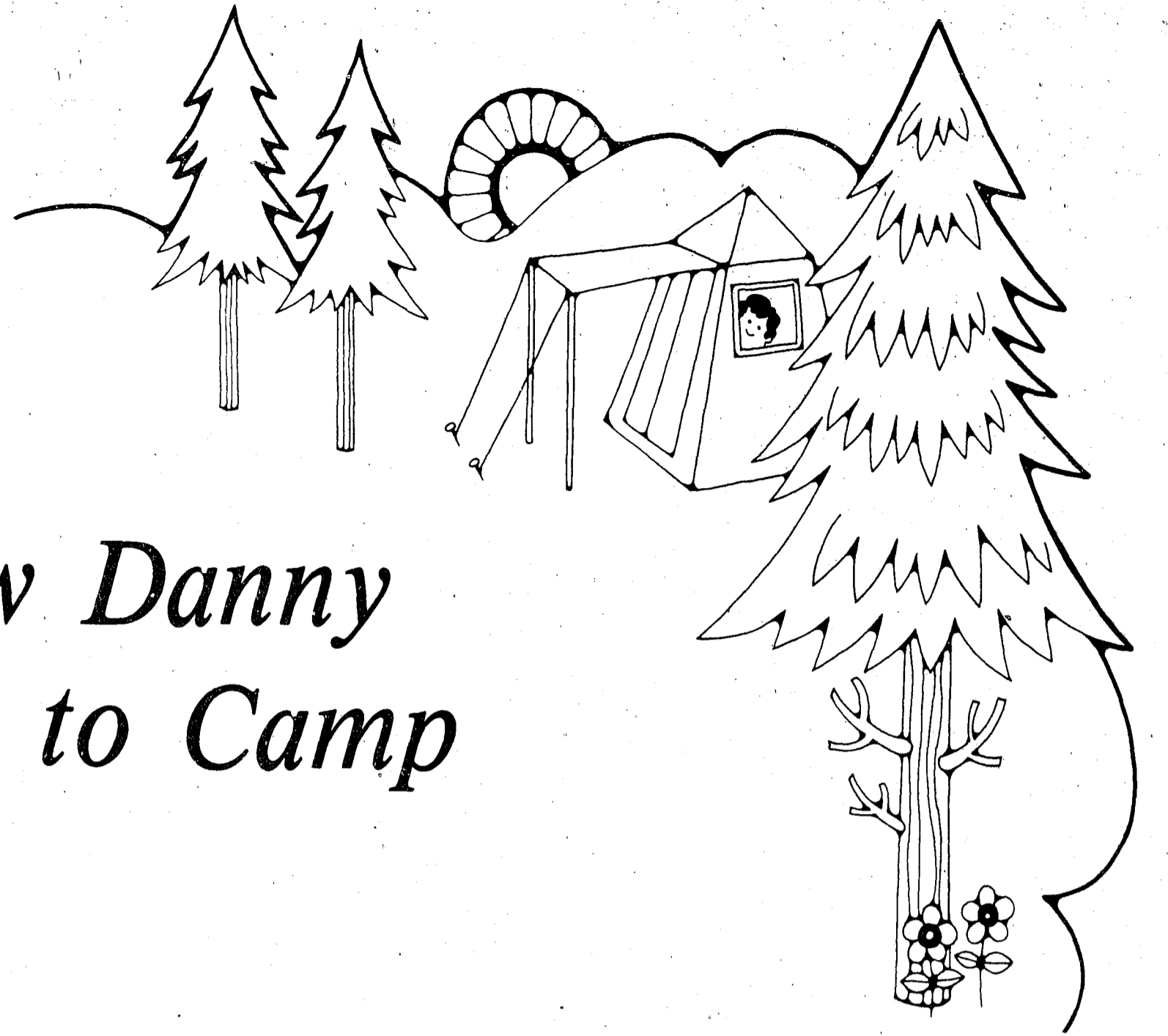
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C hildren's
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Danny worked hard feeding and watering the hens and gathering the eggs. On Friday he carefully washed the eggs and put them in a basket ready to take to market.

On the last week before the camp-out Danny was very happy. "Look, Mother," He said, "I have almost enough money to be able to go camping. The eggs we sell today will give me all I need. Thank you for sharing your egg money with me."

When the family reached town Mother handed the basket to Danny saying, "You take them to the grocery store and get the money while your Father and I do the other errands."

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He was so unhappy he scarcely heard the women who passed by saying, "Too bad," and "I am sorry for him, I hope he has more eggs at home."

Then a man stopped and said, "I am sorry fifty cents worth." Another said, "I am sorry twenty-five cents worth." Soon there was enough money in the basket to pay for all the broken eggs. The grocer came out and helped clean up the sidewalk. Someone else helped Danny stand up and brush himself off.

"Thank you," said Danny, "Thank you for being kind and helping me."

That night Danny told his Father and Mother all about the accident and the kind people who were good neighbors.

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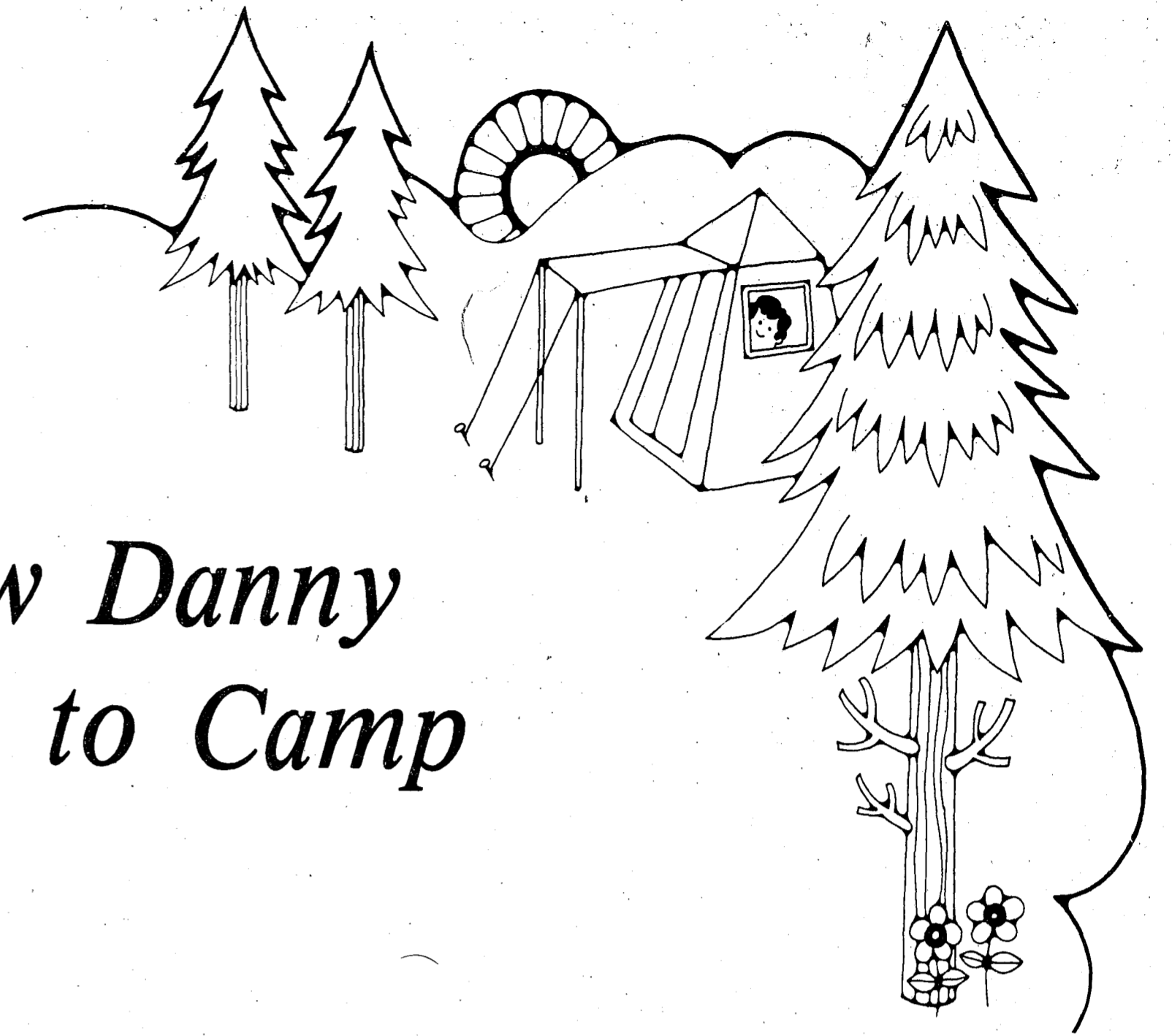
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—Mary Clare

WE CAN DO IT!

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

THERE IS STILL TIME!
 We can complete the underwriting of our denominational ministries in ten months - and have two extra months this year for support of special programs of expansion and outreach!

OWM BUDGET RECEIPTS FOR JULY 1976

	Suggested Goal	July OWM	7 mos. total OWM and Reported Boards		Suggested Goal	July OWM	7 mos. total OWM and Reported Boards
Adams Center NY.....	\$ 1,300	\$ 200.00	\$ 855.37	Schenectady NY.....	200	117.00	288.92
Albion WI.....	1,200		388.29	Seattle, WA.....	2,500		1,459.04
Alfred NY.....	9,000		4,031.15	Shiloh NJ.....	13,000		5,292.92
Alfred Station NY.....	4,700		2,168.91	Stonefort IL.....	500	30.00	220.00
Ashaway RI.....	6,000	291.42	3,599.79	Texarkana AR.....	300		110.00
Associations & Groups ..	13,000	361.73	4,982.45	Verona NY.....	3,000		1,249.08
Battle Creek MI.....	10,500	439.97	4,630.62	Walworth WI.....	2,200	150.00	820.00
Bay Area CA.....	600	100.00	265.00	Washington DC.....	4,200	796.00	2,400.00
Berea WV.....	700	75.00	287.00	Waterford CT.....	3,600	368.27	2,163.86
Berlin NY.....	3,200		1,519.29	Westerly RI.....	5,700	1,000.00	3,691.40
Boulder CO.....	4,000	323.25	1,687.46	White Cloud MI.....	1,700		661.63
Brookfield NY.....	600	90.00	272.00				
Dallas-Ft. Worth TX...			59.80	Totals.....	\$14,200.76		\$109,770.94
Daytona Beach FL.....	3,500	11.27	1,345.55	Non-Budget.....	281.05		
Denver CO.....	17,000	1,339.57	6,182.45	Total To Disburse....	\$14,481.81		
DeRuyter NY.....	2,000	226.00	1,061.60				
Dodge Center MN.....	6,000	1,012.14	3,516.77				
Farina IL.....	800		323.25				
Fouke AR.....	1,200	29.16	638.15				
Hebron PA.....	2,400	253.17	1,181.05				
Hopkinton RI.....	350		40.00				
Houston TX.....	700		494.13				
Individuals.....	3,000	486.42	1,028.02				
Irvington NJ.....	2,000	175.00	2,382.50				
Kansas City MO.....	1,500	70.00	585.72				
Leonardsville NY.....	300	40.00	87.00				
Little Genesee NY.....	3,000	278.10	1,564.65				
Little Rock AR.....	600	20.00	241.56				
Los Angeles CA.....	9,000	600.00	3,290.00				
Lost Creek WV.....	3,700		1,086.00				
Marlboro NJ.....	5,000	838.03	3,997.35				
Metairie LA.....	300						
Middle Island WV.....	700	110.00	420.00				
Milton WI.....	21,000	927.00	11,359.17				
Milton Junction WI....	1,300	150.00	540.00				
Monterey CA.....	600						
New Auburn WI.....	2,500	20.10	571.20				
New York City NY.....	1,000	51.00	413.40				
North Jersey NJ.....	2,000	100.00	1,351.94				
North Loup NE.....	5,200	868.00	3,433.76				
Nortonville KS.....	3,800		1,765.31				
Ohio Fellowship OH....	4,500	300.00	2,744.00				
Paint Rock AL.....	1,500	40.00	540.00				
Phoenix AZ.....			1,205.00				
Plainfield NJ.....	7,500	1,213.95	4,124.79				
Putnam Co FL.....	150						
Richburg NY.....	2,500	182.00	1,302.60				
Riverside CA.....	11,000	189.21	4,520.65				
Rockville RI.....	700	20.00	130.00				
Salem WV.....	5,700	308.00	2,830.39				
Salemville PA.....	1,500		369.00				

JULY DISBURSEMENTS

Board of Christian Education.....	\$ 1,262.75
Christian Social Action.....	74.59
Council on Ecumenical Affairs.....	200.09
Council on Ministry.....	699.05
General Conference.....	2,674.78
Historical Society.....	7.08
Ministerial Retirement.....	1,977.61
Missionary Society.....	5,450.32
Tract Society.....	1,769.85
Trustees of General Conference.....	7.08
Women's Society.....	358.61
Total Disbursements.....	\$14,481.81

SUMMARY

1976 Budget.....	\$205,749.00
Receipts for seven months:	
OWM Treasurer \$98,131.62	
Boards Reported 11,639.32	109,770.94
To be raised by December 31, 1976.....	\$ 95,978.06
Percentage of year elapsed.....	58.3 %
Percentage of budget raised.....	53.35%
Seven months:	
Due.....	\$120,020.25
Raised.....	109,770.94
Arrears.....	\$ 10,249.31

Gordon Sanford
 OWM Treasurer

The Sabbath Recorder

EDITORIALS

THE SABBATH - THE LORD'S DAY

Many denominations today attempt to justify their observance of Sunday as a day of worship by referring to it as "The Lord's Day." They often state that by worshipping on Sunday they are honoring and remembering the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the tomb, therefore, they feel there is a special significance about the first day of the week.

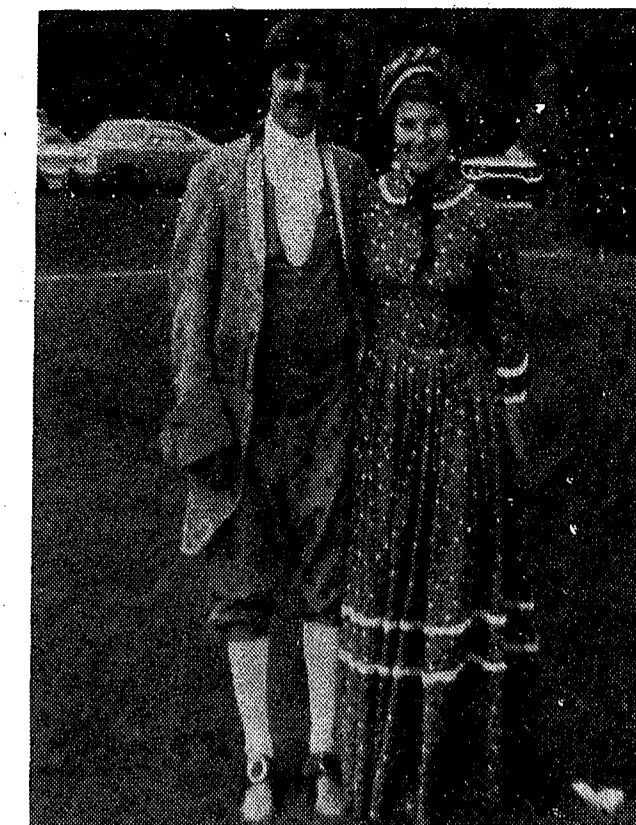
The use of the term "The Lord's Day" in relation to Sunday is of course incorrect. In a very real sense every day is the "Lord's Day." However, we believe that it is the seventh-day Sabbath that is the *only* special day of our Lord Jesus Christ: "The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath: Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath" (Mark 2: 27,28). If Jesus is "Lord of the Sabbath" then it follows that the Sabbath is indeed the Lord's special day.

In a recent issue of *Christian Herald* the question was asked as to which day is the correct day for worship. The reply was: "There is no command recorded, and probably none was given, to change, but the change (from the seventh day, that is, Saturday, to the first day, Sunday) was made in celebration of Christ's rising from the dead." The author is certainly correct in stating that no command to change is recorded. However, he goes on to suggest that the Sabbath is not a specific day of rest, but is rather a principle.

There is a larger meaning to the Sabbath for those of us who seek to observe it. The Sabbath is not merely one day in seven, just a time to rest from our work and worship with friends in church. The Sabbath is a point of living contact between God, the Creator, and His people; His creation. The Sabbath is God revealed in time. And since the Sabbath question is primarily a Biblical one; the Bible makes it extremely clear that the seventh-day is the Sabbath. Christ is the distinct and only "Son of God," according to the Bible. He is not an indefinite man among six other men, any one of whom is as good as he. In the same way, according to the Bible, the Sabbath is not an indefinite day, or a principle of rest, scattered somewhere, anywhere, in the week.

The Jews welcome the Sabbath as a bride, with the lighting of the Sabbath candles at the setting of the sun on Friday. So Christians ought to welcome it with the light of obedient love shining out from their hearts and lives. It is indeed the "Queen of Days" - the day for communion with our God and our Savior Jesus Christ, "The Lord's Day."

Pastor Francis Johnson of the Auckland, New Zealand, Seventh Day Baptist Church, sent the editor an interesting article by an Anglican church leader of that country. His views on the Sabbath are indeed refreshing coming from a Sunday observer.



Editor and Mrs. Bevis in Bicentennial dress at Conference.

Commenting on the Sabbath in his book, *Christianity for the Twentieth Century*, Mr. Burgess says:

"...The practice of commemorating the resurrection of Jesus with the celebration of Holy Communion on the first day of the week, Sunday; and thereby, in effect, subsequently causing the movement of the day of rest from Saturday to Sunday is unfortunate because we are now faced with two conflicting observances of the Lord's Sabbath.

"As a layman it is more natural to me, as I expect it is to others, to feel that Monday is the first day of the week and Sunday the traditional seventh day of rest, but this is not evidently correct...But to be strictly correct I would think that Saturday is the proper day of rest and thus most appropriate for ceremonial worship. The establishment of the Sabbath was of God but the appointment of the day for the celebration of Holy Communion, after the Last Supper, was apparently of man.

"The most natural time for the celebration of Holy Communion (which, in the Bible, is not directly related to the resurrection) is on the morning of the Lord's day of rest. The Sabbath is usually kept as a quiet day and I think that it is more in keeping with, and more commemorative of the time of death which Our Lord experienced than with the day following in which life and activity is renewed. In consideration of this I would say that the Jewish Sabbath, Saturday, was from the beginning the natural day for Christians to keep holy and to celebrate Holy Communion."

Those who are interested in further study on this subject may find two of our tracts very helpful: "The First Day of the Week in the New Testament" and "The Seventh Day of the Bible is the Seventh Day of the Calendar." These may be ordered by writing to the editor.

Jesus kept the seventh-day Sabbath - it was His holy day. Because He kept it we understand God better. Those who observe the Bible Sabbath today will be drawn closer to God, and will find a special fellowship as they join with others in worship and praise on the true "Lord's Day." □

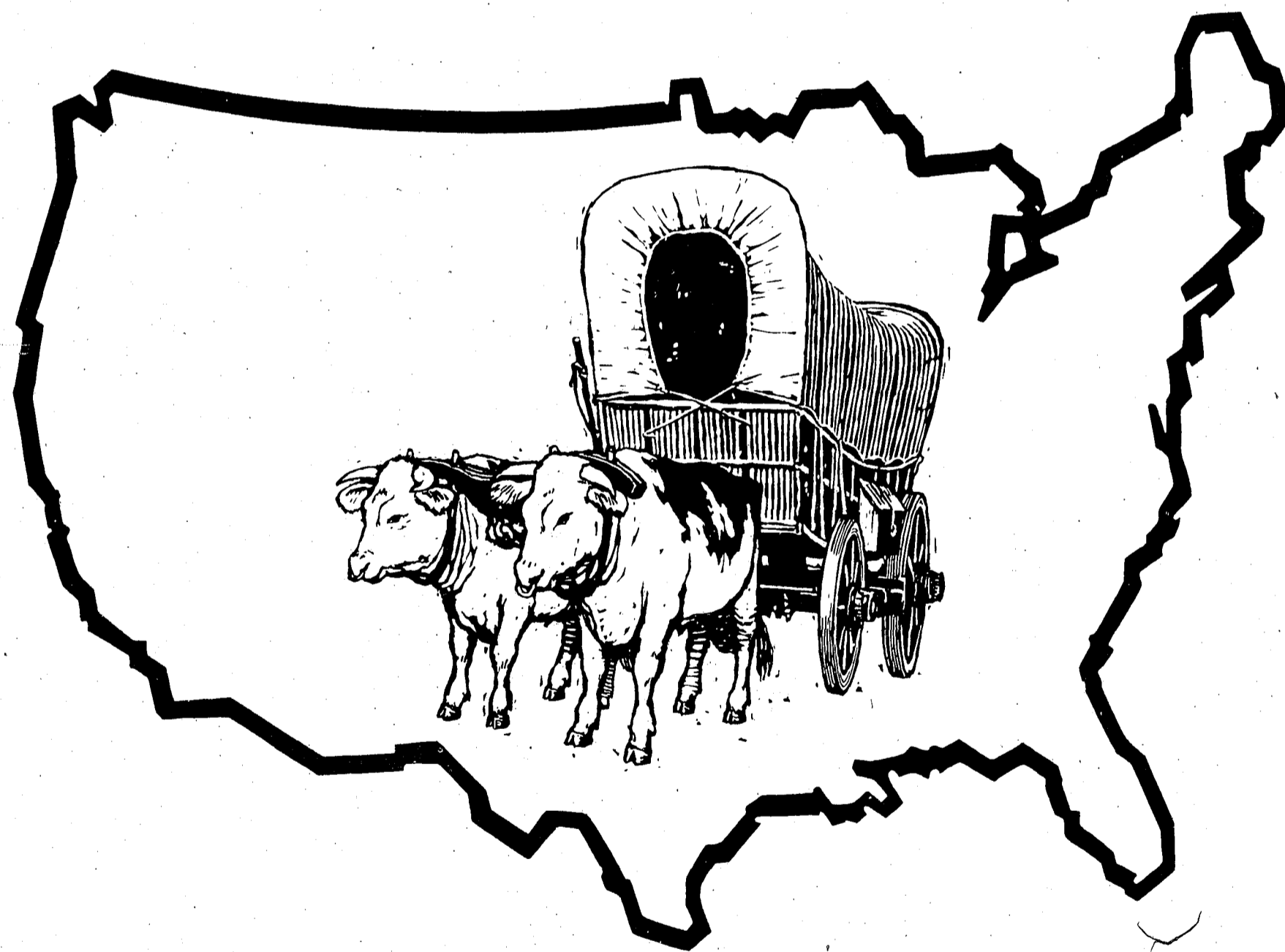
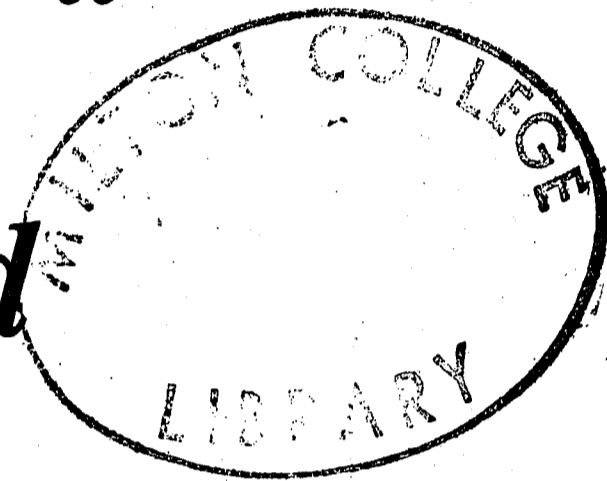
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