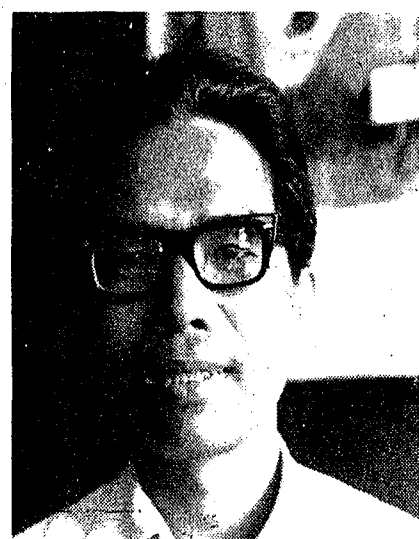


## A Week of Prayer January 7-13, 1979

The meditations for 1979 have been prepared by the Rev. L. Sawi Thanga, general secretary of the Burma Seventh Day Baptist Conference with offices in Rangoon.



The Week of Prayer is sponsored by the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation. To obtain your copy of the devotional booklet write to: The American Sabbath Tract Society, P.O. Box 868, Plainfield, NJ 07061. □

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### JANUARY 13 DESIGNATED "WORLD FEDERATION DAY"

Sabbath, January 13, 1979, has been designated as the first "World Federation Day," according to a recent announcement from Seventh Day Baptist World Federation executive committee.

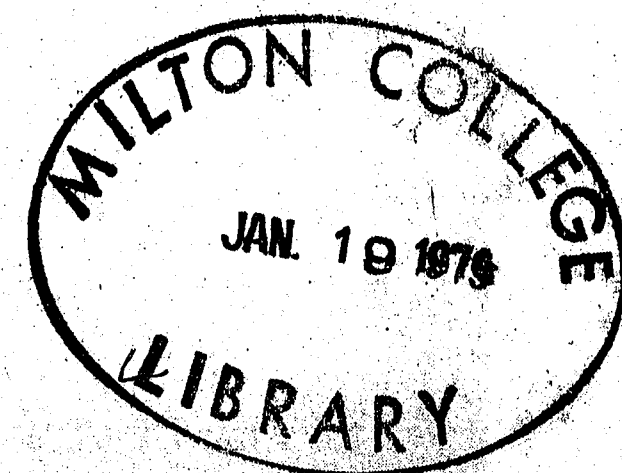
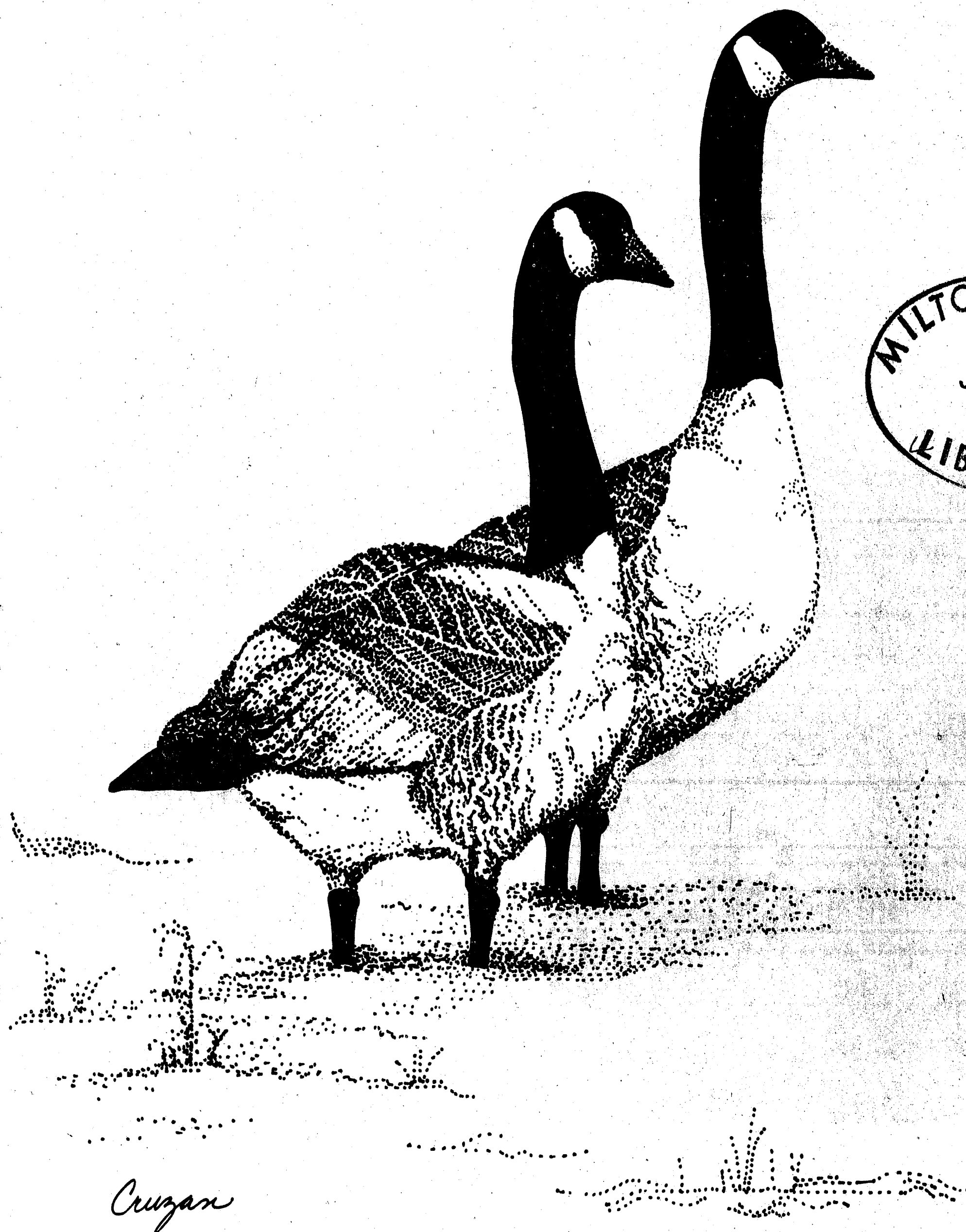
By so-designating the last day of the federation's annual "Week of Prayer," officials of the world body expressed hope that it would become a significant event in the year for Seventh Day Baptists, focusing their attention on the "Week of Prayer," and on the worldwide fellowship and mission of Seventh Day Baptists.

National conventions and their leaders, and local churches and their pastors and lay leaders, are urged to plan appropriate activities of recognition for that day, including special presentations about Seventh Day Baptists around the world. Specific suggestions and materials will be distributed by the executive committee.

Finally, but significantly, churches and conventions around the world are requested to designate a special offering January 13 in support of World Federation-funded projects. Projects voted by the world body in its recent meeting in the United States included a special evangelistic thrust in Brazil, a special program to establish contact among scattered Seventh Day Baptist churches and individuals in Europe, and church and camp construction projects in Burma, Great Britain, Malawi, South Africa, and Guyana. Some of these projects have already received funds from the World Federation treasury, but others, including the Brazilian and European efforts, await gifts to the federation.

Seventh Day Baptists around the world are urged to consider the World Federation and contribute to its ministry on its day, January 13. □

THE SABBATH OUR 135TH YEAR  
**RECORDER** 1844  
SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST 1979  
JANUARY 1979



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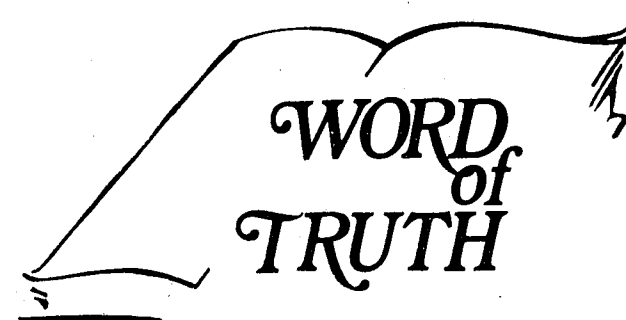
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### JOHN D. BEVIS, EDITOR

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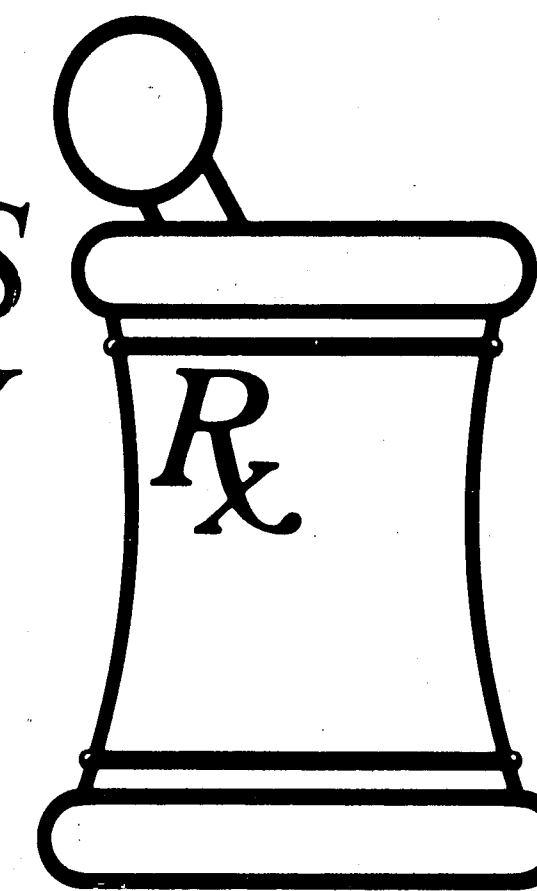
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The Sabbath Recorder



# TIRED?

## TRY THIS REMEDY



You come to the end of the week's work worn out, thoroughly exhausted, ready to drop!

Your body is bone-weary, full of the effects of fatigue. The thought of expending energy is, to say the least, distasteful. In fact, you seem to have used up all your energy so there is none left to expend. Any physical exertion at all seems too much. You're all played out, "dog-tired!"

Your mind is tired too. It's sluggish and you can't think clearly. It's hard to make decisions, and as for reasoning something out, it just seems impossible. Any mental application appears like too much effort. You're tired—"all done out!"

But there's a remedy! God knew that a week of work would bring about these results, and made provision for recuperation from tiredness. He set aside a day for the effects of fatigue to wear off—a day on which to lay aside the everyday duties and tasks—a day for rest.

Rest! How inviting that sounds! How blessed at the end of the week to lay down the burden of the daily round of work, to shut up shop; to put aside all the toil and stress and worry of making a living—to relax and gain one's strength.

Perhaps you feel that you can't afford to do that. You have so many financial demands, so many expenses, so many payments to make that you can't think of taking a day off every week. That's taking a short view of the matter. It has been proved over a period of time a person working six days per week and resting one will actually accomplish more than the person working every day. Besides, the one working seven days per week is sapping his energy, breaking down his body, and actually shortening his life. The "divine rhythm of a healthy life" is six days work and one day rest.

So, if you are tired, try this remedy! Take your Sabbath rest as God intended and as He commands. After your six days' work, lay off

on the seventh. It will pay off in the long run. "The Sabbath was made for man," said Jesus. That is, it was made for his physical, mental, moral, and spiritual welfare.

The soul gets tired too—tired of carrying the burden of sin. That is the portion of everyone, for "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Accompanying the load of sin is a burden of guilt. "The soul that sinneth it shall die." There is a remedy for this tiredness, too—a relief from this soul-weariness. Jesus says, "Come unto me all ye taht labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Yes, there is a rest for tired souls. So, if you are tired of the load of your sin, "Cast your burden on the Lord"—unload all your soul-weariness on Him and rest in His redeeming love.

Tired? If you are, try the God-provided remedy!

By Rev. Lester G. Osborn

January 1979

3

"Religion in Review" is a year-end feature of EP News Service furnished without charge both to subscribers and to EPA members.

## RELIGION IN REVIEW

Walter L. Director  
EP News Service

### DENOMINATIONS

They met and talked and issued. The Southern Baptists grew. The Lutherans disagreed. Ditto the Presbyterians. The Methodists may have wished they'd never heard of retirement homes.

In a major statement on papal infallibility, the official Lutheran-Roman Catholic dialogue team declared, "The ultimate trust of Christians is in Christ and the gospel, not in a doctrine of infallibility, whether of Scripture, the church, or the pope."

At the Lutheran sandlot, the teams kept taking their ball and going home. The controversial Book of Worship was published (800,000 copies) for the LCA, ALC and the ELCW, but the Missouri Synod said "No thanks." The Synod reported a loss of 111 parishes and 87,000 members. The Evangelical Lutheran Synod said, "No," to merger talks.

The United Methodist Church was embroiled in a class action suit over bankruptcy and kickbacks involving the Pacific Homes retirement center. The two major Presbyterian bodies talked merger while churches kept skipping back and forth. Child abuse and battered women were focal points. Human rights was the hottest issue, fueled by comments from UN Ambassador Andrew Young on "political prisoners" in the United States.

The Salvation Army marked its Centenary and led the way in ordination of women. A body of denominations tried to reopen a steel mill in Youngstown, Ohio, to relieve an unemployment crisis. Daddy Herbert W. gave the boot to son

Garner Ted Armstrong, so Garner Ted started the Church of God International. "Battle of the Bible" proponents conferred on inerrancy and affirmed every jot and tittle. The General Association of Regular Baptists reminded us again to watch out for the Communists.

### EVANGELISM

Billy Graham held crusades in Las Vegas, Kansas City, Scandinavian countries, and Poland. He corrected *McCall's* magazine for "misquoting" him on special evangelistic groups and on who is and is not lost. The Graham organization reported a \$3 million deficit and was fingered by the grumpy Charlotte *Observer* with allegations of irregularity in a land purchase for a layman's Bible training center.

Ruth Carter Stapleton called a *Newsweek* cover article on her a "devastating" reading experience. Her planned appearance at an international Hebrew-Christian conference drew flak. She cancelled.

Israel passed a law with an eye on roving evangelists. The Gerald L. K. Smith Crusade closed after 30 ultra-conservative years. Only 31 people showed up for Billy James Hargis' comeback. And a missions scholar urged the banning of the word "crusade" because it stirs "triumphalistic images of violence and war."

### MISSIONS

A storm was triggered by the World Council of Churches' \$85,000 grant to the Patriotic Front in Rhodesia. Ambassador Young backed

it; the WCC defended it, although admitting the timing was "clumsy"; and the Salvation Army and bits and pieces of evangelical groups withdrew, at least temporarily, from the WCC.

Missionaries were killed in Rhodesia and elsewhere in battle-weary Africa. Evangelicals came under pressure in Portugal, but a proposed Spanish constitution carried new guarantees of religious freedom. A bill concerning religious conversions in India was termed "unconstitutional and anti-Christian." Anticipated Baptist admonitions not to appoint an envoy to the Vatican fell on deaf ears at the White House.

In Russia, seven Pentecostals took refuge in the U.S. Embassy and refused to leave until allowed to emigrate. The Russians enraged the world and made a mockery of human rights' statements by sentencing several Jewish "dissidents" and "activists" to prison and exile. Peter Vins, son of Russian Baptist leader Georgi Vins, was sentenced to a year in prison.

The worldwide refugee problem was of initial concern, particularly in Africa and on the high seas. World Vision led efforts to help thousands of "boat people" fleeing Vietnam and Cambodia.

### EDUCATION

Kentucky and North Carolina were educational battlegrounds. Kentucky education officials got a tiger by the tail in the Kentucky Association of Christian Schools. The courts barred the state from regulating beyond minimum fire, safety and attendance requirements. An injunction was imposed against displaying the Ten Commandments in Kentucky classrooms. A Kentucky law requiring Bible reading in public classrooms was "probably unconstitutional."

Teachers were fired for witnessing in class. New Jersey endorsed silent meditation in schools. Biola College celebrated its 70th. Rev. Jesse Jackson PUSHed for higher educational opportunities for blacks. The Dallas school board was accused of delving into religious preferences in questioning superintendent candidates. The "reverse discrimination" case found Allan Bakke in medical school and "affirmative action" proponents stunned. And Nancy Drew and the Hardy Boys books were banned in Newton, Mass., because they were "not well written."

### LIFESTYLES

Homosexuals continued to duck the oranges of wrath, but the battle lines shifted. Gay teachers were hired and fired. Gay ministers were ordained. The Evangelical Free Church ruled homosexuality "an abomination." A United Presbyterian Church task force favored gay ordination, but the UPC general assembly, somewhat divided, voted to oppose ordination.

California's Proposition 6, requiring the firing of teachers who are avowed homosexuals, found church groups on contesting sides. Local anti-gay rights were voted down in Dade County, Fla., Wichita, Ks., St. Paul, Minn., and Eugene, Ore., but were approved in Seattle, Wash., when backing from the Church Council of Greater Seattle beat down the efforts of evangelicals and fundamentalists.

The Nazis wanted attention and the right to march in Skokie, Ill. They got the former, not the latter. The Church of the Brethren turned in its handguns. Hare Krishna devotees gave up shaved heads for a mod appearance but still lived in plane, bus and train emporiums. Anheuser-Busch Brewery dropped its plans to market "baby beer."

The New Call to Peacemaking, a federation of Friends, Brethren and Mennonites, held its first national meeting, renounced war and called for a simpler lifestyle. Over \$23 million was spent on anti-smoking campaigns; the industry countered with an estimated \$80 million to keep us puffing. Madalyn Murray O'Hair lost an \$80,000 slander suit she attributed to a jury of "malice-filled Christians."

Polls showed: 12 percent in the U.S. live in poverty; more British teen-agers believe in UFO's than in God; 55 percent in the U.S. believe in abortion "only in certain circumstances"; 58 percent in the U.S. endorse ERA; alcohol overindulgence increased by 5 percent; 90 percent of U.S. women believe in God and 67 percent pray daily; and single parent households increased, as did fatherless families.

Church forces combined to help vote down casino gambling, jai alai betting and parimutual horse racing in Florida, New Jersey, and Virginia. Liquor by the drink passed in dry Kansas and was an issue in North Carolina where a Baptist minister backed it, then recanted. Courts ruled in Massachusetts, Minnesota

and Florida that life-support systems could be unplugged. "Christian Yellow Pages" popped up in the Carolinas and Tennessee and quickly folded. The Theology of the Americas Conference urged Americans to explore alternatives to capitalism. And in Henryetta, Okla., fundamentalists defended the town ban against live snakes and public dancing.

### NEWSMAKERS AND EVENTS

The year 1978 was the year of three Popes. Pope Paul's VI's death was followed by the death of Pope John Paul I after his less than forty days in the Vatican. The third Pope was the first ever from Poland.

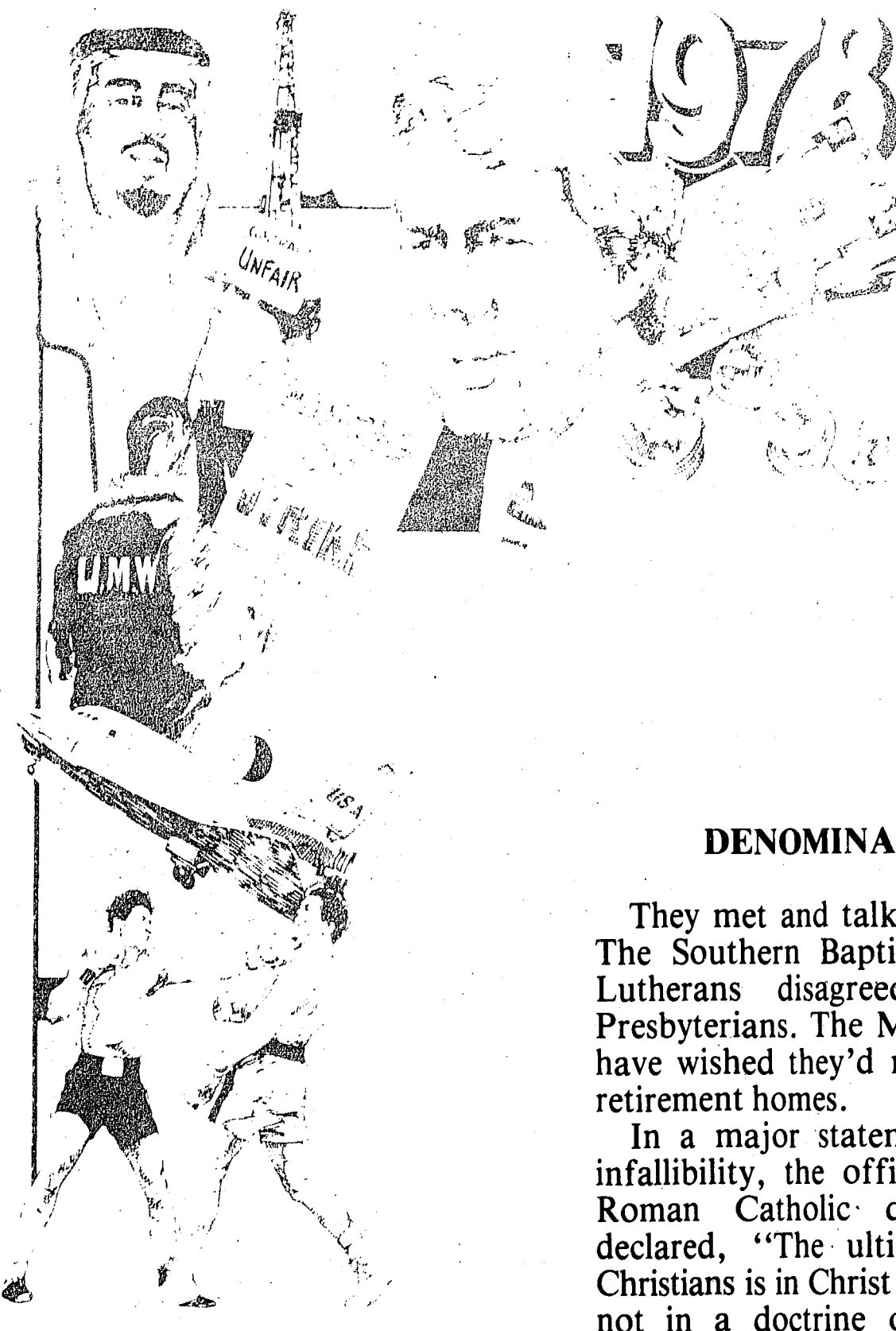
A test tube baby was born to a British couple, promising theological debates for years to come. Thirty U.S. scientists studied the mysterious Shroud of Turin. Is it the actual burial sheet of Jesus? Tune in about 1980 for test results. Sir Thomas More's skull was found in "good condition" after 400 years. Monks say they discovered the skull of John the Baptist while renovating a monastery sixty miles outside Cairo.

McDonald's assured us it hasn't given contributions to the Church of Satan or put worms into its hamburgers. Dr. Robert Schuller's church raised \$1.25 million in one day for it Crystal Cathedral. The Singing Nun was singing the blues: she's broke in Belgium. Underground Evangelism and Jesus to the Communist World engaged in a messy court trial. The National Council of Churches fired high executive Lucius Walker, Jr., over financial problems.

### and finally...

It was a year rich in "And Finally..." material. Our favorite was Forrest Toney, a Kansas City laborer. In a short-lived career in prophesy, he warned in a series of newspaper ads that the area would be destroyed by fire. As a sign he called for the destruction of the RLDS auditorium on September 12 by a mighty wind. September 12 was calm. The auditorium still stands. "It's just as well," Toney shrugged. "If it had happened, I'd have probably gotten the big head."

It was a year of very few big heads. Ultimately, it was another year of the Lord who, to paraphrase Psalm 65:11 "crowns each year with his goodness." □



What kind of year was it? As a noted broadcaster might resonate, "It was a year like all years, only...we were there."

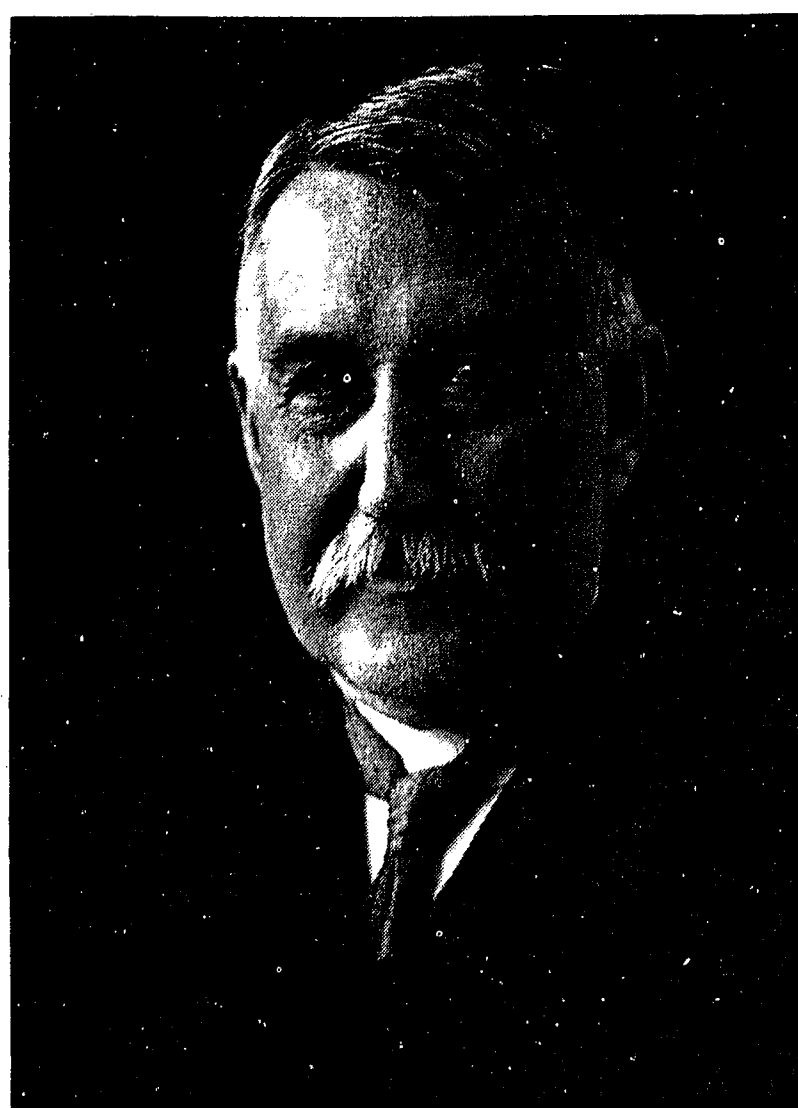
Or as Neil Diamond might sing, "I've been this way before...and I'll be this way again." It was packed with all The Preacher's seasons. Popes died. A test tube baby was born. Denominational fragments squabbled and held hands. Closet doors stayed open, leading to pitched battles. The WCC gave; the NCC fired. The squeaky wheel of a pug-nacious church got greased in educational and political arenas.

It was a year of good. More books and Bibles were distributed, more radio and TV broadcasts made, more crusades and missions held, more people touched by the gospel than ever before.

It was also a year of the crazies. During Mickey Mouse's fiftieth birthday, the religious community, from Rev. Jim Jones to novices, played more than its share of Looney Tunes. And so it goes. Here's an overview of the trends and the newsmakers:

**A STORY WORTH REPEATING....**

**REV. LOUIS RICHARD CONRADI**



1856-1939

compiled by John D. Bevis  
continued from Dec.

- Pastor
- Evangelist
- Missionary
- Writer

Last month we shared with you a portion of a tribute written about the late Rev. L. R. Conradi, German Seventh Day Baptist leader in the thirties. The article appeared in the March 4, 1940 edition of the Sabbath Recorder and was penned by Dr. Corliss Fitz Randolph, founder of the S.D.B. Historical Society and then president of the American Sabbath Tract Society.

In this final section of the original article Randolph shows that Conradi was a man of many accomplishments in several areas of Christian ministry. This story of Conradi's life and work we feel will benefit every new generation of Seventh Day Baptists as we gain fresh inspiration and encouragement from a study of this dedicated life.

As the years passed, Rev. Conradi's attention became more and more fixed on "The Sure Word of Divine Prophecy." He wrote large commentaries, each, on the books of Daniel and Revelation, in German. Fourteen editions of these appeared, an upwards of 200,000 copies of each were circulated, thus giving them a larger

circulation than that of any other commentary on prophecy published in German. Translations were called for, in Swedish, Spanish, Danish, and Finnish. Later, he wrote a book in English, entitled, *The Mystery Unfolded*, which was printed in London, and then published in about a dozen other languages.

But he was not yet satisfied, and entered upon an exhaustive study of all the old commentaries in the leading languages on the books of Daniel and Revelation. Weeks were spent in the major continental European libraries, and six months in the British Museum. Many a day he spent in copying his authorities from nine o'clock in the morning till six o'clock in the afternoon, without interruption of any kind. The ultimate result of all this study was published in English, in London, in January, 1935, under the title, *The Impelling Force of Prophetic Truth*.

Feeling that due recognition had not been given O. R. L. Crozier, one of the early leaders of the Seventh-day Adventists, he addressed himself to the task of placing the activities and influence of Crozier in their proper setting. The first

result of his research was published in German, at Hamburg. Some years later, an edition in English, materially revised and enlarged, was published by the American Sabbath Tract Society, at Plainfield, N.J. It came from the press at just about the time of his death, and a package containing fifty copies was mailed to him, as he had requested, before the news of his decease had reached this country. The work is entitled, *The Founders of the Seventh Day Adventist Denomination*.

Although at the time of his conversion he identified himself with the Seventh-day Adventists, as early as the year 1888 he found himself differing radically from the teachings of Mrs. James White, their acknowledged prophetess and leader, as to certain doctrinal beliefs. Indeed, it is by no means certain that he ever fully accepted certain of Mrs. White's claims. At all events, his one mission in life was to preach the "everlasting Gospel," rather than millenarianism. That he was a sincere and ardent believer in millenarianism, there is no reason to doubt; but it does not appear that he ever held the extreme views which characterized Mrs. White and other leading Seventh-day Adventists. It also

appears to be fairly clear that converts to Adventism under his leadership had a training somewhat different from that of those accepting those doctrines under other leaderships. He totally rejected Mrs. White.

With Conradi, these differences grew in proportion until, early in 1932, he returned to this country to arrange for a formal separation from the Seventh-day Adventist Denomination. Naturally, its leaders were much grieved; but offered him the usual retirement allowance granted their superannuated leaders, if he would remain silent and refrain from any activity by way of propagation of his new views. But he declined the offer. He was committed to preach the "everlasting Gospel" so long as the Lord should give him mental and physical vigor. Besides, he felt duty bound to make public his reasons for this new step, and to give aid and comfort to the many hundreds of Seventh-day Adventists who had come to hold views similar to his own.

Through the intervention of Elder Evans, Conradi was ultimately awarded a full year's salary, after finally severing his ties with the Seventh-day Adventists, upon formally renouncing his claim to "sustentation" (retirement allowance). Thanking him "for the outcome of a happy understanding," Elder Evans wrote him, as follows:

*"Not without sincere regret and sorrow we took this action recording your departure from the fundamental teachings of our faith. You have been a diligent worker and have accomplished much for the cause."*

Following this, Conradi adds this categorical statement,

*"My departure from the fundamental teachings of Seventh-day Adventist faith was only based upon my disbelief of Mrs. White's visions."*

**BECOMES A SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST**

Not wishing to be without a church anchor of recognized standing, a Sabbath-keeping church, he turned to the Seventh Day Baptists, making a diligent and searching inquiry as to their doctrinal beliefs and, very particularly, their church polity. As a result of informal conferences held with the corresponding secretaries of the Missionary and Tract Societies and the president of the

Seventh Day Baptist General Conference on the very eve of his departure for home after his final conference with the Seventh-day Adventist leaders in Washington, D.C., in November 10-11, 1931, a small group of interested friends made it possible for him to attend the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference at Adams Center, N.Y., in the following August; and he accepted the invitation of the president of the General Conference so to do. Here, after an extended conference with a committee specially appointed for the purpose, and on its advice, he applied for membership in the Adam Center church. That church at once called a council, consisting of a large number of leading delegates to the General Conference, to pass upon his credentials, including an examination as to his Christian experience, his doctrinal views, and his fitness for recognition as an accredited minister of the gospel by the General Conference.

This council, presided over by Dr. Boothe C. Davis, president of Alfred University, held an extended session in the Adams Center church, in the course of which the candidate made a very full statement as to the several questions concerning which the council was called, and made full and satisfactory replies to various points raised by members of the council. At the conclusion, the council, without a dissenting voice, passed a favorable vote on all the questions involved. Thus he became a member in full and regular standing in the Adams Center church; and was given full recognition, also, as a duly accredited Seventh Day Baptist minister, by the General Conference.

**RETURNS TO LABOR IN GERMANY**

Happy in his new church relationship, and after a visit of some weeks among friends and relatives in this country, he returned to his home in Hamburg, Germany, to give solace and comfort to many friends there, who, like himself, had found themselves out of harmony with their former church relationships. At once he began organizing them into Seventh Day Baptist churches; until, according to their annual report to the General Conference in 1939, there were twenty-seven (27) churches in number, with a total membership

of 533. Our church at Irvington, N.J., with a membership of thirty-eight (38), is of this class, though not included in the twenty-seven churches named above.

All this was accomplished without any proselyting. He went only where he was invited to go, and accepted for church membership only those who asked for the privilege; and at all times he scrupulously refrained from entering a Seventh-day Adventist church.

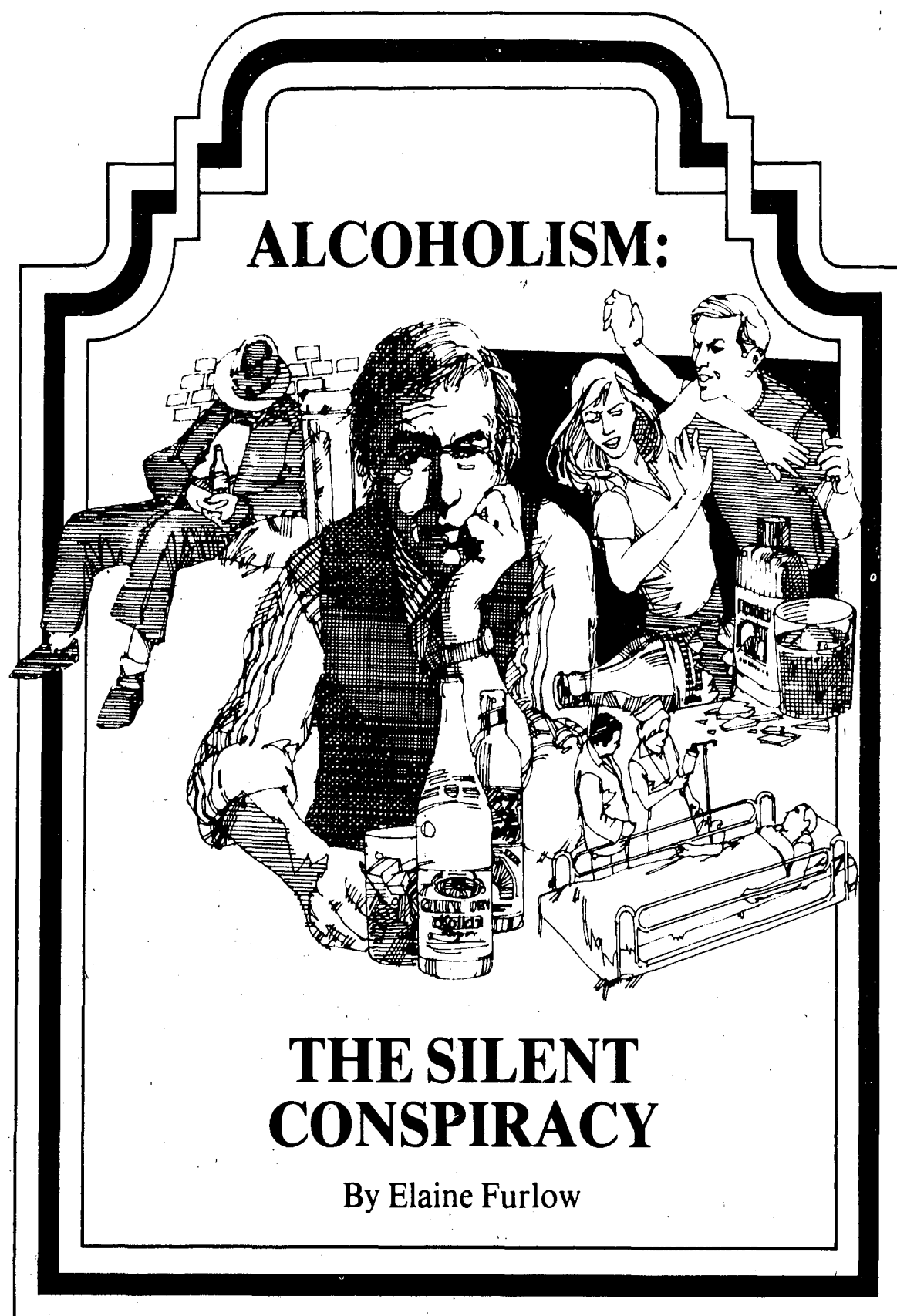
**PUBLICATION WORK BEGUN**

A great believer in the use of the printed page, early in this new work, he established a small monthly magazine, entitled "*Wahrheit - Licht - Leben*" (Truth-Light-Life). Besides gospel messages and other relevant matter, this magazine contained the Sabbath School lessons, month by month, prepared by Doctor Conradi, for its German readers.

In traveling he was not always mindful of his physical welfare as more thoughtful prudence would have dictated. Was he going on an ocean voyage? Ample funds were provided for him to travel in full comfort as a second class passenger on one of the largest of the ocean-going steamers; but he would choose the Spartan third class, lacking in the ordinary comforts of a sea voyage, with a minimum of appointments of convenience. Thus he saved the difference in cost "for the good of the cause." A similar habit characterized his land travel, and for the same purpose. A laudable purpose, certainly. But this was the one type of thing in which his otherwise good judgment appears to have been somewhat biased. He seems often to have failed to realize that his service for the Master, whom he so dearly loved and whom he served so faithfully and efficiently, could best be given through carefully conserving his physical well-being. On the other hand, many of his journeys, of necessity, subjected him to undue strain.

**RETURN TO AMERICA**

In the summer of 1934, he again visited this country and attended (continued on page 18)



They found Bud lying on a sofa in a pool of blood. The ambulance came and took him away. He died before midnight. He was 58. His bleeding resulted from cirrhosis of the liver. "It's common among alcoholics," the doctor said. "I didn't know Bud was an alcoholic," said a neighbor. "He was such a nice, gentle man." "Oh, you knew. We all knew," said the man's wife. "We just never did anything about it."

Alcoholism is the United States' number three health problem, behind cancer and heart disease. The National Council on Alcoholism (NCA) estimates at least 10 million Americans are alcoholics. For each alcoholic, NCA estimates four other persons are directly affected. Baptists are not immune to this national problem costing billions of dollars and creating thousands of disrupted, ruined lives.

A 1977 survey of teen-agers attending Ridgcrest Baptist Conference Center found 46.1 percent of the respondents knew a family member — mother, sibling, grandparent — with a drinking problem.

A similar survey of Woman's Missionary Union workers revealed 63.6 percent knew a family member with a drinking problem; 37.6 percent knew members of their churches with drinking problems.

Experts — Baptists and others — say it won't help to pretend there's no problem. Alcoholics often are surrounded by friends and family who do more harm than good in the "conspiracy of silence": the seven-year-old daughter doesn't mention it to her schoolmates; the wife picks up bounced checks and makes them good; the co-worker punches in for his buddy one more time.

"The number one problem in dealing with addiction is denial (of the problem's existence)," says Wade Hopkin, chief therapist at Ridgeview Institute, Smyrna, Ga. To break through, counselors use "tough love." Tough love attacks the disease, not the person.

"We used to think a guy had to hit bottom before he could be helped," says Hopkin. "But we know there are two areas a guy

will fight for — one is his job, the other is relations with his spouse. When people on the job and the family both say, 'We're not going to allow this anymore — you need help,' you can start there."

For tough love to work, it takes the combined effort of everyone around the alcoholic. Some pastors have a helpless, uneasy, even scornful feeling, based on faulty understanding of alcoholism. They can recite stories of telephone calls for help at all hours; alcoholics who used them once too often; frustrating counseling situations. Some confusion comes from an unclear definition of alcoholism, its causes and cures.

The alcoholic's physical and emotional makeup differs from that of people who do not develop the disease. Some workers in the alcoholism field compare the disease to diabetes, where hereditary factors make one person more susceptible. Yet predisposition is only a partial cause. Push-pull demands of one's environment, psychological empty spaces in a person's life — these, too, contribute.

A former pastor now running a rehabilitation camp for alcoholics in Florida argues, "The medical and government approach is that alcoholism is a disease, and that's true in that it's irreversible. But alcoholism is a lifestyle, a coming short of the glory of God. It's the opposite of walking in the spirit. Something is missing."

To recognize alcoholism as a disease does not relieve a person of responsibility for his or her condition. It does, however, enable alcoholics to regain their self-esteem, yet seek medical help.

Too, a Christian sensitive to alcoholics' medical needs will not fall into the trap of thinking love and understanding alone can work a cure. "That's how the alcoholic gets to the Christian. He says, 'If you love me, you will nurture me — me and my vomit, me and my dependency,'" says Ridgeview's Hopkin.

Hopkin urges people not to "buy into" that revolving door pattern, for caretaking only runs a dreary, hopeless cycle. Because an alcoholic can drain a minister's time and

energy, one counselor advocates bringing in agencies equipped to help, while continuing to counsel the alcoholic's family.

To effect a lasting cure, many alcoholics join with people who understand. Among the most successful groups is A.A. (Alcoholics Anonymous), with more than one million members. Many churches have opened their facilities to A. A. meetings. But the decision needs to be a total church commitment. One Baptist church in Memphis allowed A. A. to use its basement, then balked when church members learned about "all that cigarette smoke and all those butts" in the room. (Recovering alcoholics do seem to drink coffee and to smoke in inordinate amounts. But lately, no-smoking A. A. groups have sprung up.) Churches can also help through education. The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's Christian Social Ministries Department sponsors awareness conferences.

Awareness and education are especially needed for young people — the younger the better. The softer approach may be more effective than traditional hardline attitudes — "Thou shalt not" — toward alcohol consumption. Two studies indicate anti-alcohol religious groups produce more alcoholics among their drinking members than do other denominations.

While not as many Baptists as Catholics or Lutherans drink, from every 100 drinking Baptists come more alcoholics than from 100 drinkers of any group studied.

Many people believe Christians have "something special to offer" in relating to alcoholics — the message of hope for the human condition, the potential for rebirth. Christians, unfortunately, aren't always able to translate into action that message of hope.

"The biggest job we have," says Harold Wilcox of the Christian Social Ministries Department, "is changing the attitude of the minister and the congregation. When this attitude is changed from one of condemnation to one of love and care, the alcoholic can be helped." □

-Elaine Furlow is book editor for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.



Celebrate your oneness with the family of 33 million Baptists!

A free packet is available to guide churches in their observance of Baptist World Alliance Day, February 4, 1979. Materials include sermon ideas, daily Bible readings, discussion questions for study groups, and additional projects.

To order, write to: Baptist World Alliance, 1628 Sixteenth St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009.

### Points To Ponder



Rev. Charles Bond  
Shiloh, NJ

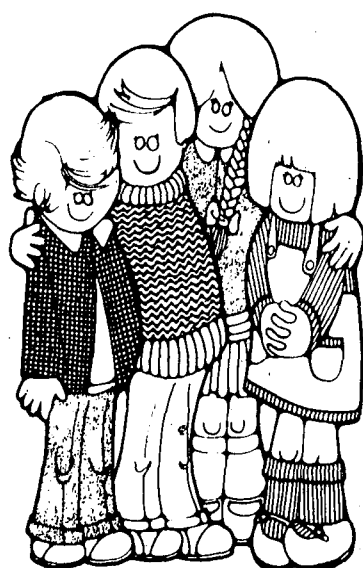
## LET HIM CARRY YOUR LOAD

The Scripture says, "CAST ALL YOUR ANXIETIES ON HIM, FOR HE CARES ABOUT YOU" (1 Peter 5:7)

I watched him as he came into the sanctuary of the church. You could tell by the way he walked and the expression on his face that he was loaded down with burdens. As the service began I could see him relax. He took the bundle of worries off his back, and put them under the seat. He began to smile and to sing the old hymns with vigor. The service ended and he started from the church a new man. He was almost to the door when he remembered his sack of burdens, and came back and threw them over his shoulder again.

How often we earnestly pray about our problems, and go our way—not rejoicing—but still hassling with the unresolved situation. How much better it is to believe as we pray, and then leave our burdens with the Lord.

Then we can be free—from distress—from worry—from habits of hate—from guilt. CAST YOUR ANXIETIES ON HIM, FOR HE CARES ABOUT YOU."



## From Our Youthful Readers...

When I consider the heavens at night,  
The black velvet sky sprinkled with diamond stars,  
Then I wonder, to myself,  
Who is man, that all this beauty  
Is created for his enjoyment?  
As the psalmist says—  
“When I consider thy heavens,  
The work of thy fingers,  
The moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;  
What is man, that thou art mindful of him?”  
And yet we,  
Little though we are  
In God’s great plan,  
Have been chosen to have dominion over all.  
Over all the beasts of the field,  
And all the birds of the air,  
And everything that moves in the depths of the sea.  
We have done nothing to deserve all this,  
We, the lost-created sinful beings.  
And yet God, of His infinite, encompassing love,  
Has made us “a little lower than the angels”  
And has crowned us with glory and honor.  
May His name be praised!

-Myrna Barber  
Berlin, NY

The world from my eyes is a beautiful thing,  
full of life, breath, love and kindness.  
But to some it is full of hatred, sorrow and pain.  
It is that way to them because they do not show  
the love and kindness others want.  
Others keep themselves boxed up and away from the world,  
because one person, maybe even two or three, were  
unkind to them.  
So, they in turn show hatred toward everyone.  
I try to be as kind as I possibly can.  
Therefore I have many friends to comfort me  
when I am hurt or sorrowed.  
Now don’t you think the world would be a better place  
if each of us could be kind to one another?  
Follow Jesus, my friend, and He will help you to be kind  
to others.



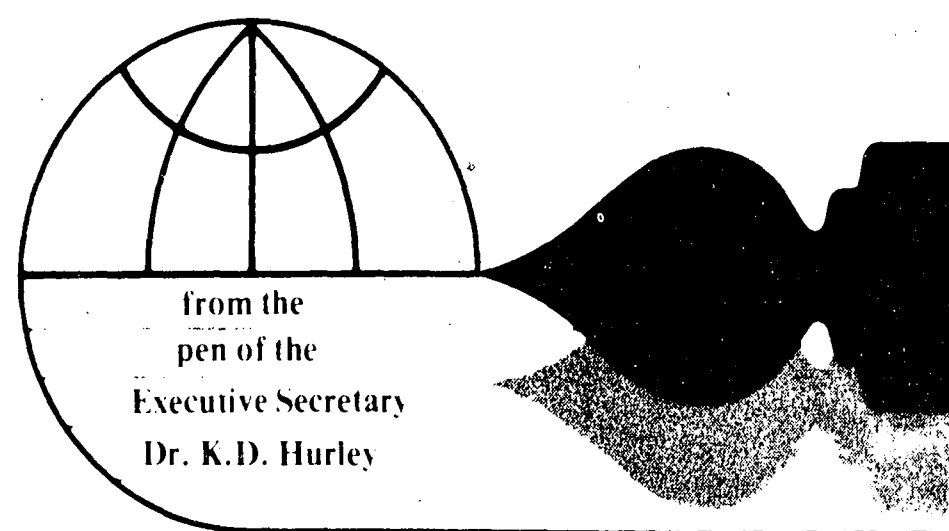
-Laura Leigh Bevis  
Plainfield, NJ  
age 10

Christmas is the time for a mass of white snow.  
A time of joy that everybody should know.  
A joy because of a Jesus’ boy.  
A time of skating, not raking.  
Maybe even a skate date!  
A time of sleighing not laying.  
It’s a time for Santa Claus  
So don’t pause.  
Well, bye now, and oh...  
Happy New Year!

-Greg Pagan  
South Plainfield, NJ  
age 10



The Sabbath Recorder



from the  
pen of the  
Executive Secretary  
Dr. K.D. Hurley

## MULTIPLICATION OF MINISTRIES

Seventh Day Baptists are committed to growth—numerically and spiritually!

Evidences of that growth already abound. New churches are being established. Converts are being added to the denomination. Members are demonstrating new life in Christ.

The recently established General Council is taking seriously the mandate of General Conference to proceed toward implementing “full-circle administration” and to plan for increasing by twice all facets of denominational life during the 1980’s.

At its October meeting, the General Council affirmed the following statement of “purpose”:

*“As Seventh Day Baptist Christians, we are called to glorify God (ultimate purpose). This is done as we fulfill the Great Commission of our Lord (stated purpose). Our immediate objective is to discover and fulfill our mission, highlighted as Commitment to Growth. This means specific growth goals—for us as individuals, for our churches and for the ministry we have to the world (immediate objective).”*

In order to help analyze potential growth patterns and to evolve an appropriate mechanism for using and coordinating the denomination’s full resources, the Council has established three major resource sub-committees: Extension, Nurture, Support Services—the dimensions of “full-circle” administration. On each committee are at-large members from the denomination as well as employed executives from the agencies.\*

An Executive Committee has also been formed composed of the Conference president, who serves as

chairman of the Council; the vice-president; and an at-large member. In addition to the usual functions of such a committee, the Executive Committee will handle financial and budgetary advisement and personnel evaluation.

The Council will meet again in April. In the meantime, the sub-committees are engaged in study, with the special assistance of the employed executives who form (with the executive secretary of General Conference) a Coordinating Leadership team. The CLT meets monthly at denominational headquarters in Plainfield.

At its December meeting, the CLT spent considerable time in reviewing and attempting to clarify organizational relationships in the proposed denominational structure. The Team also concentrated on visualizing the “multiplication of ministries” in the coming decade. A number of other assignments were on the agenda and will be continued through subsequent meetings. Reports are being prepared for consideration by the General Council; referral to the related agencies for suggestions; and, ultimately, to the

* NURTURE	EXTENSION
Herb Saunders	Leon Lawton
Mary Clare	John Bevis
Ada Davis	Duane Davis
Don Sanford	Myrna Cox
SUPPORT SERVICES	EXECUTIVE
Tom Merchant	Bob Austin
Lois Wells	Duane Davis
Ken Van Horn	Don Sanford
Bob Austin	

churches and General Conference for review, refinement and approval.

A number of factors became clear as denominational leaders, working on plans for the future, seek guidance and wisdom by frequent prayer; by struggling in discussion and debate with changing concepts; by consulting with friendly, sympathetic, and understanding observers; and by studying successful methods being used by other church groups.

The following observations become a part of the current milieu:

“New organization, to be viable, has to give unity.”

“The proposed structure has the potential for molding individual denominational programs more effectively and efficiently, with the desire to do the total job together.”

“Centralization of management need not and should not mean centralization of authority or control.”

“Reorganization needs to be completed so we can spend more time on programs and less on administration.”

“The desire is to involve church people in recommitment as a primary part of the reorganization process.”

“Christian renewal, spiritual growth and evangelistic outreach go hand in hand.”

One Baptist denomination, which has also set out to “Double in a Decade,” indicates that its mission will be achieved only when each church and member fulfills three objectives:

(continued on page 26)

## The Parable of the Fisherman

Old Hank was quite a fisherman. Every day he'd go out to the stream and relax under a big oak tree. With his fishing pole lying beside him on the grass, Hank would watch the stream carefully between cat naps. If a fish would jump up in the water, he'd throw his hook in quickly and wait anxiously for a few minutes "just in case" the fish would bite. If not, he'd take his hook out and lay it carefully beside him again.

The days passed with this method of fishing. Everyone in the town admired Hank's persistence and devotion to fishing.

One day a stranger came to town. He sat on the bank of the stream not far from Hank for several hours, watching him closely. Finally his curiosity got the best of him. Coming over and sitting on the grass next to Hank, he struck up a conversation. "Do you do much fishing, sir?" the stranger asked.

"Oh, yes," answered Hank proudly. "I am an avid fisherman. Never miss a day under this old tree."

"Do you catch many fish?"

"Well, to tell the truth, mister, not very often. I guess it's been several years since I caught one. But let me tell you—I can remember the thrill as though it were yesterday! It keeps me going, you know, just recalling how great an experience that was."

The stranger nodded. "Yes, I know the feeling."

"Oh, you fish, too?" asked Hank.

"Yes, I have done some in my time." The stranger pointed to the pole. "Do you always use the same pole?" It was bamboo with a bent safety pin on the end of the string.

"Sure do," answered Hank. "When you've tested something for years and years and found it 'tried and true,' you stick to it. My father and grandfather before him used the very same pole and taught me everything they knew. They're in the 'Fisherman's Hall of Fame' down in the big city—really great men. I'm very proud of my heritage."

The stranger ventured a little more, asking, "Did you ever try putting the hook into the water?"

"Sure, Do it all the time. There's a fish right now! See? Out in the middle of the stream?" With that, he cast the hook into the water excitedly.

"Pardon me, sir, but I see you didn't bait your hook before you cast out," said the surprised stranger.



The old fisherman sat beneath the huge oak tree...everyone admired his persistence and devotion to fishing.

"Of course not! Do you think I would offend any of those nice fish by dangling a skewered worm before them? Honestly! What a terrible thing to even think of! Those fish have lived in this stream for years. That would not be giving them a fair lot. If they want to be caught, they will come by themselves. I simply will not stoop to using such vulgar, common means. Who do you think you are, anyway?"

He drew in his line again and laid it up on the bank. "No one has ever *dared* to question the ways of this stream before. Everyone knows what upstanding citizens the fishermen of our community have been over the centuries. They are all held in high esteem. We all follow grandfather's example to the tee. He never said a mean word to anyone. He always took his family fishing every Sabbath morning. He helped his neighbors with their chores and served sixty-three years on the Volunteer Fish Patrol. No sir, no one can tell us about fishing! With people that sincere and good, they just *have* to be good fishermen."

"But you don't need to *catch* fish to be a real fisherman?" asked the stranger.

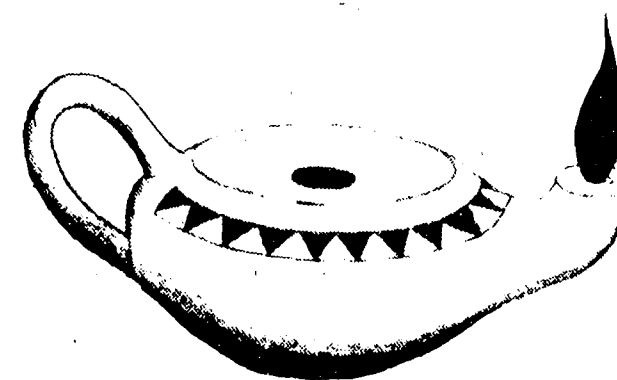
Hank cleared his throat nervously and turned a little red, "Uh, yes, well, er, I guess so. But we are so sincere."

\* \* \* \* \*

Jesus has called us to be "fishers of men."

Are we keeping our "pole" on the bank until we happen to see a "fish" jump?

Are we afraid we will offend people if we use the "bait" Christ has given us—blood salvation, (continued on page 26)



Thy Word is a light...

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION—Mrs. Mary Clare

## 1979—International Year of the Child

On 21 December 1976, the General Assembly of the United Nations passed a Resolution declaring 1979 the International Year of the Child. It was the culmination of private initiatives taken some three years earlier, which quickly won the support of many governments, organizations, and individuals. The United Nations, by placing the child in the center of world attention, invites the world community to renew and reaffirm its concern for the present condition and the future of its children.

Despite increased emphasis within the international community on development and economic cooperation, there remains an appallingly large number of children—especially in the developing nations, but also in others—who lack even the rudimentary necessities of life. This need not and should not be. Much that is practical can be done to bring these children into the stream of progress and enable them to participate fully in the development of their societies.

The International Year of the Child should be an occasion to reaffirm, not by words alone but by deeds, that the well-being of today's children is the concern of all people everywhere and that it is inseparably linked with the peace and prosperity of tomorrow's world.

The International Year of the Child (IYC) is concerned with all children in all countries, especially young children. Its major aims are to:

-encourage all countries, rich and poor, to review their programs for the promotion of the well-being of children, and to mobilize support for national and local action programs according to each country's conditions, needs and priorities;

-heighten awareness of children's special needs among decision-makers and the public;

-promote recognition of the vital link between programs for children on the one hand, and economic and social progress on the other;

-spur specific, practical measures—with achievable goals—to benefit children, in both the short and long term on the national level.

The year should also provide an opportunity to emphasize the intellectual, psychological and social development of children, in addition to their physical welfare.

Special attention should be devoted to particularly disadvantaged children. Among the most vulnerable groups, for example, are young girls where they receive unequal treatment; slum children; children of migrant workers; abused children; orphaned children; refugee children; children of unwed mothers; children in poor rural areas; children exposed to drugs and crime; physically and mentally handicapped children; and the vast category of children suffering from malnutrition.

While programs of national and local action remain the focal point of the year, IYC should also stimulate new research on the needs of children



- The right to affection, love and understanding.**
  - The right to adequate nutrition and medical care.**
  - The right to free education.**
  - The right to full opportunity for play and recreation.**
  - The right to a name and nationality.**
  - The right to special care, if handicapped.**
  - The right to be among the first to receive relief in times of disaster.**
  - The right to be a useful member of society and to develop individual abilities.**
  - The right to be brought up in a spirit of peace and universal brotherhood.**
  - The right to enjoy these rights, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national or social origin.**
- U.N. Declaration of Rights of the Child**

and the widespread gathering and dissemination of research on child-related issues.

The International Year of the Child offers a rare opportunity to demonstrate that intensified public and governmental awareness of children's needs can lead to concrete action of immense and, above all, lasting benefit to mankind's future—its children. There is no sounder investment than the future of the child—and no greater responsibility for the adults of today. The great and promising potentials of the IYC require, deserve and depend upon the unreserved support of Governments, organizations and individuals.

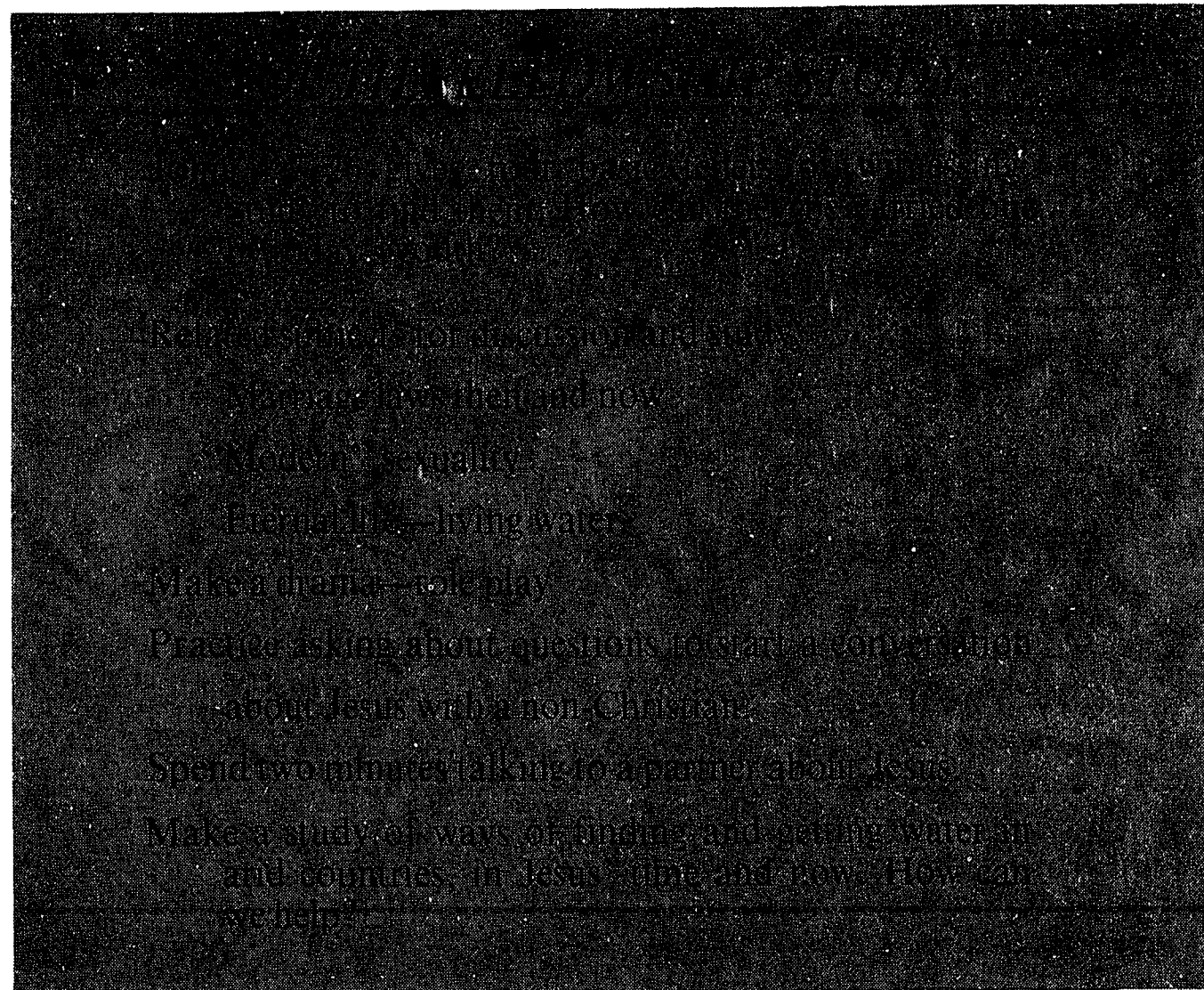
The major legacy of the International Year of the Child can and should be a permanently higher level of concern with children and an intensified and continuing attention to services benefitting them on the part of Governments and the public alike.

As a part of the Christian community, Seventh Day Baptists should become active in promoting the welfare of children. Information concerning cooperative services among organizations with similar child-related concerns in the U.S. and abroad may be exchanged. Federal legislation benefitting the child nationally and internationally can be supported by expressing personal views to State and National representatives and senators.

Sabbath Schools and Youth Groups are natural places to encourage self-expression through the writing of poetry, stories and music. This and other art work could be exhibited in the church and other public buildings.

Celebrations which include film festivals, story telling, plays, folk dances, craft fairs, song fests and international games would encourage knowledge and appreciation of children in other countries.

Look around, see the needs of children and youth of your community, combine love and action to help them develop into responsible Christian citizens. □



### YOUTH CONCERNS

In his book entitled *Try Giving Yourself Away*, published by Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, Mr. David Dunn tells of the gratifying experiences that have resulted from this practice.

"Your giving-away will, of course, have to be done in your own individual way, based on the things you have to give.

Fortunately each of us has a different assortment of gifts, so there could never be anything standardized about giving-away, even though every one of us were to take up the hobby. Some of us have spare time; others have surplus mental or physical energy; others have a special art, skill or talent; still others have ideas, imagination, the ability to organize, the gift of leadership.

All of us give appreciation, kindness, interest, loyalty, understanding, encouragement, tolerance—and a score of other little portions of ourselves. Each of us should "major" in the items in which we are "long," and fill in with the others.

Perhaps you will catch the idea faster if I explain how I practice my hobby.

If I particularly enjoy a book, a magazine article, or a play, I write a note to the author, telling him or

her of my enjoyment. Sometimes I receive an appreciative acknowledgment; more often I do not. It doesn't matter in the least; I am not collecting autographs; I am just keeping my giving-away machinery in good working order.

\* \* \*

One Sunday afternoon I fell to thinking of an elderly gentleman in failing health whom I had not seen for a long time.

"Why not surprise him by calling him up?" I asked myself.

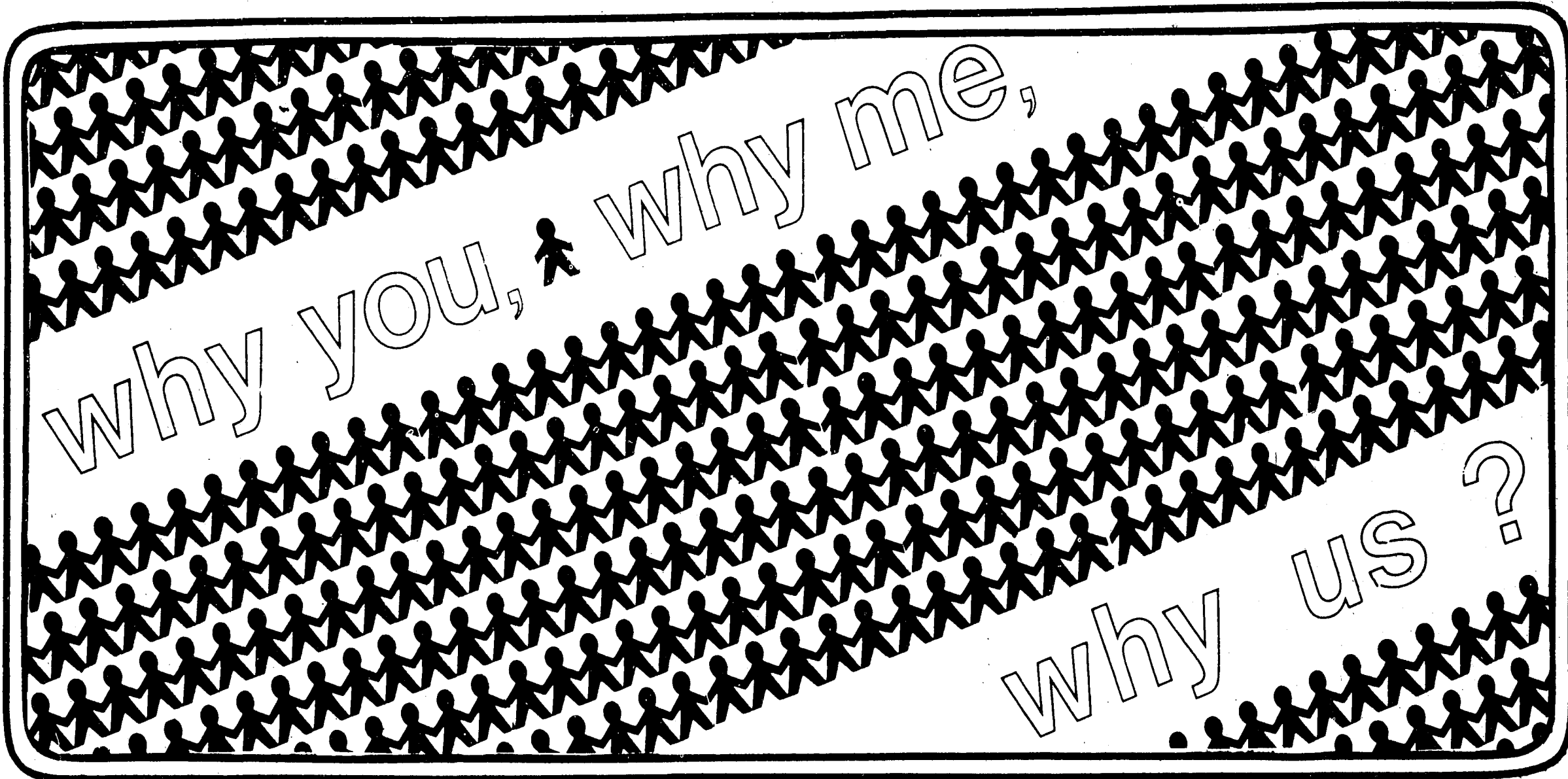
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\* \* \*

Tiny episodes, all of these; but they are collectors' items in my hobby of giving myself away.

You may do such things yourself, quite naturally, without stopping (continued on page 19)



## *Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society*

- W H Y you should renew your voting membership for 1979. . .
- + You will be contributing to the \$50,000. which must be raised in 1979 through designated gifts in order to meet the Missionary Society's budget (\$180,540.).
  - ++ Your church will receive the credit for your gift in their OWM giving for 1979.
  - +++ You will receive regular mailings which will keep you abreast of the latest happenings in the Lord's work through S.D.B. Missions and an opportunity to vote at the annual meeting in March 1979.

W H O you should give a gift membership to. . .

The Pastor, Sabbath School Superintendent, Sabbath School Teacher, Missionary Keyworker, Chairman of the Missions and/or Evangelism Committee, Prayer Partner, Leaders in church organizations (Women's, Men's or Youth Groups), students. . . to name a few. . . see how many others you can come up with!

-----clip and mail----- 401 Washington Trust Bldg., Westerly, R. I. 02891

YES, I wish to be a member of the SDB Missionary Society for 1979. **1979**  
Enclosed is my \$10.00, credit my church OWM giving in this amount

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Credit the \_\_\_\_\_ SDB Church

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### YOUTH FELLOWSHIP STUDY

How can we carry out the four basic tenets of witnessing, and how can we help them. How can they be carried out in our own lives?

Read and discuss the following for discussion and study

Marriage laws then and now

"Modern" sexuality

Eternal life—living water

Make a drama—role play

Practice asking about questions to start a conversation about Jesus with a non-Christian.

Spend two minutes talking to a partner about Jesus.

Make a study of ways of finding and getting water in arid countries, in Jesus' time and now. How can we help? □

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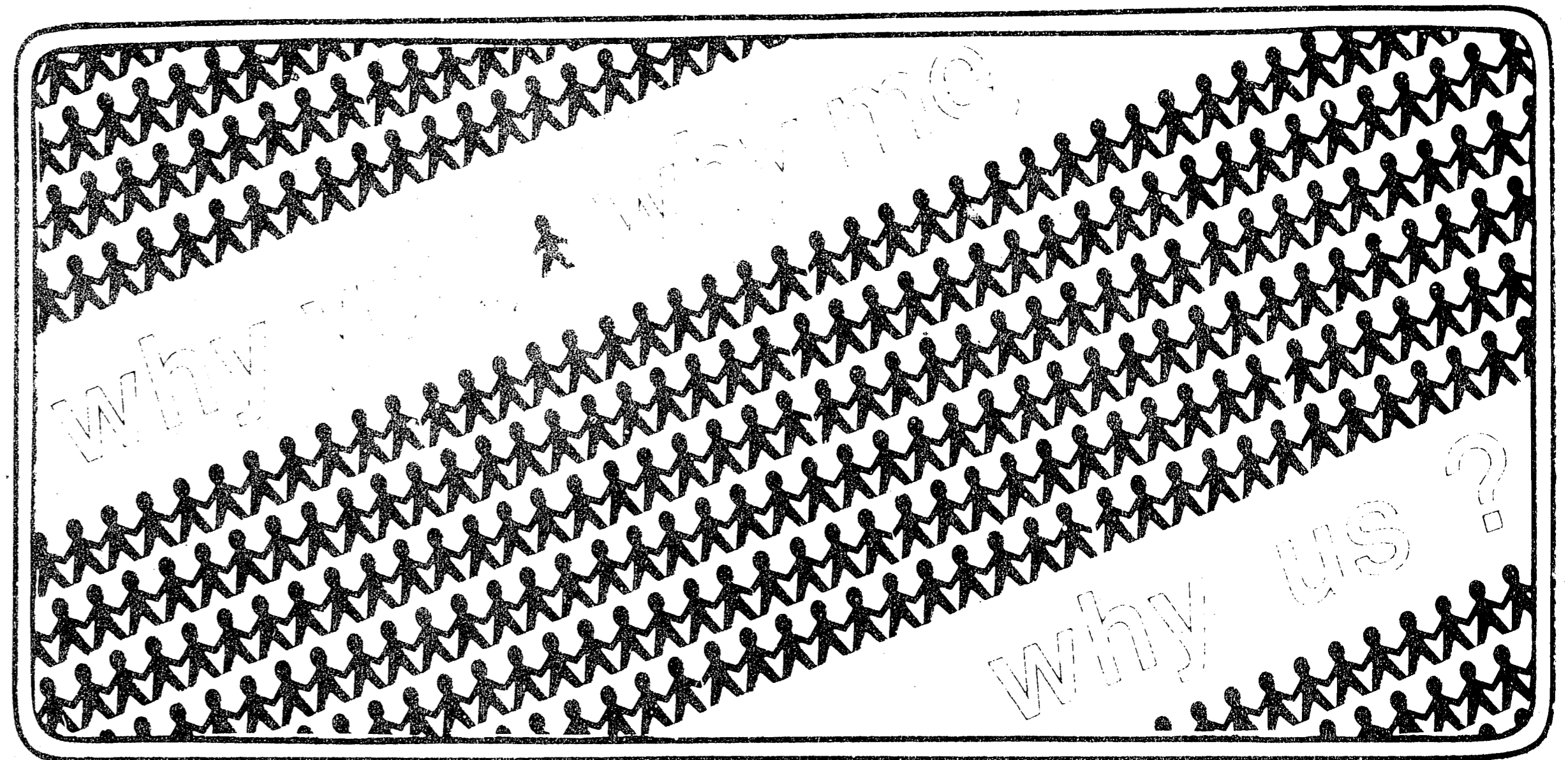
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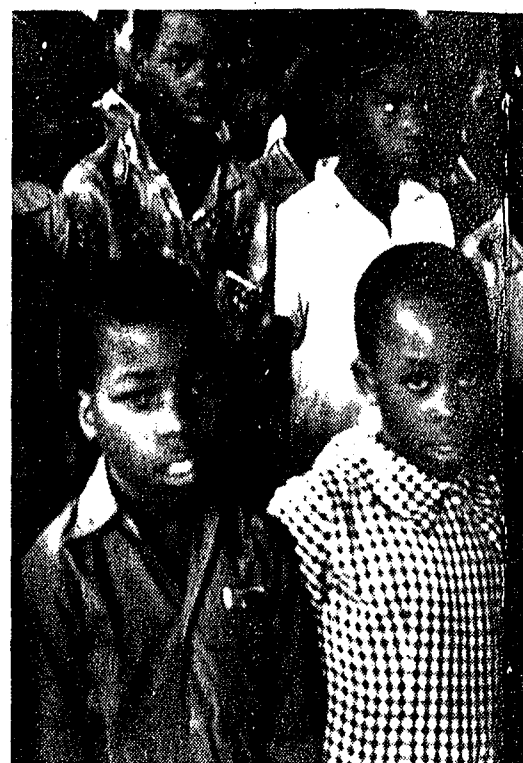
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## THE NEW GENERATION WILL IT BE WON TO CHRIST?

Christians in local churches are making the decision NOW!

- by their commitment to Christ
- by their contribution to His ministries
- by their communication of the Gospel

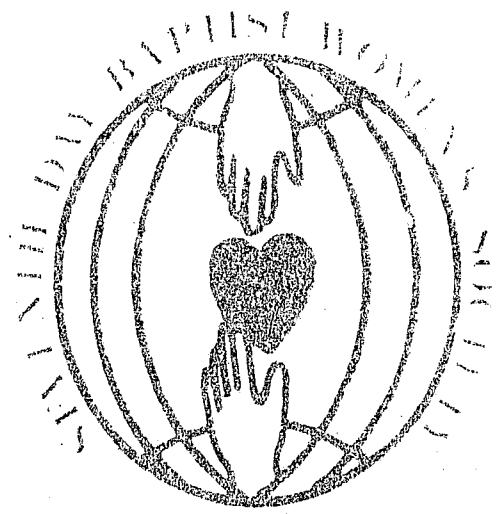
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"We love because  
God first loved us"  
1 John 4:19

Madeline Fitz Randolph

One of the greatest blessings of our lives is that we have, over and over again, a new year; a fresh start, to enrich our lives. Into the "land of beginning again" we go each time the year rolls around; and we know that the past is now past, and that the future is shining and clean ahead of us. Now we can do all the things we always wanted to do but didn't dare try. Why not, when we have all this time...twelve months, fifty-two weeks, three hundred and sixty-five days...what more do we need? Quickly we sit down with pen and paper and make a list of all we would like to accomplish, then put them into order as to priority and prepare to GET GOING IN 1979!

But wait just a minute....am I really ready for this?....

"Here it is, Lord, a new year. The old calendar is in the wastebasket all covered with notes, doodles, phone numbers and memos. The new one is up in its place and I am looking at it. It is so clean and beautiful, but it is awesome; so much is waiting for me to do in the new year. I think of the assignments, the drudgery of tasks to do over and over again, and I feel like dragging my feet. But, Father, it isn't so much the work there is to do. Most of it I enjoy zestfully; it's those surprises that life is likely to spring, when I am least prepared. So many things happen that we do not plan or want to happen. So I pray that you will strengthen me and help me when

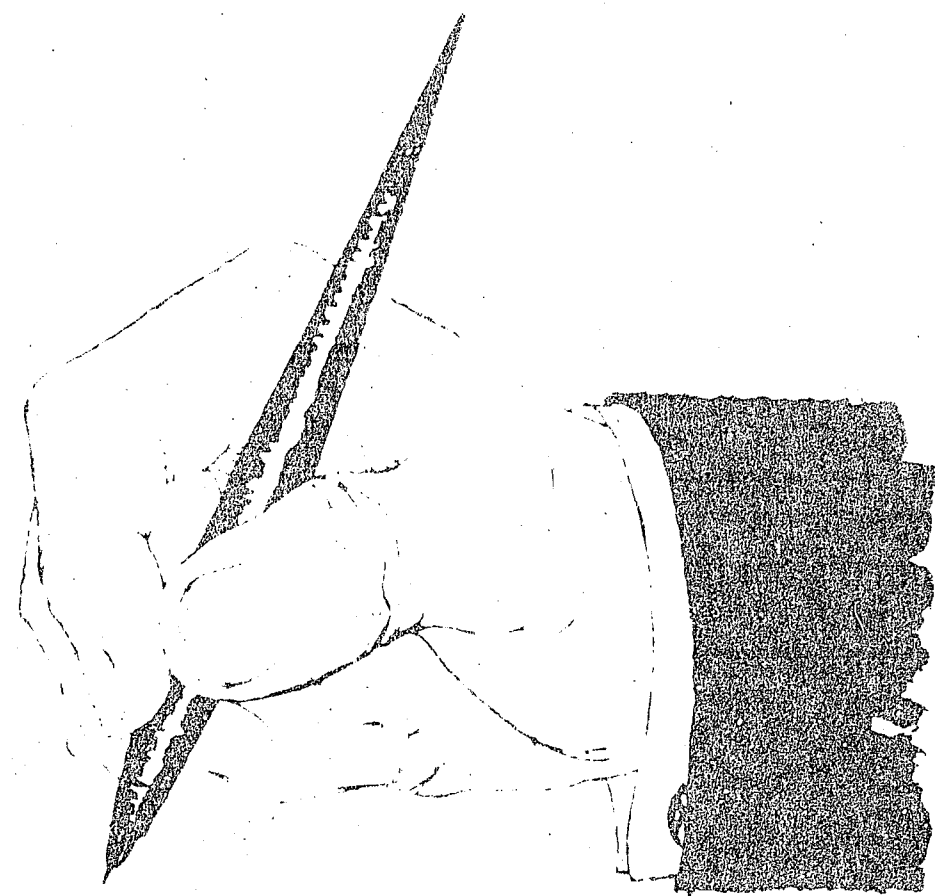
there are those "quick" decisions to make. Just enable me to know Your Will, and not to shirk when the decision is a difficult one. In spite of the possibility of surprises, disappointments or hardships, I do thank You with all my heart for this year that lies before me. I pray, that You will give me more grace than before in my fellowship with others, more ease in expressing myself, more understanding for the hurts of others, and a great deal of forgiveness for my blunderings. Most of all I pray for those who need Your healing. Bless them and give them a new start in the new year, as Your Holy Spirit works in their lives. As you have given me this gift of time, dear Father, may I use it to the glory of Your name, Amen."

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

The idea of "budgeting" our time is not a new one. It must be that we who have certain hours which are scheduled for "work" must be very careful as to how we use the hours that are "free." (Of course, these "free" hours are not really free—just "different.") An awareness of purpose and a plan for achievement of this purpose is necessary if there is any order in our living. We constantly hear the complaint,

"I just do not have the time." On the other hand we hear, "If you want something done, ask a busy person to do it." "Time Management" is now considered an important study which any effective person in the professions should make his own. Even to children, time is becoming more and more important. I can remember when days just melted away in the dreamy summertime, and one never knew which was Monday, or Wednesday....only the dreaded end of vacation was a concern....but now children are highly scheduled, even during vacation time, and it seems that there is never a time when they have "nothing at all to do." Yes, time is precious, and a gift from God who gives all precious gifts. There is imprinted on the door of a grandfather's clock that stands in the Chester Cathedral this poem:

When, as a child, I laughed and wept,  
Time crept.  
When, as a youth, I dreamed and talked,  
Time walked.  
When I became a full grown man,  
Time ran.  
And later, as I older grew,  
Time flew.  
Soon I shall find, while traveling on,  
Time gone.  
Will Christ have saved my soul by then?  
Amen. □



We make a list of all we want to accomplish in the new year!

# the CHURCH in ACTION

## BROOKFIELD CHURCHES WELCOME RAU'S

BROOKFIELD, N.Y.—Pastor and Mrs. John Rau, newly arrived from California, were guests of honor on Saturday, Nov. 18, at 7:30 p.m. at an open house. The gathering was held in the First Baptist Fellowship Hall, Brookfield and included a program and refreshments.

Mr. and Mrs. Rau were guests of honor at a gathering held at the Seventh Day Baptist Parish House in Brookfield on Nov. 4.

Following an early October wedding, the couple traveled across the country from California to assume the pastorate of the First and Second Seventh Day Baptist Churches of Brookfield.

This gathering was not only to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Rau to the Central New York Association of Seventh Day Baptists but was also a reception honoring their recent marriage.

A brief welcoming speech was given by the children and youth of the Brookfield church, after which each one told his or her name and presented a small, useful token to the couple.

Harold Balcom, as spokesman for the joint organization of the two SDB churches presented a sum of money from the members to the bride and groom. Other gifts from guests were given.

Among those presiding at the refreshment table were Mrs. Elsie Croop, Mrs. Martha Mills and Mrs. Ruth Palmer.

To dispense pieces of the large wedding cake was Mrs. Frances L. Palmer who had provided the cake. Mrs. Barbara Balcom and Mrs. Patricia Welch were in charge of the details. □

-Brookfield Courier

## PASTOR ATTENDS SEMINAR

DENVER, CO.—Our pastor, Edgar F. Wheeler, had the pleasure of attending the World Home Bible League "Touch of His Hand" Seminar in Seattle, Washington, September 26-28, 1978.

This seminar consists of two parts: "Preparing To Grow," emphasizing a circle of evangelism-sowing-cultivating-harvesting-reseeding, and "Church Growth Through Bible Study and Scripture Distribution."

A good advantage of this plan is that it gives the prospect the opportunity to study and discuss Bible truth leading to the plan of salvation, so that intelligent decisions for Christ and commitment may be made.

The presentation of the Bible Study through the use of filmstrips includes four films covering in general the following questions:

- 1) What is the Bible all about, ending with the pointed inquiry, "Is There a God?"
- 2) Yes, there is a God, and you can know Him. This film-strip ends with the question: "How can we know that God loves us, with all the problems and evil there is in the world?"
- 3) Where does evil come from, and what is the solution to it? If faith is so wonderful, why do Christians suffer?
- 4) Assurance of salvation and what victory means for the Christian.

With the filmstrips there is available at minimal cost a small projector with self-contained screen, convenient for study with family groups. Study guides are available in three booklets that lead the student progressively on from inquiry to assurance.

Pastor Wheeler states "I recommend the 'Touch of His Hand' material for use in evangelism in the community where there can be repeated calls." The World Home Bible League insists on thorough preparation for its use, and for this reason requires that teachers of this plan attend one of their seminars before they can secure the workshop manual and other material related to it. Their address is: 16801 Van Dam Road, South Holland, IL 60473. □

-Neva C. Hunt

## THANKSGIVING SERVICE AT NORTH JERSEY CHURCH

BASKING RIDGE, NJ — Pastor Kenneth Burdick led the congregation in a very meaningful service of thanksgiving on Sabbath, November 18. A special anthem was presented by the choir under the direction of Mary Jane McPherson. Thanksgiving boxes were prepared by the members and dedicated during the service; they were later shared with friends of the church. On Sunday a thanksgiving dinner was attended by forty with opportunity given for each to share some special blessing they had experienced during the year.

Pastor Burdick and Deacon Lloyd Coon led in a commissioning for Deacon John Bevis as he begins to serve the People's Christian Church (Sabbatarian) in New York City on once-a-month basis. The congregation misses Bill and Roslyn Vis who are wintering in Florida; the pastor is sending them the services on tape.

We are thankful to have Pastor and Mrs. Burdick with us and look forward to this new year of opportunity as together we seek to share the love of Christ with others in the vast area of North Jersey. □

## MARRIAGES

DOUGLAS-BOCHARSKI.—William Thomas Douglas, Jr., and Carol Ann Bocharski were united in marriage on October 6, 1978 at the home of the groom's parents in Brandywine, Md. Pastor Kenneth D. Chroniger officiated.

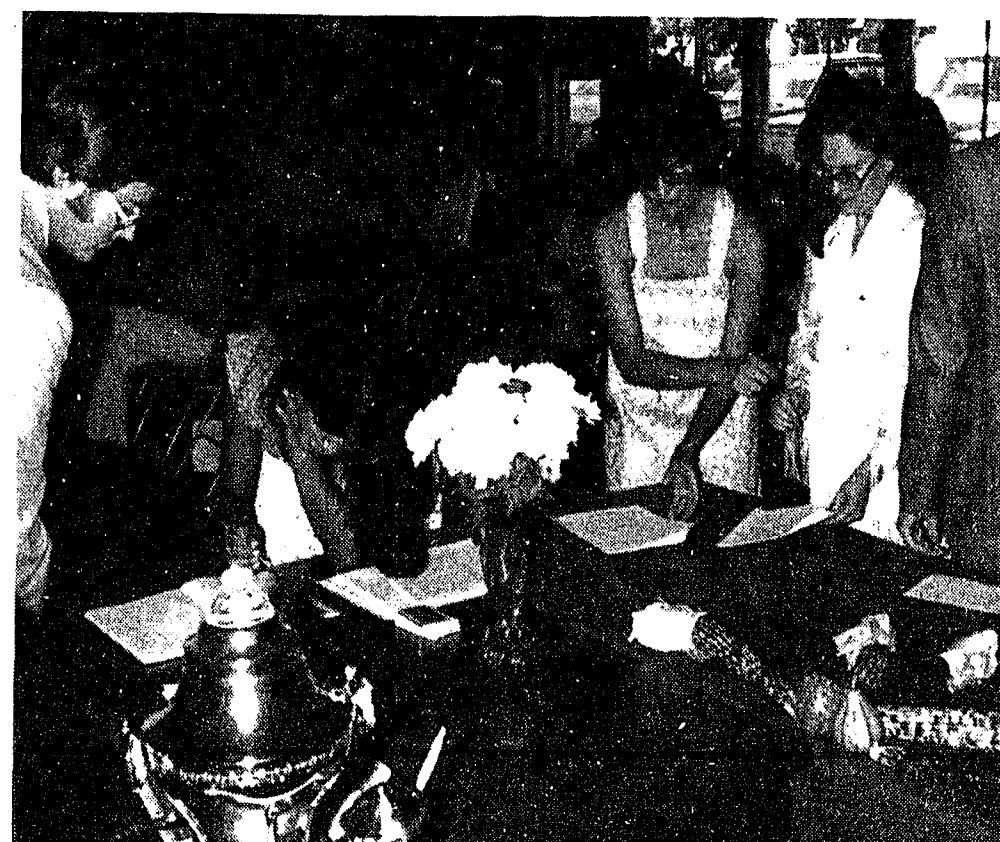
RAND-BURDICK.—Richard Dean Rand, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rand of Kelso, WA, and Waynette Sue Burdick, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Burdick of Albuquerque, N.M., were united in marriage on November 4, 1978, in the Eastern Hills Baptist Church. Rev. Charles D. Swing, pastor and grandfather of the bride, performed the ceremony. The couple will make their home in Aurora, CO.

THORNGATE-BEAMENDERFER.—Dale D. Thorngate, II, son of Dale D. Thorngate of Columbus, Ohio, and Roberta Thorngate of Battle Creek, Michigan, was married to Cindy Beamenderfer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Beamenderfer of Columbus, Ohio, on October 14, 1978, at the Maize Manor Methodist Church in Columbus.

# New Church in California



The members of the Evangelical Community Church (SDB) are shown signing their church covenant on November 4. We welcome this new church into our fellowship!



Pastor Randy Henry watches Anna Lowe sign the covenant. Mrs. Carmen Henry is shown handing the pen to Betty Wear.

## EVANGELICAL COMMUNITY SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH ORGANIZES

STANTON, CA.—On November 4, 1978, the Seventh Day Baptist Evangelical Community Church in Stanton, California, held its Organization Day to celebrate its beginning.

Present were 29 guests, along with 16 charter members. Darryl Henry acted as our Minister of Music and, with his wife, Marjean, presented the special music. Rodney Henry gave the sermon, with consecration and challenge being given by Rev. Alton Wheeler of Riverside Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Then charter members read and signed the Covenant; after which the letter of transfer of membership from the Los Angeles Seventh Day Baptist Church to the Evangelical Community Church was read by Dr. Victor Burdick.

President of Pacific Coast Association, Mr. Al Whitlock, gave the prayer of dedication and welcome from Pacific Coast Association.

Randy Henry closed services with prayer, after which a delicious turkey dinner was enjoyed by all who desired food and fellowship.

The officers elected are: Pastor—Randy Henry; Treasurer—Rick Wear; Clerk—Betty Wear; Assistant Treasurer—Carmen Henry; Sabbath School Superintendent—Dave Peters; Pacific Coast Association Member-at-Large—Art Laliberte; Youth Fellowship Sponsors—Steve and Robin Williams.

Our pastor, Randy Henry, was born in 1948 in Long Beach, California. He graduated from San Pedro High School in 1966 and immediately joined the U.S. Air Force. He was stationed in Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Crete, Greece, and when discharged in 1970, travelled with his brother, Rod, for three months in Europe. He has worked for Xerox Corporation since 1971 as a Technical Representative and Works Support Supervisor.

At the age of eight he invited Jesus Christ into his heart to be his personal Lord and Savior. On March 14, 1973 he rededicated his life to Christ and then began to understand what it really means to allow Him to be Lord of his life. He has been active in the Los Angeles Seventh Day Baptist Church since 1964 and in 1973, officially became a member.

His wife, Carmen, was born in Casa Grande, Arizona, in 1946. She was number 14 of 15 children born to her parents (11 brothers and sisters are still living). She grew up in Casa Grande, graduated from Casa Grande Union High School in 1964. She has been living in California since 1965. Carmen accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior in 1972. In 1973 she and Randy met at a Bible study and were married that same year, eventually becoming a member of the Los Angeles Seventh Day Baptist Church in 1974.

Anna, Steve and Kimberly, ages 14, 11 and 4 respectively, have all

accepted the Lord as their Savior (at least, Kimberly believes that Jesus does live in her heart). □

—Betty Wear

## NEW FROM THE NORTONVILLE CHURCH

NORTONVILLE, KS.—With the passing of summer and all its church activities of camp, Pre-Con and Conference, the church family enjoyed an evening of songs and fun on August 25. Concluding the activities of the evening was a surprise presentation of a money tree to Pastor Paul in honor of his twenty-five years in the ministry. And we really *did* surprise him!

Regular church growth and planning meetings are held for planning, comparing, encouraging each other and praying together. On September 23 a meeting was held preceded by the fun and fellowship of a wiener roast.

Dr. Ken Smith led our worship service September 30 while the pastor and family attended our Mid-Continent Association in North Loup, Nebr.

THE BIG EVENT was held the evening of October 28 with talent, audience participation, singing, door prizes and refreshments. Fun and fellowship were enjoyed by all as the Sabbath ended.

Lord's Acre Sabbath was celebrated October 21. This year's theme was "Personal Prayer." The church was

decorated with bouquets of fall grasses, grains, leaves and cattails. The worship table was covered with a harvest-gold colored cloth, centered with a small easel holding the picture of Christ in Gethsemane, ceramic aged praying hands and child's praying hands on a drape of brown. Tall red candle holders and candles, brown cornucopia of fall leaves, milo and soy bean stalks and Indian corn. The colors of gold, brown and red reminded us of God's goodness all around us as we here in Kansas have enjoyed an especially beautiful and colorful fall.

The morning message explored "The Ten R's" in a Personal Prayer Workshop. The workshop was a means to evaluate our own prayer habits and to be used any time during the day that can be set aside for devotions, reflection, meditation, reading and prayer.

"The Ten R's" are: RELAX—get comfortable and wait upon the Lord; REALIZE—the presence of God in our life; RELEASE—time, emotions, mind and activities to God's will; RELY—on God's faithfulness; REMEMBER—concerns and persons close to each of us; READING—open the heart and mind to receive witness of some other Christian; RECEIVE—shut out the world, receive His strength to do His will; RELATE—apply to life what has been received; REDEDICATE—each day is God's day to do His will; and REJOICE—the logical result of communion with God.

Helen Steiner Rice poems "Make This Your Daily Prayer" and "Prayers Can't Be Answered Unless They Are Prayed" were read. Hymns used were "Sweet Hour of Prayer" and "Lord I Have Shut the Door." During quiet organ music of "Keep on Praying" Lord's Acre gifts were brought individually to the altar. A total of \$3,298 was dedicated to the Lord's work. (This year the debt for remodeling the parsonage has been paid off and the rest of the offering will go toward putting insulated vinyl siding on the church.)

The service closed with a unison benediction and benediction response of the old favorite hymn "What a Friend We Have in Jesus...What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer."

"Six Weeks of Prayer" have continued since Lord's Acre Sabbath and have brought a new emphasis on other aspects of dedicated prayer life. Topics have been: Prayer is—

More Than Just Words, Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Petition and Intercession.

Prayer was chosen as the theme for Lord's Acre and this series of messages because recently the church family experienced an intimate and heartwarming united effort of PERSONAL PRAYER. (By united we mean individual prayer as well as special group prayer meetings.) This particular experience made us vividly aware of the blessings of consecrated and concentrated prayer—so much so that praise and thanksgiving followed quickly in complete trust and obedience to God's will even before prayer was answered. So it was that "The Ten R's" were chosen to help us seek to make the presence of God real, to live each day as a result of communion with God, and according to His will for our lives. □

—Mrs. Merlin Wheeler

## SENIOR CITIZENS GUESTS AT SALEM CHURCH

SALEM, W.V.—On Sabbath, October 28, approximately thirty members of the Senior Citizens organization of Salem were guests for the regular worship services at the Seventh Day Baptist church. Following the worship service they were served dinner by the ladies of the church. In the afternoon the men gave an enjoyable musical program.

The Salem Senior Citizens were organized in 1968 and have conducted many of their meetings at the Salem church. The Salem church has also sponsored the building and maintenance of the Randolph Terrace Apartments which offer housing to many including Senior Citizens. The church is to be commended for its program of concern and outreach for the elderly members of the community. □

## Scripture Gems

Favorite Bible texts selected by pastors and ministerial students.



Steven Crouch  
Sioux Falls, S.D.

● "Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance, and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:1, 2).

● This passage has for a long time meant a great deal to me, because there are very few passages of Scripture which have so much to say about the day-to-day life which the Christian must live. Here there is no compromising the fact that the Christian life is one of conflict. Is there anyone of us who does not experience a daily struggle with sin?

But here we are shown the way through these struggles. And it is the very same way that all those mentioned in Hebrews 11 gained victory in their struggle with sin: to simply lay it aside, to get rid of anything that would slow us down and prevent us from having the very best that God has planned for us.

We can do this because we are a people who know where we are going. We "fix our eyes on Jesus" because He is the source and the goal of our salvation. We can see Him now with eyes of faith because we know that we shall one day see Him face to face.

"Therefore...let us also lay aside every encumbrance..." because on that great day, it will all be worthwhile. □

## SUNSHINE MOUNTAIN PROGRESS REPORT

CHATAWA, MS.—The exterior work on the Children's Home is progressing. The interior work is being delayed because of the lateness in the insulation shipment. The dimensions of the building are 36' and 96' overall. The yard has been regraded, pushing topsoil back in place, and grass sown. The road has been graded and gravelled.

One section of the home will house the girls in a room 24' x 24' including a bath; the boys room will be similar. The center of the building contains the living room, 24' x 48', which will also serve as a meeting place for Sabbath services. Across the back of the building are the house-parents' rooms (two rooms with private bath), the kitchen, pantry-utility room, and a carport-patio on each end.

All doors are designed to accommodate persons in wheelchairs or using crutches. There will be no steps or stairs as obstacles to the handicapped. The back yard rolls gently downhill to a line of beautiful shade trees. It will be fenced on the near side of the bluff to prevent the children from wandering into the water or the woods.

The photo of Jack Hays shows his former girth and he tells about his undertaking to lose 200 pounds for the benefit of Sunshine Mountain. People have been encouraged to pledge a penny, nickel, dime, dollar a pound for every pound he loses. In six weeks he has lost 51 pounds and has pledges totaling nearly

The photo of Jack Hays shows his former girth, he is seeking to lose 200 pounds and also raise funds for Sunshine Mountain.



The Children's Home is currently under construction. The facility will house boys and girls in separate sections with an apartment for the houseparents.

\$4,000.00 The story of his diet has been printed in many newspapers in Louisiana and Mississippi, including a large article, complete with pictures, in the Sunday edition of the New Orleans *Times-Picayune*. Jack has been receiving letters by the dozens expressing interest in both the diet and Sunshine Mountain. The name of the game is to get people's attention, to get the name Seventh Day Baptist before their eyes. Several hundred thousand people can no longer say, "I've never heard of that church before," for now they're heard! □

-Linda B. Hays

## CHURCH TO CELEBRATE DIAMOND JUBILEE

BATTLE CREEK, MI—Feeding the hungry was one of the concerns of our church this fall. Special gifts of canned goods and money were brought forward as love offerings during our September 30 worship service. These canned goods and monies, plus those collected in the summer, were then given to a city "Emergency Food Pantry" to help families in need. Our church, together with two others, was responsible for supplying food to the "Pantry" for the month of October. Also in October, two of our young people, Laura Artis and Julie Noel, took part in a CROP Walk-A-Thon. They earned \$30 in pledges for their eight-mile walk for the hungry.

Church members were involved in an election campaign this year. The campaign, supported by many church groups, was to raise the

Michigan drinking age back to 21. (Traffic figures have shown an increase in teen-age drunk driving accidents since the drinking age was lowered to 18 a few years ago.) Petitions secured by our Christian Social Action Committee and circulated and signed by church members, were instrumental in getting a proposal to raise the drinking age on the November ballot. A bake sale was held at Sears to raise money for MICAP (Michigan Council on Alcoholic Problems) to help them carry on the campaign. Bumper stickers and posters were also distributed. All efforts were rewarded. The proposal passed. The CSA Committee also provided bulletin inserts listing all eleven proposals which would appear on the ballot to aid church members in their voting.

Our Evangelism Committee has begun two new programs for outreach. The TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING, a Bible memorization program, began in November. The program will help our members become more knowledgeable about key Bible verses on various subjects, enabling them to witness more effectively. Those enrolled memorize five Bible verses each week, then meet each Sabbath before Sabbath School to repeat the verses to one another. Twenty-one have signed up for the program, which will continue for three sixteen-week periods.

Ads have been placed in a local shopper paper listing our church and its services on the church page. This time, however, we listed the church under the heading, "Baptist Sabbath Keeping Church," with Seventh Day Baptist in parentheses.



"Jesus said, 'Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not.'" Following in the footsteps of Jesus, the Central Seventh Day Baptist Church was privileged on Sabbath, September 2, 1978 to hold a service of dedication. The service was for Amy Dawn Skaggs. She was presented to the Lord to enter into a covenant relationship by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Skaggs of Newark Valley, New York. As we celebrated the dedication of this infant, it became a time for each of us to renew our emphasis on person-centered ministry, as we confirmed again that "God was calling us" to become His extended family.



A booth representing Seventh Day Baptists was conducted at the Alabama State Fair in Birmingham under the direction of Rev. Robert Harris and Joseph McGuire (pictured). Many tracts were distributed, several enrolled in the Bible course, and much valuable publicity was given to the thousands who came by the booth. All those who worked with this project are to be commended for their dedication and zeal.

When the name was placed alphabetically under "Seventh Day," we were invariably confused with Seventh-day Adventists. It is hoped that the new heading will elicit more inquiries about our church and its distinctive beliefs.

Our seventeenth annual Homecoming Sabbath was held November 25 with about eighty-five members and friends gathered for the noon fellowship meal. The pastor concluded his series of sermons on "Serving the Lord," using Psalm 100 as his text, at the morning worship service. The afternoon program included movies for the children and a song-fest for the adults. We were happy to welcome our special non-resident guests.

It is good to have the George Johnson family now worshipping with us. They moved to Paw Paw recently from Little Rock, Arkansas, because of a change in employment for George.

Weekly meetings of our church's Youth Fellowship are now being held in the homes of the various members. Officers elected for this year were: Joe Brown, president; Brad Palmer, vice-president; Laura Artis, secretary; and Jeff Thorngate, treasurer. A "Slave Auction" was held recently by the group as a fund-raising effort for their "Conference Fund." Each Y.F. member "bought" by the highest bidder worked the

next day for the amount bid. Another fund-raiser—a bake sale—is to be held in December at Sears.

A new kind of "fellowship" was begun the latter part of October. A special party was held at the home of Dorothy Parrott for only those sixty years of age or older. Twenty-three attended, enjoying the slides, games, and luncheon. More special activities for this particular age group are to be planned.

Our church will celebrate its Seventy-fifth (Diamond) Anniversary in 1979, and planning for the jubilee year is under way. Serving on the Anniversary Committee are Ruth Bennett, Harriet Davis, Arabeth DeLand, Ellis Johanson, Jo Anne West, and Pastor Ken Davis. We have already had an Anniversary Slogan Contest with Marylene Tuck submitting the winning entry—"More Alive at 75," and entries are now being sought for an Anniversary Hymn Contest.

Other plans include a historical booklet to be prepared by Harriet Davis and Karen Thorngate, historical vignettes given monthly in the worship services during the year, large banners to be made by the various church organizations to hang in our church sanctuary, commemorative plates and trivets with a picture of the church on them to be sold, a special banquet to be held, plus many more activities.

(If any of you would be interested in a commemorative Seventy-fifth Anniversary plate or trivet, contact Arabeth DeLand.) It will be a year to remember; and, since Conference will be held at nearby Adrian College here in Michigan in 1979, our jubilee year will be made even more special. □

-Karen Thorngate

## CHURCH HEARS SERMON PREPARED 70 YEARS AGO

ALFRED, N.Y.—Dr. Richard M. Rose, President of Alfred University, was the Sabbath speaker at the Alfred S.D.B. Church on November 25. On November 11, Mrs. Hannah Burdick shared a sermon which her father, the late Rev. George B. Shaw delivered perhaps seventy years ago. It was entitled "Little Foxes," and it was a proud daughter who made comments interspersed from time to time, explaining the changes in meaning of words of that time and the present. All in all, the congregation was given an opportunity to listen to a great minister's thoughts.

-Alfred Sun

● An article by Editor John Bevis that appeared in the *Sabbath Recorder* was recently reprinted in the *Sabbath Sentinel*; an article by Rev. Don Sanford was reprinted in the *Sermon Builder*.









## NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP

Representatives from eleven Baptist Conferences and affiliated groups met for the Annual Meeting for the Fellowship in Toronto, Canada, October 4-6, 1978. The Seventh Day Baptist denomination was represented by five persons. Dr. Ernest K. Bee ably chaired the meetings; Dr. K. Duane Hurley was chairman of the committee which selected the time, place and program for the 1979 meetings. Rev. Leon Lawton reported on Church Extension as it related to cooperation among Baptist groups. Mrs. Dorothy Parrott and Mrs. Mary Clare participated in Sharing Group sessions.

At the first session Wednesday evening, reports of North American participation in Baptist World Alliance programs were given. These included: The Fourteenth Baptist World Congress to be held in Toronto in 1980; The Ninth Baptist Youth World Conference held in Manila, 1978; visitation among affiliates; A Study of Human Rights and Charismatics; Relief: Immunization Program; Baptist-Lutheran conversations; and the Second World Conference of Baptist Men.

There were also reports on cooperative efforts among Baptists in North America. The areas covered were: The Women's Union, The Men's Fellowship, Theological Education, Church Extension, and Public Affairs.

The highlight of the meetings was the Thursday night rally held in the Yorkshire Park Baptist Church. The music of the splendid organ together with solos by E. Y. Huang and Mrs. John Williams were inspirational. Dr. Robert A. Hingson, the main speaker, told about his project and



James E. Wood, Jr., executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, congratulates Gideon K. Zimmerman (r) upon his election as chairman of the Washington, D.C.-based agency. Zimmerman is executive secretary of the North American Baptist Conference with headquarters in Villa Park, Ill.

The Baptist Joint committee serves nine U.S. and Canadian Baptist bodies through programs of government relations, information services, research services, and denominational services.

experiences in the immunization program for children in Liberia. There are many more countries which need this help. Kenya has requested a similar program and a survey is under way to learn of the need in Haiti.

The 1978 meetings were held in Toronto in order to place emphasis on the 1980 Baptist World Congress which will be held in the Maple Leaf Gardens, July 8-13, 1980. The

theme will be "Celebrating Christ's Presence Through Its Church by Its Holy Spirit."

The fellowship members were given a tour of the Maple Leaf Garden and hosted to lunch in the "Hot Stove Boys" lunch room. (The name honors the group of men who, in previous years, sat around a wood stove to discuss the Toronto hockey team and its games.) □

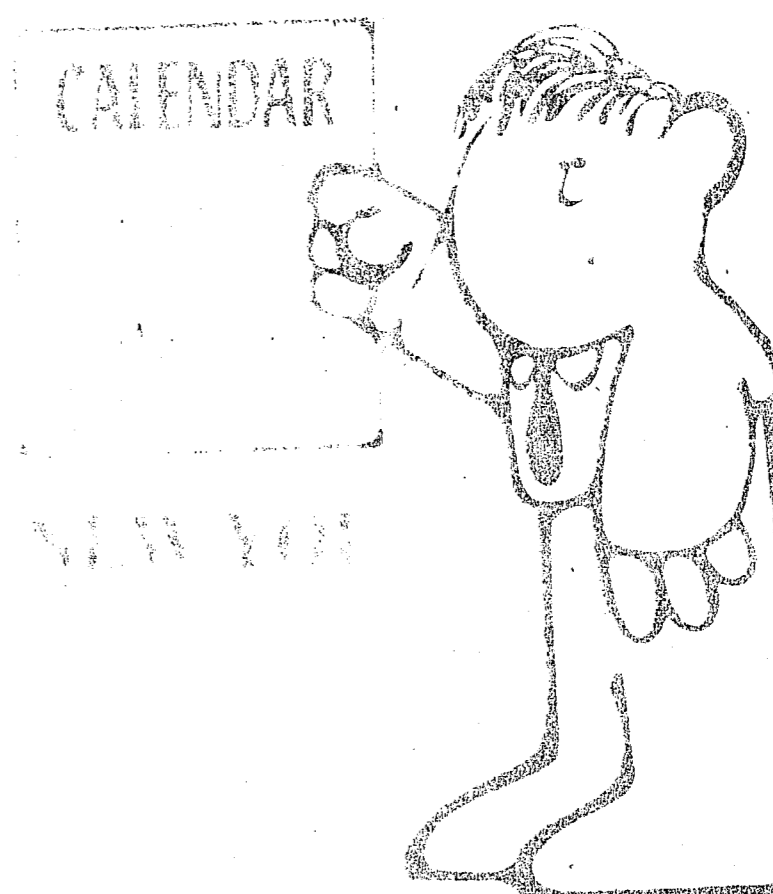
-Mary Clare

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Sherry took the list that she had so carefully written a few weeks before and crumpled it in a ball.

"It's no use," she said. "I'm never going to be able to be any different than I am right now!"

Just as Sherry was about to throw the crumpled list in the wastebasket, her older brother, Ted, came into the room.

"What's going on? Who are you talking to?"

"Nobody, just me. And I'm upset because I've broken every one of my New Year's resolutions and January isn't even over yet!" Sherry threw the list as hard as she could at the wastebasket, but it bounced off the basket and landed on the floor. Ted leaned over and picked it up. He slowly opened the paper and smoothed it with his hand. Normally, Sherry would have tried to keep Ted from reading it, but right now she just didn't care.

Ted read the list carefully, to himself. There were only three resolutions on it.

1. Practice the piano every day.
2. Feed the dog without being reminded.
3. Don't get angry."

When Ted was finished, he folded the paper carefully. "Those are good resolutions, Sherry," he said. "But what good are they if I can't keep them for even one month?" Sherry was still very angry.

"You know, Sherry. I've been making New Year's resolutions for several years now. I don't think I've ever kept one for a whole year. But that doesn't stop me from making resolutions. Whenever I break one of my resolutions, I ask God to forgive me and to help me do better. It's not easy, but it gets easier after a while. You can't be different just by making a resolution. It takes a lot of patience. You can't do it all by yourself, but you can ask God to help you. My Sabbath School teacher gave us this verse to memorize: 'When anyone is joined to Christ, he is a new being; the old has gone, the new has come' (2 Corinthians 5:17 TEV). That helps me remember that God is the one who helps me change and that I can't do it by myself."

Sherry reached out and took the list from Ted. She opened it and looked at it. Then she said, "I understand what you are saying, Ted. I still need to work on my resolutions, especially the last one about getting angry. And I need to ask God to help me keep my resolutions. You know, Ted, you're pretty smart, for a brother."

You can memorize the same verse that Ted memorized. (Younger children memorize, "When anyone is joined to Christ, he is a new being...")

Find the memory verse in the puzzle below. Start with the W in the upper left corner and end in the lower right corner. Draw a line through the letters. □

-Linda Harris

WHATDOTSXWAPNEXTIPSANE  
HENHOMITUHNOCHTHEIOTOW  
EMAIPAMOMEDTARHAESAPT  
RONSTWEPDNIWBISHMLTEEO  
ESTYHUTAVINAWSTTHEYIYY  
ATOMOBOTCOTHEMQFKAZENX  
MANISNEISJUSTLAMXTUMOG

# STEWARDSHIP MEANS GOOD MANAGEMENT OF OUR RESOURCES

—All We Have Belongs to God

"Giving can and should be one of the most exciting activities of the Christian life."

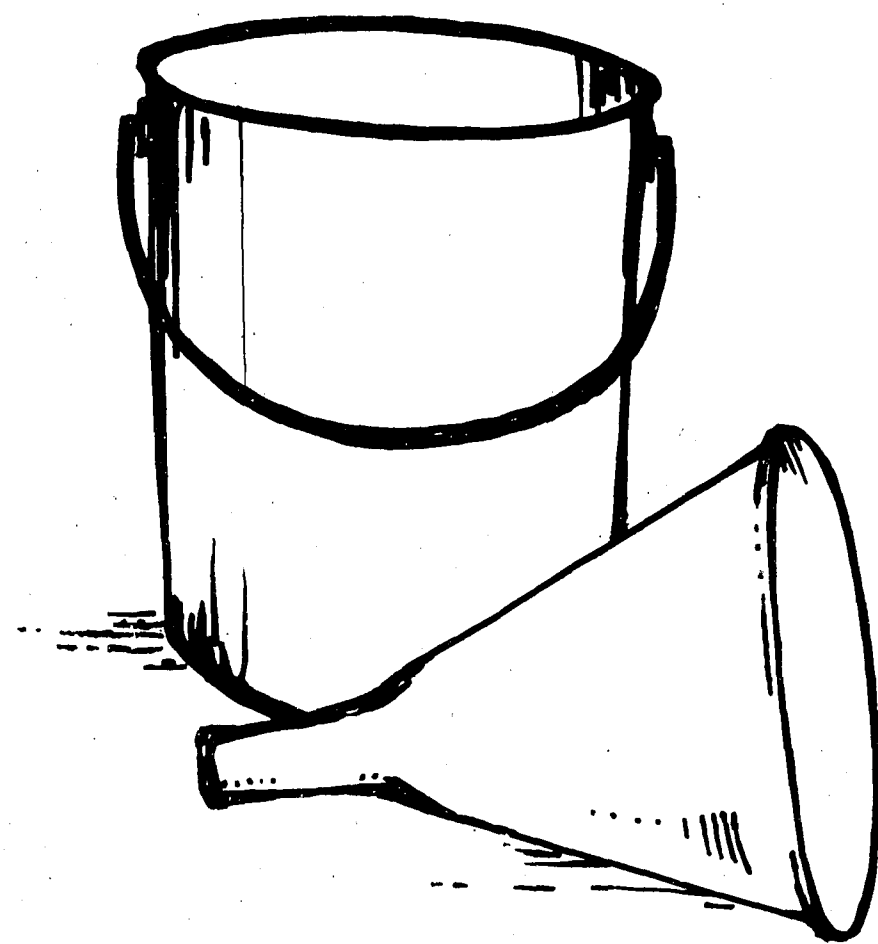
Members of the Seventh Day Baptist Stewardship Committee believe this and are setting the stage for it to happen in 1979.

Richard Shepard, immediate past Conference president, has assumed the chairmanship of the committee, working with co-chairman Pastor Earl Cruzan, the core group in the Milton, Wisconsin, area, and members at-large from throughout the denomination. The committee is meeting the first weekend in January to finalize plans and make assignments of special projects for the year. Committee members are: Earl Cruzan, Jonathan Cruzan, Herbert Crouch, Phil Burrows, Leon R. Lawton, Don Sanford, Ann Williams, Burton Crandall, Paul Osborn, and Dick Shepard.

"We intend to emphasize 'the funnel method' rather than the 'bucket method' of giving," Stewardship Chairman Shepard says. "In other words, the individual churches and the denominational agencies provide the *channels* through which resources are made available for important phases of Christ's work rather than serve just as recipients of funds."

In the *Christian Ministry* magazine is published an article on "Making It Possible for People To Give Generously" by Paul M. Dietterich, a parish expert. The Stewardship Committee intends to apply the suggested "orientations that promote giving":

- (1) View the church as a "Resource System."
- (2) Enable people to give **through** the church.
- (3) Focus on deep values and goals.
- (4) Emphasize how the church is helping people grow.
- (5) Provide all members with numerous opportunities to participate in decision-making about church programming.
- (6) Provide people with multiple opportunities to make additional gifts.
- (7) Broaden people's options for making designated gifts.
- (8) Broaden the work of the Stewardship and Finance Committees to include helping persons achieve their deepest values and goals through the church.



Stewardship Chairman Shepard met with the General Council in October. A careful survey was made regarding OWM giving patterns through the years. Progress toward balancing the budget in 1978 was reviewed. The proposed budgets for 1979 were thoroughly analyzed and discussed; and it was determined, in light of the discussions, that the larger General Conference endorsed budget for 1979 (\$325,000) should be adopted and put into effect.

As a part of the plan for budget promotion, churches and agencies of the denomination are encouraged to use "program budgeting."

Dr. James Powell, director of Cooperative Program Promotion for the Stewardship Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, serving as consultant to the General Council and the Stewardship Committee, explains program budgeting as "a process by which a church (or church agency) plans its spending around the ministries it conceives as God's will for its life."

"The first thing we should think about in connection with budget is **ministry**," Dr. Powell points out "a church organization must decide what it needs and wants by way of program (ministry) and then **determine** what that ministry will cost. This is program (ministry-action or zero-based) budgeting."

Dr. Powell concludes: "If the budget is not being raised, then the question is: 'Are we doing too much or giving too little?'"

No doubt the Stewardship Committee will have this question in mind as a starting point for stewardship development, based upon a "Biblical theology" which substantiates the fact that "Christian stewardship is the ordering of the whole of life in accordance with the will of God revealed in Jesus Christ." □

## Editorial

### HOLOCAUST IN THE JUNGLE

It is the archetypical tragedy of the decade. Each day for a week we watched the evening news and read in our newspapers the latest episode in the deadly drama being enacted in the steaming jungles of Guyana.

The murder of Congressman Leo Ryan and three newsmen shocked the nation, but we were hardly prepared for what followed. That over 900 men, women, and children could commit mass suicide on the instruction of their "religious" leader, the Rev. Jim Jones, seems almost incomprehensible.

It was a Satanic communion service where the helpless babies died first, often in their mother's arms. The scene is almost impossible to visualize—but we saw photographs of those fields of death. We saw the long lines of silver caskets as they arrived in the United States. We witnessed all this in living color in the security and comfort of our homes. We sat in horror as over the television screen the picture of entire families embraced in death and our hearts cried out for those who had been so deceived.

The People's Temple movement began as something good—offering assistance to the homeless, food for the hungry, concern for the ill and aged. The Rev. Jim Jones was for a time associated with what we would term a "main-line" denomination. That he was a man of unusual abilities no one could deny. A charismatic leader, Jones soon assumed absolute control over the lives of his followers.

All too often in religion a charismatic leader is able to maneuver people into blind allegiance and thus today we see a proliferation of cults and modern day prophets eager to control the minds and purses of their followers. No doubt one reason for the rise of such movements is the breakdown of the family as

well as other forms of authority. For many life has no meaning and it is important to belong to an authoritarian organization that can give meaning and purpose to life as well as promise utopia either on this earth or in the better world to come.

There is an obvious lesson here in regard to church organization. A hierarchical system whereby all authority is centered in one person or in an inner elite is a dangerous thing. There is an old adage that absolute power corrupts absolutely, and Jim Jones again proves it true. □

### BARBARA SNYDER FAITH MISSION WORKER

This month we are happy to welcome to our staff, Miss Barbara Snyder, who is now serving in Plainfield as a Faith Mission worker. Barbara, a member of the Alfred church, has been employed for some years by Kodak in Rochester, N.Y. She has resigned her position and has come, in answer to God's call, to work for the American Sabbath Tract Society and Council on Ministry offices.

By Faith Mission worker, we mean she has come on faith, without salary, believing the Lord will supply her living needs through the assistance of those who want to have a part in her ministry. Gifts to this ministry are tax deductible. Checks and money orders may be made payable to Our World Mission and designated for her support.

Barbara shares why she has felt led to this type of ministry. She writes: "I was looking for a new job in Rochester and never really thought about serving the Lord. The Lord spoke to me through the Holy Spirit with several circumstances, such as sermons, reading, radio, and Christian friends in a timespan



of one week. It was very clear to me that the Lord was calling me to work for Him. My immediate reaction to the idea was not that of excitement, but sorrow and rejection. After getting used to the idea, I reached the conclusion that the only way I could be happy and at peace would be to serve the Lord in whatever capacity He saw fit.

"In the next four months, I sought the Lord's will as to where I should go and discovered He wanted me to help the American Sabbath Tract Society and Center on Ministry in Plainfield, N.J.

"I am very excited about what I can do to help these organizations and am eager to dig into the loads of work that need to be done.

"I believe the Lord will provide my needs and feel I will acquire a great deal of faith through this experience."

We are truly grateful for Barbara's many abilities and her willingness to be used of God in His Kingdom work. We believe that God will supply her needs and know that many of our readers will want to have a part in this ministry.

Your gift may be sent to the American Sabbath Tract Society, P.O. Box 868, Plainfield, NJ 07061 or else to Mr. Gordon Sanford, Our World Mission, Little Genesee, NY 14754. □

CONFERENCE PUBLICITY  
First of Series

**GENERAL CONFERENCE  
AUGUST 1979**

The North Central Association will host General Conference August 5-12, 1979, at Adrian College, Adrian, Michigan.

Adrian College is a Methodist church-related school with a student body of approximately 1,500. The campus is mostly new and has a spacious appearance. Most of the buildings are of Indiana limestone, pleasingly separated by large green lawn areas and landscape plantings.

Worship services will be held in the chapel, a new building, which has an excellent organ and piano. Business sessions and other group meetings will be held in the auditorium, a short walk from the chapel. The auditorium, dining hall, and library are air-conditioned; dormitories and classrooms are not.

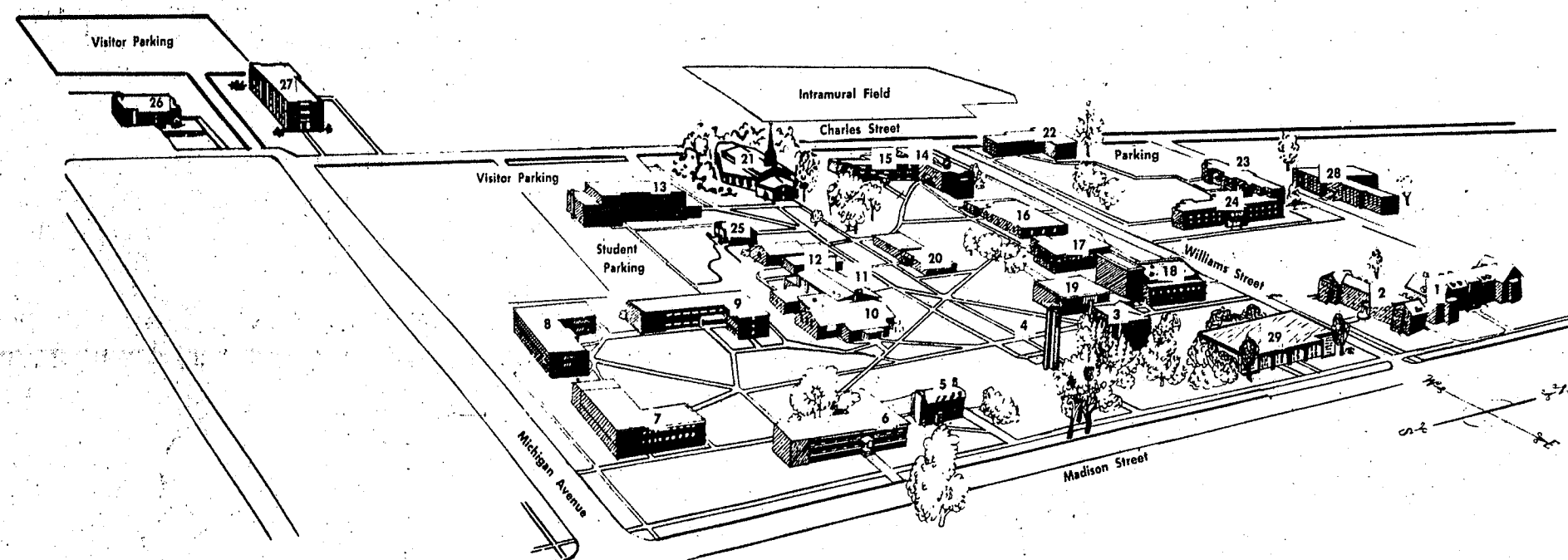
The City of Adrian is located in Southeast Michigan. It is approximately 37 miles southeast of Jackson, Michigan; 70 miles southwest of Detroit; 35 miles northwest of Toledo, Ohio; and some 80 miles southeast of Battle Creek, Michigan, the nearest SDB church. Detroit and Toledo are the closest major airports.

The Host Committee has had lunch on two occasions in the dining hall, cafeteria style, and was pleased with both the quantity and quality of the food and the pleasant atmosphere. In addition to the regular dining hall, there is a large, beautiful dining room for any special occasions, banquets, etc.

Dormitory rooms are clean, pleasant, and of very ample size with two single beds in the rooms. All linens are furnished. Facilities are "down the hall."

Adrian is a great place to have a great Conference. See you in Adrian, August 5!

-George Parrish,  
Host Committee Chairman



ADRIAN COLLEGE MAP

- |                         |                           |                            |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Jarvis Hall           | 11 Ritchie Dining Center  | 19 Natatorium              |
| 2 Estes Hall            | 12 Rush Union             | 20 Administration Building |
| 3 Downs Hall            | 13 Dawson Auditorium      | 21 Chapel                  |
| 4 Herrick Tower         | 14 Peelle Hall of Science | 22 Cargo Hall              |
| 5 Cornelius House       | Planetarium               | 23 Hazel Herrick Hall      |
| 6 Davis Hall            | Robinson Observatory      | 24 Lowry Hall              |
| 7 Feeman Hall           | 15 Jones Hall             | 25 Goldsmith Health Center |
| 8 Stevens Hall          | 16 Shipman Library        | 26 Plant Services Building |
| 9 Powell Hall           | 17 Mahan Hall             | 27 Pellowe Hall            |
| 10 Ritchie Dining Annex | 18 Ridge Gymnasium        | 28 Deans Hall              |
|                         |                           | 29 North Hall              |

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THE SABBATH OUR 135TH YEAR  
**RECORDER**  
SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST FEBRUARY 1979

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*"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow" (Isaiah 1:18).*