

The Sabbath Recorder
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Plainfield, N.J. 07061

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Move me! Oh move me, Lord,
With deep compassion for the city—
Even as Nehemiah's heart was stirred!
Move me to be fully in accord
With Your own heart as it was moved with pity:
"Oh Jerusalem, Jerusalem," your cry was heard!

Move me for street people: junkies, prostitutes, gays—
Everywhere spiritual desolation abounds!
Who is able for a city? Only You are, Lord!
Begin your work in me—my sin astounds—
As Nehemiah I confess, "We have sinned and deserve
the sword!"
Pardon iniquity until the joy of repentance resounds.

Move me! Oh move me, Lord,
Stir my heart in passion for the lost!
"Oh Lord, let now Your ear be attentive";
Give Your cause success at any cost;
Let Your love through me be redemptive.
Move me! Oh move me for a city,
Your Spirit through me be more effective!

Move me and teach me, Oh Lord,
Quicken my mind to learn Your way—
To build the spiritual walls in men, all broken down.
I know not how to build, but You are God adored!
Teach me! Oh teach me, Lord, to reach those astray—
Those reaching out for love in city and town—
Work in them—In "The Book of Life" their names record!

—Don Phillips is an ordained Seventh Day Baptist minister who is now
serving as a Hospital Chaplain in San Diego, California.

MOVE ME

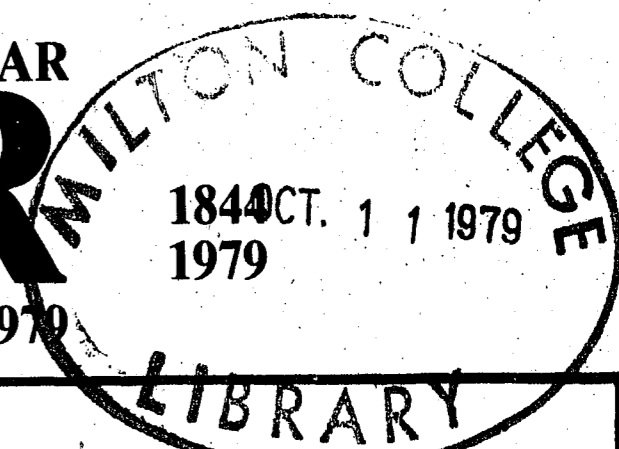
by Don I. Phillips

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THE SABBATH
RECORDER
SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST

OUR 135th YEAR

OCTOBER 1979



*A church is not a bank, but a channel for money.
Be a funnel, not a bucket!*

Surplus is when a person has more than ONE of the NECESSITIES of life!

**Missions suffer from
nearsighted Christians.
We see only the buildings
and pastor.
What's left over is for
international missions.**

Every Christian
should wear
bifocals
to have perspective
in Stewardship.
We need
to see clearly
up close
(local needs)
and distant
(Our World Mission).

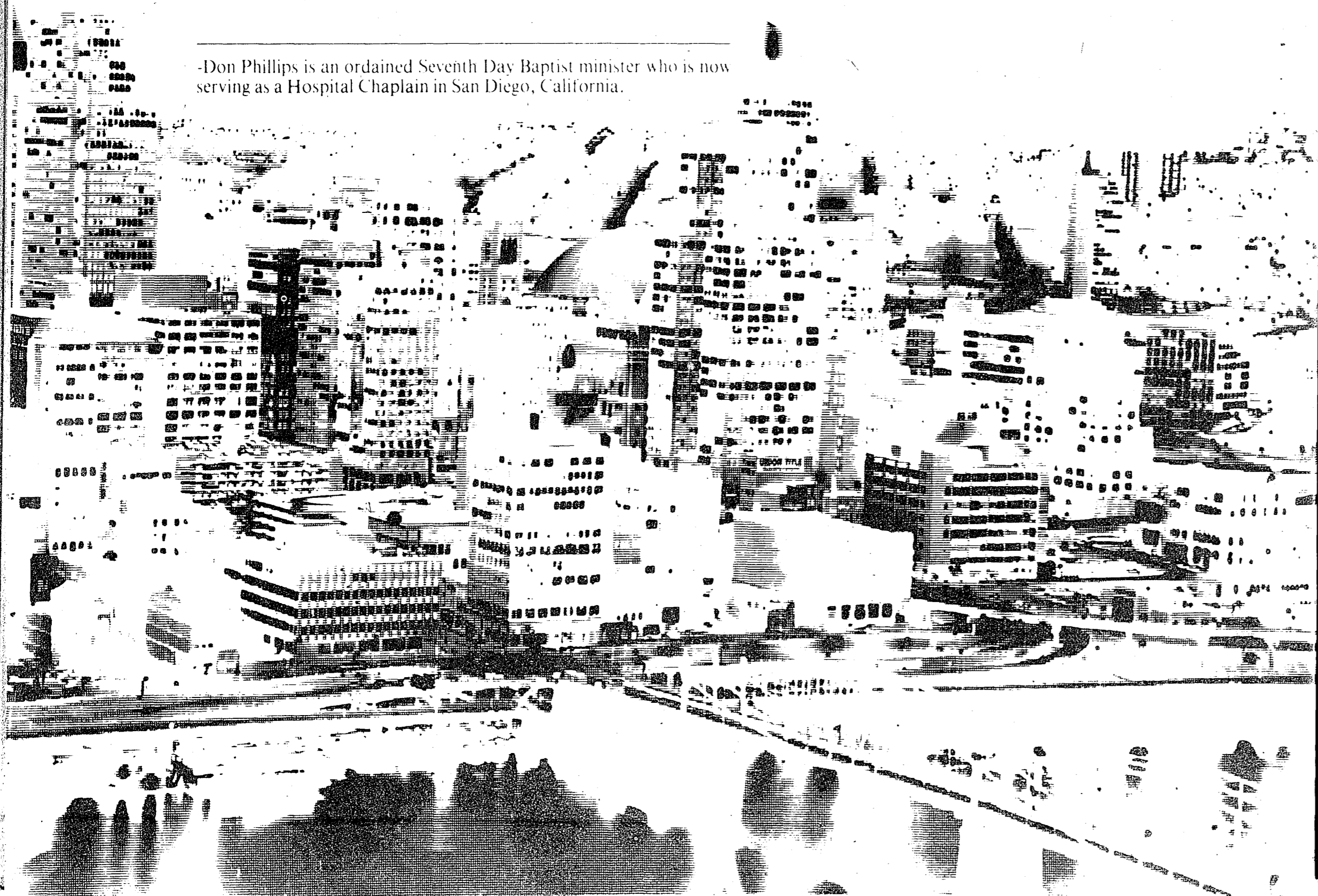
G I G G L E while you give!

Read 2 Corinthians 9:7

**Christian giving
is
Christian living**

**LOVE
IS
SPELLED
GIVE!**

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A SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST PUBLICATION

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PATRICIA CRUZAN, ART DIRECTOR

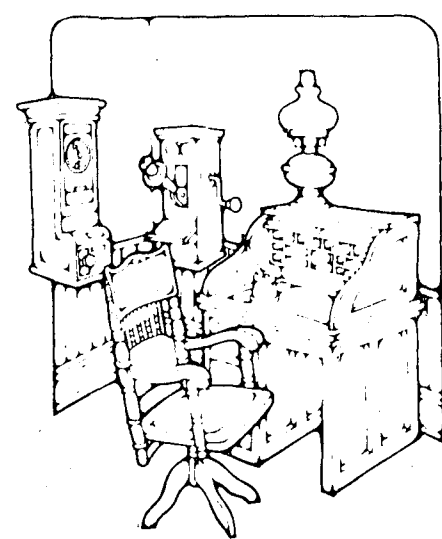
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Mary G. Clare, Rev. Duane L. Davis, Linda D. Harris, K. D. Hurley, Rev. Leon R. Lawton, Thomas L. Merchant, Madeline Fitz Randolph, Rev. Herbert E. Saunders.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR EDITORIAL OFFICE

Effective immediately all articles, news, etc., for publication in *The Sabbath Recorder* should be sent to this new address:

The Sabbath Recorder
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Florence, AL 35630



TRACT SOCIETY SEEKING PUBLISHING DIRECTOR

Responsibilities include editing *Sabbath Recorder*, direction of printed and audiovisual aids to evangelism, member of General Council. Please send your resume to:

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The Sabbath Recorder

In this section I have gathered thoughts from many sources. Most of the articles refer to financial stewardship, as if it were spelled STEWARDSHIP.

However we might like to define it, STEWARDSHIP covers the whole of Christian life!

I believe this quote, taken from my notes on the lectures at the 1979 Ministers Conference given by James Powell, who works with the Southern Baptist Stewardship Services, sums up my feelings about what CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP is all about very well:

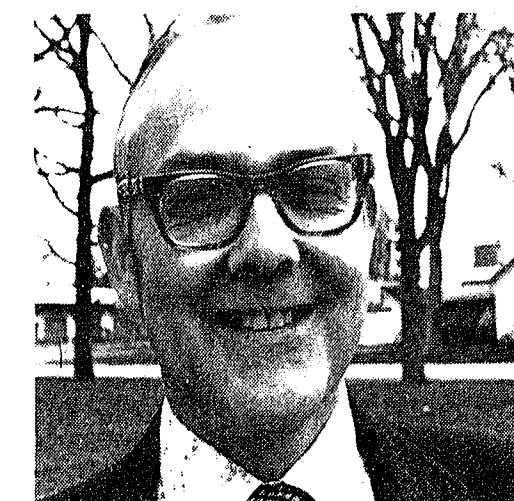
The Word is GROWTH—
Stewardship is *growing* Christians.
It takes but an instant to become a Christian.
Growing takes a lifetime!

The General Conference office has access to many books and leaflets about this kind of Stewardship. But for now, read through this section and see how your financial stewardship measures up!

God give us grace to grow!

In His Service

Paul Osborn
Nortonville, KS
66060



Rev. Paul B. Osborn

STEWARDSHIP

A minister wrote a letter to the membership of his congregation as part of the annual Stewardship Campaign. One of the members replied immediately with great indignation, saying: "According to your concept, Christianity is just one continual give, give, give..."

"Disturbed by this reaction, the minister sat down to write a devastating reply. But as he thought and prayed about it, he found himself thinking, "That man is dead right; Christianity is one continual 'give.'"

So, instead of a scorching letter of rebuke, the minister wrote:

Dear Friend:
 Thank you for the finest definition
 of Christianity I have ever seen.
 Christianity is one continual give, give,
 give. That is the way it all began. God
 gave. He gave His only Son. The Son
 gave. He gave His life upon the cross
 for our sins.

His disciples gave. They left their
 homes and business to devote full time
 to giving the good news. Most of the
 twelve died a martyr's death. Down the
 centuries, the work of Christ has pros-
 pered in proportion to the extent that
 Christians have learned to give, give,
 give."

In His Service,
 PASTOR

I don't think you can improve on those thoughts. Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."¹ The basic principle of real life is all on the side of the giver...the blessings of God. But the scorched, parched, blanchd and barren life is the legacy of the person who has never learned to give!

And the apostle Paul said, "You will be enriched in everything for all liberality, which through us is producing thanksgiving to God."²

1. Acts 20:35
 2. Second Corinthians 9:11[]

INACTIVE CHRISTIANS?

A minister was approached by a man who expressed a desire to become a member of the congregation. The man said that he was rather busy.

"I don't want to be called on for any service as committee work, teaching in the Bible School, or singing in the choir. I would like to be spared from anything that would take my time. Then, too, don't expect me for worship too often."

The minister thought for a moment and then replied, "I believe you are at the wrong church. The church you are looking for is three blocks down the street."

The man followed the preacher's directions and soon came to an abandoned, boarded up, closed church building. It was a dead church—out of business.

May each of us always be alive to the ministry of the Lord's Church. Remember, dead Christians make dead churches![]

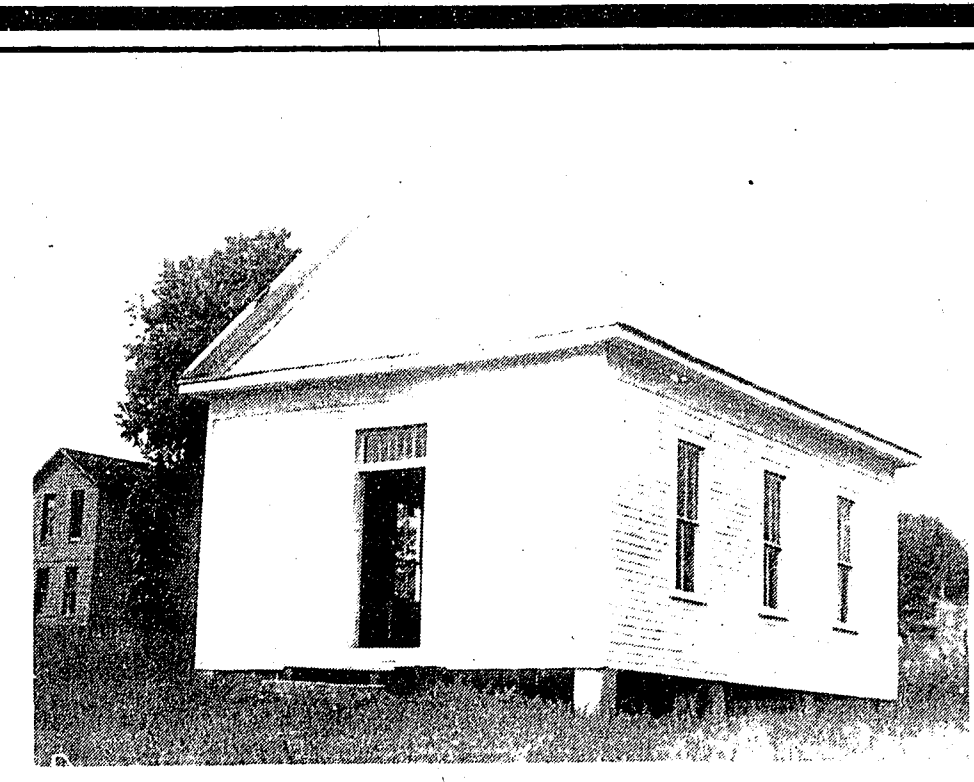
from *Pulpit Helps*

A MISSIONARY or A MISSION FIELD?

I went to church each Sabbath
 And sat lazily in my pew.
 The preacher often preached to me
 But that I never knew.
 I didn't think of others
 Till my pastor once revealed,
 "If you're not a missionary
 Then you're a mission field!"
 "It is urgent," said my teacher,
 "For each of us to visit"
 But in my mind, I would reply,
 It really isn't, is it?
 I'd always heard of missions,
 But little would I give.
 For I strongly felt that all I made
 I needed just to live.

I was a *hearer* only
 And not a *doer* of the Word.
 For I never shared with others,
 The gospel I had heard.
 The preacher's words returned to me,
 "Your life you now should yield,
 For if you're not a missionary,
 Then—You're a mission field."
 So I gave my life to Christ that night
 And it seemed the church bells pealed,
 "You're now a missionary,
 And not a mission field."[]

—Yours and Our Master's
 J. Terrell Ruis
 —from PULPIT HELPS



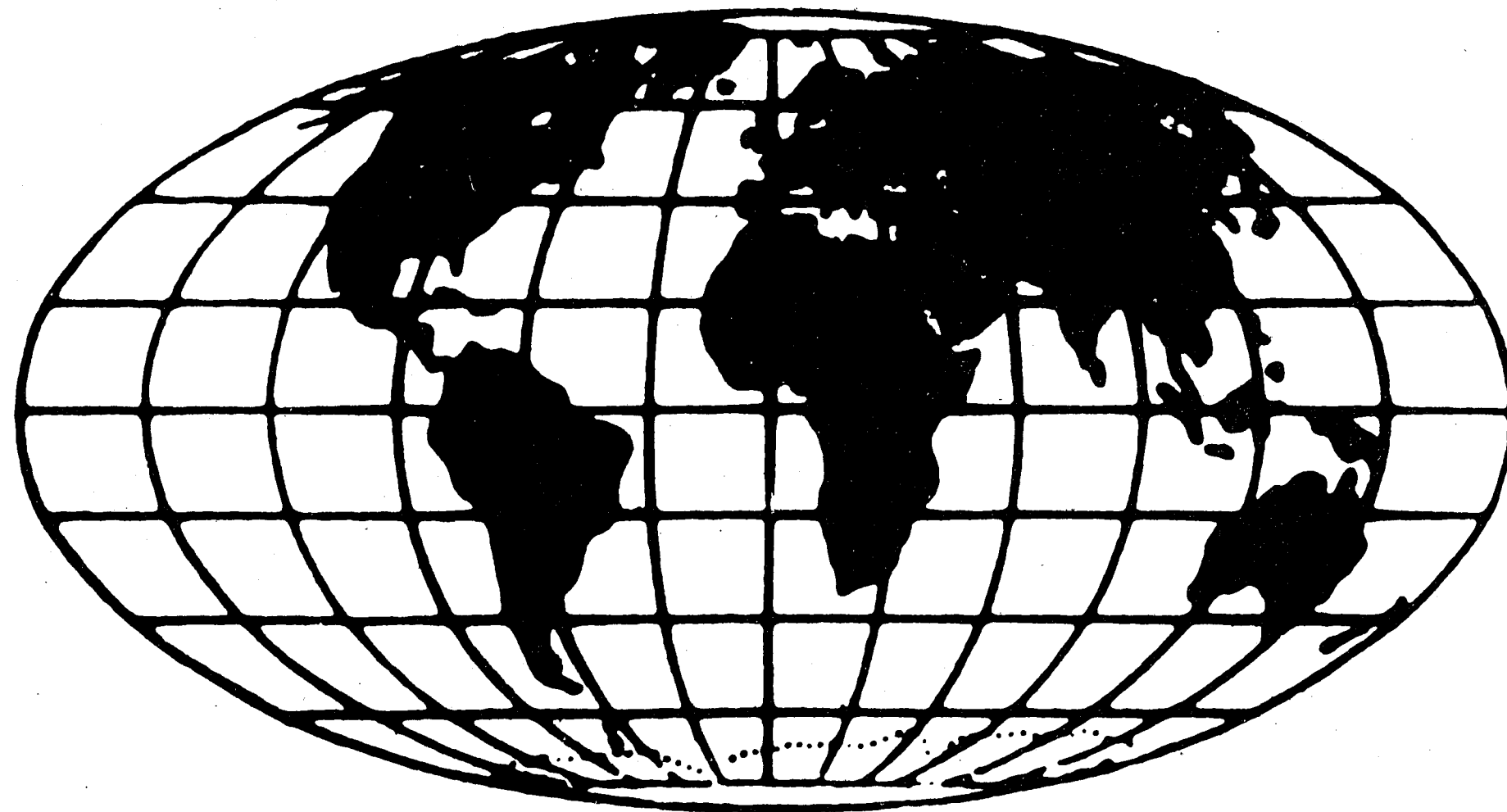
A DOLLAR I GAVE TO GOD

Six thousand for my brand new car,
Three thousand for a piece of sod,
Ten thousand I paid to begin a house—
A dollar I gave to God.

A tidy sum to enter
My friends in pointless chatter,
And when the world goes crazy mad
I ask, "Lord, what's the matter?"

Yet there is one big question—
For the answer I still search,
"With things so bad in this old world,
What's holding back my church?" []

—from *Pulpit Helps*



A missionary preached in a little church in the boon-docks of Kenya, with only a mound of dirt for a pulpit. He preached the gospel through an interpreter and God blessed! The response was good!

One man brought a big cabbage to him as an offering, in appreciation for the message.

"No, no! I can't take that. It's too big!" the missionary said, knowing the poverty of this man and the value of the cabbage.

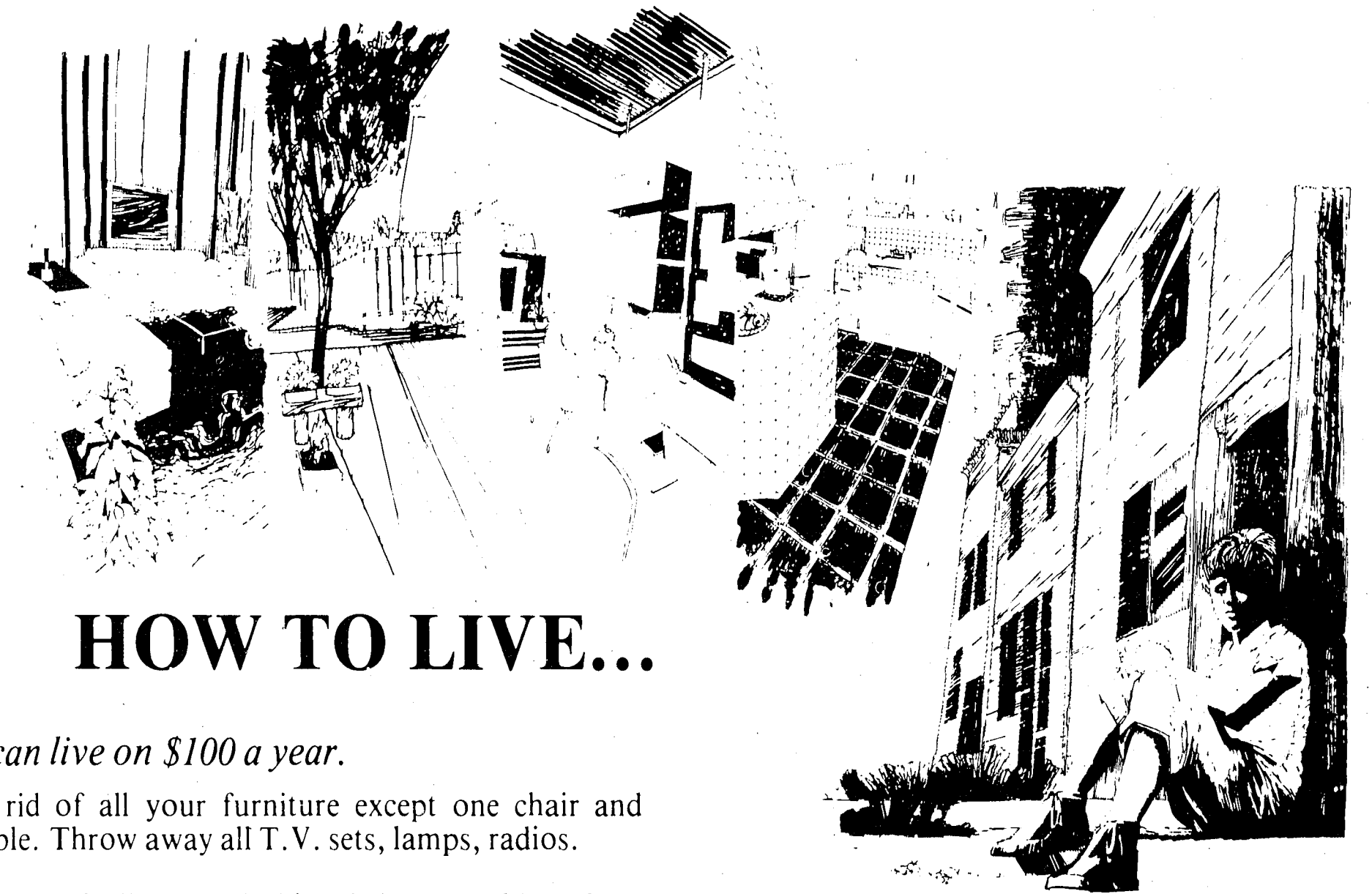
"Please take it," was the man's response. "It's my first, my biggest and my best!"

He was compelled to give by the love of God.

What is our response to the gospel? []

—(Adapted from a story told by James Powell at 1979 Ministers Conference.)

THE BIGGEST CABBAGE!



HOW TO LIVE...

You can live on \$100 a year.

Get rid of all your furniture except one chair and one table. Throw away all T.V. sets, lamps, radios.

Dispose of all your clothing but your oldest dress or suit. One pair of shoes may be kept for the head of the family.

Shut off the water, gas, electricity.

Remove all appliances from the kitchen, keep in the pantry only a small bag of flour, some sugar and salt, a few moldy potatoes, a handful of onions, some dried beans.

Take away the house and move the family to the toolshed. Your neighborhood will be a shantytown.

Move the nearest medical help ten miles away. It will be tended by a midwife.

Get rid of the car.

Forget newspapers, magazines, books. You won't miss them because you must also give up literacy.

Count your emergency fund at \$15.00. You'll have no bankbooks, pension plans, insurance policies.

Cultivate three acres as a tenant farmer. Provided there is no drought, you can expect from \$100 to \$300 a year in cash crops, paying 1/3 to the landlord and at least 1/10 to the money lender.

Lop off 25 to 30 years in life expectancy.

Millions do...

In fact, 1/2 of the people in our world actually live on \$100 a year...and they do it much as described here!

—permission for the above granted by World Mission Support of American Baptist Church, U.S.A.

on \$100 A YEAR

In our economy it is not really possible to live on \$100 a year. But—you could probably live on \$100 less this year.

Think about it!

If you gave \$100 more than you have been giving to your church for Christ's work throughout the world this year, would it require sacrifice? Would it change your style of living? Would you really miss it for very long?

It will make a difference!

To live on \$100 less this year may require discipline. But that extra \$100 to the work of the church can be of tremendous help in mission enterprises now underway.

It will help provide healing ministries in Christ's name, freedom from the bondage of ignorance and superstition, food for hungry people through improved agriculture, the gospel message to many who have never heard, a Christian presence in difficult places.

In making your commitment to give, consider how much less you can live on...\$100 less, \$200 less—or how much less?!

reprints of this article are available \$2.75 per hundred from AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES U.S.A., World Mission Support Valley Forge, Pennsylvania 19481

HOW STRONG IS YOUR FAITH IN GOD?

Only a small percentage of Christians have enough faith and love to give ten percent of their income to the Lord and His Kingdom. Does this mean those who don't tithe are afraid God will not help them in their stewardship?

Listen, Christian, stewardship is a test of logic and faith: How can you believe God will take care of you in the next world if you don't believe He'll take care of you financially in this world? Faith begins now, in this life (Mark 10:29-30). If we cannot believe in God's promises here and now, how can we trust Him there and then?

TITHING

Tithing was instituted long before Moses. Abraham gave tithes of all he had (Genesis 14:20) and Jacob said, "And all that thou shalt give me, I will surely give the tenth unto thee" (Genesis 28:22).

Tithing therefore is not part of the ceremonial law which ended in Christ. Tithing was neither symbolic nor figurative, and when the reasons which originated

Christian faith and Christian stewardship often transcend reason and logic. Don't expect to understand how God takes hold of your money matters and improves them. Perhaps you are one of the many who loves to give and feels the need of giving more to your church and Our World Mission, but without faith to undertake tithing. Instead of trying to reason your budget, merely step out in faith. This seems like throwing logic out the window, but in reality, walking in faith is simply believing God's promise!

Christian faith means walking in the dark where you cannot see, but knowing you will be guided! □

—adapted from the Ozark Bible College *Compass*.

a law continue to operate and there is no plain repeal of that law, the law remains in force. The tithe therefore passes right into the New Testament era. Indeed, Christ approved the tithing habit (Matthew 23:23).

The only freedom a New Testament Christian has is to give more than the tenth.... □

—from *God's Stewards*, a tract published by the Faith, Prayer and Tract League, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504



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A CHRISTIAN WILL

by Don Graffius

Proverbs 16:9 says: "We should make plans—counting on God to direct us." Unfortunately many individuals fail to plan for their death. Planning for one's death should include the making of a will.

A will is a written document which

witness your will should not be persons named as beneficiaries in the will. Some states require the witnesses to sign affidavits acknowledging certain facts related to the signing of the will. Other states require that the witnesses be located after your death and verify your will.

Seek Professional Assistance

Due to the complexity of making a will, one should not write his or her own will, although this practice is permitted in some states. Copying someone else's will is also a dangerous practice. A lawyer should be consulted in all cases.

The cost of making a simple will varies. The amount charged will

pose of some of the children's estates due to an unforeseen expense, she would again be required to appear in court and seek the court's permission.

Thus, the most important reason for making a will is to enable you personally to direct how your estate will be distributed. You may wish to give family heirlooms to certain individuals or to benefit a child who is particularly needy.

A Christian Responsibility

In light of the above facts it is clear that all Christians should make a will and periodically review it when they move or some other change occurs in their family. In addition to providing for one's family, however, a Christian can also designate a share of his or her estate to carry on some phase of Christian work.

Seventh Day Baptists who long ago departed this world continue to advance Christ's Kingdom and the work of Seventh Day Baptists through a gift or bequest made to a church, camp, board or agency in a will prepared prior to their death.

Most conscientious Christians, realizing God's material blessings, tithe a portion of their income to the church. Strangely enough, however, many of those same Christians when they depart this earth and no longer have any physical or material needs neglect to designate even a small portion of their estate to continue Christ's work here on earth.

Yes, the Proverb is true, it is wise to make plans—especially for death. I would call on all Seventh Day Baptists to prayerfully seek God's direction as they make their respective wills. Future Seventh Day Baptists will be blessed by your generosity!

If you would like additional information or if you have further questions write to

Seventh Day Baptist
Memorial Fund
510 Watchung Avenue
Plainfield, NJ 07061 □

—A member of the Memorial Board, Don Graffius is an attorney residing in New Enterprise, Pa.

- love lives on**
- Please send information about Estate Planning.
 - Add me to the mailing list to receive Estate Planning information.
 - I would like to confer with an Estate Planning Counselor to discuss my future plans.
 - Please send me a free copy of the following:
 - Peter Had Left No Will
 - The Making of a Christian Will
 - The Christian and His Estate Plans
 - What Your Executor Will Need From You
 - I would like information on:
 - Annuities
 - Wills and Bequests

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

does not meet all state requirements is invalid and the estate will be distributed as if there had been no will.

One who dies leaving a valid will is said to have died testate. One who dies intestate, has died without leaving a valid will.

Although, some states permit you to name an executor or executrix from another state, some do not. Certainly from the standpoint of expense and convenience, it is wise to name an executor from the state where the will is prepared.

The individuals you choose to

will) your estate will be distributed according to law. Such a distribution may work a financial hardship on you and your family. For example, suppose you died intestate with your wife and two small children surviving you. In most states, your estate would be distributed between your wife and children. Your wife would have to contact a lawyer to prepare the papers necessary for her to be appointed guardian of her children's newly-acquired estates. This needless expense could have been saved by making a will. In addition, your wife will be required to make periodic accountings to the court to demonstrate she is fulfilling her guardianship. Also, should she decide to dis-

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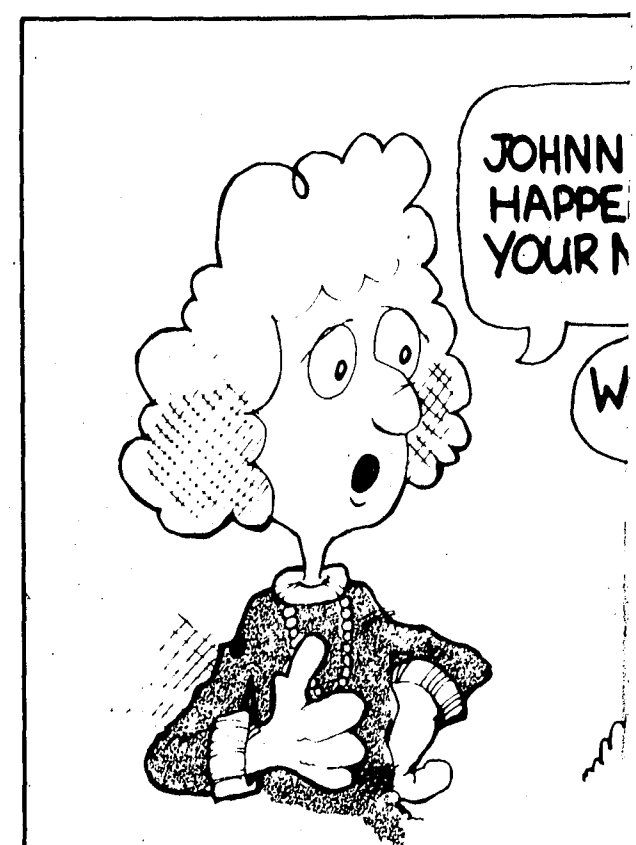
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Proverbs 16:9 says: "We should make plans—counting on God to direct us." Unfortunately many individuals fail to plan for their death. Planning for one's death should include the making of a will.

A will is a written document which determines what is to be done with your property after your death. It designates individuals or organizations to receive your property. These individuals or organizations are called beneficiaries. One can also protect children in a will by naming guardians for them. Also, a will usually names someone to administer his or her estate after one's death. This individual is known as an executor if he is a male or an executrix if she is a female.

The requirements for making a valid will vary from state to state. Generally, an individual must be an adult, 18 years of age in most states, and of sound mind.

A will must be written and must be signed by you in the presence of at least two witnesses. The witnesses must also sign the will. Some states require three witnesses. A will that does not meet all state requirements is invalid and the estate will be distributed as if there had been no will.

One who dies leaving a valid will is said to have died testate. One who dies intestate, has died without leaving a valid will.

Although, some states permit you to name an executor or executrix from another state, some do not. Certainly from the standpoint of expense and convenience, it is wise to name an executor from the state where the will is prepared.

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The cost of making a simple will varies. The amount charged will depend upon the complexity of the will. It is proper to ask an attorney about the fee for his work when contacting him for an appointment.

The cost of making a will is a wise investment in that it saves your estate money. If you die without a will, the court will appoint someone to distribute your estate. This person will be required to post a surety bond and the premiums will be taken out of your estate. The cost of these premiums greatly exceed the cost of making a will.

Also, an administrator's powers are very limited and he will be required to petition the court in many cases to dispose of major estate assets. The additional legal fees and costs will again be taken from your estate.

If you die intestate (without a will) your estate will be distributed according to law. Such a distribution may work a financial hardship on you and your family. For example, suppose you died intestate with your wife and two small children surviving you. In most states, your estate would be distributed between your wife and children. Your wife would have to contact a lawyer to prepare the papers necessary for her to be appointed guardian of her children's newly-acquired estates. This needless expense could have been saved by making a will. In addition, your wife will be required to make periodic accountings to the court to demonstrate she is fulfilling her guardianship. Also, should she decide to dis-

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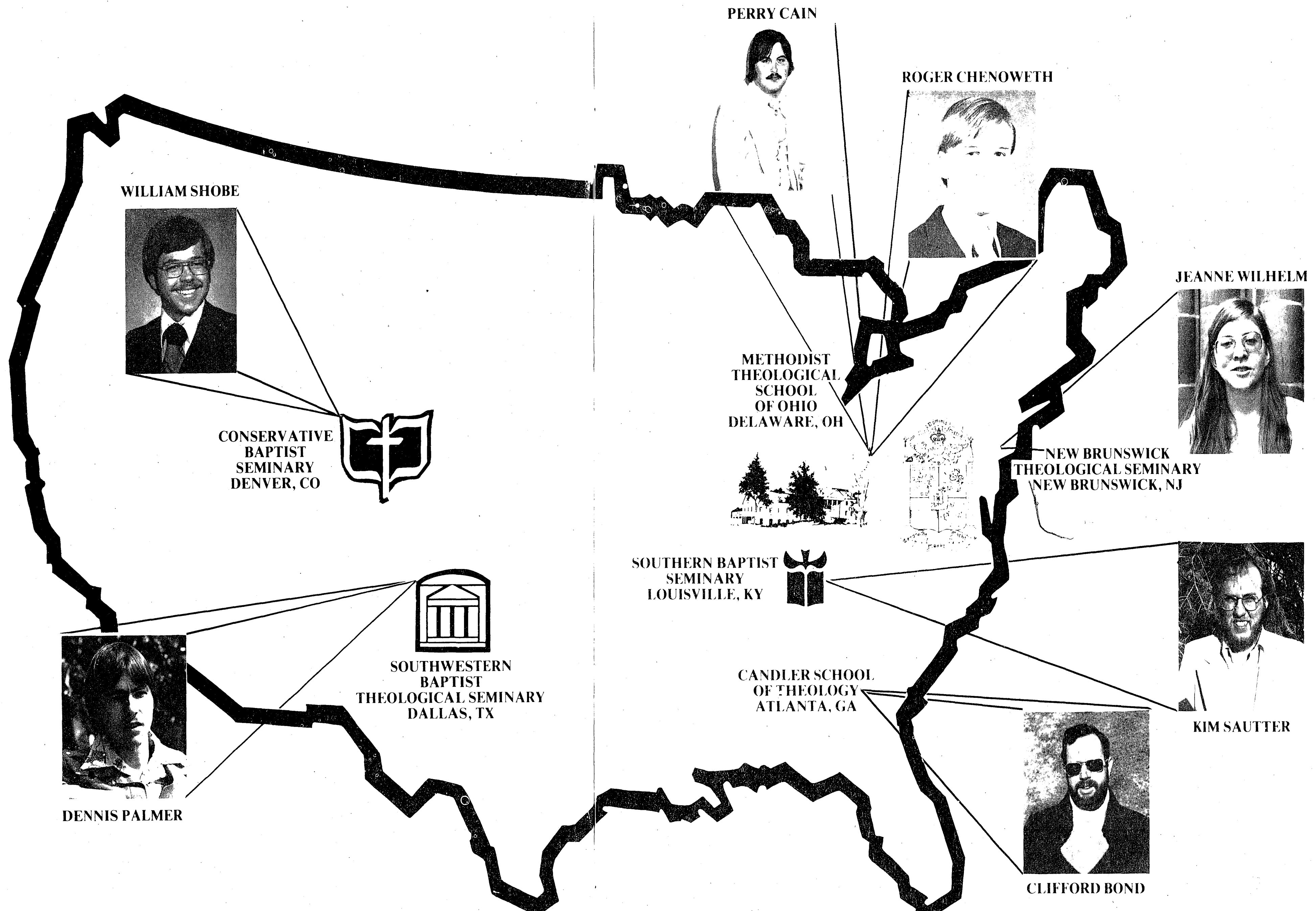
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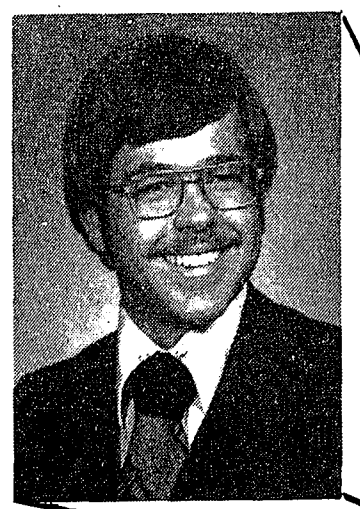
—A member of the Memorial Board, Don Graffius is an attorney residing in New Enterprise, Pa.

October 1979

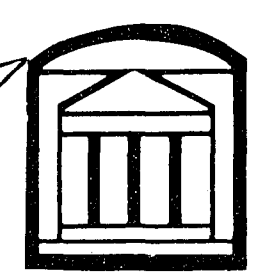
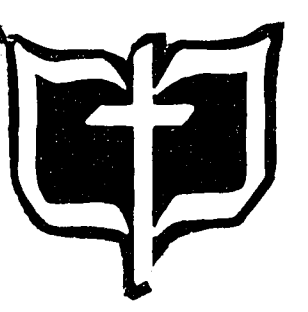
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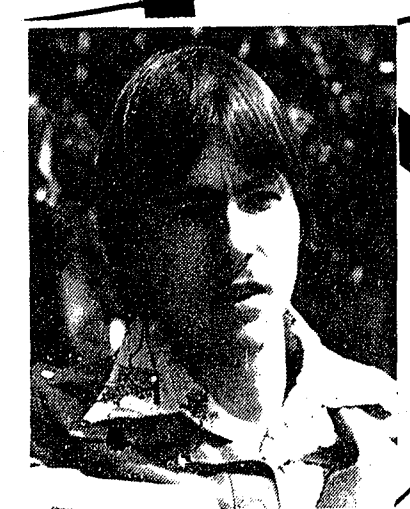
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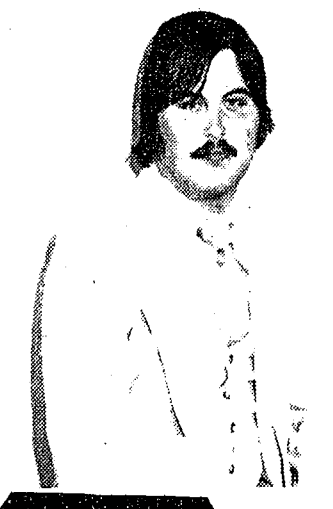


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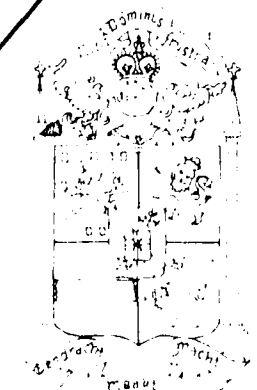
PERRY CAIN



ROGER CHENOWETH



METHODIST THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL OF OHIO DELAWARE, OH



NEW BRUNSWICK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ

JEANNE WILHELM



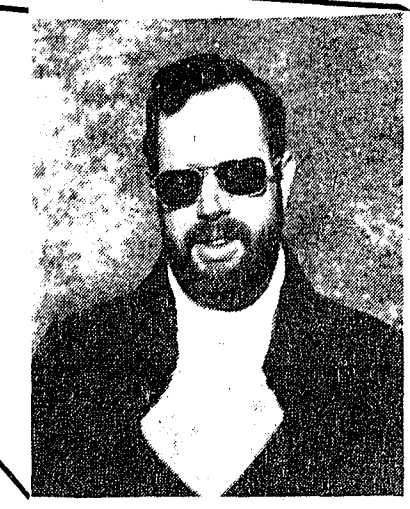
SOUTHERN BAPTIST SEMINARY LOUISVILLE, KY



CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY ATLANTA, GA



KIM SAUTTER



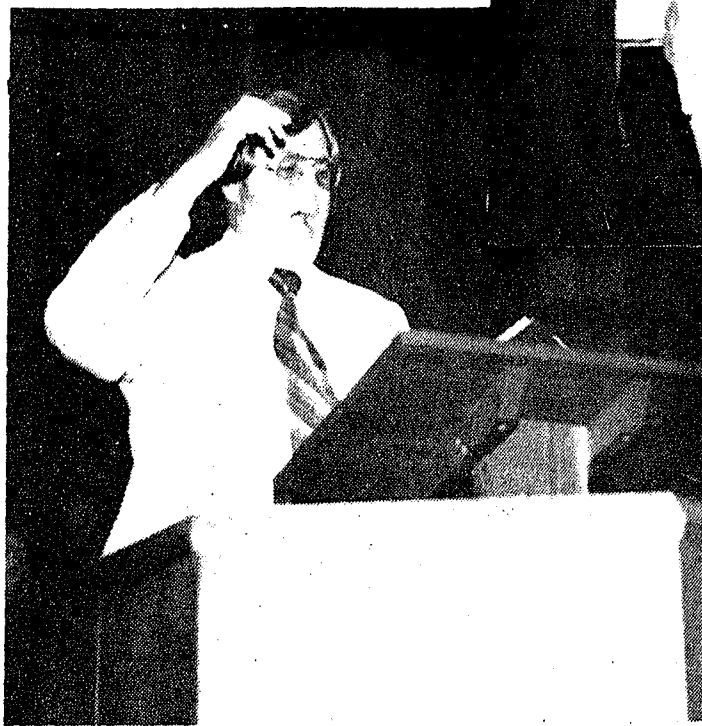
CLIFFORD BOND

Seventh Day Baptist Center on Ministry

510 Watchung Ave., Box 868, Plainfield, New Jersey 07061

TRAINING PASTORS FOR THE FUTURE OF SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS





Responding to God's Call



"I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' Then I said, 'Here I am, send me.'"

-Isaiah 6:8

by John D. Bevis

During Conference week Editor John D. Bevis had opportunity to talk with Rod and Camille Henry prior to their departure for service in the Philippines.

Rodney and Camille Henry have answered a call to missionary service to work with the Philippine Union Conference of Seventh Day Baptists. They will serve an initial four-year term and planned to leave the end of September 1979, from Los Angeles, CA.

Members of the Los Angeles Seventh Day Baptist Church, the Henrys are well known across the denomination. They worked for some time with Rev. Mynor Soper in Light Bearers for Christ. They have a special musical ministry which has blessed the hearts of thousands of people over the years. Currently they have been on a six-week tour of many of our churches.

Prior to Conference the Henrys along with David and Bettie Pearson, returning missionaries to Malawi, attended a three-week missionary internship workshop in Detroit. Some forty-five missionaries were present, from several denominations and organizations, for an "intense living" situation which stressed how to develop trust relationships. Rod Henry stated that the workshop experience was very beneficial as it helped one to discover yourself and your ministry to others. He and Camille agreed that it was especially beneficial for them to spend extended time with David and Bettie Pearson. The Pearsons, as most of our readers are aware, have spent some twenty years in Africa and also are scheduled for departure for Kenya and Malawi, in late September.

Rod, why a call to overseas missions when there is much yet to be done on the home field?

While completing my degree at Fuller Theological Seminary I took as many electives as possible from the "School of World Missions." In the classes I was confronted with the statistic that less than 10 percent of the clergy (Christian workers) are ministering to 90 percent of the world's Christians. I felt challenged to consider ministering in Jesus' name to that vast 90 percent—intellectually it made sense.

The Sabbath Recorder

Well, Camille, how did you react to the thought of overseas service?

At first missions turned me off. I couldn't imagine not having the comforts I am used to. Finally I said, "Oh Lord, let me know your will." It wasn't an easy decision for me and I have struggled with it. However, I came to the realization that with the power of the Lord I could follow His leading.

Why the Philippines?

In First Samuel 7 we have the story about David being asked to go to a certain land. This made an impression on us, we wanted to be sure we were in the Lord's will. More and more it seemed the Lord was laying the Philippines on our hearts, even before we had contact regarding the need of the Missionary Society. We feel that our call to the Philippines came from God. Later we conferred with Rev. Leon R. Lawton, the Missionary Society, and finally in person with Rev. E.O. Ferraren when he was in America for World Federation in 1978.

It is interesting to note that some eighty languages are spoken in the Philippines. To many English is a second language and some one-fourth speak Spanish. In the area where most of our witness is concentrated the language is Cebuano which the Henrys hope to learn. Accompanying Rod and Camille are their two children: Tanya, age 4, and Erik, age 2.

Since music has been such an important part of your lives and ministry, do you anticipate this to be part of your Philippine work?

Yes, we do. We have discovered that music is a cultural thing. We hope to learn their music and use, of course, some western music in our ministry. Our aim is to minister in music in a way that will be most meaningful to the people of the Philippines, a way to communicate with them in their own culture.

How do you define your role as missionaries?

We go not as leaders, rather as servants. We see ourselves as assisting their leadership. Pastoral training will be a major role Rod will play. He will be involved in theological education by extension, they have requested such assistance. It is interesting to note that 90 percent of the pastors from rural areas sent away to the city for seminary training do not return home. An initial priority with us will, of course, be learning the language.

Where will you be living?

We don't know where we will be living or the conditions that we will be living under.

Certainly our prayer support goes with you as you embark upon this great adventure for the Lord and Seventh Day Baptists. Do you have a parting comment to share with our readers?

We request your prayer support. We face a tremendous challenge of a new field—it is a new situation for us and for Seventh Day Baptists. We have the training and the vision as well as the resources of the Kingdom at our fingertips. However, there is always the element of the unknown. We are especially grateful for the enthusiasm of the people in the Philippines as they await our arrival. □

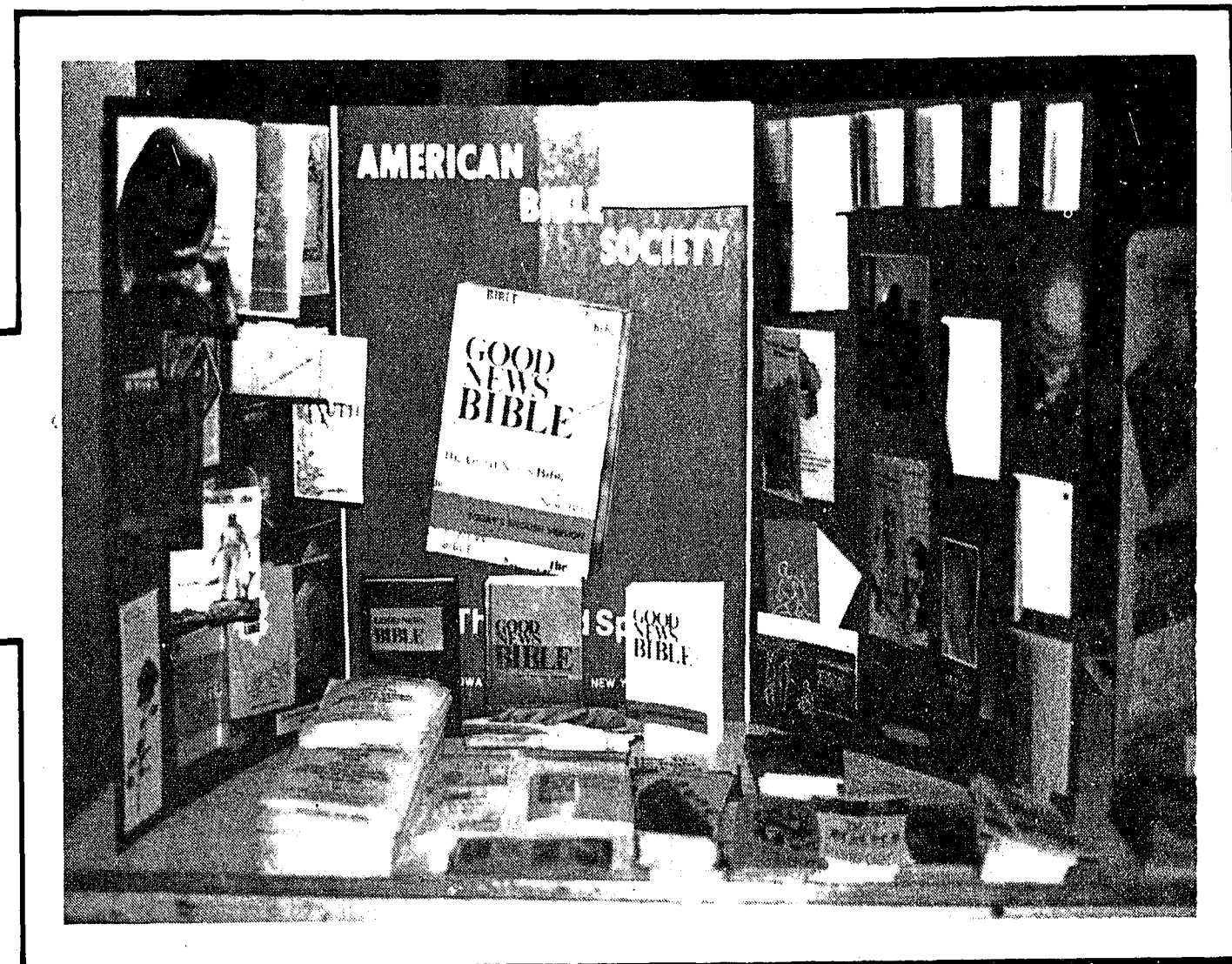


Rev. and Mrs. David Pearson have returned to Africa where they have served as missionaries for almost 20 years. En route the Pearsons stopped for a visit with Dutch SDB's. The Pearsons go next to Kenya to aid in a new witness there and then on to Malawi. Our prayers go with you David and Bettie.

October 1979

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Seventh Day Baptist churches are invited to receive a special offering this month to assist in the worldwide Bible work of the American Bible Society - October 20, 1979, is the suggested Sabbath for this offering.



AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY REPORT TO THE SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE

The years had taken their toll. Her face was quite wrinkled now—possibly from years of working in the sun, because she was obviously not wealthy.

But every Sunday morning she passed his newsstand, stopped and handed him a Scripture Selection. As she did so she always said the same words to him: "Take and read the message. It will be of help to you in your life."

The newsdealer politely accepted the Selections each week and put them on a shelf beside him. As time went by the pile grew steadily. He had never bothered to read even one of them.

But as his stack of Scriptures grew so did his problems. His wife left him and he had to care for all the children. The newsstand demanded long hours. How could he keep the only business he knew and still attend to his responsibilities at home? He became sad, frustrated and desperate.

It was then that he recalled the words of the old lady. What had she said? "Read the message. It will be of help to you in your life." Well, he might as well look at the papers she had given him.

He started reading—first one, then another, then another. He began to discover that indeed the Selections did contain a message for him. It was a message of hope, a new way of looking at life and living. He anxiously waited for the old lady to come by again next Sunday morning so that he could ask her more about the Scriptures he had read.

At his request she brought him a New Testament which he studied with a sense of urgency. The more he read the more he wanted to know about God.

Then came the Sunday morning when he closed his newsstand and joined the elderly lady as she went to church. There he found the peace and security for which he had been looking. He also found he was able to see his problems from a new perspective and to start living a new life. Sometime later he was baptized and began a new job directing a mission post of the church in Lima, Peru.

Now you know why we are excited when we report that over 500 million Scriptures were distributed in 1978. The seed is being sown and it falls on good soil over and over again.

Increases in Scripture distribution were dramatic in many areas of the world. For example, there was a 35 percent increase in Scripture distribution achieved throughout the Middle East nations in Iran, Iraq, Jordan

and Lebanon. Percentage-wise the second largest distribution increase in the world occurred in Iraq—a 254.5 percent increase from 122,819 Scriptures in 1977 to 435,350 in 1978. This tremendous progress was achieved in a nation which is 97 percent Moslem and was due in part to a great demand for Selections in the new Today's Arabic Version translation. These Selections also helped to achieve a 157 percent Scripture distribution increase in Jordan.

However, it should also be noted that in all four of these countries there were many more requests than in previous years for New Testaments as well as complete Bibles. In Lebanon, distribution of New Testaments doubled from 13,698 to 27,234 while the distribution of Portions increased almost sixfold from a little over 19,000 in 1977 to more than 132,000 in 1978.

Total Scripture distribution throughout 1978 by all of the Societies cooperating with the United Bible Societies reached 503,125,210 Bibles, New Testaments, Portions and Selections—a 23 percent increase over the previous year.

AFRICA

The largest nation in Africa achieved one of the greatest Scripture distribution increases on that continent during 1978. The Sudan, covering an area of almost one million square

miles and lying just south of Egypt, achieved a 76.6 percent increase from over 100,000 Scriptures distributed in 1977 to more than 177,000 in 1978. This record was surpassed only by the Ivory Coast with 79.7 percent increase from more than 363,000 to more than 650,000 Scriptures.

In both Mozambique and Rhodesia distribution was up almost 70 percent.

In 1978, New Testaments were distributed in the Central African Empire at a rate of one for every 100 residents of the country.

ASIA

The largest percentage increase in distribution achieved in Asia outside of the Middle East countries reported above, was experienced throughout the islands of Micronesia. The introduction of New Reader Selections enabled more than 15,000 of these island people to begin their personal study of God's Word. Other significant increases were reported from Bangladesh and Pakistan where the sharing of New Reader Portions and Selections gave several hundred thousand men, women and children their first opportunity to read more about God's Word and the teachings of Jesus Christ. In India, the distribution of New Reader Scriptures increased 147 percent permitting millions of new readers to discover for themselves the truths revealed in the Scriptures.

Total Scripture distribution throughout India in 1978 surpassed 60 million copies, the second largest distribution of any country in the world and exceeded only by the United States. India's distribution accounted for slightly more than 30 percent of the entire Asia total.

LATIN AMERICA

As a part of a program to celebrate the Centennial Year of the Bible Society of Mexico, a concerted effort to reach every home with a copy of God's Word was launched. The result was the largest distribution increase experienced by any Bible Society in the world during 1978. From 9,187,704 Scriptures distributed in 1977, Mexico achieved a tremendous 314.8 percent increase to reach 38,111,109 Scriptures in 1978. The largest distribution

in Latin America was achieved by Brazil which was able to share more than 40 million Scripture Selections with the people of that country due to the popularity of new Scripture translation into common language Portuguese.

EUROPE

All of us rejoiced when permission was granted to ship 25,000 Bibles to Russia. Just before Christmas, the arrangements were finally completed and the shipment was packed for transporting to Moscow. The shipment arrived safely in January of 1979 and distribution went off without a hitch. This 25,000 brought the total Scripture distribution in Eastern Europe to almost 300,000 for 1978.

The largest increase in distribution in Europe occurred on the opposite side of the continent in Spain. Over one million Scriptures were shared with hungry people in that great land.

THE UNITED STATES

Once again distribution of Scriptures throughout the United States was larger than in any other nation of the world. The 127,414,817 Bibles, Testaments, Portions and Selections distributed throughout the United States during 1978 represented slightly more than one-quarter of the entire world distribution. For the past 20 years the American Bible Society has been focusing its efforts in the United States toward sharing God's Word as widely as possible through the use of Scripture Selections. Their low production costs permit the ABS to reach widely into hospitals, prisons, migrant labor camps and wherever people are in need of comfort and guidance of God's Word. These Selections are also used extensively by churches, organizations and individuals in Scripture evangelism.

For example, a total of 1,210,000 ABS Scripture Selections was provided to the Union Vision Evangelistic Association of Newark, New Jersey, to be used in their ministry with Hispanic communities. And the Union Rescue Mission of Los Angeles, California, probably the largest Rescue Mission in the world, received 130,000 various ABS Scrip-

ture Selections for use both within the Mission and in its community outreach programs.

NEW READER PROGRAMS

A significant portion of the distribution reported above was to people who have previously been denied access to the Scriptures simply because they were unable to read. Burgeoning literacy programs around the world assisted by the Bible Societies' New Reader programs, have enabled these people to discover for themselves through their own eyes the wonderful words of God.

More than 13 million New Reader Scriptures were shared with new readers in Indonesia, many of whom were school children with few other materials available at their reading levels.

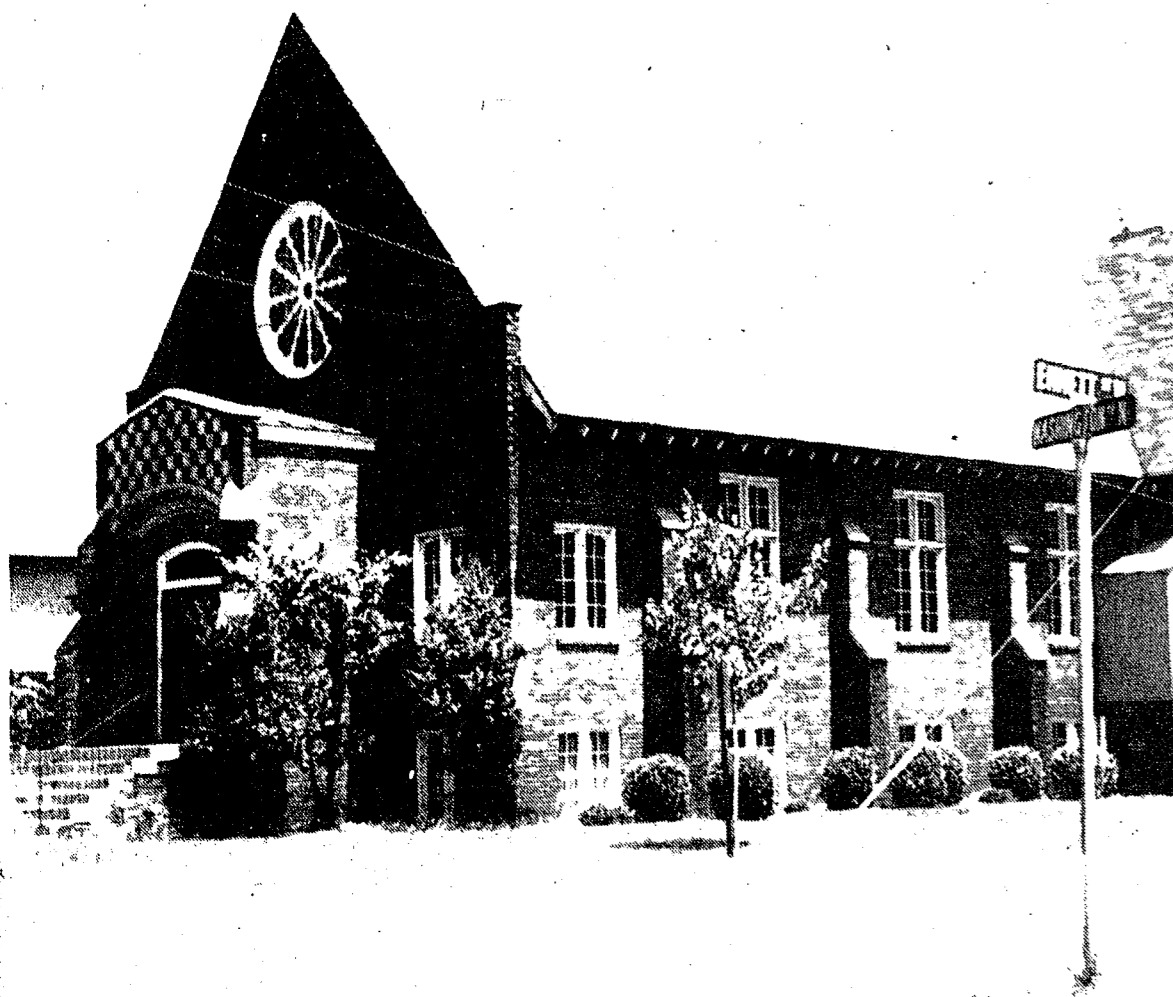
Over 3,380,000 New Reader Scriptures brought God's Word to readers in Peru and 2,200,000 of these Scriptures were provided readers in Brazil.

Close to 200,000 New Reader Scriptures were distributed throughout Ghana and almost 300,000 in Malawi.

TRANSLATIONS

In addition to bringing God's Word in a form that can be easily understood, the Bible Societies' New Reader program helps the new reader attain the literacy level he needs in order to easily comprehend a complete New Testament in his own language. Since few of these new readers would be acquainted with terminology used 100 or even 50 years ago, it is essential that they be provided with translations in the language they commonly speak today.

During 1978 new common language translations appeared in 22 languages including the book of James in Today's Arabic Version and the complete New Testament in the form of Portuguese in current usage. (continued on page 28)



MORE ALIVE AT 75

BATTLE CREEK SDB CHURCH CELEBRATES 75th ANNIVERSARY

by Karen Thorngate

The 75th anniversary celebration of the Battle Creek church was held on Sabbath, August 4, with many friends, former pastors, and assistant pastors enroute to Conference attending with the regular church family.

The day was special right from the start. The Rev. Duane Davis of Seattle, Washington, gave reminiscences of his summers spent with the church in 1952 and 1953 as assistant pastor, when he worked long hours with the church's indefatigable pastor, the Rev. Alton Wheeler. Another former assistant pastor, the Rev. Herbert Saunders, who spent the summer of 1960 in Battle Creek, sang "The Holy City."

The Rev. S. Kenneth Davis, the church's present pastor, announced that the year of jubilee had come at the beginning of the morning worship service, and the sound of trumpets was heard. The trumpets, used throughout the service, heralded a processional of anniversary banners made by church auxiliaries and carried by their representatives, followed by church choir members in gold robes and maroon stoles. The church was filled not only with a congregation of 200 people, but also with a spirit of jubilation and a feeling of God's loving presence.

The Rev. Leland Davis of Washington, D.C., who was pastor of the church from 1954-1961, was the worship leader for the service, and the Rev. Alton Wheeler from Riverside, California, pastor of the church from 1945-1953, brought the morning message.

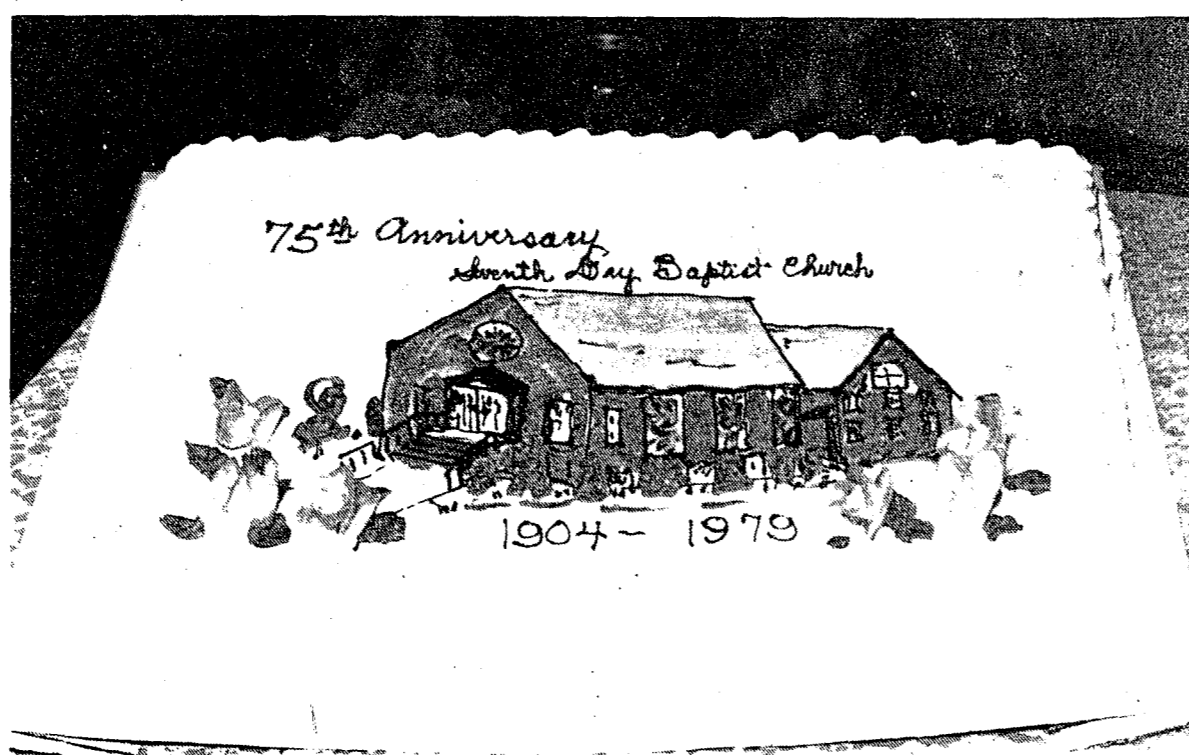
Paul Fatato, son of another former pastor, the Rev. Eugene N. Fatato, now deceased, gave the children's message.

A special feature of the worship service was the premiere of the anthem, "Let Us Witness Together," written by Dr. Roberta Bitgood and commissioned by Arabeth DeLand especially for the church's anniversary in memory of her husband, the late Dr. C. LeRoy DeLand. Dr. Bitgood, president of the American Guild of Organists, used text compiled by Arabeth for the anthem which was divided into three sections: I. Giving God the glory due Him, II. Loving one another (using the Conference text), and III. Being true to the faith of our fathers and being witnesses of God's redeeming love. The duet portion of the anthem was sung by Arabeth and the couple's daughter, Laurinne Lasrado. The anthem was also sung by the Conference Choir at the Awards Program of General Conference in Adrian.

Another of the continuing historical vignettes, scheduled monthly all this anniversary year, was given by George Parrish. He spoke of those church members who had served in denominational capacities. Also included in the service was the singing of an anniversary hymn, one of three written by church members for the special anniversary year. The regular sharing time during the service was especially meaningful as members, former members, and friends told how much the church had meant in their lives and how good it was to be home."

The Rev. Wheeler in his message, "A Continuing Marathon," cautioned the church not to fondle its past or to be a museum, but to move forward, presenting the living message and living God as runners taking up the light of Jesus Christ from those going before. "...Who will carry on?" he asked, "Jesus Christ must be preached." He challenged each one to "lay aside anything that detracts from the beauty of your witness..." "You," he said, "have the most powerful witness in this church...you have a course to run..."

The loving fellowship continued at the potluck dinner in the church social rooms after the worship service



This beautiful anniversary cake was shared by some 140 at the banquet held at the Lakeside Baptist Church.

where there was an abundance of food. The dining area was expanded to the stage steps and an upstairs church room to accommodate the many guests.

The Diamond Anniversary Banquet with 140 people attending was held that evening at the Lakeview Baptist Church. A 6:00 p.m. Fellowship Hour preceded the 6:30 p.m. dinner and was a time for socializing, reminiscing, and viewing the historical items on exhibit.

Tom Merchant, the denomination's historian, served as Master of Ceremonies for the evening's program. Greetings were given by Bob Austin, SDB General Conference president; Dr. K. Duane Hurley, SDB executive secretary; and the Rev. Larry Graffius, pastor of the White Cloud SDB Church. An especially poignant greeting was given by the Battle Creek mayor, Donald Sherrod, a black leader, who spoke of his long-time friendship with the church, particularly with Gene Fatato. He mentioned that several city programs which he and Gene had helped to develop were still in existence.

Music was interspersed throughout the program. A women's trio sang two selections, including another of the anniversary hymns; and a male quartet sang two familiar hymns adapted to fit the occasion. The lyrics, "The little brown church by the San," instead of the "little brown church in the vale," brought smiles to the faces of those assembled. Laurinne Lasrado, Madelene Parrish, and Arabeth DeLand sang in the trio; and Ellis Johanson, Arthur Millar, George Parrish, and Wendell Thorngate sang in the quartet.

Special presentations were made during the program. Karen Thorngate officially presented a copy of the historical booklet she wrote for the anniversary to the church historian, Harriet Davis; and Ruth Bennett awarded an anniversary plate to Marylene Tuck, who submitted the winning theme, "More Alive at 75."

With the help of film technology, a representation of the past and present life of the church was viewed by those in attendance at the banquet. Dr. Ellis Johanson showed his father's films of church members

taken in the 1930's and '40's. Names of those recognized were called out as the younger faces flashed on the screen. Paul Fatato then showed a video tape he had made earlier of the morning's anniversary worship service. The entire day's anniversary activities plus an earlier anniversary social were videotaped for future showings.

Reminiscences by former pastors, Alton Wheeler and Leland Davis, brought back memories for church members. Alton recounted a time when all of the campers at one of his camps got into a patch of poison ivy but how all had scrubbed down with brown soap in Cotton Lake as instructed by the camp nurse resulting in no cases of poison ivy. Leland recalled the fact that he was pastor when the church celebrated its 50th anniversary and how the church acquired the additional camp property across the fence from the original one acre with the cottage.

Closing remarks were made by the Rev. S. Kenneth Davis, and then everyone joined hands in a large fellowship circle to sing "Blest Be the Tie That Binds."

Through the 75 years that "blest tie" has bound together the generations of Battle Creek church members in Christian love. The church was organized on December 10, 1904, with 17 charter members. With no sustained leadership, however, it was slow in getting started. In 1909 the church was reorganized when a missionary pastor was sent and sixteen SDB's from other churches came seeking the work advertised in *The Sabbath Recorder* which allowed Sabbaths off. An active C.E. Society had convinced the Missionary Society that pastoral leadership was needed when they sent the Society a list of SDB's in Battle Creek together with their occupations and number of children. The church grew as more and more SDB's came.

The young church for 25 years held meetings and services at several city locations, the longest—18 years—at the Battle Creek Sanitarium, until a permanent home was built at Washington Avenue and Emmett Street. The Gothic style church structure and parsonage on (continued on page 25)



Dr. Alton L. Wheeler, a former pastor, shared humorous anecdotes of his pastorate in Battle Creek at the anniversary banquet.



Over 200 gathered at the Battle Creek church for a special Sabbath anniversary service.



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

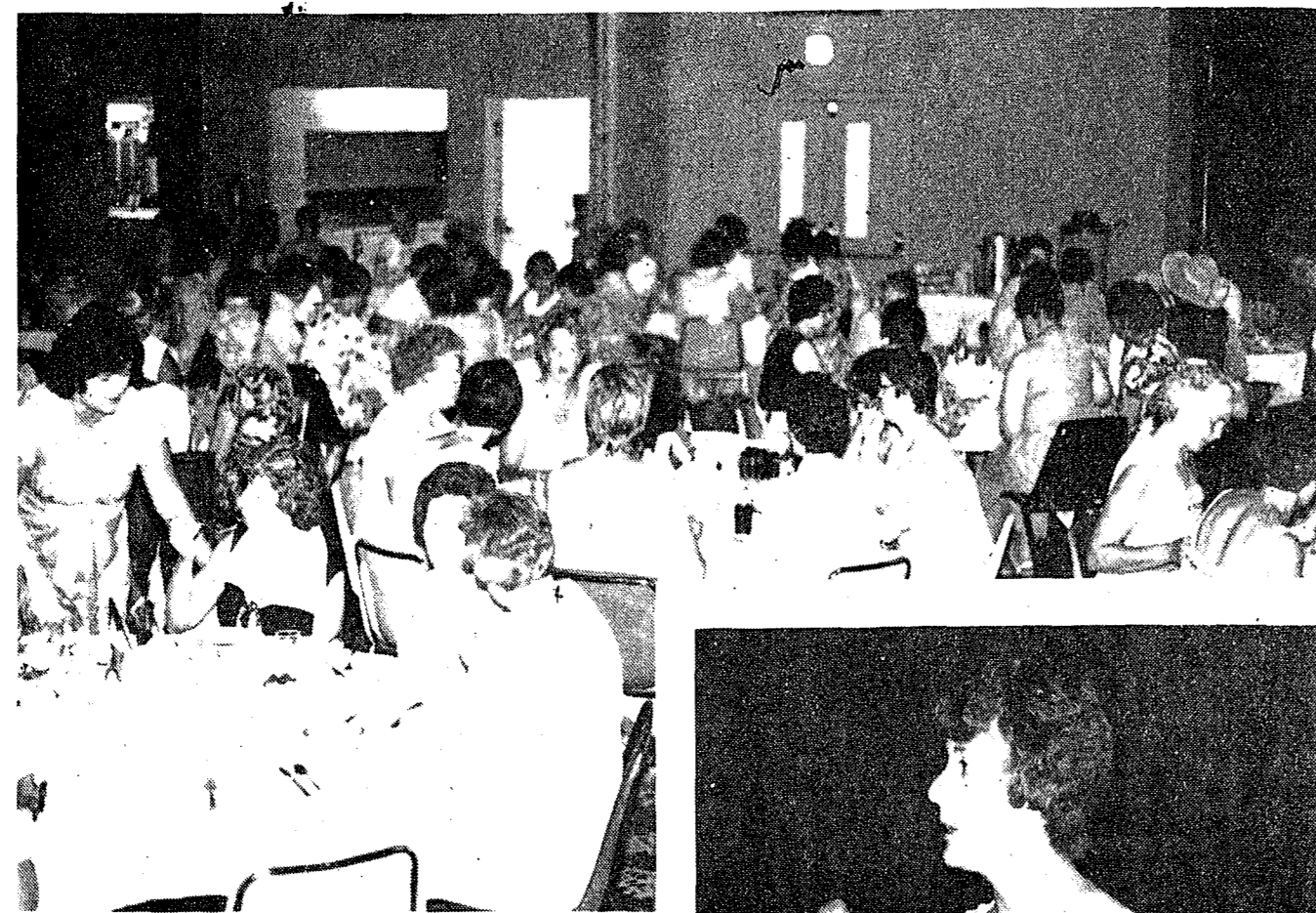
Madeline Fitz Randolph

The banquet for our women at General Conference was a huge success both in a social and spiritual way. It was attended by one hundred twenty-six of our women in gala attire. Physical preparations for the banquet were in the capable hands of the women of the Milton (Wisconsin) church, who, in recognition of the International Year of the Child, had fashioned yarn dolls which were waiting at each place. A copy of J. Allan Petersen's booklet, "Don't Just Stand There," along with a program for the evening's events were also provided by the Women's Board.

Myrna Cox graciously presided over the event, filling the president's chair for her mother, president of our Women's Society, Ada Davis. The other members of the Board of Directors of our Women's Society who were in attendance were introduced.

During the banquet hour, the women were "serenaded" by a men's quartet two times. Each time they sang a group of songs. At one point "Nellie" was called for, so that they might sing "Seeing Nellie Home." (Luckily, Nellie Barbur was able to be there.) Members of this able quartet were Herb and Steve Saunders, Paul Green and Dale Thorngate.

During the program there came a time of recognition, which has become a tradition, and is called "Who's Who." Wives of newly ordained ministers, missionary wives, denominational executives' wives, all were given proper recognition and words of appreciation. Those honored at this time were Bettie Pearson, Camille Henry, Lorna Austin, Shireen Hurley, Dorothy Lawton, Hope Bevis, Rev. Helen Green, Mary Clare, Linda Lawton, Marjory Rau, Jan Graffius, Becky Crouch, and Sandy Shoffner.



One of the most exciting parts of the program was the receiving of the LOVE GIFT. Muriel Osborn was in charge of this section, and (including I.O.U.'s) there was an amount of \$2,356.50 presented at that time. This is only a part of the total, for we are not yet in receipt of all of the offering. This information will be given later, as soon as possible. The LOVE GIFT will be distributed as follows: the Seventh Day Baptist church of Cebu City, the Philippines, which has a program of feeding the children on Sabbath mornings who are in need; Sunshine Mountain, for the purpose of providing furniture for the Children's Home; for the re-establishment of the Pearson family in Malawi; for the piano fund of the New York City church; for a Tuition Fund for Crandall High School in Kingston, Jamaica; support of camping programs in Africa and Jamaica; and for household furnishings for the Rod Henry's home in the Philippines.

An inspirational part of the Women's Banquet was a presentation by the president of the North American Baptist Women's Union, Marena Williams. She used the theme of our Conference as her topic. John 13:35, "If you have love, all men will know you are my disciples." Her remarks were full of practical and thought-provoking counsel. "Our universal duty as followers of Christ is Love in ACTION. We must understand and imitate Christ...who loved us even in our backsliding. We are to help one another, not because of what we and they have, but because of what we and they ARE. Love is something you do—it is SEED in principle, but FRUIT in action. We must be Christ's eyes, feet, hands, and voice in His love...we must be practical in our



actions, because Christ was practical. Faith without love is dead...brotherly love is the test point; it is the inward proof to the Christian and the outward proof to others. Jesus chose 'Love to one another' as His coat of arms and as His children we are to wear it. The devil can imitate anything but he cannot love. We, to be under Christ's guardianship must wear His insignia, not only must we know we are His, but others must know by our life-style that we belong to Christ. Let Brotherly Love continue!" As a closing to her presentation Marena accompanied herself at the piano as she sang the gospel song, "The Love of God." Following this the group was led in the prayer song, "God Be with You Till We Meet Again" by Gerry Van Dyke, who also closed the program with a benediction.

Following the banquet, the centerpiece which decorated the table was given to Mrs. Eldred Batson, who with her husband, has just attended the 49th consecutive Conference session. □

—fifth in a series on
our China mission
by Tom Merchant, historian

MISSION TO CHINA

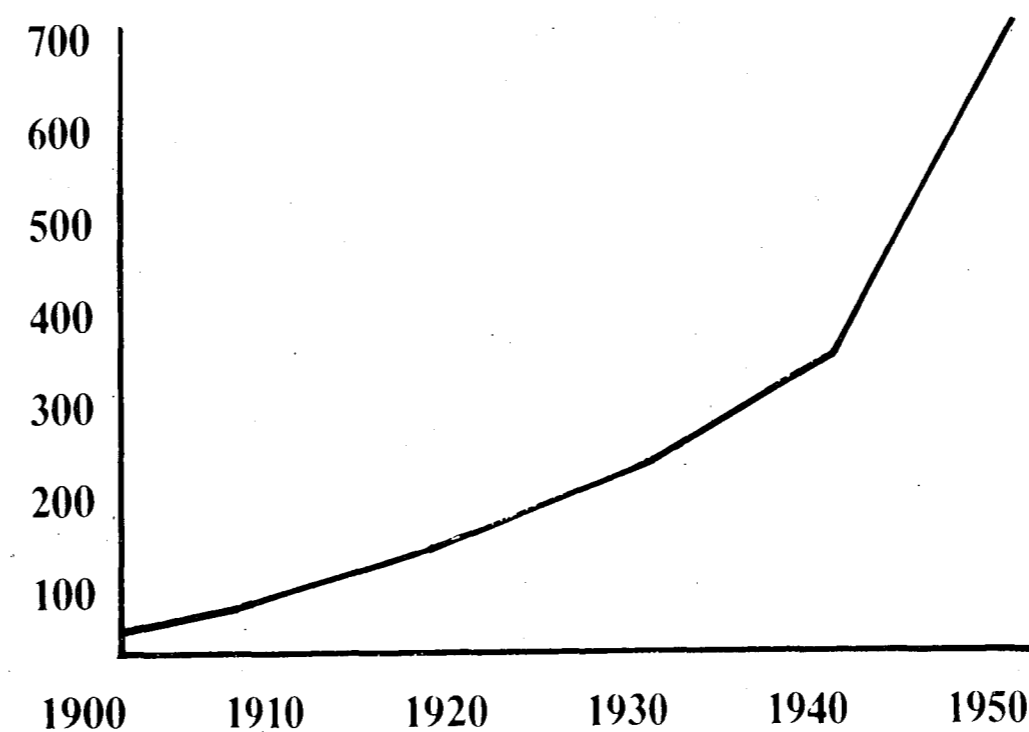
The Great Years

Part 1

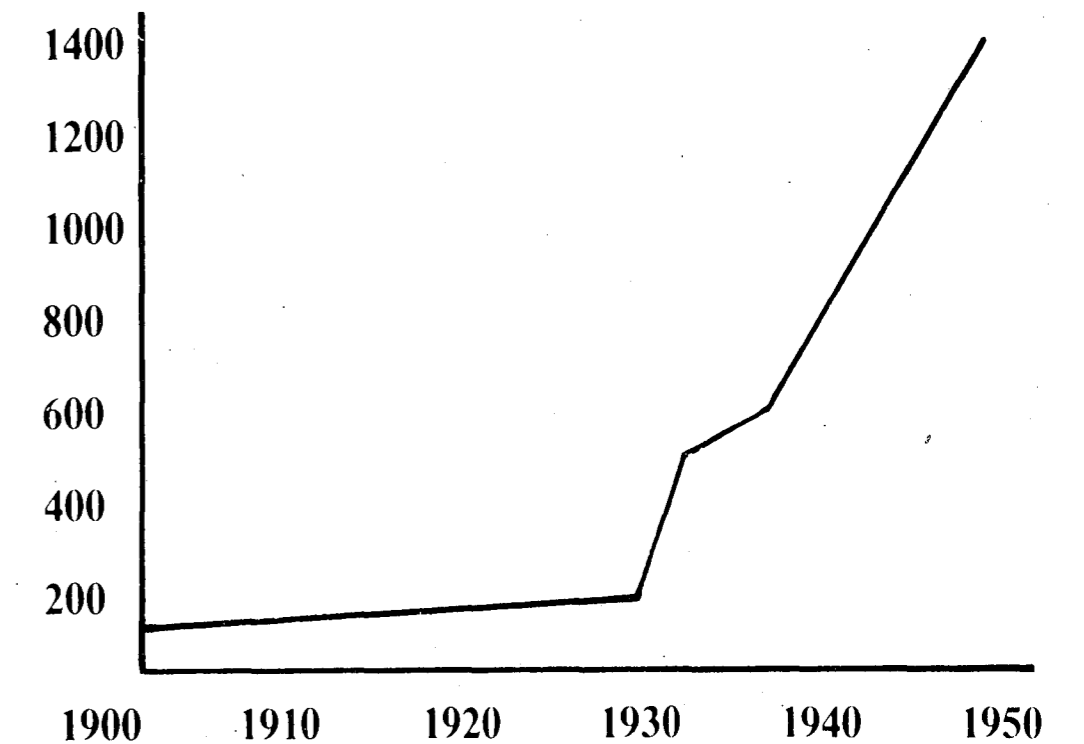
In 1900 the world stood poised between the 19th and 20th centuries, and our mission to China had reached the midpoint in its immediate life; the world stood ready to launch into the space age, and our mission was about to enter "The Great Years."

To label the last 50 years of our China mission's century of service as "The Great Years" is not to detract from the work of the missionaries in the first half-century; rather, it is to emphasize the tremendous growth that took place from 1900 to 1950. The Carpenters, Wardners, David Davises, and Randolphs had broken the ground and laid the foundation, and that foundation was firmly established. They had entered China before it had been much affected by Western culture; they had endured epidemics, wars, anti-Christian and anti-American sentiment; and they had continued to carry the banner of Seventh Day Baptists even at times when denominational support was totally inadequate if not nonexistent. They had established the missions at Shanghai and Lieu-oo convert-by-convert, student-by-student, treatment-by-treatment and brick-by-brick. It was time for the vine to bear fruit, and bear it did!

Seventh Day Baptist Church Membership in China
1900-1950, Shanghai and Liuho Churches



Enrollment in Seventh Day Baptist Mission Schools
in China, 1900-1950



Exactly fifty years after the formation of the Shanghai Seventh Day Baptist Church, the membership stood at 58, or about one member for every year of its existence; fifty years later, the church claimed a membership of 670, an increase of more than 1000 per cent! Thirty years after our missionaries had begun schools, we had a boys' boarding school, girls' boarding school, and four day schools, but their enrollments did not add up to 200 students. At the last report, in 1947, the combined enrollment was 1,400 or seven times the turn-of-the-century enrollment. In 1900 there were six missionaries—the David Davises, the Crofoots, Miss Susie Burdick and Dr. Rosa Palmborg; in the late 1920's and early 1930's, there were as many as a dozen; and the number of native workers grew comparably from about 10 to 60 or 70.

For the details of this great chapter in Seventh Day Baptist missions, see "The Great Years, Part Two" next month.

Nearly everything we do depends upon the availability of energy. I have heard my grandmother tell of gathering Buffalo chips and twisted grass to heat her stove as they homesteaded in Colorado. My boyhood memories are of tubs full of cobs picked up out of the pig pen for my mother to use in her stove, and either coal carried in or wood split to heat our home. Tasks were performed through the use of human muscle and animal power.

In our generation we have moved into easier types of energy and that at relatively reasonable costs. We heat our homes by turning a thermostat whether we heat with oil, gas or electricity. The development of motors has replaced the energy of man and animal with mechanical power to a great extent. Suddenly, we find that these sources of energy are limited and are no longer cheap. There must be changes in our use of energy. Thermostats are turned down to save in cost and the use of energy, people are again turning to wood burning stoves, mills are turning out long winter underwear and sweaters as garments of comfort rather than style. Our travel habits are changing. We give more thought to the need before we get into the car and drive off.

All energy comes from the sun. We have been using that which has been stored in one way or another countless years ago. Now we are trying to learn how to harness and store the energy which is there today. We are moving into the fields of solar energy and the use of wind power, sources of energy which are inexhaustible, but which we have not yet learned how to harness and store efficiently for future use. WE WILL FIND A WAY. God will show us how it can be done. In the meantime, each of us must consider how we will make the best use of the energy which is available. This is so, due to the lack of availability and also to the increasingly greater portion of our income needed to pay for the energy we use.

Can we draw a parallel in our response to God and the Commission of Jesus Christ? I believe we can. We know that Jesus left the responsibility of sharing the "good news" of salvation with men. He told His disciples to make disciples. This is done by going to people, by teaching,

and when there is response to the teaching, to baptize. Following baptism there is the growth into mature Christian disciples who also make disciples. Even as we have come to depend upon easy energy to heat our homes and to take us where we want to go, we have turned more and more to professional leadership in responding to the commission of Jesus Christ. Let the person who is trained, who has responded to a call from God to special leadership provide the energy to keep the machinery of the church moving smoothly. Trained leadership is great, even as it is great to be able to turn a thermostat and call upon the use of oil and gas or electricity to heat our homes. We can so depend upon "trained leadership" that we fail to put to use the energy which is within each of us. It is easy to delegate the responsibilities of the Commission to those who have been "called."

ENERGY

WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT?

The mad man of Gadara wanted to become one of the intimate followers of Jesus and go with Him when his sanity was restored by Jesus. But Jesus told him: "Go back to your village and tell them what has happened to you." It would have been easy to follow in the magnetism of Jesus. It might not have taken too much effort, but to return to his people who knew him as he had been and to share with them the "good news" of salvation required personal effort, the use of his own energy. There is no energy shortage. The only problem is learning how to harness it and use it. The sun is sending out more energy every day than man can ever use. The same thing is true with the Church. There is no energy shortage. It is only a matter of turning to the source, the SON, and claiming

the power which He has promised to us. He said: "...When, however, the Spirit comes, who reveals the truth about God, he will lead you into all truth. He will not speak on his own authority, but he will speak of what he hears and will tell of things to come."

God is calling Seventh Day Baptists to a renewed and expanded witness for Him. More inquiries are coming in in regard to who we are and our place in God's Kingdom. To respond to this call requires more energy. Energy is rated in time, talent and money. How will we respond? Will we develop more fully the personal energy resources within all of us, responding to greater leadership roles in our churches, renewed Bible study, the giving of ourselves to develop a maturing Christian discipleship and make more disciples? Not only do we have the energy to draw upon, but we also have the promise of the SON to give us the energy which is needed as we trust Him for it.

We will need more professional leadership to respond to the work which God has for us. We will need more pastors, field workers, more travel to respond to the inquiries which are coming to us. Required here are those who respond to God's call for leadership, plus all of us responding financially to be faithful stewards of the Commission entrusted to us by God and His Son, Jesus Christ.

As we put more of our own energy into the work of Christ, we will also find that we want to give more financial support to those tasks which are beyond the borders of the church which is our immediate "family of God." A man elected as trustee of the church began to give of his time and labor in keeping up the church property, and he said: "Pastor, as I give my time in this way, I also find that I want to give more financial support to the program of the church." May we respond in like manner as we put more personal energy into the work of Christ through the local church, that we also respond with greater financial support to the larger work through Seventh Day Baptists.

(continued on page 28)

Ordination has always held a high and respected place in the life of Seventh Day Baptist churches. It is that moment in the life of God's servants when the church, through examination and solemn assembly, confirms the call of God to the ministry of the church. Our Manual of Procedures states: "It is ordination to a task. It is putting the stamp of the church's approval on the inward call of God which the ordained professes and of trust in him as a servant. ...ordination is for life and may in time involve the life and work of several churches and the reputation of the Church of Jesus Christ..." Since it is a confirmation of God's call to service, whenever an ordination occurs there is thanksgiving to God for continuing the process of "sending laborers into His harvest."

In 1978 five persons were ordained into the Seventh Day Baptist gospel ministry. As many as seven may be experiencing the "laying on of hands" through 1979. God is certainly blessing us with new leadership as we enter our Decade of Discipleship.

On May 11-12, 1979, Robert W. Babcock, pastor of the Houston, Texas, Seventh Day Baptist Church was ordained to the gospel ministry. Pastor Babcock, a graduate of North American Baptist Seminary in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, was welcomed into the Seventh Day Baptist ministry by Rev. Mynor G. Soper, director of Evangelism, and coordinator of the Reach Out Now Project that brought the Houston church into existence. Other participants in the service of ordination were Dean Herbert E. Saunders of the Center on Ministry, who delivered the Sabbath morning message and gave the Charge to the Candidate (and his wife); Rev. L. Wayne Babcock, father of the ordained, who delivered the Sabbath afternoon message and gave the Charge to the Church; Mr. Stephen J. Pierce, moderator of the Houston Church, who conducted the ordination services; and Rev. Floyd L. Goodson, pastor of the Fouke, Arkansas, church who offered the consecrating prayer at the "laying on of hands."

Mr. Babcock, who began pastoring the church in Houston immediately after graduating from Seminary, shared a thoughtful and concise statement of faith and experience. We pray that the Lord will continue to bless his ministry in Houston.

The ordination of Rev. Thomas J. Sostar, the new pastor of the Alfred, New York, Seventh Day Baptist Church, was recognized in services on Sabbath, July 21, 1979. Pastor Sostar, an ordained Seventh-day Adventist minister, was welcomed into the ministry of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference by Rev. Rex E. Zwiebel of Alfred Station, New York. Dean Herbert E. Saunders delivered the morning message, and Dr. K. Duane Hurley, executive secretary of the General Conference gave the Charge to the Alfred Church. The consecrating prayer was delivered by Rev. Albert N. Rogers, a member of the Alfred church.

Pastor Sostar began service to Seventh Day Baptists in June following his attendance at the Ministers Conference held in Milton, Wisconsin. We welcome him to the fellowship of our church.

Services of ordination were conducted in White Cloud, Michigan, on July 28, 1979, for Pastor Larry Graffius. Pastor Graffius, a graduate of North American Baptist Seminary in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, became pastor of the White Cloud Church in the summer of 1978. He was welcomed into the Ministry of the Church by Rev. S. Kenneth Davis of Battle Creek, Michigan, who also delivered the consecrating prayer. The Sabbath morning

Breath of New Life for Seventh Day Baptists

by Rev. Herbert E. Saunders

message was delivered by Dr. K. Duane Hurley. Pastor Graffius' father, Rev. Charles Graffius of Los Angeles, California, gave the Charge to the Candidate and Dean Herbert E. Saunders the Charge to the Church. The service of ordination was conducted by Rev. Dale D. Thorngate of Columbus, Ohio, and Rev. Orville W. Babcock, a retired minister and member of the White Cloud church, presented the ordinand with a certificate.

Pastor Graffius' statement of belief and experience was outlined for the ordination council. He had been sharing for several weeks with the members of his congregation his beliefs on the major statements of faith of the Seventh Day Baptist denomination. A concert of special music by Rodney and Camille Henry brought the day of excitement and joy to a close.

Other ordination councils are scheduled for the fall. God is calling out from among us a new generation of pastoral leadership dedicated to service in the name of Christ. Our prayers and thoughts go with those whose lives are now committed to His special service of ministry.

the CHURCH in ACTION

BABCOCKS TO SERVE WEST COAST

The Rev. and Mrs. Wayne Babcock, who have been serving the SDB Church in Dodge Center, MN, since January of 1975, have relocated to Washington state. Their exact duties are not known at press time, however, they will be doing outreach work for Seventh Day Baptists in a faith ministry possibly in the Centralia-Seattle areas. □



Rev. and Mrs. Wayne Babcock

WASHINGTON, D.C. AIRS WORD OF TRUTH

WASHINGTON, D.C.—We are happy to announce that here in the nation's capital the Seventh Day Baptist radio program, "The Word of Truth" is now being heard. The station is WFAZ and the time is every Sabbath at 10:15 a.m. We pray the Lord will bless this ministry and outreach of the Washington church.

"God's Door—Your Door to Adventure" was the theme of the Vacation Bible School held at the church center July 23-27. There was good participation in the program directed by Mrs. Ruth Hazen with the capable assistance of Mrs. Gertrude Davis and Miss Charlotte Ellis of the Salemville, PA church.

Three from our church, Charles Neely, Sean Wells and Tee Ann Andries were "middlers" attending Camp Joy at Berea, WV this summer. Pastor and Mrs. Leland Davis were

co-directors of the "junior" camp held also in Berea with Alaika Harris, Michelle Neely and Nicole Simmons from Washington in attendance. Timothy Dickinson was exchange camper to Camp Lewis in Connecticut.

The pastor reports that attendance at the Sabbath morning worship service this quarter is higher than the same period of time during the last two years. We feel this is the result of the friendly reception given visitors each Sabbath. The Washington church has an "open door" to any and all visiting the city. Some of our recent guests include: the Verona, NY SDB Youth Fellowship with their leaders Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Davis; Mr. and Mrs. R.D. Brown and family from Fayetteville, NC. We are happy to see visitors each Sabbath as they join us in worship of our Lord. □

—Mrs. Alma Brissey

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

PLAINFIELD, NJ—Dean Herbert Saunders conducted our worship service June 2 and dedicated Jeanne Wilhelm as our administrative assistant. During the summer she conducted most of our services and preached five times. She is attending New Brunswick Theological Seminary this fall.

Other speakers have been Pastor Lawrence Watt of our Kansas City church, Hospital Chaplain David Quiring, local pastors Wesley Olson

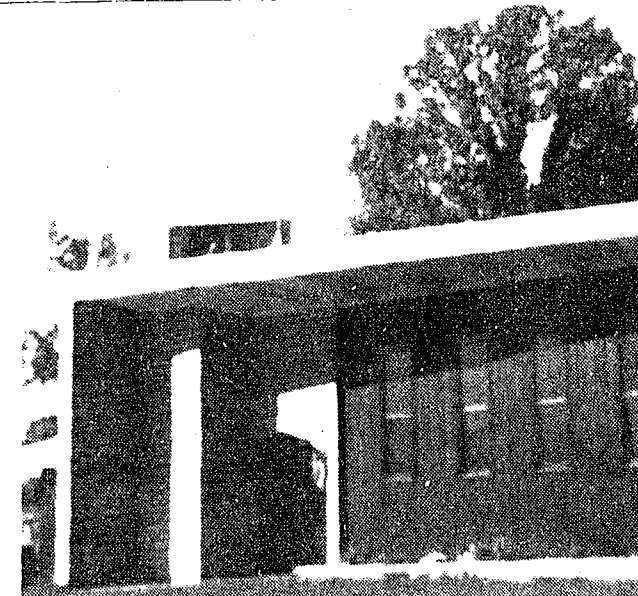
and Kenneth Mart, and Pastor Kenneth Burdick of our North Jersey church. Pastor Burdick has agreed to preach for us twice a month as long as his own church is meeting in the afternoon.

For Communion June 30 Dean Saunders arranged the folding tables in a circle around the Sabbath School room, and we sat behind them for the entire service, which was printed in the bulletin. It was an impressive and inspiring service.

Enjoyable social events have

included the Women's Society picnic at the Hurley home, the church picnic at the Saunders home, attended by the seminary students, a fellowship dinner and Biblical skits performed by the young people, open house for the eighth grade graduates, two film nights sponsored by the Evangelism Committee, a fellowship dinner followed by Conference reports, and a delightful musical evening provided by Rodney and Camille Henry of Los Angeles, our new missionaries to the Philippines. □

—Ruth Hunting Parker



GOD'S PIONEERS FOR 100 YEARS

NEW AUBURN, WI.—The New Auburn Seventh Day Baptist Church is excitingly making plans for the 100th anniversary of that congrega-

tion. The theme for the event, to be held October 3-7, will be "God's Pioneers for 100 Years." Some of the highlights of the centennial will be: Thursday, October 4, 8:00 p.m., "Messengers of Praise"; Friday, October 5, 8:00 p.m., North Central Association Opening Service, Rev. Larry Graffius, speaker; Sabbath Day, October 6, 10:00 a.m., worship service with Communion served by former pastors. Rev. S. Kenneth Davis, speaker; 2:30 p.m., Decade of Discipleship presentation by Rev. Herbert Saunders and Mr. Tom Merchant; 4:30 p.m., concert with The

King's Singers from Dodge Center; 7:00 p.m., banquet with presentation of church history, recognition of denominational representatives, and recognition of former pastors; youth campfire and movie "Welcome Home" will be shown; Sunday, October 7, 10:00 a.m., Praise Service with Rev. Dale Thorngate as speaker; 10:30 a.m., North Central Association Business Meeting; 8:00 p.m., Closing Service.

Everyone is invited to help the New Auburn Seventh Day Baptist Church celebrate in this joyous occasion. □

—Pam North

PASTOR AND MRS. SKAGGS HONORED

NORTH LOUP, NE.—The fortieth wedding anniversary of Pastor Victor and Ardale Skaggs was celebrated with an open house reception at the Seventh Day Baptist parsonage in North Loup, June 23. Family members hosted the occasion.

A family portrait sitting and evening dinner at the Elks Club in Ord and a group gift were surprises from the Skaggs family. A surprise from the congregation awaited them when they returned to North Loup. The honored couple was escorted down the aisle to the strains of the wedding march. A program followed with Bonnie Severance as announcer. The second part was "This Is Your Life" with slides about the life of the Skaggs family, emceed by Rev. Paul Osborn of Nortonville, Kansas. This was followed by a social hour in the basement. Both sanctuary and base-

ment were decorated for the occasion. The congregation presented Pastor Victor and Ardale with a recliner. Sunday evening a dinner was served to the honored couple in the church basement.

Ardale Coon and Victor Skaggs were married at DeRuyter, New York, June 25, 1939. They have four children Nina (Mrs. Louis Sholtz), Janice (Mrs. Keith Kenyon), Lynne (Mrs. James Balog) and Patrick; and four grandchildren, Leticia, Deborah and Stephanie Sholtz, and Amy Skaggs.

Family members present for the anniversary celebration were Mr. and Mrs. Keith Kenyon, Ithaca, New York; Mr. and Mrs. James Balog, Las Vegas, Nevada; and Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Skaggs and Amy, Poughkeepsie, New York; Mrs. Nina Coon, mother of Mrs. Skaggs, was also present.

"What a wonderful day!

A day for sweet dreams
and precious moments...

The wealth of a life full of love."

May graduates this year were Brenda Abel at North Loup-Scotia High School and Keith Hopkins at San Antonio College in Texas. Keith Severance is a summer graduate at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

George Clement had an art exhibit at the Community Hall in North Loup the weekend of May 19. A chalk talk with music and reading was given on the last evening. The free will offering during the program went to the Helping Hand Hot-Line project of our church.

June was the month for showers and weddings, those of Kim Dunwoody and Loren Soper, and Theresa Clement and David Heider.

Mid-Continent Senior Camp was held at Camp Riverview on June 17-24 with ten campers present. Eric Camenga of Portland, Oregon, was exchange camper. Kirk Looper of Nortonville was director.

Junior Camp at Camp Riverview was held July 8-15 with 37 campers. Pastor Victor Skaggs was director. The theme was "To Know Jesus Christ." The congregation joined them for a picnic dinner at noon on Sabbath Day. The campers held the worship service at the camp in the afternoon.

Primary Day Camp was held July 16-20 with Kim Sautter, assistant pastor, as director. Their theme was "Sharing God's Gifts." The young campers sang at the worship service Sabbath morning, July 21. □

—Bertha Clement



Rev. and Mrs. Victor Skaggs

BRITISH ORDAIN OWEN LYNCH

BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND — On Sabbath, July 7, 1979 in special services held at the SDB church in Birmingham, Brother Owen Lynch was ordained to the gospel ministry. A council consisting of delegates from all over England met in a morning to select a chairman and a secretary.

Following a time of prayer, Brother Lynch gave his statement of belief and Christian experience. After a time of questions the council withdrew and later announced that the ordination was approved.

Dr. M. Goulder of the Theological Department of the University of Birmingham preached the ordination sermon. The charge to the candidate and to the church was given by the Rev. A.L. Peat, pastor of the Mill Yard SDB Church in London. Many other ministers and guests were in attendance at the service.



Rev. Lynch has completed one year of his two-year course in theology at the University and plans to continue his studies this Fall. He has been leading out in the work of the Birmingham church for some time as well as assisting in the printing ministry of the British Conference. Many Conference-goers will remember that Brother Lynch was present in 1978 for the World Federation sessions in Alfred and Houghton, N.Y.

The British Conference session was held in London July 27-29.

Officers elected for the coming year are: President—Willard Smith; Vice-President—H. Barrett; Secretary—Jossett Lynch; Assistant Secretary—Sister T. Williams; Treasurer—Sister Iris Codrington; Assistant Treasurer—Sister C. Slack; Executive Secretary—Rev. Owen Lynch; Trustees—Rev. A. L. Peat, Sister Joyce Kelly, Rev. Owen Lynch; Auditor—H. Wright.

Three visitors were present from the Dutch Conference: Nel S. Nieuwstraten, Trijnte and Anne Kramer. They showed slides of the 1978 World Federation and USA General Conference. Some of the youth from Britain were able to attend the Dutch youth camp this summer. The conference theme for 1979-80 is "Come See the Man" based on John 4:29. We request the prayers of the brethren around the world for the growth of the SDB witness in the British Isles. □

POINTS TO PONDER

LET'S TALK ABOUT LIGHT

Paul B. Osborn
Nortonville, KS

Let's talk about LIGHT. We keep a light on at our house all night, at the top of the stairs. For two reasons: first, we don't want anyone to fall stumble and fall because of the darkness, and second, I was very afraid of the dark when I was a child, and I don't see any need of darkness existing when light is available. Now that our children are growing up, I suppose we don't need that light...but daddy still likes it!

In the eighth chapter of John's Gospel we read the words of Christ: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the Light of life."

How foolish we are to stumble around in spiritual darkness when Christ IS the Light of life! Debbie Boone became famous by singing, "You light up my life..." Let's let Him do it! Jesus, the Light of the World! □



Rev. Charles D. Swing
Albuquerque, NM

Scripture Gems

Favorite Bible texts
selected by pastors
and ministerial students.

● *And you hath he quickened (made alive), who were dead in trespasses and sins (Eph. 2: 1).*

● *Once I was dead in sin, now I am alive through faith in Christ, and I have the privilege of showing others this way of life in Him.*

Paul tells us that God is a God of mercy and forgiveness and He has the remedy for sin. He was so "rich in mercy" that He gave us back our lives again when He raised Christ Jesus from the dead. By His grace, by way of this undeserved favor God lifted us up out of sin to be with Him in heavenly places. These heavenly places are not some far-off, distant paradise, some "pie-in-th-sky reward" for being good. It is like a touch of heaven on earth, in the here and now, because we can live with Christ Jesus in our heart.

Paul has another thing to say that should make us stop and think: that having been saved by God's amazing grace, we can and should now walk among the other peoples of the earth as examples of the inheritors of the riches of His kindness. We have no right to sit in smug inactivity waiting for our "reward." We must move about the earth as living examples of what a man can be when he understands that Jesus, and Jesus only, can and will "lift him up" into a nobler life than he ever thought he could live and in the living of it, lift others. It is my prayer that I may always be faithful to Him in this new life He has given me. □

ACCESSIONS

BELL (SALEMVILLE), PA
Melvin F. Stephan, Pastor

By Baptism:
Owen Dwight Kagarise, Jr.
David Allen Kagarise
Richard Kirk Stephan
Rodney Wayne Claycomb

CHRIST SDB CHURCH
Little Rock, AR
John Camenga, Pastor

By Baptism:
Brian Mitchell

By Letter:
Edward D. Lawrence

WASHINGTON, D.C.
Leland E. Davis, Pastor

By Testimony:
Don M. Harris
Brenda (Mrs. Don) Harris
Richard M. Yesuratnam
Mildred (Mrs. Richard) Yesuratnam
Elizabeth Yesuratnam

OBITUARIES

KERWIN.—Frank J., son of James and Frances D. Moran Kerwin, was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on April 22, 1907, and died in Seattle, Washington, on August 8, 1979.

Frank was brought up by his maternal grandparents in Los Angeles, Calif., after being orphaned as an infant. On January 10, 1936, he was united in marriage to Lois Green. He was a Los Angeles fireman, worked on many construction projects for the government in the West, including the dams on the Columbia River. Frank served through World War II with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the South Pacific, and was retired from the United States Postal Service.

Since the founding of the Seattle Area Seventh Day Baptist Church in 1968, Frank and Lois have been active and loyal supporters of the church and the Lord's work.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Lois Kerwin of Seattle, and an aunt, Mae Moran of Los Angeles.

Memorial services were conducted by his pastor, Duane L. Davis, on August 13, and burial was in Washington Memorial Park, Seattle.

-D.L.D.

MARRIAGES

TRUJILLO-YBARRA.—Delfin J. Trujillo, son of Mr. and Mrs. Delfino Trujillo, of Hayward, Calif., and Vicki D. Ybarra, daughter of Mrs. Mile Milich of Ferndale, Calif., were united in marriage at the Seventh Day Baptist Church, Seattle, Washington, by their pastor, Duane L. Davis, on July 21, 1979.

BIRTHS

CROUCH.—A daughter, Heidi Cynthia, to Steven and Becky (Davis) Crouch of Little Genesee, N.Y., on June 26, 1979.

GIFT IDEA

Send

The Sabbath Recorder

MORE ALIVE AT 75

(continued from page 17)

North Avenue cost \$50,000 to build in 1929. The church was dedicated to the memory of Ella Eaton Kellogg, a member of the church and wife of Dr. John Harvey Kellogg, the Sanitarium director.

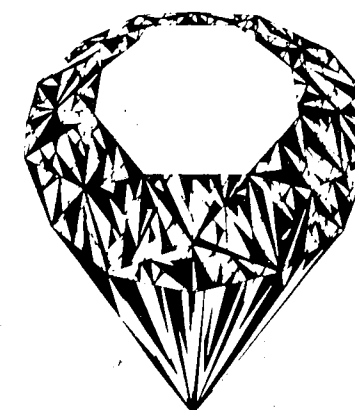
Church property now includes a new parsonage on Arcadia Boulevard, a Parish House next door to the church, two lots recently acquired to provide additional parking, and a camp.

The church has developed its Camp Holston from the small lakeside cottage on one acre to the 21-acre camping complex it is today with lodge, dorms, recreational and worship sites. The church's camping sessions not only nurture young campers, but also provide a training ground for seminary and Christian education students who serve as assistant pastors during the summers.

The church has a long history of involvement with the community, other churches, and the denomination, taking part in many worthy projects

and supplying both lay and ministerial leaders.

At the present time, the church with its 243 members is involved in a Commitment to Growth program, planning ways to widen its outreach to the unchurched and to strengthen the ties within the church. If it be God's will, the little brown church by the San will carry on His work for yet another 75 years. □



Anniversary Hymn

To Thee, O God, we sing our praise
For endless care thru all our days.
Thy love has blessed us in the past
And yet today it holds us fast.
We view the past in memory—
Three quarters of a century
Thy saints, our fathers shared Thy Word
And countless souls the message heard.

They loved Thy Church, as we do now.
They kept the faith, and here did vow
To nobly serve and follow Thee—
To be what Thou wouldst have them be.
Thru all these years in Battle Creek,
The light has shone for those who seek
To heed Thy Word, Thy Law obey
And keep Thy hallowed Sabbath Day.

They planted well. The Church grew strong.
She ministered for Christ along
An oftimes rough and rugged way,
Into the fulness of her day.
How we are privileged to stand
Where they have stood and hand in hand
With Christ, our head, to run the race.
God grant us strength to keep the pace.

God grant us vision, too, to see
Thru this our diamond jubilee,
Your purpose and your mission clear
For this the Church that You hold dear.
We pledge our loyalty to You
And with Your blessing we'll come thru,
And be the growing Church You need;
For men to feel your love and heed.
Amen.

—Words by Rev. S. Kenneth Davis
set to an adaptation of the hymn
"We Worship Thee" by Eva Millar.

COLORADO
ORNER **OME**
TO
CONFERENCE
AUGUST 10-16, 1980

**GENERAL CONFERENCE
IS RETURNING**

To Denver!

John Conrod, Chairman
1980 Host Committee

Approximately 1.5 million people work and play in the high country on the eastern slope of the Rockies. The "Mile High City" offers a delightful blend of frontier atmosphere and contemporary metropolitan life.

HISTORICAL NOTES

Denver is a new city when compared with many in America's history. Founded as a gold camp in 1858, Denver served as a supply outpost for miners working in the mountains. The city's rapid growth began with the great silver discoveries of the 1880's. The flood of wealth that poured in from the silver mines made millionaires overnight and founded banks and businesses. Steady growth marked the first part of the century, but it has been in the past twenty years that the most marked increase in population has been experienced.

Today, Denver is the retailing, manufacturing, cultural and transportation centers of the Rocky Mountain region.

POPULATION GROWTH

Since the early 1950's a steady growth trend has maintained itself in the five county area that comprises the Denver Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA). Currently, about 1.5 million people call this region home, with almost one-half million residents in the Denver city limits.

Located 30 miles from Downtown Denver, Boulder is considered part of the SMSA. At the very foot of the Rockies, Boulder population doubled between 1960 and 1970 to a current total of about 70,000 residents.

Nineteen incorporated suburban cities around Denver have a population in excess of 4,000.

WEATHER

Denver boasts an invigorating combination of cleaner and dryer air plus an appreciably lighter atmospheric pressure...average mid-day humidity is 38 percent. Located on the semi-arid eastern slope of the mountains, the Denver vicinity will experience only 14 to 15 inches of rain per year. On an average annual average, the median high temperature is a comfortable 68 degrees and the low temperature average is 37 degrees.

Summer days are hot and call for lightweight clothing. However, the evenings are often cool enough so that a sweater or light jacket is warranted. □

The Seventh Day Baptist Council on Ministry announces the establishment of a Pastoral Sabbatical to be instituted by a gift from Mr. Joseph Lewis of St. Louis, Missouri. This opportunity for study, authorized by the 1979 General Conference, is designed to give pastors continuing education on a more intensive basis during a three to six month period of time.

Pastors who are eligible to apply for the Sabbatical are those who have been serving Seventh Day Baptist churches for seven years or more and are currently serving a local church in their fourth year or more. The requirements for acceptance of the applicant are that the church one is serving agrees to continue support and give the pastor release time to fulfill the requirements of the Sabbatical experience.

Applications must be made to the Center on Ministry by December 15 of the year previous to the proposed time of study. Only one Sabbatical will be awarded in each calendar year. Those interested may write to the Center on Ministry for additional information at 510 Watchung Ave., Box 868, Plainfield, NJ 07061.

• A group of Sabbathkeepers in Kokomo, Indiana, led by Mr. Martin Stout are in communication with Rev. Dale Thorngate in Columbus, OH. Several in the group have completed the GUIDE Bible course and they have requested Pastor Thorngate to visit Kokomo to hold special meetings which may include a baptism. Pray for this new work.

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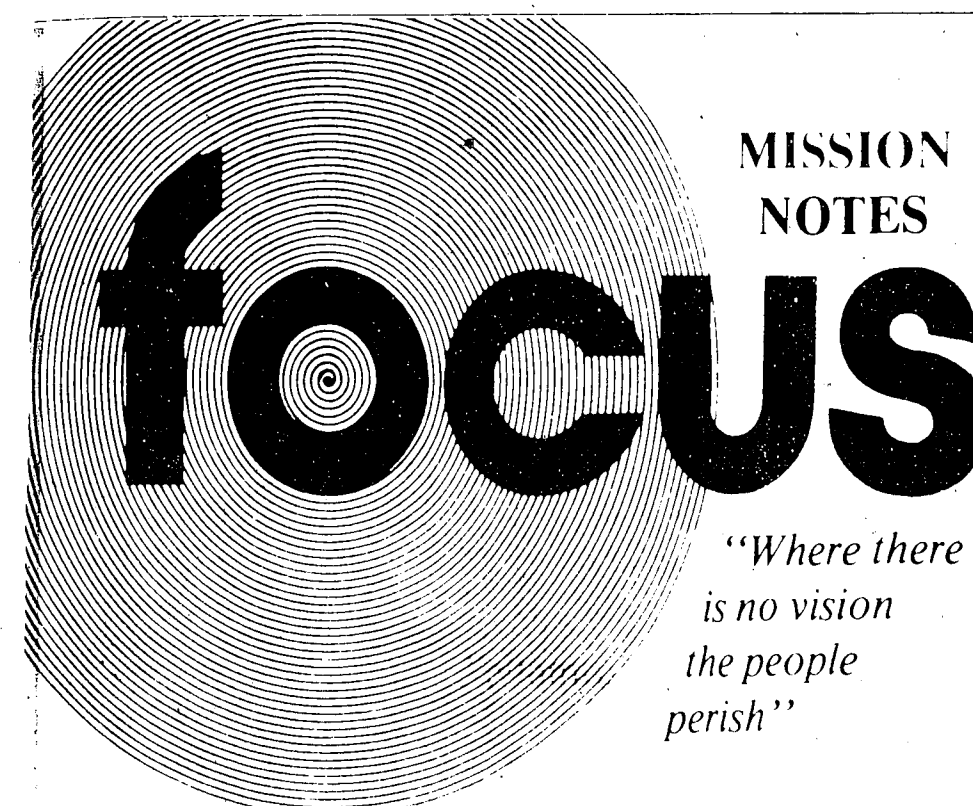
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Plainfield, NJ 07061

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Need Transportation



MISSION
NOTES

"Where there
is no vision
the people
perish"

Verse for the month: "How we thank you, Lord! Your mighty miracles give proof that you care."

-Psalm 75:1

• GUYANA, SOUTH AMERICA—Youth Camp August 27-September 3, was held at the new camp site on the Pomeroon River. "The new locale for our camp is very appropriate and with tremendous potentials. Although still in its primitive stage, we are thrilled with the Lord's provision. We still have a balance of G\$750. (US\$300) to pay the person who previously occupied the land. The brethren are so enthused about this project that it should not be long before this balance is met." These words were taken from a recent letter from Pastor Sam Peters.

• U.S.A.—BLOUNTVILLE, TN—Pastor John H. Camenga became half-time missionary pastor of the SDB Church of Upper East Tennessee on October 1. He will also serve, the other half-time, as field pastor for the Carolinas and Eastern Tennessee. He was formerly a bi-vocational missionary pastor with the Christ SDB Church, Little Rock, AR.

• RODNEY AND CAMILLE HENRY, missionary appointees to serve with the SDB Philippine Conference, visited over 25 local SDB churches enroute to and following General Conference. Special commissioning services were held at Adrian, MI, and Ashaway, RI, in August. His parents, Julius and Helen Henry, accompanied them in their motor home. The necessary visa is still pending and needed before they can proceed to the Philippines. PRAY!

• DECADE OF DISCIPLESHIP will be introduced by four teams of denominational leaders at Associations, New England Yearly Meeting and many local SDB churches in October. Using a special excursion fare they also will represent Seventh Day Baptists at the North American Baptist Fellowship in Mexico City

and visit SDB's in Mexico and in Jamaica.

• MEDICAL MINISTRIES, MALAWI—"When the children are brought to the Under Five (U/5) clinics and are found to be underweight, the mothers are instructed to bring them on another day. They are taught proper feeding and care of their children and given available foodstuffs, such as milk (dry), beans, etc. The Rehabilitation Centre is for the child with Kwashikor or marasmus. The mother brings her child to the Centre and stays for a number of days. The child is not given medicine, just a correct diet. The mother is instructed in the proper preparation of the foods that will bring the child back to good health. Most mothers think medicine is what the child needs to cure the illness. They are finding this type of instruction very helpful. They have a demonstration garden to show the women how to raise the proper vegetables to keep the child healthy. Cleanliness is taught as well as other good health habits. The garden is also helpful in the instruction of the mothers bringing children to the Malnutrition Clinic. Our new Homecraft worker is doing a good job in helping with this teaching, giving cooking demonstrations, sewing lessons, cleanliness in the home, etc. She and the midwife make visits in the homes after the children go home from the Rehabilitation Centre to encourage the mothers and see how the child is getting along." -Medical Director Mhura.

• PEARSONS RETURN TO AFRICA leaving September 20—the date of their wedding anniversary and their departure on three of their five terms of service overseas. They visited one weekend in The Netherlands enroute and will spend just over two weeks in Kisii, Kenya, before proceeding to Blantyre, Malawi. It is planned that most of their first year of service will be with the new group of SDB's in Kenya.

PRAYER

A Prayer Reminder
for Each Day!!

NOVEMBER 1979

PRAY FOR

- 1-Faith Mission worker Barbara Snyder
- 2-PRAISE GOD FOR LIFE ON THIS GLO-RIOUS DAY!
- 3-Your pastor as he presents the morning message
- 4-Wisdom and strength to accomplish the tasks of this brand new week
- 5-Conference leadership in Central Africa Conference
- 6-Brethren in India and Rev. B. John V. Rao, executive secretary of the Conference
- 7-The group of SDB's meeting in Atlanta, GA
- 8-THANK God for hands that help in times of need!
- 9-Beverly Austin and her coffee house ministry in Alfred, NY
- 10-Sabbath School superintendents as they seek to coordinate the Christian Ed. program
- 11-General Council of the SDB General Conference meeting in Plainfield, NJ
- 12-Pastor Samuel P. Peters and other leadership in the Conference in Guyana
- 13-Those who come to mind who have recently suffered a tragedy or loss, how can I comfort them?
- 14-The work on New Fields—Burma, India, Philippines, Mexico, Brazil...
- 15-Missionary pastors
- 16-The children we are to train if we are to continue as a people, the time to train is NOW!
- 17-Young people who will be travelling, in the coming week, to their homes for the holiday
- 18-Leadership in the Jamaica SDB Conference, Pastor Joe A. Samuels, corresponding secretary
- 19-Conference President Duane L. Davis as he plans the 1980 Conference
- 20-Council on Ministry and ministerial students
- 21-The sick and elderly in your church family—pay them a visit today!
- 22-GIVE THANKS UNTO THE LORD FOR HIS GOODNESS AND LOVING CARE DURING THE YEAR!
- 23-Special friends who come to mind this day—PRAISE GOD FOR THEIR FRIENDSHIP
- 24-Old friends who have come to visit today and for new friends that they soon may become "old friends"—ones we cherish
- 25-Editor John D. Bevis as he continues his ministry from his home in Alabama
- 26-Baptist World Alliance Executive Committee meeting in Washington, D.C.
- 27-Leon Clare and his SPECIAL ministry at the Denominational Building
- 28-National Conference in Indianapolis, Ind., on the Impact of Alcohol and Other Drugs On Contemporary Life
- 29-Director of Evangelism Mynor G. Soper and his ministry on the Home Field
- 30-Bill and Sandy Shoffner in Memphis and the group meeting there

CORNER

American Bible Society Report
(continued from page 15)

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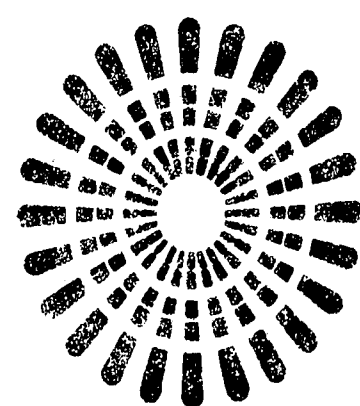
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-Arthur C. Borden
Secretary
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ENERGY

(continued from page 20)

What are you doing with your energy resources?

Overlooking them?

Conserving them?

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When energy is getting low,

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Energy is only a prayer away! □

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WORD of TRUTH

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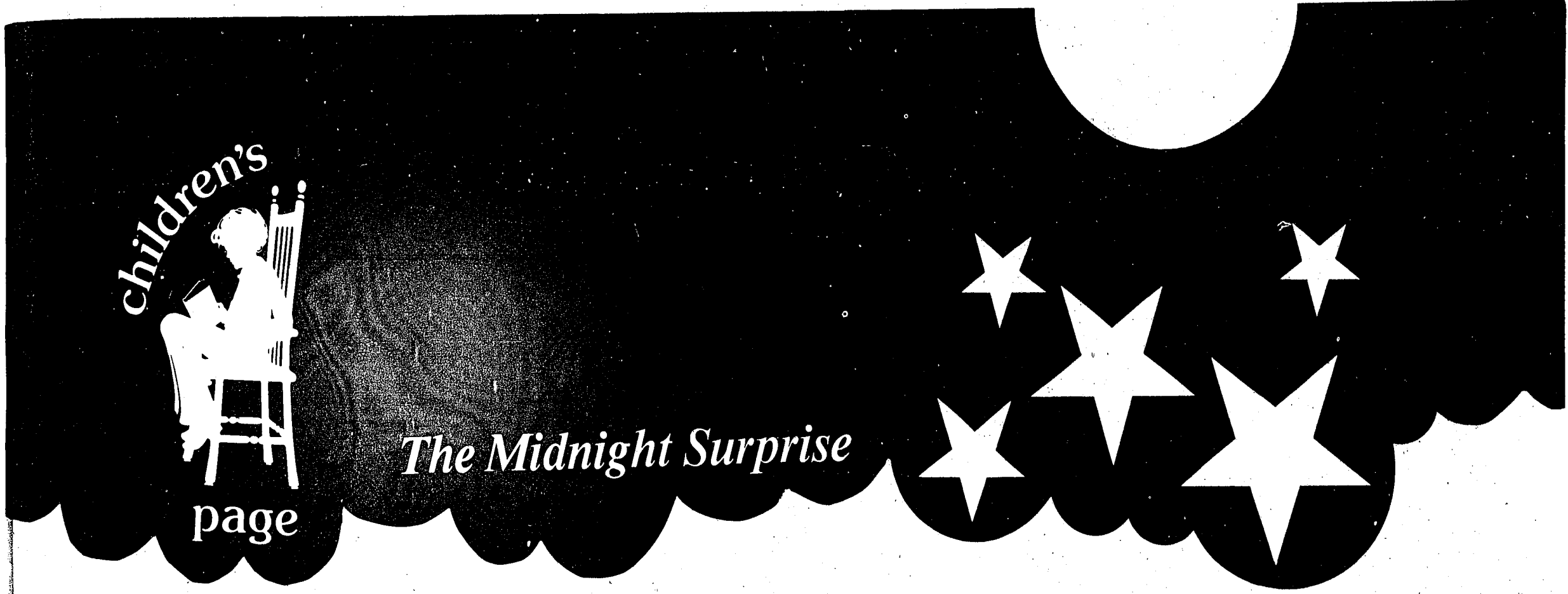
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The Midnight Surprise

page

"It's time to turn off the television, now, and go to bed, Johnny," called Johnny's dad.

"But Dad, it's only eight o'clock, and I don't go to bed until nine!" Johnny was confused, because his dad never insisted that he go to bed early.

"You look awfully tired, Johnny, and I think you could use the extra rest. Please don't argue with me, because I think you will see that I know what I'm doing. Now go on to bed." Dad's voice was very stern, and Johnny knew that he had better listen and do what Dad said.

Johnny headed for his room without saying anything else, because he was afraid that he might get angry if he said anything. But inside he was talking to himself. *I sure did want to watch that TV program that was coming on. I wonder why Dad decided to send me to bed early? I sure don't feel tired.*

As usual, Johnny reached for his Bible and read a few verses. Tonight his reading was from 1 Corinthians 2:6-12. The passage talked about God's wisdom. Johnny closed his Bible and prayed: "Lord, I know you are wise. You have given wisdom to my dad. I do not understand why he has sent me to bed so early, but I know there

must be a good purpose for it. Help me to accept it without being angry. Amen."

Johnny was sure that he would not be able to go to sleep so early, but as soon as he got into bed, he began to feel sleepy, and soon he was asleep.

The next thing Johnny heard was Dad calling his name. "Johnny, wake up. There's a surprise for you downstairs." Johnny woke up and looked around. Why, it was still night! What could be going on? He looked at his clock, and saw that it was past midnight. This was really strange. Johnny had never been up at midnight.

He slipped on his robe and slippers and rushed down the stairs. Halfway down, he realized what was going on. Uncle Fred and Aunt Helen were here. He rushed over and gave both of them a big kiss.

Dad explained, "I knew that Uncle Fred and Aunt Helen would come in very late on their long trip. I sent you to bed early so that you could get up and see them. I hope you understand now why I had to send you to bed."

"I sure do, Dad. This is one of the best surprises I've ever had. I didn't understand, but I'm glad you did it."

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F-21	L-22	R-23	Y-24

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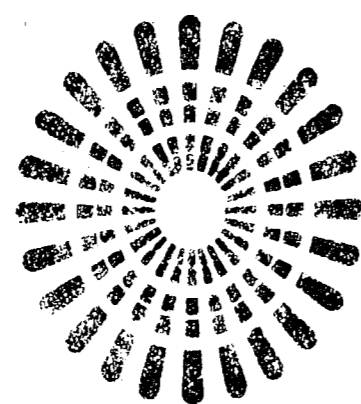
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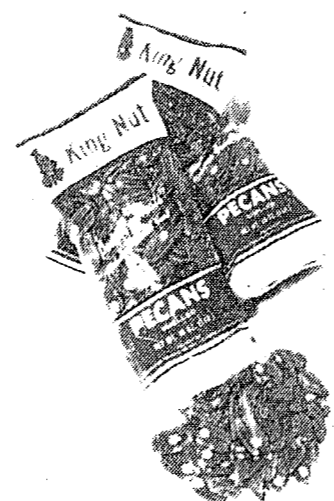
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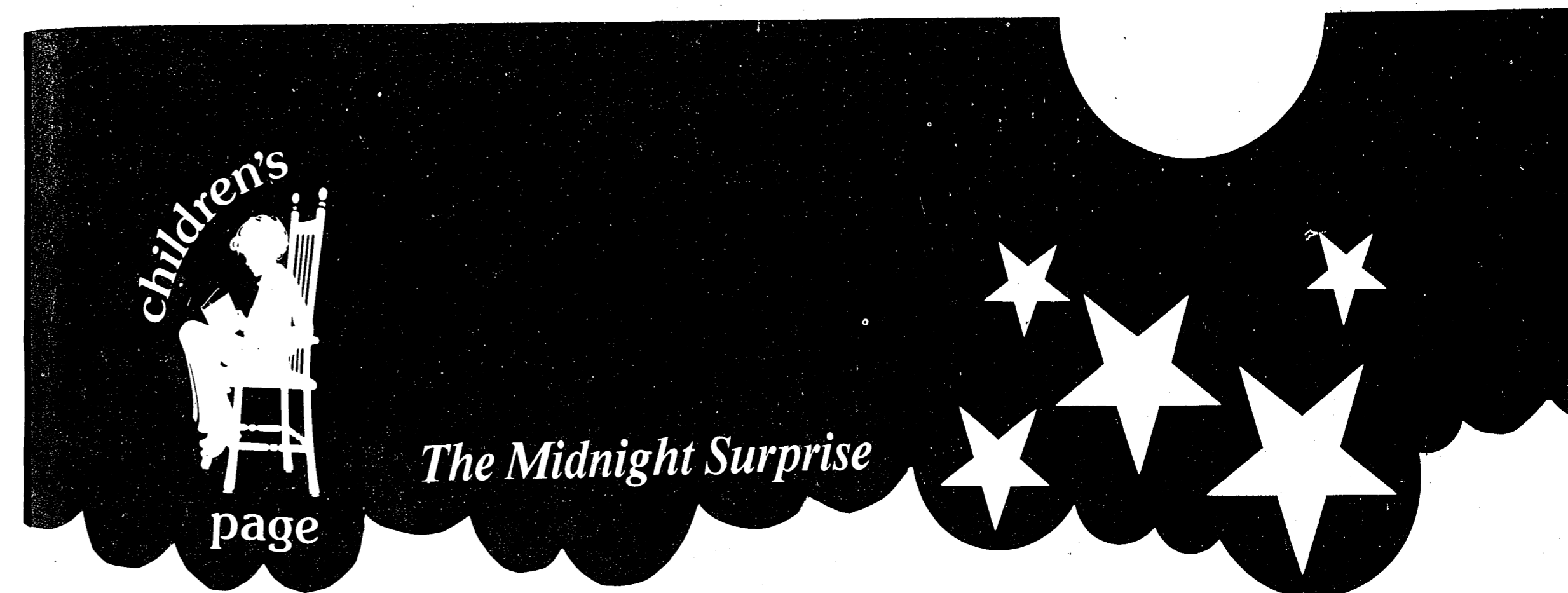
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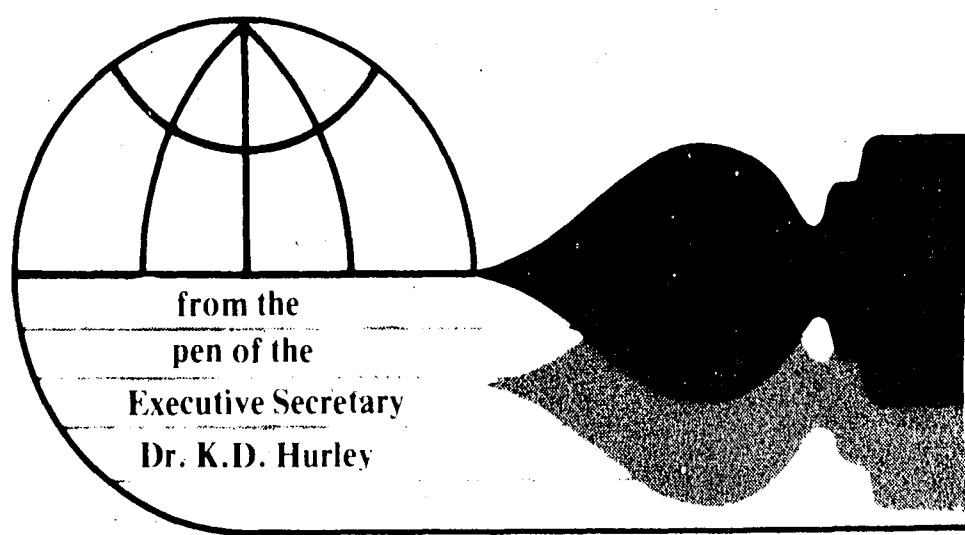
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SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS

Committed to Double in a Decade

*"Sing a new song to the Lord!
Sing it everywhere around the world!
Sing out His praises!
Bless His name
Each day tell someone that
He saves."*

(Psalm 96:1-2 LB)

These are exciting and challenging times in denominational life. We, as a people, are striving to discover our identity and our destiny in the last part of the twentieth century. There are tangible evidences of growth and growth potential. My prayer is that, with God's guidance and blessing, we can coordinate our efforts and plan to utilize our full resources for advancement—in Jesus' name!

Undoubtedly the most significant action taken at General Conference in August was to adopt a Decade of Discipleship for the 1980's. It is being characterized—not as a program or plan, but—as a *movement*. The statement of purpose reads as follows:

"As Seventh Day Baptist Christians, we are called to glorify God and please Him in every way. This is done as we fulfill the Great Commission of our Lord. Our immediate objective is to discover and accomplish our mission—a commitment to growth. This means specific growth goals—for us as individuals, for our churches, and for the ministry that we have to the world."

The goal is to "double in a decade"—to double the membership and participation in Seventh Day Baptist organizations and activities around the world by 1990.

Even during the coming year as we strive "to please God in every way" (Conference theme for 1980) while making the *decision to discipleship*, my suggestions and recommendations relate (as they have consistently through the time of my service to the denomination) to the following—mundane perhaps, but basic—concerns and desires:

1. That there be worked out more effective organizational structure and more efficient utilization of resources.
2. That there be given more adequate financial support, including better salaries and fringe benefits, to pastors and other denominational employees.
3. That there be realized more active involvement by lay members in church affairs, and;
4. That there be achieved greater depth of spiritual understanding and commitment on the part of the people as a whole.

Potentially positive reactions have emerged from the study of denominational reorganization.

We have activated a General Council with Conference-wide representation. Active working sub-committees of several boards and have been established in various parts of the country.

My steadfast and prayerful hope is that we can voluntarily find additional ways to continue to rely on the strengths of the current General Conference related agencies in a fully coordinated "full-circle" administration.

Growing out of organizational studies are indications of willingness to consider other changes in current modes of operation. Among the recommendations made at General Conference were the following:

that "A possible realignment of responsibilities of the several related boards and agencies as presently constituted might be affected...and that all denominational boards and agencies be asked to study and suggest ways to organize their work in a united way."

Let's capitalize on these suggestions—with the leading of the Holy Spirit. Let's take further steps toward improved coordination and efficiency. Let's boldly establish growth goals for the "decade of advance." Let's do whatever is necessary to assure visibility for Seventh Day Baptists in doing Christ's work.

It is my conviction that Seventh Day Baptists currently have unparalleled opportunities for service and for making a constructive impact upon society. It is my belief that the energies of the denomination must be directed toward the propagation of the gospel. Now is the time for even greater endeavors to glorify God and help spread His Word. Denominational growth and development is assured—if we maintain a right spirit, if our commitments are genuine, and if unity of purpose and action is truly achieved.

First Corinthians 3:8-9 reads: "We are working as a team, with the same aim. We are...God's co-workers" (LB).

What a great challenge that is! □

Editorial

SILENT MESSENGERS

As we have often said before, one of the most effective and enduring methods of sharing the gospel is through the publication ministry. More and more I am convinced that we need to make even greater strides in our efforts to reach out to lost mankind with the hope and assurance of Jesus Christ through our tracts and other publications. As we look back over the years we discover many people who were brought to a knowledge of Christ and specifically of the Sabbath truth because of the witness of tracts—our "silent messengers."

Few perhaps will remember that at one time the Tract Society maintained a branch distribution office in New Brunswick, Canada. The Rev. George Seeley, a Sabbath convert, carried on this work during the early part of this century.

A native of Ireland, George Seely came to Canada where he married Mary N. Cooperwaite in 1858. He and his wife later accepted Christ and joined a local Baptist church in 1850. Later he entered the ministry and served Baptist churches in various parts of northeastern Canada during the years 1862-1894.

After over thirty years in the ministry the Seelys became convinced of the Sabbath truth and corresponded with our church in Berlin, New York. Later he was issued a call to assume the pastorate at Berlin where he served from 1895-1900 when he returned to New Brunswick to engage in tract distribution and Sabbath promotional work.

Writing in the July 22, 1912 issue of the *Sabbath Recorder*, Rev. Seely commented on his outreach work and appealed to Seventh Day Baptists to continue their support of the tract and publication ministry.

Dear brothers and sisters, I am not willing to give up this work yet, unless the Lord calls me home, and if it is the desire of my dear Seventh Day Baptist people that I should, I want to sow Canada all over deep

with this precious seed of the Kingdom. The Seventh-day Sabbath is an integral part of the Kingdom. These tracts are so many true, silent messengers, and they must go out in all directions for some time yet, and by and by the harvest day will come. O Seventh Day Baptists, long ago called of God to this work of faith and labor of love, this glorious work, fight on for the truth. Victory will come in due time. "In due time ye shall reap if ye faint not." "Add to your faith courage." These must go together.



Albert Gray of Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada



Mr. and Mrs. James F. Hiscock of Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Through the years we have continued to have Sabbathkeepers in this beautiful part of northeastern Canada. Recently Rev. Russell Havens and Rev. Leon Lawton were able to visit two of these families. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Gray live in New Brunswick where Rev. Seely labored for so many years; Mr. and Mrs. James Hiscock live in nearby Nova Scotia. Both families are firm in their commitment to Christ and the Sabbath truth and keep informed about Seventh Day Baptist ministries through their subscriptions to the *Sabbath Recorder*. It is true today, as perhaps it has always been, that the *Sabbath Recorder* binds our people together, especially those who are isolated from those of like precious faith.

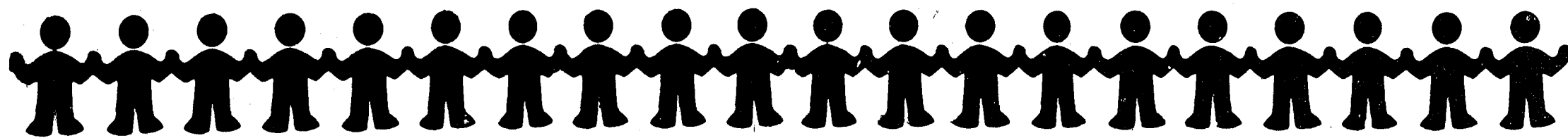
These friends have been a part of our publication work for many years. We also acknowledge new friends like Mr. and Mrs. George Thomson and family of Scotland who have just recently become convinced of the Sabbath and have since distributed thousands of tracts in the British Isles. Closer to home is Mrs. Hubert Phillips of Columbia, Louisiana, who wrote in to our office several years ago after seeing one of our ads. She too has accepted the Sabbath and is now a member of Christ Church in Little Rock. Through her efforts in publication work several others have also come to a new knowledge in the Lord.

In recent years the Tract Society has made great strides in several new areas of publication and visibility outreach. Our new tract "Get Acquainted with Seventh Day Baptists" has met such favorable response that a reprint has just been ordered. The Guide Bible course has proved to be an important vehicle for Spiritual growth among those desiring to know more about Seventh Day Baptists as well as a valuable tool for our own people. Several graduates of the Bible course are now active members in our churches. A not so "silent" witness is our Word of Truth radio program. We are happy that Conference has enthusiastically endorsed the program for another year and we believe that this will continue to expand as an effective part of Seventh Day Baptist witness and evangelism in coming years. Much has been accomplished—much more remains to be done.

The words of George Seely written in 1912 make good food for thought in 1979 as Seventh Day Baptists enter a "Decade of Discipleship."

The printed page is the only means of reaching the majority of the people in the world with the gospel. Shall we withhold our printed pages on the great Sabbath question, even though the special blessing lingers long? Shall we not rather send out more than ever these pages to enlighten and bring to the truth multitudes who have never heard of or seen a Sabbath tract?

May God grant us vision and wisdom as we seek new methods of sharing God's love through the ministry of the "silent messengers." □





Six new pastors were introduced at Conference, they are: Steven Crouch, Little Genesee, NY, and Hebron, PA, churches; John Rau, First and Second Brookfield, NY, churches; Thomas Sostar, Alfred, NY; Robert Van Horn, Farina, IL; Rod Henry, missionary to the Philippines; and Gabriel Bejjani, Stanton, CA.



Mr. Stephen Wang, a graduate of Grace High School in Shanghai, China, and Milton College, expresses his happiness at being able to be in America and at Conference. He will be making his new home in Madison-Milton, WI.

Rev. Joe Samuels of Jamaica discusses the "Word of Truth" radio broadcast with radio speaker, Rev. Russell Havens and Rev. Leon Lawton of the Missionary Society.



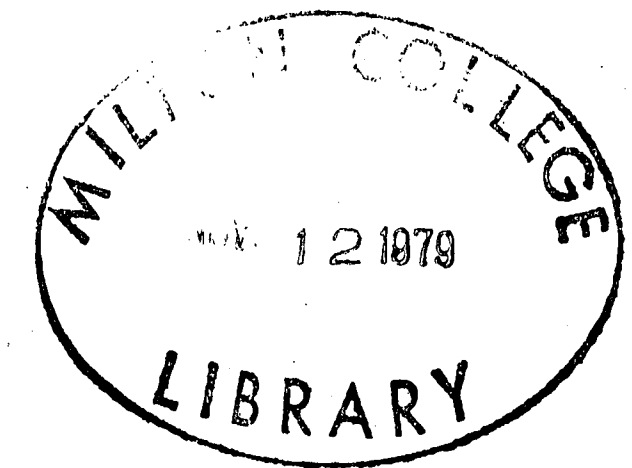
CONFERENCE SCENES

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THE SABBATH OUR 135th YEAR
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1979
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is like
apples of gold
in sellings
of silver

Proverbs 25:11-12

