

The Sabbath Recorder  
(ISSN 0036-214X)  
510 Watchung Ave., P.O. Box 868  
Plainfield, NJ 07061

Second class postage paid at Plainfield, NJ 07061

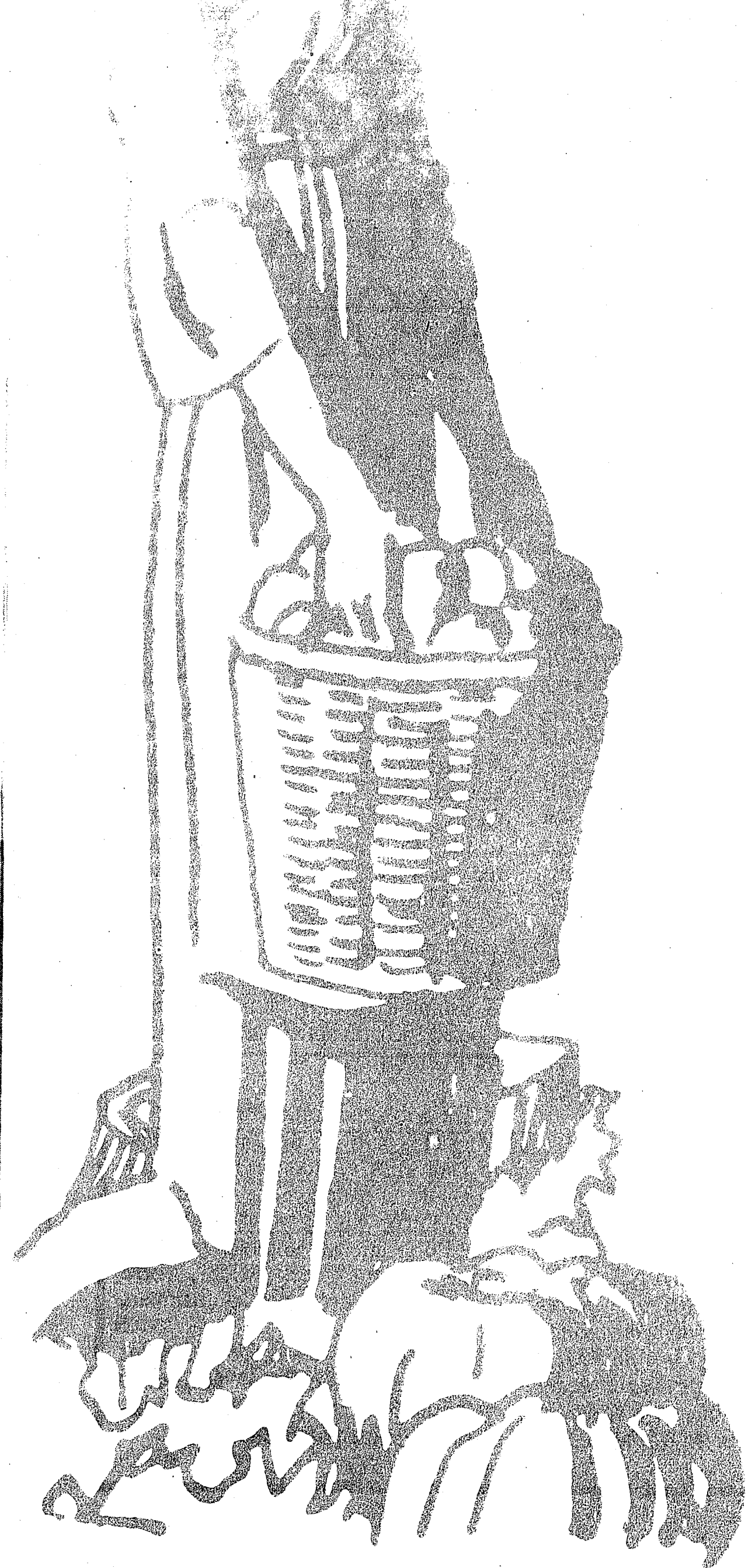
1279  
MILTON COLLEGE LIBRARY  
MILTON WI 53563

THE SABBATH RECORDER  
DECEMBER 1979

The Purpose of the Sabbath Recorder  
The Sabbath Recorder is published  
weekly, except on the Sabbath,  
and is sent free to all members  
of the Seventh Day Baptist Church.

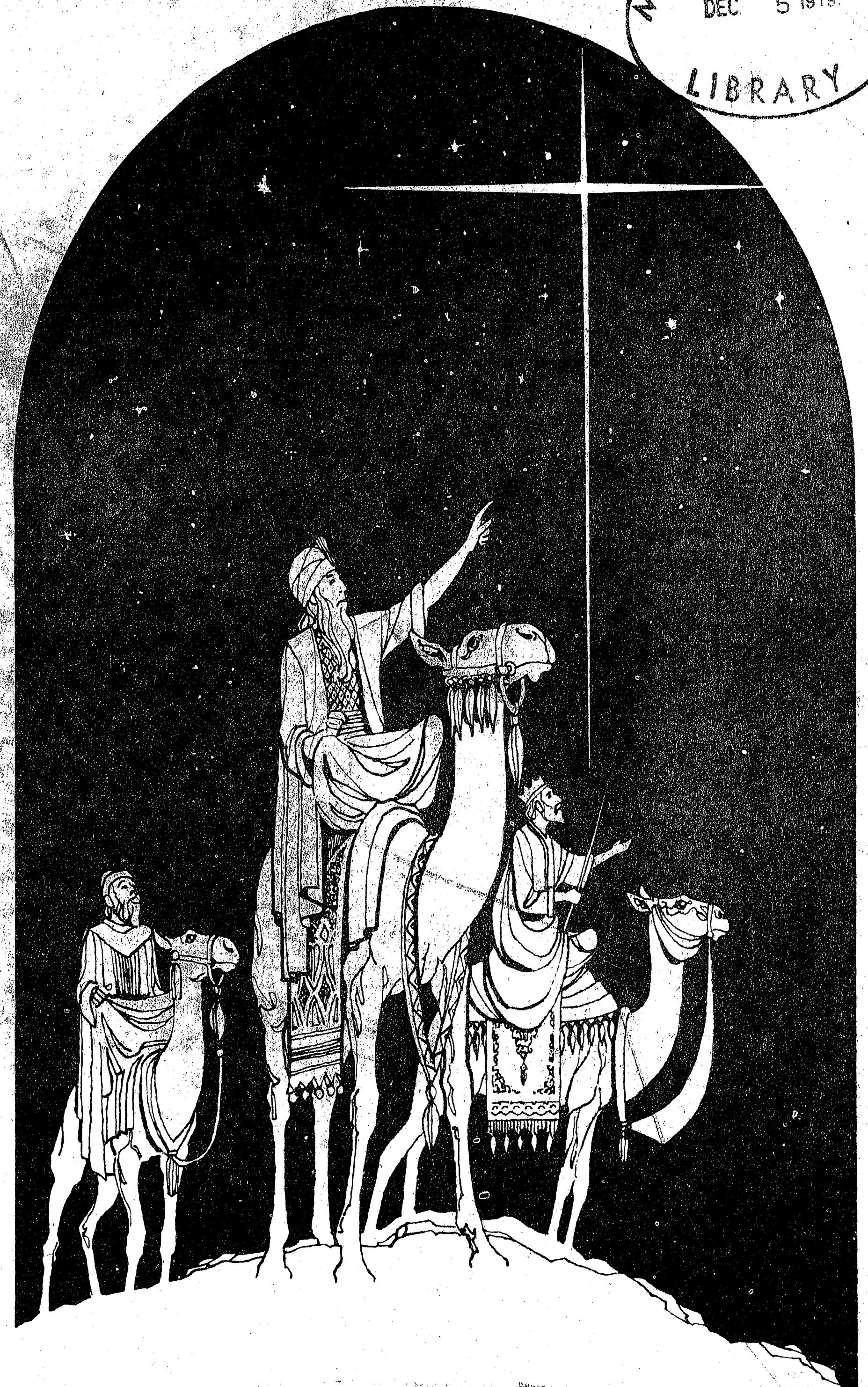
Subscription rates for 1979:  
Single copies, 10¢ each.  
Annual subscription, \$10.00.  
Foreign subscriptions, \$15.00.  
Institutions, \$25.00.

For a complete list of  
William Miller's works  
and where to obtain them,  
of these works, write us today.



THE SABBATH OUR 135th YEAR  
**RECORDER** 1844  
SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST DECEMBER 1979 1979

MILTON COLLEGE  
DEC 5 1979  
LIBRARY

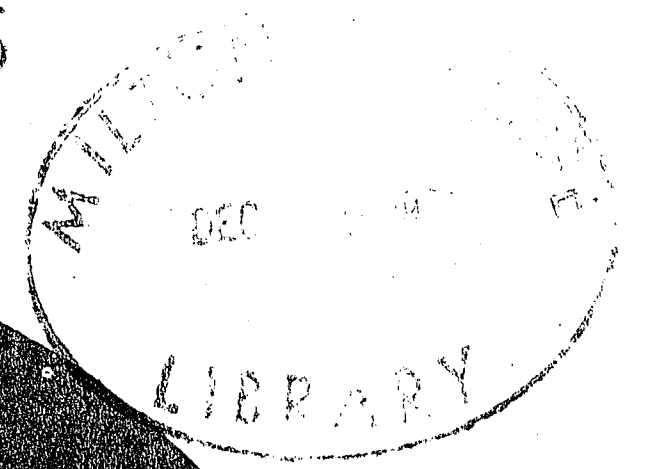


The Sabbath Recorder  
25 N. 9th St.  
Albany, N.Y. 12202  
Phone: 541-1000

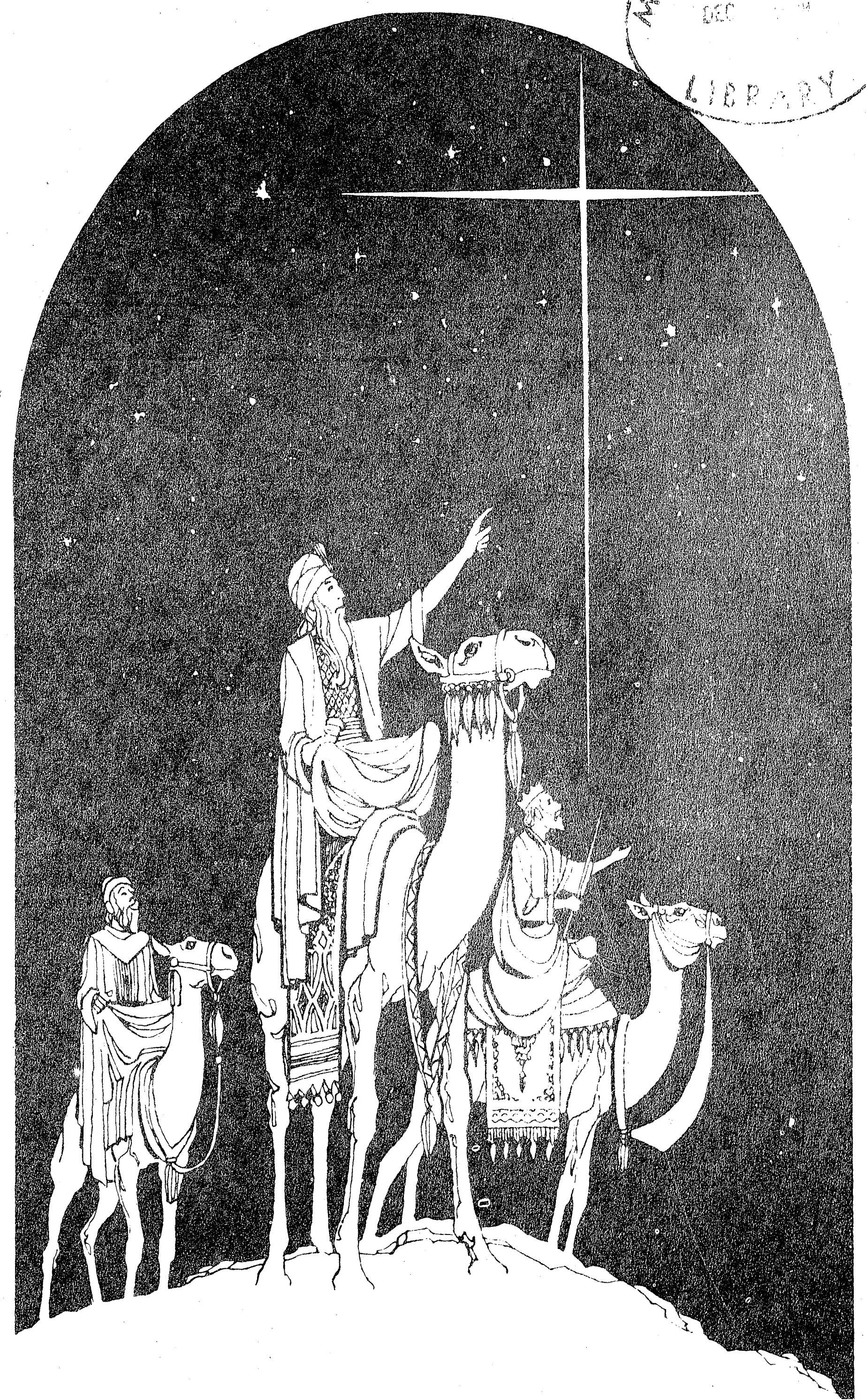
Published by the Sabbath School

THE SABBATH OUR 135th YEAR  
**RECORDER**  
SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST DECEMBER 1979

1844  
1979



MILLER COLLEGE LIBRARY  
MILLER, NY 12543



## FEATURES

- 3 The Word Became Flesh  
*Rev. Don A. Sanford*
- 4 Heli's Grandson  
*Timothy L. Bond*
- 7 No Reputation  
*Dr. E.J. Horsley*
- 8 SCSC  
*Gerry VanDyke*
- 10 May I Introduce You to My Friend?  
*Gerry VanDyke*
- 12 "One Hundred Thousand Miles Closer to the People"  
*K.D. Hurley*
- 16 See You in Church  
*Dr. David A. Hubbard*
- 18 China Mission: The Great Years, Part 2  
*Thomas L. Merchant*
- 20 More Pastors Ordained to the Gospel Ministry  
*Rev. Herbert E. Saunders*

## DEPARTMENTS

- 19 Board of Christian Education  
*Mary Clare*
- 29 Children's Page
- 22 Church in Action
- 31 Editorial  
*John D. Bevis*
- 19 The Link  
*Barb Snyder*
- 15 Missionary Society  
*Rev. Leon R. Lawton*
- 2 Recorder Reactions
- 26 World Religious News
- 19 Youth Concerns
- 25 Accessions-Births-Marriages-Obituaries

## The Sabbath Recorder

December 1979  
Volume 201, No. 12  
Whole No. 6,649

A SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST PUBLICATION

*The Sabbath Recorder* (ISSN 0036-214X) is published monthly for \$6.00 per year in the United States; \$6.50 foreign, by the American Sabbath Tract Society, 510 Watchung Avenue, P.O. Box 868, Plainfield, NJ 07061. Second-class postage paid at Plainfield, NJ. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Sabbath Recorder*, P.O. Box 868, Plainfield, NJ 07061.

This is the 135th year of publication for *The Sabbath Recorder*, the first issue being published June 13, 1844. Member of the Associated Church Press and the Evangelical Press Association. *The Sabbath Recorder* does not necessarily endorse signed articles.

**JOHN D. BEVIS, EDITOR**  
P.O. Box 2133  
Florence, AL 35630

**PATRICIA CRUZAN, ART DIRECTOR**

Contributing Editors

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.

### RECORDER REACTIONS...

I find the *Sabbath Recorder* so interesting I read it from cover to cover. I particularly absorbed Helen Brayman's article, "Why Are You SDB?" (Sept. 1979, p. 25) I felt the editorial to be very important with its quote, "Free our hearts to work and praise." My heart has found freedom from such wearing cares because of the atmosphere of simplicity and beauty, so that my experience on becoming a member of your church has been like becoming a new child of God all over again!

(Mrs.) Mae J. Prest  
Blossvale, New York

I receive the *Sabbath Recorder* and do enjoy its contents very much. I am a minister in the Church of God, Seventh Day, and it helps me in my work and more efficiently to promote God's true Sabbath of the Bible. I attended part of your General Conference in Adrian and God is moving in your ranks. We must work together to promote God's truth in these days.

-Elder W.H. McCann  
Dundee, Michigan

The Sabbath Recorder

## The Word Became Flesh

Rev. Don A. Sanford  
Milton, WI

Scripture Reading: John 1:1-18

*The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth: we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father...John 1:14.*

Shortly after the war, an army chaplain telephoned his wife that he would be home for Christmas. After many months overseas, one can imagine the thrill which those lines carried. He said that he would be home sometime late on Christmas Eve. They decided to keep his homecoming secret from the children that he might surprise them on Christmas morning. Early in the morning the children gathered about the tree, anxious to open their presents beneath the branches. Suddenly there was a stirring of the white sheet on which the presents had been placed, and out came their father. It is easy to imagine the joy of that home when the children who had expected only presents, found their father in person.

This is the real meaning of Christmas, for up from the lowly manger came no ordinary gift, but the Christ, the love of God incarnate. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, or as J.B. Phillips translates the opening verses of John's Gospel: "In the beginning God expressed himself. That personal expression, that word, was with God and was God, and he existed with God from the beginning."

The Gospels of Matthew and Luke tell the story of the birth of Jesus, but John delves into the reason and the meaning of the event which took place in Bethlehem. It is a tendency for many in our own day to think of Christmas only by the events of the day. We read the story from Matthew and Luke, follow the trail of the wise men, and listen to the song given to the shepherds. Though these are all good, the story is incomplete without the thoughts of John who interpreted the meaning in terms of the expression of God. This more than the manner of His birth tells the story of the Incarnation.

God had revealed Himself in many

ways prior to this event, as the author of Hebrews stated, "In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets; but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son" (Heb. 1:1-2). The Shepherds and the wise men found joy in their hearts at the manger, because they beheld God. And all who have followed have likewise gone home praising God for His wonderful love.

But not all men have received this revelation with Joy. Herod sought to destroy Him. Many of the Jews and others have rejected Him, while many so-called Christians have merely disgraced Him. "He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not." So it is with many today. He comes to His own church, but we receive Him not.

One day in 1932, Dwight Davis, who thirty years before had founded the internationally famous Davis Cup tournament in tennis, attended one of his matches in Paris. He wished to sit with the American team, but a French official would not permit it.

"But," said the surprised founder, "I'm Mr. Davis."

"Impossible," he was told. "I don't have a Mr. Davis listed on the roster."

He gave up and went home, disappointed. Later that day the head of the French Tennis Federation heard of the incident, called Mr. Davis, and profusely apologized. The next day he offered a public apology and introduced Mr. Davis to the crowd.

There are many Christmas gatherings held in the name of Christ at which Christ Himself would be rejected. Yet such rejections do not defeat Christ's purpose. "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

Darkness is technically described as the absence of light. Take a room in which a light is shining, and it is impossible to crowd darkness into it. We may shut ourselves off from the light, by closing our eyes, or

hiding in the shadows, but this does not put the light out. Christ is the light of the world. Men may shut themselves from the light, but they have never been able to extinguish it.

"But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God." One of the most remarkable traits of men is their ability to *become*. Never does one consider that he has arrived at his best possible self. There is always room for improvement. Jesus gave the power whereby men may become true sons of God. In this thought John is in agreement with Paul who likewise spoke of a rebirth in the spirit through the will of God. The whole act of this Incarnation and redemption is an act of God. Without God's grace, we would not have the power to become anything more than mere animals, living an animal existence.

### PRAYER

*O Word of God Incarnate, help us see beyond the glitter of our Christmas decorations, to Thine own presence with us. May Thy light shine in the darkness of our world till every corner is illumined and there remains no more shadow of doubt. Through Thy transforming power, help us to become what Thou wouldst desire. AMEN. □*



# Heli's Grandson

## a Footnoted Fiction Feature

by Timothy L. Bond  
Shiloh, N.J.

The toy mallet clattered to the floor as the eighteen-month-old child scampered to see what was causing the commotion outside. This was a special mallet. It was hand-hewn with a cyprus head and grooves in the cedar handle to fit the little fingers of Heli's first grandchild.<sup>1</sup> Obviously, it was made with the loving care only a grandfather craftsman could share.

Several things had delayed Heli from learning immediately of his grandson's birth. First of all, he had been on a trip at the time, so it wasn't possible to notify him. Secondly, it was during a period of national turmoil. Because many of his countrymen were also traveling to towns of their heritage,<sup>2</sup> the roads were crowded and communication across distances was all but nonexistent for common people. By the time Heli returned home to Nain his grandson was nearly a month old, and two more months elapsed before a messenger came to Heli's door bearing the delightful although expected news.

After giving careful thought about what he should buy or make for his grandson's first gift, Heli decided on the mallet. It was the perfect gift. It was a good size for handling, teething on, and banging with. This present had the personal touch because it was being made by Granddaddy. Finally, it was symbolic of the life that was to be lived. In those days it was expected for sons, especially oldest sons, to follow in their fathers' footsteps. Heli had taught his son an honorable craft just as his father had instilled in him the family trade secrets which were passed down by his grandfather Levi.<sup>3</sup>

When Heli's grandson was six months old a package arrived that his daddy said was for him. But that was about a year ago now and since then the mallet had been chewed, dropped and thrown many times. The new nick it received as it clattered to the stone floor blended in with all the old scars that made the mallet real and precious.

The little boy toddled to the door in time to see his father greeting two expensively dressed foreigners as they climbed down from their camels. When the strangers approached the door the little rascalion scurried off to find protection behind his mother.

While leading the company into the house Joseph called, "Mary! Mary, remember how the shepherds came to the stable to worship Jesus the night he was born?" Before Mary could open her mouth to reply, Joseph continued with awe and excitement in his voice. "Angels appeared to the shepherds and told them of Jesus' birth, but these men are astrologers from the East. They say they saw the star of the king of the Jews appear in the heavens that night and later set out in search of him so they could worship and bring him gifts."<sup>4</sup>

While Mary pulled Jesus from behind her and set him on her lap, she welcomed these foreign diplomats who had come to pay homage to her son. Jesus squirmed uncomfortably as the strangers knelt before him in obeisance.

"So you are to be the new king of the Jews," one of them said.

"Yes, Jasper, he is a strong healthy boy," replied his companion, "and he'll grow up to be a good ruler."

"Gorkum, look at that strong forehead and those sensitive eyes," whispered Jasper. "This is truly the child the star sent us in search of."

While these two men studied Jesus as a jeweler inspects a gem, Jesus wiggled nervously, just as he would have under the eye of his Grandpa Heli if he ever got to see him.

Next Gorkum and Jasper took gifts from beneath their robes and presented them to Joseph for safe keeping until Jesus was old enough to use them wisely. These were myrrh, frankincense and gold.<sup>5</sup>

That night after the company left and Jesus had been put to bed, Joseph and Mary lay awake for hours reminiscing about the miracles related to the birth of their son. After Joseph had fallen into a restless sleep, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream saying, "Joseph, get up and take Mary and Jesus with you and flee into



The Sabbath Recorder

Egypt. Stay there until I call for your return. Herod is going to search for Jesus and try to kill him."<sup>6</sup>

When the vision ended and the angel left, Joseph found himself wide awake and feeling as though he had just been speaking with someone rather than dreaming. He roused Mary and together they gathered a few items essential for housekeeping, Joseph's tools, and their valuables including the gifts which had so recently been given to Jesus. After these were bundled up, Joseph tied them on the donkey's back while Mary dressed Jesus. When the sun rose, it found the small family already on the road headed for Egypt.<sup>7</sup>

In Egypt Joseph set up a carpentry shop similar to but smaller than the one his father had had in Nain when he was a boy. A few months later a customer came in and told a story that sent chills down Joseph's spine. He had been traveling over near Bethlehem when he saw a group of Roman soldiers laughing and carrying on while mothers screamed and fathers fought them. They were going from house to house and whenever they found a male baby that appeared to be under two years of age they skewered it with a sword and left it for the parents to dispose of. The customer claimed the soldiers actually had written orders signed by Herod requiring them to do it.<sup>8</sup> That night Joseph and Mary spent a long time in prayer, thanking God for sending the angel to tell them to leave Bethlehem.

Time dragged on for the exiles in Egypt. Naturally it was hard for foreigners to become a part of a different society; and when being new in the area was combined with prejudice against Jews, it often made paying carpentry jobs few and far between. Mary and Joseph found it difficult and sometimes awkward to practice their faith in this heathen country, and Mary often worried about the effect of outside influences on impressionable three-year-old Jesus.

After Jesus' fourth birthday<sup>9</sup> came an event worth celebrating. As Joseph slept a familiar character crept into his dream. If Mary had been lying awake watching him, she would have seen a smile steal across his face as the angel appeared bring good news. "Joseph, the waiting is over. Herod is dead and it is safe for you to return to your homeland."<sup>10</sup> Following the dream Joseph immediately awakened Mary to share the happy news.

For the next few days Joseph beamed as he went about his work. He would take no new contracts for jobs; and as soon as he finished building a table and two benches, he delivered them to his customer several days ahead of schedule. Early the next morning with the money from the last sale secure in his pouch, Joseph prepared for the trip home.

The young Jesus was just as excited as his parents. He was about to return to the homeland he could not remember but had heard so many stories about from Mary and Joseph. He wondered, "What will it be like to live where everybody speaks Hebrew like my parents? Do Mommy and Daddy really have sisters and brothers who are my aunts and uncles?" But most of all Jesus wondered about Grandpa Heli who made the wooden mallet which was still his favorite toy.

Once the family had been traveling for so many days

that Jesus had practically forgotten what it was like to live in a house, Joseph announced, "By supper time tomorrow we'll be in Nain at Grandpa Heli's house. We'll be staying there until we can find a place of our own where I can set up a carpentry shop."

At four the next afternoon Joseph and Mary sent Jesus to the door of a house familiar to them but strange to their son. While his parents hid around the corner Jesus rapped on the door with his mallet. A few moments went by with no result. Chuckling, Joseph coached, "Do it again, Jesus. He's probably taking a nap." Just as the boy was about to tap a second time, the door swung open and he was faced with a rugged, balding man with a salt-and-pepper beard who was stretching in the middle of a cavernous yawn. Most little fellows would have run from the scene or melted down to tears, but Jesus grinned and nearly yelled, "Look, Grandpa Heli. I knocked with the mallet you made for me!"

A strange expression came across Heli's face as he squatted down to see what the small boy was holding up to him. Then tears came to his eyes as he exclaimed, "Why, I made this for Jesus and sent it to Bethlehem!" Heli grabbed his grandson; and as Jesus all but disappeared into the folds of Grandpa's robe, Joseph came running from his hiding place to greet his father.

Following a few days of happy reunion Joseph set about finding a place to live and reestablish his business. Eight miles away in Nazareth he found what he was looking for and his family moved into a home within visiting distance of Grandpa Heli.<sup>11</sup> Once they settled in Nazareth Joseph's family grew in numbers; and as his son Jesus grew in stature, he was taught the family trade.<sup>12</sup>

The next few years rolled along smoothly for this family which is so special to Christianity, although there was a problem when Jesus turned up missing in Jerusalem at age twelve. But that story, is it not written in the chronicles of Luke?<sup>13</sup> □

### FOOTNOTES

1. Luke 3:23.
2. Luke 2:1-3.
3. Luke 3:24.
4. Matthew 2:2.
5. Matthew 2:11.
6. Matthew 2:13.
7. Matthew 2:14.
8. Matthew 2:16.
9. *The Random House Dictionary of the English Language* (New York, 1968), Herod, p. 620.
10. Matthew 2:19-20.
11. Matthew 2:23.
12. Matthew 13:55 and Mark 6:3.
13. Luke 2:41-52.

## IF ONLY

If only I had stood that night  
With humble shepherds there,  
If I had heard the wondrous news  
From angels in the air.

If I then had gone with them  
To see the Babe so fair,  
If only I had lived back then  
What a witness I would bear.

But stop and let's consider  
The things I've seen and heard,  
The many folks made happy  
As they listen to His word.

Someday we'll stand before Him  
In humbleness and awe,  
We'll sing Christ's wonderful story—  
The wisemen, shepherds—all.

-Claston E. Bond



## NO REPUTATION

THE NATIVITY

BY CLASTON E. BOND

"For He made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men." He "made Himself of no reputation" or, as Phillips would put it "He despised all of all privilege."

It could be Jesus' care to fulfill His mission in the world is both an unusual and a marvelous thing. He made Himself of no reputation, but He was essential to the world's need. He was the "first-born of all creation" and the "first-born of all wisdom."

He came to earth in a stable in a manger, not a palace. He was born in a manger, not a palace. He was born in a manger, not a palace. He was born in a manger, not a palace.

The reality of His coming was in a manger, not a palace. He was born in a manger, not a palace. He was born in a manger, not a palace.

The romance of time may have glorified that stable but the odors there and the lack of maternity conveniences indicated that here was one of "no reputation."

For His family poverty was the norm of their existence. It is doubtful that they could ever have taken the long trek to Egypt with one donkey for transportation had not the visitors from the East brought gifts. They fled for Jesus' life. For this child not even the right of life was guaranteed, never mind the right to the "pursuit of happiness."

As a child He apparently became an apprentice carpenter at an early age. Little is known of that childhood. He was "a youth to fortune and to fame unknown" but certainly His boyhood held very little privilege and abundance of work. As the oldest child in the family one can surmise the hours of baby-sitting He endured and all the responsibility of being big brother in the family. No doubt the combination of poverty and responsibility brought early maturity to this boy "who was rich but became poor for our sake."

He who was rich became poor for our sake. He who was rich became poor for our sake. He who was rich became poor for our sake.

Why did He do this? Why did He do this? Why did He do this? Why did He do this?

Why did He do this? Why did He do this? Why did He do this? Why did He do this?

He who was rich became poor for our sake. He who was rich became poor for our sake. He who was rich became poor for our sake.

He was born in a manger, not a palace. He was born in a manger, not a palace. He was born in a manger, not a palace.

So He was born in a manger, not a palace. He was born in a manger, not a palace. He was born in a manger, not a palace.

Having served faithfully, having accepted the role of "no reputation." He was raised to the right hand of God and was given "a name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow."

"He that is greatest among you must be the servant of all."

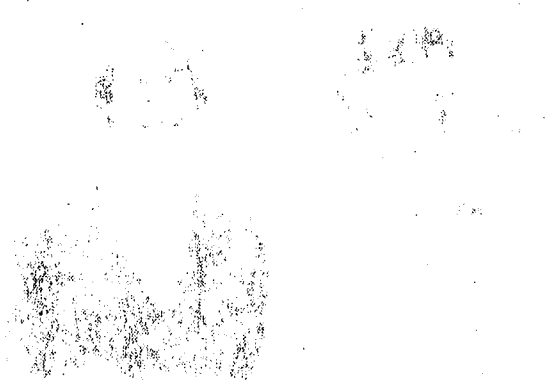
Glory to God in the highest!

**S**ANCTIFIED



*Isaiah 61:5 Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow the Lord will visit his workers among you.*

**E**VANGEL



*John 1:9 I came into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me will not remain in darkness.*

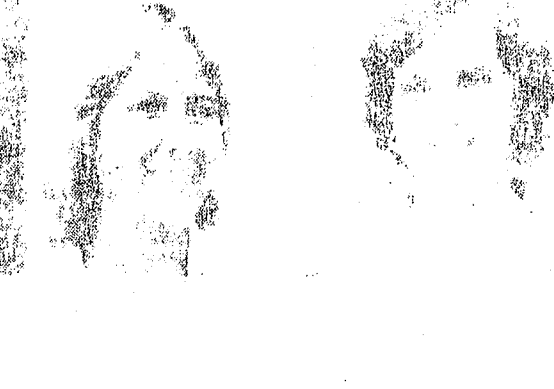
**A**LPHA



**L**AMB



**E**NLIGHTENED



**D**ISCIPLESHIP



*Proverbs 31:14 She is like the ships of the merchant she brings her food from afar.*

John Lowhead, Battle Creek, Michigan  
Tom Schock, Edgerton, Wisconsin

# SCSC

by Gerry VanDyke

When twelve young, excited, turned on disciples of Jesus Christ decide to give their lives in dedicated service for a whole summer, they can turn the world right side up!

So many good things happened to our workers and the churches they served this summer that we just need to stand back and marvel at what God can do with His children when they have willing hearts. How wonderful it would be if the flame that burns so brightly in the hearts of these twelve young men and women could spark little fires all across our denomination, and soon our lives could brighten up all the dark corners of our land.

Six churches were hosts to the six teams this summer. How wonderful it is for church and team alike when a decision is made to ask for workers. Mark and Craig shared the excitement and skills they learned in training with the Y.E. group in Fouke, and they got so excited they decided to let the people in town know about Jesus and this beautiful church body. Other members got excited too, and soon the whole church became involved and they went out by two's and three's to share the good news.

To start a new church in a large city is no easy undertaking, and the people in Memphis looked forward to the encouragement and enthusiasm that a team could bring to their little band of people. They were not disappointed when Deirdre and Joanna came to them. Just to have workers who were willing to do whatever needed to be done helped everyone concerned. Joanna and Deirdre were so anxious to see the Shoffners be able to come to Conference to be filled up and inspired, that they prayed for the money to make this possible. The Lord laid this concern on the hearts of another church body, and sure enough the entire family was provided a way to be at Conference. John and Tom, who were at Sunshine Mountain, met so many people, shook so many hands, and shared Jesus with so many people that Mississippi will never be the same again. Ben and Maichle made a lasting impact on many people at Crites Mountain

this summer, as they worked with Lana and Robert Van Horn, and young boys made decisions to have Jesus come into their hearts, and other people, young and old, developed a desire for a deeper fellowship with God because Maichle and Ben shared their lives with them.

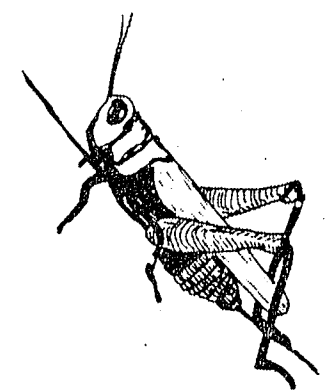
Camping, Vacation Bible School and neighborhood Bible clubs have been providing opportunities for young boys and girls to meet Jesus, for many years. How often we hear testimonies from people who deeply love the Lord, who say that it was at one of these places they first came to understand that God loved them. This year was no exception. Lori, Marian, Joan and Annmarie took advantage of these situations to help many youngsters find the excitement and reality of knowing Jesus and learning to trust and love Him.

When Jesus told us to put His Kingdom first, and all our needs would be added, He really meant it. Many of our workers decided to give their summer to God, not knowing where they would get the money for school this fall, or where they would be living, or if they would be able to find jobs. Yet their needs for money for school and for Conference were provided. Their needs for direction as to how God would have them serve Him this fall are being met. He will do this for each one of us if we trust in Him completely. At least two of our workers who served this summer are considering the ministry, and all of our young men and women continue to search how they can best serve our risen Savior in the world they live in. Whether it be school, job, church, fellowship or neighborhood, each one of these people has caught the vision of the needs of the world, and each has seen that God provided the resources that are needed to meet those needs.

I want to encourage all of you readers to think about how your church might use an SCSC team in 1980. Perhaps you have older people in your church and community who need the physical and spiritual help of a team. Then let SCSC help you find creative ways to fill those needs. Workers can mow lawns, drive people to doctor's appointments, paint, wash windows, read; they also know how to love and accept people, so working with older people in your community might be a good way for your church to lead out.

We already have three young women ready to work in 1980 that could have a great ministry in your town, and could teach your people the deaf language so that you could carry on the ministry when they go back home. This summer we saw that an athletic program is such an exciting way to touch lives. The people are there just waiting to hear and wanting to hear that there is a God who loves them and will save them. Begin making plans today for a team to work in your church. Our committee will help you plan your project and give you all the support we know how to give. It takes work to call a team, because thought and planning and cooperation must be put into it. Some workers need lots of guidance and supervision while other teams will be able to motivate you. But there are so many needs in every church and community. Decide today to find those needs and then let SCSC help you find creative ways to fill them.

We ask for your continued prayers for this important work of the Women's Board, and we ask that you will give us your financial support so that SCSC can become a reality in the coming year.



## CHURCH GYPSIES

There are religious grasshoppers and church gypsies who never can find a pastor or church good enough for them; who chase favorite preachers and live on samples brought back from Canaan instead of crossing Jordan and living in the Promised Land themselves, packing their notebooks with epigrams, but not hiding the Word in their hearts. Some of them have the impression that one is not living the Christian life unless he is in a state of ecstasy at a high pressure meeting. They want to fly all the time and have found no grace for running without weariness or walking without fainting. They go up like rockets and come down like rocks.

-Vance Havner

# S ANCTIFIED



*Joshua 3:5 "Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you."*

Joan Burdick, South Pasadena, California  
Annmarie Johnson, Milton, Wisconsin

# E VANGEL



*John 4:35 "I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see how the fields are already white for harvest."*

Mark Jacob, Fouke, Arkansas  
Craig Mix, Alfred, New York

# A LPHA



*Revelation 1:8 "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."*

Maichle Gould, Dansville, New York  
Ben Stillman, Houston, Texas

# L AMB



*Revelation 22:1 "Then he showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb."*

Deirdre Sanford, Milton, Wisconsin  
Joanna Pearson, Paint Rock, Alabama

# E NLIGHTENED



*Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me."*

Lori Mares, Eau Claire, Wisconsin  
Marian Vandalen, Milton, Wisconsin

# D ISCIPLESHIP



*Proverbs 31:14 "She is like the ships of the merchant, she brings her food from afar."*

John Lawhead, Battle Creek, Michigan  
Tom Schock, Edgerton, Wisconsin

# SCSC

by Gerry VanDyke

When twelve young, excited, turned on disciples of Jesus Christ decide to give their lives in dedicated service for a whole summer, they can turn the world right side up!

So many good things happened to our workers and the churches they served this summer that we just need to stand back and marvel at what God can do with His children when they have willing hearts. How wonderful it would be if the flame that burns so brightly in the hearts of these twelve young men and women could spark little fires all across our denomination, and soon our lives could brighten up all the dark corners of our land.

Six churches were hosts to the six teams this summer. How wonderful it is for church and team alike when a decision is made to ask for workers. Mark and Craig shared the excitement and skills they learned in training with the Y.F. group in Fouke, and they got so excited they decided to let the people in town know about Jesus and this beautiful church body. Other members got excited too, and soon the whole church became involved and they went out by two's and three's to share the good news.

To start a new church in a large city is no easy undertaking, and the people in Memphis looked forward to the encouragement and enthusiasm that a team could bring to their little band of people. They were not disappointed when Deirdre and Joanna came to them. Just to have workers who were willing to do whatever needed to be done helped everyone concerned. Joanna and Deirdre were so anxious to see the Shoffners be able to come to Conference to be filled up and inspired, that they prayed for the money to make this possible. The Lord laid this concern on the hearts of another church body, and sure enough the entire family was provided a way to be at Conference. John and Tom, who were at Sunshine Mountain, met so many people, shook so many hands, and shared Jesus with so many people that Mississippi will never be the same again. Ben and Maichle made a lasting impact on many people at Crites Mountain

this summer, as they worked with Lana and Robert Van Horn, and young boys made decisions to have Jesus come into their hearts, and other people, young and old, developed a desire for a deeper fellowship with God because Maichle and Ben shared their lives with them.

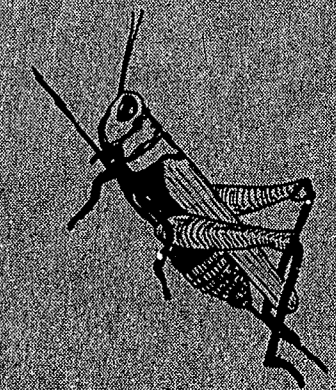
Camping, Vacation Bible School and neighborhood Bible clubs have been providing opportunities for young boys and girls to meet Jesus, for many years. How often we hear testimonies from people who deeply love the Lord, who say that it was at one of these places they first came to understand that God loved them. This year was no exception. Lori, Marian, Joan and Annmarie took advantage of these situations to help many youngsters find the excitement and reality of knowing Jesus and learning to trust and love Him.

When Jesus told us to put His Kingdom first, and all our needs would be added, He really meant it. Many of our workers decided to give their summer to God, not knowing where they would get the money for school this fall, or where they would be living, or if they would be able to find jobs. Yet their needs for money for school and for Conference were provided. Their needs for direction as to how God would have them serve Him this fall are being met. He will do this for each one of us if we trust in Him completely. At least two of our workers who served this summer are considering the ministry, and all of our young men and women continue to search how they can best serve our risen Savior in the world they live in. Whether it be school, job, church, fellowship or neighborhood, each one of these people has caught the vision of the needs of the world, and each has seen that God provided the resources that are needed to meet those needs.

I want to encourage all of you readers to think about how your church might use an SCSC team in 1980. Perhaps you have older people in your church and community who need the physical and spiritual help of a team. Then let SCSC help you find creative ways to fill those needs. Workers can mow lawns, drive people to doctor's appointments, paint, wash windows, read; they also know how to love and accept people, so working with older people in your community might be a good way for your church to lead out.

We already have three young women ready to work in 1980 that could have a deaf ministry in your town, and could teach your people the deaf language so that you could carry on the ministry when they go back home. This summer we saw that an athletic program is such an exciting way to touch lives. The people are there just waiting to hear and wanting to hear that there is a God who loves them and will save them. Begin making plans today for a team to work in your church. Our committee will help you plan your project and give you all the support we know how to give. It takes work to call a team, because thought and planning and cooperation must be put into it. Some workers need lots of guidance and supervision while other teams will be able to motivate you. But there are so many needs in every church and community. Decide today to find those needs and then let SCSC help you find creative ways to fill them.

We ask for your continued prayers for this important work of the Women's Board, and we ask that you will give us your financial support so that SCSC can become a reality in the coming year. □



## CHURCH GYPSIES

There are religious grasshoppers and church gypsies who never can find a pastor or church good enough for them; who chase favorite preachers and live on samples brought back from Canaan instead of crossing Jordan and living in the Promised Land themselves, packing their notebooks with epigrams, but not hiding the Word in their hearts. Some of them have the impression that one is not living the Christian life unless he is in a state of ecstasy at a high pressure meeting. They want to fly all the time and have found no grace for running without weariness or walking without fainting. They go up like rockets and come down like rocks.

-Vance Havner

Several years ago I was at one of those crossroads in my life. Perhaps you know the kind. I knew there was something important that I was missing out on, and I felt that if I looked in the right place, or talked to the right people, I would find out what this important missing ingredient was. One thing I did know. I knew that I desperately needed a friend. Now this is not to say that I did not have friends, because at that particular time in my life I had many friends; close friends, fun serious friends, friends to study with, and friends to socialize with. But I needed a very special friend. I needed someone who not only *could* understand me, but someone who *would* understand me. I needed someone who was willing to be with me all the time, twenty-four hours a day. I knew there were people who were willing to spend time with me, but not that much time! I needed someone to laugh with me, cry with me, dream big dreams with me, someone who would be willing to stay up all night with me, and hold my hand and do my worrying for me, even if I fell asleep. And strangely enough in my heart, I really felt there was that kind of friend somewhere, so I began to search.

One Sabbath morning, I received an introduction to this special person who was to become my confidant, my helper, my teacher and guide, my comforter, and my strengthener, and my remembrancer. (I really need a remembrancer, because I am always forgetting things like: God loves you, Gerry; or Yes, your life really does count for something; or God will supply your needs; or I will never leave you or forsake you.) When I first heard about this special friend, I became curious to see if there were many people who knew Him, and much to my surprise, I found that in some places He was really quite well-known, and loved. I found that many people had written books, telling about their friendship with Him. I also found that many people had begun their search for Him in much the same way I had. Someone told me that if I really wanted to know all about this friend, I should check out the Bible. And sure enough, I found a wealth of information about this person there. I also found that He had made lots of promises about the kind of friendship He was willing to give to anyone who wanted Him for a friend.

### Meet My Special Friend

So, I would like to introduce you to my friend, who has changed my life completely. May I introduce you to the Holy Spirit? He is the Comforter Jesus promised to send us, and He is alive, and He is all that Jesus promised He would be. Now perhaps you have had a few conversations with Him yourself, or maybe even teamed up with Him on occasions. But I would like to show you the kind of relationship that He would like to have with you. If you already know Him in the way I know Him, I'm sure you will want to share in the joy that I have.

I found that one of the best ways that I got to know my friend was to read and study about Jesus, and really get to know Him. All the things I needed to know about my newfound friend are revealed in Jesus. I came to see that Jesus came to earth as a flesh and blood man so that He could reveal to us the true nature of God. Before Jesus came to earth to walk among us, men did not really have a clear picture of the nature of God. God spoke to only a few chosen prophets, and He gave His Holy Spirit in a

## May I Introduce You To My Friend?

Gerry VanDyke  
Longmont, CO

limited way. God took His people by the hand, gave them explicit directions, and when they strayed, He would have to chastise them, and lead them back again. He found that it was often necessary to discipline them and to punish them. This definitely was the age of childhood for God's children. In the Old Testament times, the true character of God had not yet been clarified. For the people in those times the picture they had of God was much like the picture we have of our parents when we are small children. Our vision in our youth is very limited. We cannot see all the facets of our parents' personalities.

But, oh how that changed when God, the Son, came to this world. When He came to us, He came as life. He came and revealed to the world God's true nature, which is love. Perhaps if we read only the Old Testament we might not see that God's true nature is love, and many people do stop there. But what is exciting about Jesus is that He did not just come to show us the way. He *is* the Way. There is the way, and then there is *not* the way. Anytime you are away from Jesus you are not in the Way. He did not come to tell us good news, He *is* the Good News. He did not come to tell us about love, and sanity and power. He *is* love, power, sanity, wisdom, and peace. He is joy and patience and self-control. God the Son, is Life. He is the Redeemer. When I think about being redeemed, I like to think how I have saved trading stamps, and when I have put all the stamps in the book, it simply looks like nothing of value, but when I take it to the redemption center, I receive some wonderful brand new premium from that worthless looking book of stamps. It's like that, I have found, when I take my worthless-looking life to Jesus. He takes what I have collected, and in exchange He gives me a brand new life, a brand new outlook, a new personality. How wonderful that He came to redeem us. He came to us while we were still worthless. He doesn't require that we get our heads together first. He doesn't make us wait until we recognize all the ways in which we need to change. He came and died for us just the way we are. What a Gift!



A Gift of Life and Love

I began to marvel about this, but some things seemed to stand out so clearly to me. Here is this marvelous gift of life and love all wrapped up in this person of Jesus, and when He leaves and ascends into heaven I see that His followers are devastated. Life seems over for them. Their lives do not seem to be significantly changed, even though they were with Jesus almost every day for three years. It almost seems as though they are going to become what they were before Jesus came to them. Then came that glorious day of Pentecost. What a day! Pentecost should be the greatest day in history for Christians to celebrate. For that was the glorious time when God fulfilled His promise to send us a Comforter, a Friend, a Helper, to live with us forever. No longer would we be lonely or afraid, or ignorant, or powerless. No longer would God's people have to wait for Him to speak to them on a mountain top, or go to a certain place to find Him. No longer would they have to wait out their lives looking for a Savior. On that marvelous day God sent His spirit to all men everywhere, for any and all who would accept Him, to lead them, to guide them, but better still, to live with them and in them forever. He comes to us, not just for special occasions when we feel we do not have enough strength on our own. Not just as an atmosphere to give a room and electrified feeling. Not just as a figure of speech. God sent His

spirit as a Person. A Spirit-Person, to live in us and with us and through us, forever.

I began to see that the God of the Old Testament is the way I often saw my parents. An authoritarian, a disciplinarian, the way so many small children see fathers. Knowing Jesus in the Bible is like discovering the most wonderful hero in the world, and trying to live up to His example, and then failing. It is that wonderful learning stage, but with it comes frustration and disappointment that you can't measure up. It is that time of youth. But when we come to know the Holy Spirit, that is the time of true maturity.

We need to know that without the Holy Spirit we are powerless. That was probably the very thing that started me on my search for Him. I kept turning over new leaves, I kept trying harder and harder, and though I would have some measure of success, I still seemed to fail. I have found that what God has wanted for all of us since the very beginning of time, is for us to be *His*, body, soul and mind. All the longings we have for relationships, for things, for power, can only be satisfied when we allow God's Spirit to become one with our Spirit.

And with His spirit, we can know God, and have more than an awareness of His love. We can experience real joy, we can have freedom from the constant slavery to sin, we can be free from harmful habits. With His Spirit we can know the right words of comfort and love to speak, and we can have a real message of hope. We can understand His word—we can experience the Gifts of the Spirit, and we can have all the wonderful fruit of the Spirit. We can experience healings above the knowledge of technology and doctors. We can receive guidance for every area of our lives. Without the spirit we may be efficient and capable, we may obtain degrees of success, but sooner or later we will only be able to just hold our own, while those who are truly filled and yielded to the Holy Spirit will turn the world upside down, just as they have been doing since Pentecost.

When Jesus was here on earth He did only what He said the Father told Him to do, and He told us we could know what the Father was like by listening to Him. The Scriptures tell us that the Holy Spirit can only do and say what the Father and Son tell Him to do. So if we truly have the Spirit living in us and we are yielded, we will do and say only what Jesus would do and say. If we have His spirit we will have love, light, truth and faith. We will have the bread of life, and the living water. We will be accepted and loved, because Jesus came to love and accept us, not condemn us. We will have a new kind of freedom. When we allow the Holy Spirit to live in our lives, He brings wholeness, sanity, knowledge and power. He brings us His kind of love to give to the world.

### A Source of Power

If you look around at Christians today, you will begin to grasp what I am saying. On the one hand we see Christians who have Christ beside them. They will offer to let Him go with them some places. But there are many places that they find it necessary to go alone. He does help them, because a loving Lord wants to give us all the help we are willing to accept, but these people live on their own strength. They struggle to be good,

(continued on page 30)



# "One Hundred Thousand Miles Closer to the People"

by K.D. Hurley

*"Very worthwhile..."  
"Thanks for coming..."  
"We now feel closer to denomination-wide planning and activities..."*

These were typical responses to the visits at churches, yearly meetings, and associations by the four denominational "teams" traveling throughout the country during October to introduce the Decade of Discipleship.

Each team covered some 25,000 miles by airplane and automobile, taking the plans approved by delegates at General Conference to people in the churches. So, the denominational representatives in the process travelled 100,000 miles closer to the people."

Direct contact at the local level, with the resulting "give and take," was undoubtedly one of the major benefits of the special informational tour.

Participating were the following teams: Mary Clare and Dorothy Parrott; Herbert E. Saunders and Thomas L. Merchant; Leon R. Lawton and Mynor G. Soper; K. Duane and Shireen (Mrs. K.D.) Hurley. Each team was "on the road" for 21 days between September 28 and October 26, utilizing a special 21-day travel-anywhere fare by one of the nation's major airlines. Thus, at nominal cost, every Seventh Day Baptist church and group in the country (except three) were contacted; and those three will all be visited by denominational executives before the first of the year. The schedule was worked out and coordinated for maximum effectiveness by Leon Lawton.

## Purpose of Visits

The purpose of the "team ministries" was to outline in detail the Decade of Discipleship movement, discuss the goals and encourage all churches and church members to participate in ways appropriate to their needs and circumstances.

In order to make the presentations as comprehensive and uniform in content as possible, each team followed identical notes and procedures, including showing a filmstrip to provide an overview of the Decade; using transparencies projected on the screen as the outline for explaining each phase of the ten-year plan; and distributing explanatory literature—a Decade of Discipleship brochure, a pamphlet on Decision to Discipleship, and a Commitment Card keyed to the 1980 Conference theme: "Pleasing God in every way" (Col. 1:10b NIV).

## Favorable Responses

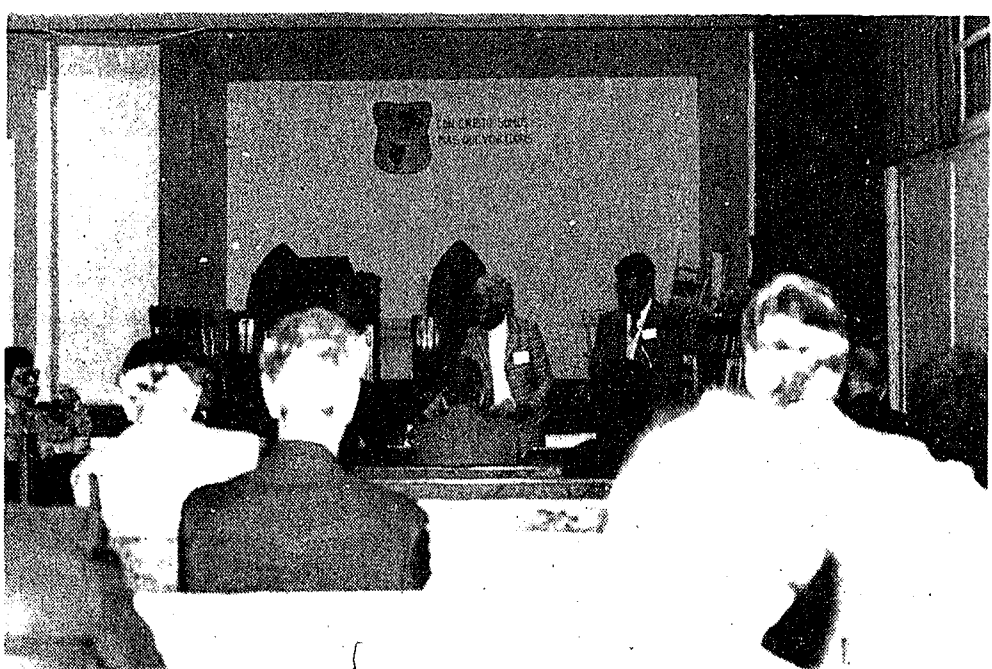
Of course, the individual presentations were colored by the personalities and unique styles of each team, and the specific reactions varied in each location. But universally the people responded favorably and positively,



One team (in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area)...one of many locations... the same message—a denominational call to discipleship!



A moment of team sharing and evaluation during a busy schedule in Jamaica.



Participation with other Baptists in meetings of the North American Baptist Fellowship at Mexico City.

saying in essence: "This (the Decade concept with the Decision materials immediately available) is exactly what we've been needing and wanting!"

All churches are being encouraged to establish at least one "discipleship cell" of six or so persons during 1980, the threshold year to the Decade of Discipleship, using the workbooks available from Light and Life Men International. The explanatory material describes the procedure as follows:

**"Decision to Discipleship is a year-long experience in practicing the lifestyle of Jesus Christ. Its six eight-week phases are designed to help you develop a dynamic Christian lifestyle. The purpose is to take the teaching and example of Jesus out of the classroom and through discipline apply them to the total person—leading to a lifestyle of redemptive discipleship."**

LIVING JESUS' LIFESTYLE. That is the cornerstone of the Decade of Discipleship—the major objective.

To accomplish this goal, General Conference approved a schedule for the 1980's which, after the first introductory year, the next nine years will emphasize in three three-year cycles—nurture, extension and ministry.

It is anticipated that discipleship cells will continue each year as new members are nurtured into the church and into active participation in leadership roles. In addition, every three years the recurring special emphases will provide opportunity for ever more complete and effective outreach for the churches and the members in their Commitment to Growth. Conference-related boards and agencies will provide suggested strategies and personnel as well as aids of various kinds each year, related to that year's specific theme.

## Local Church—The Action Center

One of the important outcomes of the October team visitations was the chance for people at the local level to share with denominational officials their hopes and aspirations as well as their needs and requirements in carrying out the Great Commission. There is expressed recognition that each local church and group is the "action center" for Christ's Cause among Seventh Day Baptists. That is where the important work is done, and denominational structure is designed to provide support services. The effective coordination of board and agency activity with church work is imperative if the denomination accomplishes the goal adopted at the 1979 General Conference; namely, to "double in the decade":

- Double the number of Seventh Day Baptists in the United States
- Double the number of churches
- Double the active participation in worship and Sabbath School
- Double pastoral and lay leadership
- Double missionary activity
- Double the commitments to serve and give

## THE PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF DISCIPLESHIP

### THE PROFILE OF A DISCIPLE Ten Guidelines

(as given in *ESSENTIALS OF NEW LIFE*, F.M. Cosgrove, Jr. Navpress, 1978. \$3.25pb 180p with Leader's Manual, \$1.25pb 48p. pgs. 144-152)

1. A disciple puts Christ first in his life, and is taking steps to separate from sin.
2. A disciple has a consistent daily devotional time and is developing in his prayer life.
3. A disciple demonstrates faithfulness and a desire to learn and apply the Word of God through regular Bible study, Scripture memory, reading, and meditation on the Scriptures.
4. A disciple manifests a heart for witnessing, gives his testimony well and presents the gospel regularly with increasing skill.
5. A disciple attends church and maintains close ties with its fellowship, displaying love and unity.
6. A disciple demonstrates a servant heart by a sincere interest in helping others.
7. A disciple is a learner—open and teachable.
8. A disciple is giving regularly and honoring God with his finances.
9. A disciple will demonstrate the Fruit of the Spirit by an attractive relationship with Christ and his fellowmen.
10. A disciple is seeking to determine and use his Spiritual gift or gifts.

## BIBLICAL TRUTHS A NEW CHRISTIAN NEEDS TO KNOW

(Chapter headings from the above book)

1. Knowing You Have Eternal Life
2. The Importance of the Bible in Daily Life
3. How To Go About Learning Bible Truths
4. How To Spend Personal Time with God
5. The Church and Christian Fellowship
6. The Lordship of Jesus Christ in a Believer's Life
7. The Importance of Being Christ's Disciple
8. God's Plan for a Committed Disciple's Life

— Double the body and its activity in all significant ways in ten years

Along the way toward the overall objectives many achievements are already evident:

*Reports from the visits indicate that many Seventh Day Baptists are testifying that "Commitment*

# "One Hundred Thousand Miles Closer to the People"

by K.D. Hurley

"Very worthwhile..."  
 "Thanks for coming..."  
 "We now feel closer to denomination-wide planning and activities..."

These were typical responses to the visits at churches, yearly meetings, and associations by the four denominational "teams" traveling throughout the country during October to introduce the Decade of Discipleship.

Each team covered some 25,000 miles by airplane and automobile, taking the plans approved by delegates at General Conference to people in the churches. So, the denominational representatives in the process travelled 100,000 miles closer to the people."

Direct contact at the local level, with the resulting "give and take," was undoubtedly one of the major benefits of the special informational tour.

Participating were the following teams: Mary Clare and Dorothy Parrott; Herbert E. Saunders and Thomas E. Merchant; Leon R. Lawton and Mynor G. Soper; K. Duane and Shireen (Mrs. K.D.) Hurley. Each team was "on the road" for 21 days between September 28 and October 26, utilizing a special 21-day travel-anywhere fare by one of the nation's major airlines. Thus, at nominal cost, every Seventh Day Baptist church and group in the country (except three) were contacted; and those three will all be visited by denominational executives before the first of the year. The schedule was worked out and coordinated for maximum effectiveness by Leon Lawton.

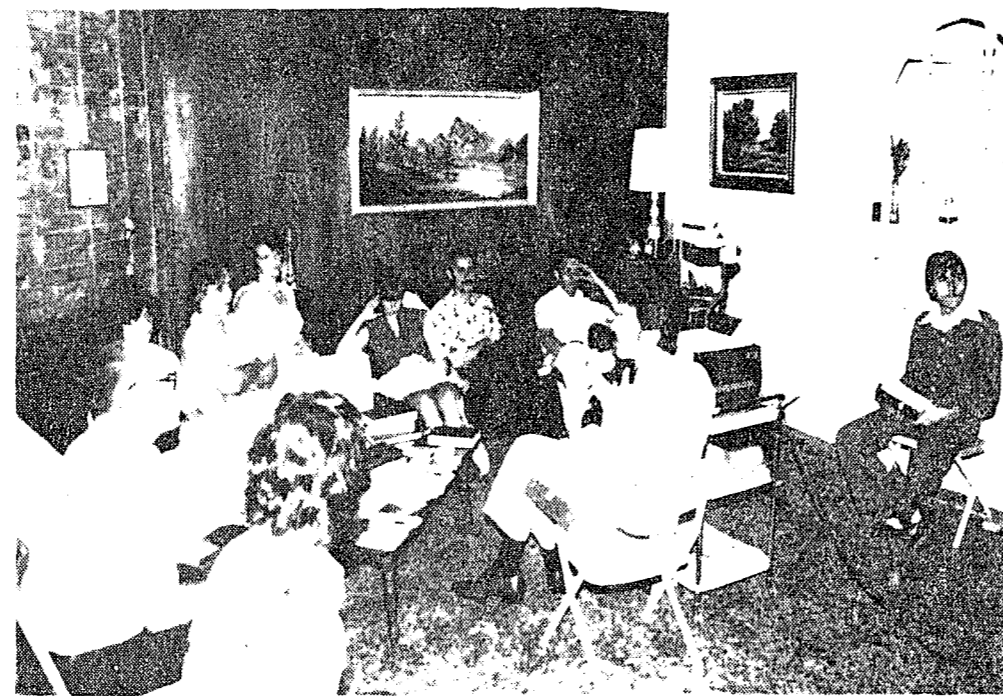
### Purpose of Visits

The purpose of the "team ministries" was to outline in detail the Decade of Discipleship movement, discuss the goals and encourage all churches and church members to participate in ways appropriate to their needs and circumstances.

In order to make the presentations as comprehensive and uniform in content as possible, each team followed identical notes and procedures, including showing a filmstrip to provide an overview of the Decade; using transparencies projected on the screen as the outline for explaining each phase of the ten-year plan; and distributing explanatory literature—a Decade of Discipleship brochure, a pamphlet on Decision to Discipleship, and a Commitment Card keyed to the 1980 Conference theme: "Pleasing God in every way" (Col. 1:10b NIV).

### Favorable Responses

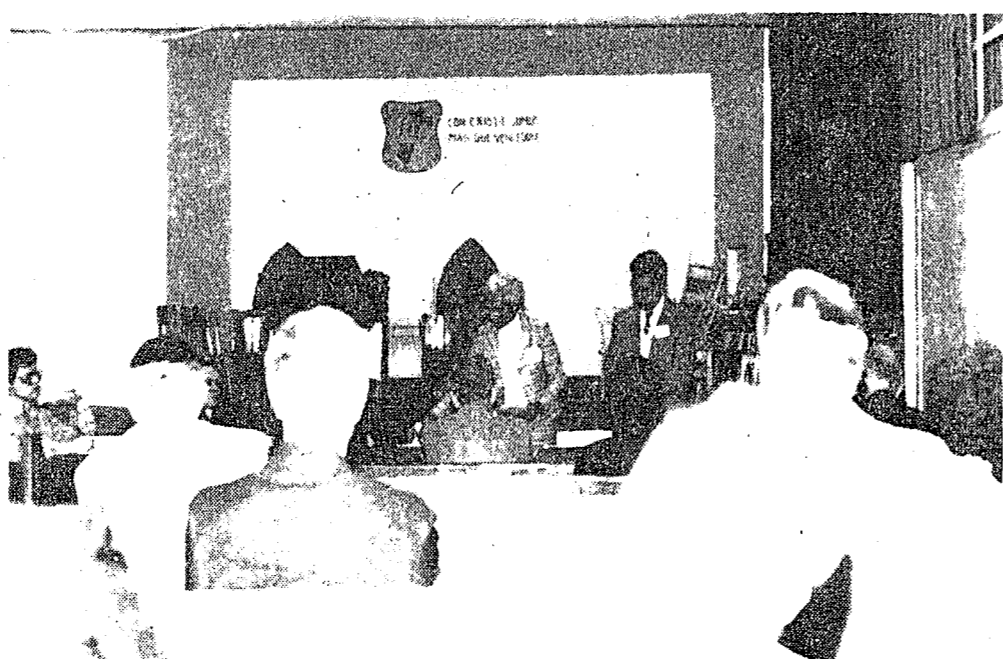
Of course, the individual presentations were colored by the personalities and unique styles of each team, and the specific reactions varied in each location. But universally the people responded favorably and positively.



One team (in the Dallas Ft. Worth area)...one of many locations...the same message—a denominational call to discipleship!



A moment of team sharing and evaluation during a busy schedule in Jamaica.



Participation with other Baptists in meetings of the North American Baptist Fellowship at Mexico City.

aving in essence: "This (the Decade concept) with the Decision materials immediately available is exactly what we've been needing and wanting!"

All churches are being encouraged to establish at least one "discipleship cell" of six or so persons during 1980, the threshold year to the Decade of Discipleship, using the workbooks available from Light and Life Men International. The explanatory material describes the procedure as follows:

**"Decision to Discipleship is a year-long experience in practicing the lifestyle of Jesus Christ. Its six eight-week phases are designed to help you develop a dynamic Christian lifestyle. The purpose is to take the teaching and example of Jesus out of the classroom and through discipline apply them to the total person—leading to a lifestyle of redemptive discipleship."**

**LIVING JESUS' LIFESTYLE.** That is the cornerstone of the Decade of Discipleship—the major objective.

To accomplish this goal, General Conference approved a schedule for the 1980's which, after the first introductory year, the next nine years will emphasize in three three year cycles—nurture, extension and ministry.

It is anticipated that discipleship cells will continue each year as new members are nurtured into the church and into active participation in leadership roles. In addition, every three years the recurring special emphases will provide opportunity for ever more complete and effective outreach for the churches and the members in their Commitment to Growth. Conference-related boards and agencies will provide suggested strategies and personnel as well as aids of various kinds each year, related to that year's specific theme.

### Local Church—The Action Center

One of the important outcomes of the October team visitations was the chance for people at the local level to share with denominational officials their hopes and aspirations as well as their needs and requirements in carrying out the Great Commission. There is expressed recognition that each local church and group is the "action center" for Christ's cause among Seventh Day Baptists. That is where the important work is done, and denominational structure is designed to provide support services. The effective coordination of board and agency activity with church work is imperative if the denomination accomplishes the goal adopted at the 1979 General Conference; namely, to "double in the decade":

- Double the number of Seventh Day Baptists in the United States
- Double the number of churches
- Double the active participation in worship and Sabbath School
- Double pastoral and lay leadership
- Double missionary activity
- Double the commitments to serve and give

## THE PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF DISCIPLESHIP

### THE PROFILE OF A DISCIPLE Ten Guidelines

(as given in *ESSENTIALS OF NEW LIFE*, F.M. Cosgrove, Jr., Navpress, 1978. \$3.25pb 180p with Leader's Manual. \$1.25pb 48p. pgs. 144-152)

1. A disciple puts Christ first in his life, and is taking steps to separate from sin.
2. A disciple has a consistent daily devotional time and is developing in his prayer life.
3. A disciple demonstrates faithfulness and a desire to learn and apply the Word of God through regular Bible study, Scripture memory, reading, and meditation on the Scriptures.
4. A disciple manifests a heart for witnessing, gives his testimony well and presents the gospel regularly with increasing skill.
5. A disciple attends church and maintains close ties with its fellowship, displaying love and unity.
6. A disciple demonstrates a servant heart by a sincere interest in helping others.
7. A disciple is a learner—open and teachable.
8. A disciple is giving regularly and honoring God with his finances.
9. A disciple will demonstrate the Fruit of the Spirit by an attractive relationship with Christ and his fellowmen.
10. A disciple is seeking to determine and use his Spiritual gift or gifts.

### BIBLICAL TRUTHS A NEW CHRISTIAN NEEDS TO KNOW

(Chapter headings from the above book.)

1. Knowing You Have Eternal Life
2. The Importance of the Bible in Daily Life
3. How To Go About Learning Bible Truths
4. How To Spend Personal Time with God
5. The Church and Christian Fellowship
6. The Lordship of Jesus Christ in a Believer's Life
7. The Importance of Being Christ's Disciple
8. God's Plan for a Committed Disciple's Life

— Double the body and its activity in all significant ways in ten years

Along the way toward the overall objectives many achievements are already evident:

*Reports from the visits indicate that many Seventh Day Baptists are testifying that "Commitment*

to Growth has changed us. The next logical step is to become true disciples."

There is an expressed desire in several places to establish new churches.

The team visitation was used in many places for publicity purposes, gaining greater visibility for the local church. In several instances a number of interested townspeople came to the event.

In several places, former members participated with enthusiasm; interest was revived. In some cases, church members brought other members of their families with them to the briefing regarding the Decade of Discipleship. Unusually large numbers of people were in attendance in several places.

Young people were often in evidence and responded with excitement.

Universally, individuals expressed their intent to get and read the discipleship books and other materials.

Many people were obviously "turned on"—some for the first time and some again. At least in one case, the Decade of Discipleship presentation served as the catalyst for a full commitment to Christ.

Church bulletins arriving at the denominational building since the October team visits reflect eagerness on the part of church members generally to start the Decade of Discipleship by participation in a Decision to Discipleship cell group; or by reading discipleship books; or listening to discipleship tapes; or entering into specific Bible studies regarding discipleship.

#### Side Benefits

The team visitations were dramatic, because of the complete coverage of denominational churches and groups in a condensed period of time. They were impressive, because of the total miles covered. They were productive, because of the immediately evident results. They were doubly beneficial, because the go-anywhere tickets made possible two "side trips": one, to Mexico City for participation in North American Baptist Fellowship meetings, and a visit to Seventh Day Baptist leaders and parishioners there; and two, to Jamaica for extended contacts with church members throughout the Island—the first time that eight U.S.A. Seventh Day Baptists had been in that country at the same time. Specific reports of these activities will undoubtedly be made at a later time.

Most important for now, the October team ministries focused effectively—at the local level, close to the people (100,000 miles close)—on the denomination's overall stated purpose:

**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.

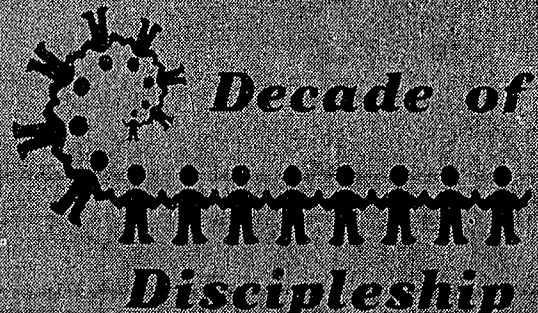
The October "team ministries" accentuated the fact that the spotlight of attention for each individual needs to shine continuously on the centrality of discipleship as characterized by the Decade of Discipleship.

**Discipleship means selling out totally to follow Jesus Christ. Decision to Discipleship means following Jesus' example—and helping others follow you as you follow Christ:**

THINKING REDEMPTIVELY—

PLANNING REDEMPTIVELY—

FOR A REDEMPTIVELY VICTORIOUS LIFE!



**Decade of  
Discipleship**

**MY COMMITMENT**

**"PLEASING GOD  
IN EVERY WAY"**

-Col. 1:10b (NIV)

1980 THEME—SDB GENERAL CONFERENCE

Recognizing my responsibility to

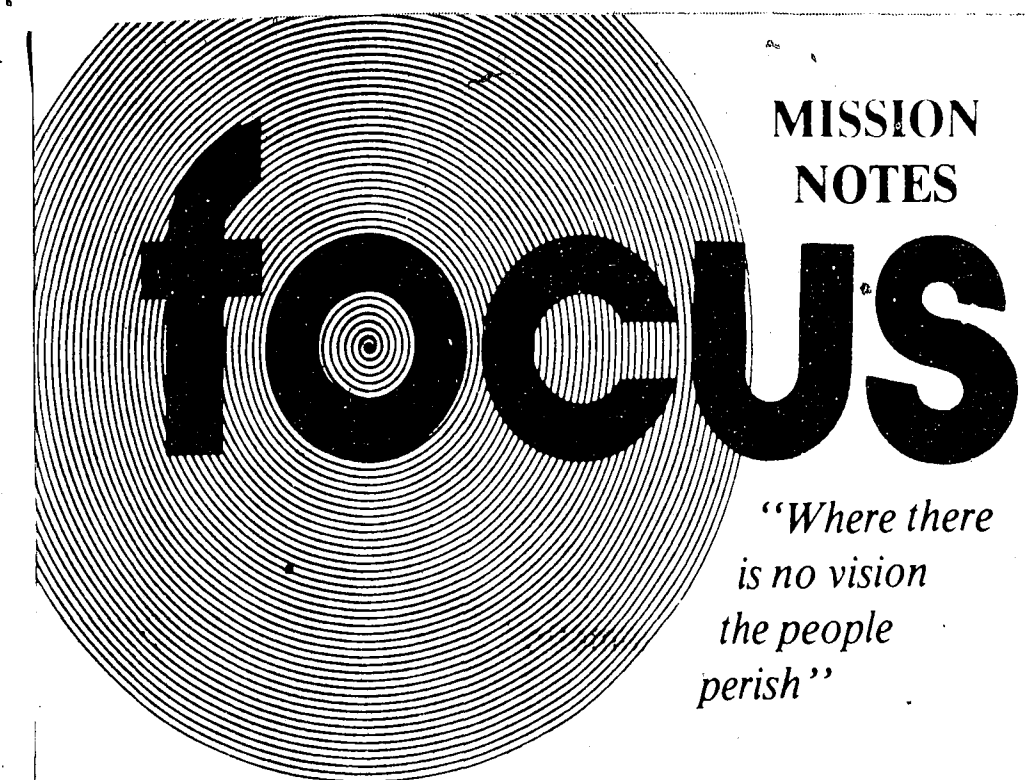
"Live a life worthy of the Lord and  
Please Him in every way" (Col. 1:10b).

I hereby covenant with Seventh Day Baptists throughout North America to dedicate my lifestyle to a Decade of Discipleship, 1980-1990.

With God's help, I give myself to accomplish Christ's Mission for my life, my home, my church, my work and the world.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



MISSION NOTES

"Where there is no vision the people perish"

●COMING IN! Reports from pastors and churches indicate a growing number of new members during the last six months. Many of these are new people for Seventh Day Baptists, not just family members joining the church. Praise God for such new leadership and the opportunities these offer for other new contacts in witness and service!

●GUYANA, SOUTH AMERICA: A pastor's meeting was held in September. "Topics discussed were, 'A Supportive Ministry,' based on 1 Cor. 3:1-15; 'Mobility of the Flock'; 'Making a Church Calendar'; and we also evaluated this year's youth camp." Pastor Sam Peters wrote: "We praise the Lord for this time together."

●MEETING PLACES? Praise the Lord for answered prayer! The SDB Evangelical Community Church in Orange Co., CA, and the Bay Area (CA) SDB Church began services in new sites in buildings made available by other denominations. Continue to pray for like needs for the churches in Blountville, TN; Houston, TX, and North Jersey, NJ.

JAMAICA: The visit by the eight SDB leaders on the four Discipleship Teams for three days in October allowed contact with ten local churches, attendance at a Crandall High School Board meeting, a visit to CHS and to the Maiden Hall camp/retreat center. Jamaican fellowship and food expressed the love and care for the largest group of American SDB's to visit the island. Secretary Joe A. Samuels was the genial host.

●KENYA/MALAWI, AFRICA: David and Bettie Pearson spent 15 days in Kenya with the brethren in the Kisii area, enroute to Malawi. Bro. Joel L.O. Omare was their host. Following their welcome (for a fifth term of service) in Blantyre, they went to the Northern Region Capital of Mzuzu to evaluate the progress of the work and aid in initial steps necessary to begin possible construction of a new church building.

●MEXICO: The eight leaders on the Discipleship Teams attended the North American Baptist Fellowship (NABF) sessions in Mexico City in October and spent one night with pastors and leaders at our sister church there—Iglesia de Cristo del Septimo Dia. Pastor Elias Camacho welcomed the visitors after travelling to Mexico city from his present ministry in Matamoros, Tamps (across from Brownsville, TX).

THOMAS, MALAWI: Brick kilns were fired in October to prepare the new bricks for the planned new medical building. These await final approval of the Ministry of Health and PHAM before construction can begin, funds are available from the Hospital Building Fund held by your missionary society.

●NEW MAP: A new U.S.A. map showing places where regular services are being held by new branch churches or groups was shared with missionary keyworkers/pastors in November. Also shown by "?" were places of opportunity where new contacts or individuals are seeking to have a new ministry/witness begin. PRAISE THE LORD!

●PACIFIC COAST ASSOCIATION: At their October meeting in Riverside, CA, ten areas where there were open doors for possible outreach were listed. Pray for their evangelism committee which is seeking to respond to such opportunities! Has your church or association sought to identify such places and meet such need?

●THE PHILIPPINES: The Rodney Henry family was welcomed by the pastors and leaders of the SDB Philippine Conference in Cebu City on November 4th. Continue to uphold the Henrys and the Philippine witness in prayer.

# PRAYER CORNER

JANUARY 1980

Verse for the month: "I will praise the Lord no matter what happens. I will constantly speak of His glories and grace. I will boast of all His kindness to me. Let all who are discouraged take heart. Let us praise the Lord together, and exalt His name."

-Ps. 34:1-3

#### PRAY FOR:

- 1—Wisdom to know and do God's will today—"Pleasing God in every way"
- 2—Conference President Duane L. Davis, Seattle, WA
- 3—Local church leaders of SDB groups in Kisii, Kenya, Africa
- 4—SDB youth who look forward to Summer Christian Service Corp—1980
- 5—Your pastor as he ministers the Word
- 6—Seventh Day Baptist Worldwide WEEK OF PRAYER: Use your prayer guide
- 7—World Federation President Thomas L. Merchant, Plainfield, NJ
- 8—World Federation Vice-President Jan Lek, Hank, The Netherlands
- 9—World Federation Vice-President Watson Mataka, Migowi, Malawi, Africa
- 10—World Federation Vice-President Joseph A. Samuels, Kingston, Jamaica
- 11—World Federation Vice-President Wilson Wolf, Sao Paulo, Brazil
- 12—Praise God for our oneness in Christ around the world!
- 13—Your Memorial Board trustees in their quarterly meeting today
- 14—Director of Evangelism Mynor G. Soper
- 15—Those enrolled in the Guide Bible correspondence course
- 16—David and Bettie Pearson in Africa
- 17—Dutch and English Seventh Day Baptists
- 18—Field Pastor John Camenga in NC, SC and TN
- 19—Sabbath School teachers in their ministry in your church.
- 20—American Sabbath Tract Society/Board of Christian Education meetings today
- 21—Executive Vice-President Leon R. Lawton, Missionary Society
- 22—Growing leadership in new branch churches and fellowships (home meetings)
- 23—Staff at the Seventh Day Baptist Building in Plainfield, NJ
- 24—Rodney and Camille Henry in the Philippines
- 25—Russell W. Havens, voice of WORD OF TRUTH radio ministry
- 26—JOY and PEACE as we worship and serve our Savior, Jesus Christ
- 27—Your Missionary Board Meeting today in Westerly, RI
- 28—Greater faith
- 29—Menzo and Audrey Fuller in Malawi, Africa
- 30—Rev. John Peil and his ministry in California
- 31—Dean Herbert E. Saunders, Plainfield, NJ, Center on Ministry

to Growth has changed us. The next logical step is to become true disciples."

There is an expressed desire in several places to establish new churches.

The team visitation was used in many places for publicity purposes, gaining greater visibility for the local church. In several instances a number of interested townspeople came to the event.

In several places, former members participated with enthusiasm; interest was revived. In some cases, church members brought other members of their families with them to the briefing regarding the Decade of Discipleship. Unusually large numbers of people were in attendance in several places.

Young people were often in evidence and responded with excitement.

Universally, individuals expressed their intent to get and read the discipleship books and other materials.

Many people were obviously "turned on"—some for the first time and some again. At least in one case, the Decade of Discipleship presentation served as the catalyst for a full commitment to Christ.

Church bulletins arriving at the denominational building since the October team visits reflect eagerness on the part of church members generally to start the Decade of Discipleship by participation in a Decision to Discipleship cell group; or by reading discipleship books; or listening to discipleship tapes; or entering into specific Bible studies regarding discipleship.

#### Side Benefits

The team visitations were dramatic, because of the complete coverage of denominational churches and groups in a condensed period of time. They were impressive, because of the total miles covered. They were productive, because of the immediately evident results. They were doubly beneficial, because the go-anywhere tickets made possible two "side trips": one, to Mexico City for participation in North American Baptist Fellowship meetings, and a visit to Seventh Day Baptist leaders and parishioners there; and two, to Jamaica for extended contacts with church members throughout the Island—the first-time that eight U.S.A. Seventh Day Baptists had been in that country at the same time. Specific reports of these activities will undoubtedly be made at a later time.

Most important for now, the October team ministries focused effectively—at the local level, close to the people (100,000 miles close)—on the denomination's overall stated purpose:

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.

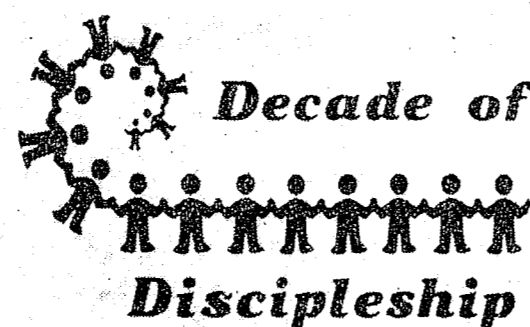
The October "team ministries" accentuated the fact that the spotlight of attention for each individual need to shine continuously on the centrality of discipleship as characterized by the Decade of Discipleship.

Discipleship means selling out totally to follow Jesus Christ. Decision to Discipleship means following Jesus' example—and helping others follow you as you follow Christ:

THINKING REDEMPTIVELY—

PLANNING REDEMPTIVELY—

FOR A REDEMPTIVELY VICTORIOUS LIFE!



## MY COMMITMENT

**"PLEASING GOD  
IN EVERY WAY"**

-Col. 1:10b (NIV)

1980 THEME—SDB GENERAL CONFERENCE

Recognizing my responsibility to

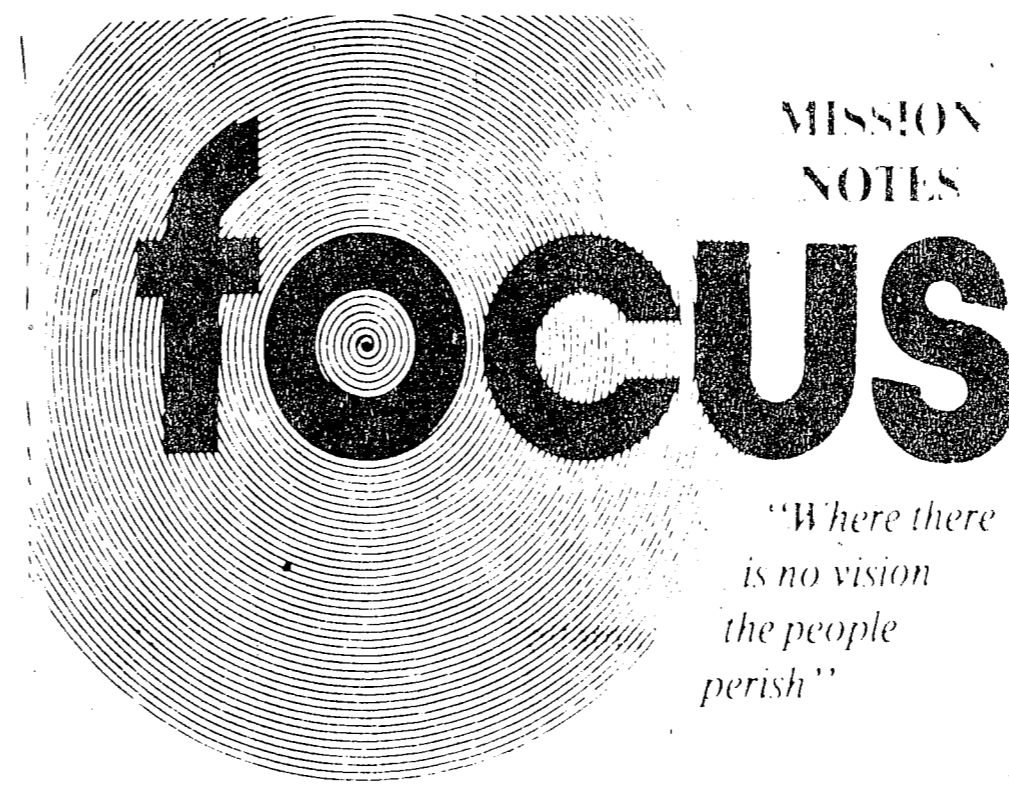
"Live a life worthy of the Lord and ...  
Please Him in every way" (Col. 1:10b),

I hereby covenant with Seventh Day Baptists throughout North America to dedicate my lifestyle to a Decade of Discipleship, 1980-1990.

With God's help, I give myself to accomplish Christ's Mission for my life, my home, my church, my work and the world.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



"Where there  
is no vision  
the people  
perish"

●COMING IN! Reports from pastors and churches indicate a growing number of new members during the last six months. Many of these are new people for Seventh Day Baptists, not just family members joining the church. Praise God for such new leadership and the opportunities these offer for other new contacts in witness and service!

●GUYANA, SOUTH AMERICA: A pastor's meeting was held in September. "Topics discussed were, 'A Supportive Ministry,' based on 1 Cor. 3:1-15; 'Mobility of the Flock'; 'Making a Church Calendar'; and we also evaluated this year's youth camp." Pastor Sam Peters wrote: "We praise the Lord for this time together."

●MEETING PLACES? Praise the Lord for answered prayer! The SDB Evangelical Community Church in Orange Co., CA, and the Bay Area (CA) SDB Church began services in new sites in buildings made available by other denominations. Continue to pray for like needs for the churches in Blountville, TN; Houston, TX, and North Jersey, NJ.

JAMAICA: The visit by the eight SDB leaders on the four Discipleship Teams for three days in October allowed contact with ten local churches, attendance at a Crandall High School Board meeting, a visit to CHS and to the Maiden Hall camp retreat center. Jamaican fellowship and food expressed the love and care for the largest group of American SDB's to visit the island. Secretary Joe A. Samuels was the genial host.

●KENYA/MALAWI, AFRICA: David and Bettie Pearson spent 15 days in Kenya with the brethren in the Kisii area, enroute to Malawi. Bro. Joel L.O. Omare was their host. Following their welcome (for a fifth term of service) in Blantyre, they went to the Northern Region Capital of Mzuzu to evaluate the progress of the work and aid in initial steps necessary to begin possible construction of a new church building.

●MEXICO: The eight leaders on the Discipleship Teams attended the North American Baptist Fellowship (NABF) sessions in Mexico City in October and spent one night with pastors and leaders at our sister church there—Iglesia de Cristo del Septimo Dia. Pastor Elias Camacho welcomed the visitors after travelling to Mexico city from his present ministry in Matamoros, Tamps (across from Brownsville, TX).

THOMAS, MALAWI: Brick kilns were fired in October to prepare the new bricks for the planned new medical building. These await final approval of the Ministry of Health and PHAM before construction can begin, funds are available from the Hospital Building Fund held by your missionary society.

●NEW MAP: A new U.S.A. map showing places where regular services are being held by new branch churches or groups was shared with missionary keyworkers/pastors in November. Also shown by "?" were places of opportunity where new contacts or individuals are seeking to have a new ministry witness begin. PRAISE THE LORD!

●PACIFIC COAST ASSOCIATION: At their October meeting in Riverside, CA, ten areas where there were open doors for possible outreach were listed. Pray for their evangelism committee which is seeking to respond to such opportunities! Has your church or association sought to identify such places and meet such need?

●THE PHILIPPINES: The Rodney Henry family was welcomed by the pastors and leaders of the SDB Philippine Conference in Cebu City on November 4th. Continue to uphold the Henrys and the Philippine witness in prayer.

## PRAYER

JANUARY 1980

Verse for the month: "I will praise the Lord no matter what happens. I will constantly speak of His glories and grace. I will boast of all His kindness to me. Let all who are discouraged take heart. Let us praise the Lord together, and exalt His name."

-Ps. 34:1-3

PRAY FOR:

- 1--Wisdom to know and do God's will today "Pleasing God in every way"
- 2--Conference President Duane E. Davis, Seattle, WA
- 3--Local church leaders of SDB groups in Kisii, Kenya, Africa
- 4--SDB youth who look forward to Summer Christian Service Corp. 1980
- 5--Your pastor as he ministers the Word
- 6--Seventh Day Baptist Worldwide WEEK OF PRAYER: Use your prayer guide
- 7--World Federation President Thomas E. Merchant, Plainfield, NJ
- 8--World Federation Vice-President Jan Tek, Hank, The Netherlands
- 9--World Federation Vice-President Watson Mataka, Migowi, Malawi, Africa
- 10--World Federation Vice-President Joseph A. Samuels, Kingston, Jamaica
- 11--World Federation Vice-President Wilson Wolf, Sao Paulo, Brazil
- 12--Praise God for our oneness in Christ around the world!
- 13--Your Memorial Board trustees in their quarterly meeting today
- 14--Director of Evangelism Myron G. Soper
- 15--Those enrolled in the Guide Bible correspondence course
- 16--David and Bettie Pearson in Africa
- 17--Dutch and English Seventh Day Baptists
- 18--Field Pastor John Camenga in NC, SC and TN
- 19--Sabbath School teachers in their ministry in your church.
- 20--American Sabbath Tract Society Board of Christian Education meetings today
- 21--Executive Vice-President Leon R. Lawton, Missionary Society
- 22--Growing leadership in new branch churches and fellowships (home meetings)
- 23--Staff at the Seventh Day Baptist Building in Plainfield, NJ
- 24--Rodney and Camille Henry in the Philippines
- 25--Russell W. Havens, voice of WORD OF TRUTH radio ministry
- 26--JOY and PEACE as we worship and serve our Savior, Jesus Christ
- 27--Your Missionary Board Meeting today in Westerly, RI
- 28--Greater faith
- 29--Menzo and Audrey Fuller in Malawi, Africa
- 30--Rev. John Peil and his ministry in California
- 31--Dean Herbert E. Saunders, Plainfield, NJ, Center on Ministry

CORNER

# SEE YOU IN CHURCH

Dr. David Allan Hubbard

David Allan Hubbard is the radio voice of "The Joyful Sound" broadcast. He perhaps will be better known to our readers as the president of Fuller Theological Seminary in California.

Sometimes I feel like this is where I came in. I feel that way when I look at the church of Jesus Christ. As a boy in the 1930's, I knew the meaning of the *old fundamentalism*—as part and parcel of it, stamped in a great many ways by its strengths and weaknesses. As a young man in the forties, I tried to wrestle through the meaning of my own faith in college and the beginning of seminary. In the 1950's, as graduate student and teacher, I began to see more and more what the church of Jesus Christ really is; and as minister and theological educator in the sixties, I continued to wrestle with the question of the church.

As I look at the church at the beginning of the seventies, I sometimes feel that this is where I came in. We are confronted with a *new fundamentalism*.

The old fundamentalism had some magnificent fruits: its commitment to the authority of Scripture and the other basics of our faith, its recognition of the perils of the old liberalism, its zeal for evangelism and mission, its concern for a Biblical education (particularly in the movement of Bible schools and Bible

conferences). But it failed to find a mature doctrine of the church.

A new fundamentalism will also make some outstanding contributions with its emphasis on relationships; on open, earnest communication; on our commitment to each other as persons. But it, too, may slip into the same pitfalls when it comes to the doctrine of the church.

The old fundamentalism said, "I will only worship comfortably, I only align myself fully with those who are correct in their propositions doctrinally."

The new fundamentalism says, "I will only feel at home as a Christian with those who are sound in their vibrations emotionally."

So what we are facing now I would call a *psychic sectarianism*. This itself is a move beyond the private faith which characterized so much of the old fundamentalism—a faith that said, "If I have my propositions right, if I know Jesus Christ is my personal Savior, if I have been through the experience of a new birth, then everything else is settled. My ultimate destiny in heaven is assured, and what I do between now and then will largely be to keep myself as pure as I can within the pagan contexts where I live."

We have now gone beyond that private faith to an emphasis on group fellowship and on group relationship which has some beautiful facets to it. But both fundamentalisms, the old and the new, suffer from a futile quest for a pure church.

It was doctrinal purity in the old fundamentalism. It is emotional compatibility in the new fundamentalism. Both expressions of fundamentalism need to look afresh at what Scripture teaches about the church. Peter's first letter at chapter 2 helps us do just that.

## Not Groups, but a People

The first aspect of Peter's doctrine of the church is that it is not groups, but a people.

Groups as a complementary and auxiliary style of Christian gathering have a magnificent role in encouragement, in nurture, in prayer, in planning for mission. They allow us to be ourselves and to be affirmed in a situation where we are accepted and appreciated. This is a rich experience. It means a great deal to me any time I find myself as part of that kind of group. But the spirit of the new fundamentalism takes over when

that group becomes for us a substitute for the gathered congregation.

Because what God is doing is not calling little groups here and there, but forming one people. Even college chapel services are not a substitute, as desirable as they are; they are not the ultimate expression of the people of God because there are those who are excluded by the very nature of academic affiliation. To be worshiping in a chapel service, one needs to be part of an academic community—teaching, serving as a member of the staff, student body, or a visitor with special credentials that allow him to feel at home in an academic context.

Where doctors meet for prayer on Wednesday afternoon, or school teachers on a Thursday morning where students gather in dormitories on Friday nights after the basketball game or young couples meet in homes for Bible study, there you have expressions of the people of God. But you do not really have the church, because you do not have the cross-section of society that gathers when a congregation meets for worship.

This cross-section is the essence of the church: the secret that God is working out in history is that a people is being formed—a people who may have nothing in common, except the grace of God that has worked in their lives through Jesus Christ. The spirit of the new fundamentalism says, "But I feel more comfortable in a small group," and, of course, we do with our peers, with people with whom we have ready acceptance, instant identification.

But that is not the purpose of gathered worship. By God's grace we may be comforted, but He has not promised to make us feel comfortable. *So it is not groups, but a people that God is forming.*

Note the language that the apostle uses as he sums up his great doctrine of the church: a "race," a "priesthood," a "nation," a "people." These generic terms, these massive terms, these broad, all-inclusive terms picture God moving through the course of history and through the family of men and reaching out into every age group and every cultural sector and every academic and economic expression of our society—into every language, race, people and culture—and gathering this community.

One of the reasons that I hope to see you in church is that the old and young are there; professional people and laborers are there; people who are retired and people who are still studying are there; people with various ethnic backgrounds and community responsibilities are there. This gathering is the closest we can come in any neighborhood to the cross-section of the people of God who have this one thing in common: they recognize that God has loved them in Jesus Christ and they yield to the meaning of that recognition.

See you in church.

## Not Welfare Recipients, but a Priesthood

So it is not groups, but a people that God is forming; and it is not welfare recipients, but a priesthood that God has chosen. Peter's doctrine of the church reminds us that it is to give, not to get, that we gather for worship in our local congregations.

The most common complaint I hear about church is, "I don't get anything out of it." When we judge church that way, we may be using, first of all, an *intellectual criterion*. Somehow that sermon is not as intellectually stimulating as it ought to be. And that may well be true.

Or we may be using an *emotional criterion*, "I don't feel any different afterwards; my feeling have been left unchanged." And it may be that they have.

Or, we may use an *esthetic criterion* to judge the church service, "I don't like the decor, the mood; I can't worship well in that setting. I don't like the music; it's too staid or too peppy." From the Gregorian Chant (which some people revel in and other people go to sleep by) to the hand-clapping of our Pentecostal services, our esthetic expressions of worship are going to touch some people and leave others cold.

But the purpose of that gathering is not primarily intellectual, emotional or esthetic. Peter calls the church, in this passage, "a priesthood." He says "like living stones be yourselves built into a spiritual house, to be a *holy priesthood*, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ" (v. 5).

And as we gather Sunday by Sunday with this motley congregation, this reminder of the mixed multitude that God pulled out of Egypt in the Exodus, this raggedy band of forgiven sinners, we also gather as priests to offer sacrifices. And it's what we give that becomes important in our weekly worship.

See you in church.

This frantic seeking to have our needs met, this selfishness that masquerades as love, this attempt to bleed the experience for all that it is worth and somehow be nurtured by it, puts the emphasis in the wrong place. It is a futile quest for happiness. Happiness will only come as a by-product of worship and service.

Happiness is the other side of the coin of responsibility. The idea that we worship so that we can be turned on and jazzed up is asking of our worship something that it was never designed in the providence of God to do for us, except as a by-product of our devotion and adoration to God for what He Himself has done.

What happens, as we enter into this getting-and-not-giving mentality, as we become welfare recipients rather than a priesthood in our regular worship, is that we worship with a downcast eye. There is no way to look at my middle or anybody's without looking down. Navel contemplation, the compulsive concentration on your feelings or someone else's, is not a fitting substitute for worship. Back bent and eye downcast are not the postures of worship that the Bible itself describes to us.

Not groups but a people; not welfare recipients but a giving priesthood, a sacrificing priesthood—let's hear what the Bible is saying about the church.

See you in church.

## Not a Sentimental Company, but a Divinely Ordered Reality

What is hardest for us to remember is that what the church of Christ is theologically, she really is. In our frenzy, we often focus on trying to make the church something. And frequently we try to make the church be what we feel the church should be;

(continued on page 28)

# MISSION TO CHINA

## The Great Years Part 2

The first dozen years of the 20th century were indeed among "the great years" of our mission to China, for although they were not characterized by tremendous numerical increase, they did consist of sure, steady growth—of the church, the schools, and the medical work. They also began and ended with rebellion in China.

The century began in China with the Boxer Rebellion, and although our work in Shanghai was not directly affected by the anti-American, anti-Christian attacks, which largely were confined to the northern regions of China, the fear of attack definitely interrupted routine, especially in the schools.

Our missionaries in China at the time were Mr. and Mrs. D.H. Davis, and Mr. and Mrs. Jay W. Crofoot. Susie Burdick was in the United States visiting her father who was seriously ill, and Dr. Rosa Palmborg was in the home country recovering her health. All four missionaries in China assisted with the boys' and girls' boarding schools and the four day schools, and the two men additionally were responsible for the spiritual life of the mission.

In addition to the mission work, Mr. Davis' Christian service included lending long hours and expertise gained from years in China to the Shanghai Bible Translation Committee, contributing an English and Chinese Shanghai vocabulary and a Chinese and English pocket dictionary as well as many Scripture translations.

With Dr. Palmborg's return to China in 1902, the medical work was moved to Lieu-oo, and with that completed D.H. Davis was able to travel to the United States for a last visit to his aged mother. Having returned to China later that same year, Davis supervised the disassembly of the Shanghai dispensary and the construction of a new home for the Crofoots in its place in anticipation of Susie Burdick's return. Mr. Crofoot's activities also extended beyond the mission, as he participated in the preparation of a Testament in the Shanghai dialect using the Roman alphabet rather than Chinese characters.

In 1903 Mrs. Davis was forced to return to America with her son because of his ill health. In her absence Dr. Palmborg assumed the administration of the girls' boarding school and day schools. Having settled her late father's business affairs, Susie Burdick returned to China in 1904 to resume her responsibilities with the girls' school and relieve Dr. Palmborg for the medical work.

In each of these first years of the new century, three or more boys or girls from the boarding schools were among those who came into the Shanghai church through baptism. This pattern was to continue throughout the mission's life, validating the use of schools in mission work not only as a Christian service, but also in reaching out with the gospel message.

In 1905 ill health forced Mrs. Crofoot to return to the United States and her husband joined her there on furlough the following year. Meanwhile, changes in attitude were evident among the Chinese associated with the mission. For the first time, the missionaries were successful in influencing the church members to take weekly collections at Sabbath services. And comparing circumstances before and after her four-year absence, Susie Burdick noted that there was an increased interest in education for girls in China, and a greater willingness on the part of the parents to pay for it. Finally, girls as well as boys received instruction in the English language.

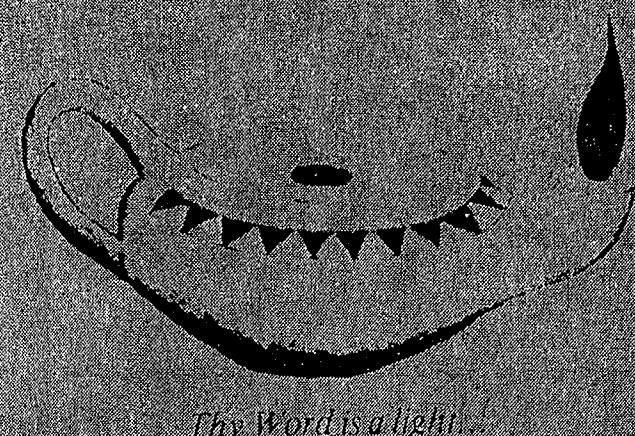
Two years later the mission not only was back to full strength, with the return in 1906 of Mrs. Davis and in 1907 of the Crofoots, but also it had been reinforced with the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. H. Eugene Davis, scheduled to assist Dr. Palmborg with church and school work in Lieu-oo. While the young Davises worked to learn the language, the elder Mr. Davis contributed his expertise as the new director of Chinese studies for the Shanghai Municipal council, teaching Chinese to some 200 Westerners on staff there. Both boarding schools were operating at capacity, and continued yearly to contribute candidates for baptism.

There were two special signs of growth in 1908: the first Chinese Seventh Day Baptists to offer themselves for the ministry began studies at the Union Baptist Theological Seminary in Shanghai, and the second

(continued on page 30)



Church and Entrance to Mission Grounds in Shanghai



BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION—Mrs. Mary Clare

## THE MAGIC OF LOVE

*By this shall all men know ye are my disciples, if ye have love one for another.*

—John 13:35

The culmination of the "Year of the Child" comes at the season which is often dedicated to children. It is the season which celebrates the coming of the Christ child—the personification of love. Children carry the seeds of love when they come into this world. They need only caring adults to bring these seeds to the beauty of maturity.

The members of the Coordinating Leadership Team experienced the magic of such a moment in Mexico City. They were on a semi-deserted street corner waiting for members of the Church of Christ, Seventh Day, to come to a sharing service. Ernesto and his twelve-year-old son, Daniel, who had come to interpret for us, stood beside the open door of our van talking with us.

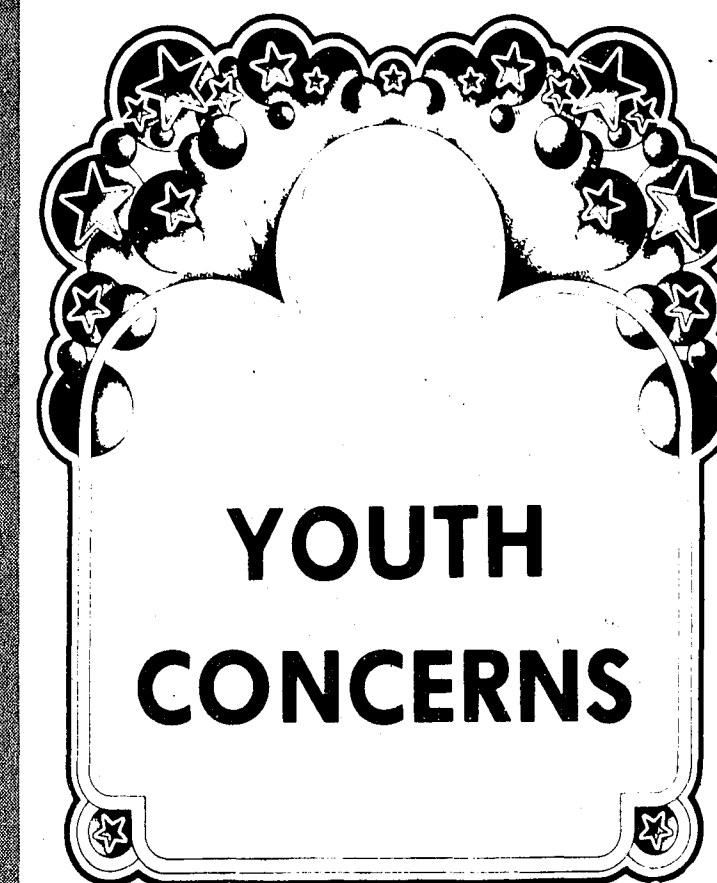
Soon one of the local youths stopped by to see what was happening. Another, then another joined the conversation. In time, the group became so large it seemed wise to move out of the range of traffic. As those outside walked behind the vehicle those in the car also moved out-of-doors. Occasionally, a child would dart away to come back with a sibling or friend to talk with the "Americanos."

Conversation flowed freely as the children learned to say, "What is your name?" With shy smiles individuals or groups approached each member of the team with the question; older youth could ask where we lived. To see the excited expressions and hear the joyous laughter as we shared the wonderment of mutual inquisitiveness was an experience neither child nor adult will soon forget. The beauty of simplicity and mutual desire to know one another in a corner of the world foreign to the usual meeting place, provided the magic.

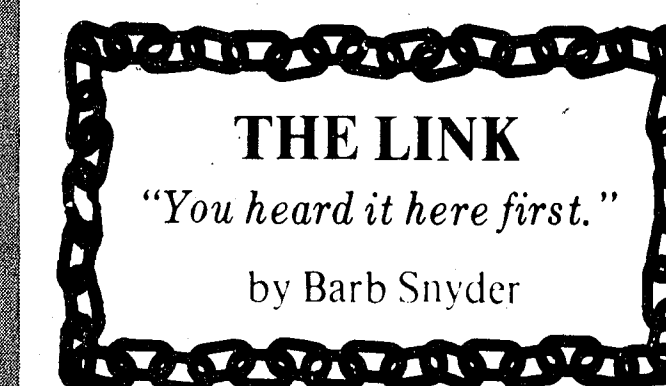
One highlight of the occasion was the hearing of the cassette recording of children from India and Africa singing. After a brief practice, the Mexican children were recorded singing, "Jesus Loves Me." Gales of laughter accompanied the playback.

Talk soon changed to our currency and the relation of pennies to dollars. Grabby hands reached for the copper coins which were distributed. One more affluent Miss learned to say, "I give to you" and handed Shireen Hurley a small Mexican coin.

This precious "Happening" exemplifies the love brought to us by the Christ child. It serves to remind us that love is all around us—a gift to be shared with each one we meet, every day of the year. □



Give yourself a Christmas gift—  
Learn Luke 2:1-20.  
Practice glorifying God by living  
according to His commandments. □



### IS ANYBODY OUT THERE PRAYING?

Some think it's boring, others too much like work, others too humbling, but I think it's POWERFUL! Prayer can change lives, heal bodies, and mend broken relationships. It can even double denominations. *Praying: How To Start and Keep Going* is an eight-lesson study guide for both youth and adults, by Bobb Biehl and James W. Hagelanz. It was used for a weekend retreat by our fellow SDB's in Michigan. They recommend it for your Christian growth, and I bet the publisher, G/L Publication in Glendale, CA does, too. It can be purchased at most Christian bookstores. Prayer is the answer.

### Have you stopped growing as Christians?

Our Washington, D.C., Youth Fellowship found *Ten Basic Steps Toward Christian Maturity* a helpful tool by studying these ten steps of Sabbath afternoons. It's put out by Campus Life and can be obtained through your local Christian bookstore or from Campus Life, P.O. Box 419, Wheaton, IL 60187. I'd be willing to bet if we're growing Christians, we'll have growing churches. □

--sixth in a series on  
our China mission  
by Tom Merchant, historian

# MISSION TO CHINA

## The Great Years Part 2

The first dozen years of the 20th century were indeed among "the great years" of our mission to China, for although they were not characterized by tremendous numerical increase, they did consist of sure, steady growth—of the church, the schools, and the medical work. They also began and ended with rebellion in China.

The century began in China with the Boxer Rebellion, and although our work in Shanghai was not directly affected by the anti-American, anti-Christian attacks, which largely were confined to the northern regions of China, the fear of attack definitely interrupted routine, especially in the schools.

Our missionaries in China at the time were Mr. and Mrs. D.H. Davis, and Mr. and Mrs. Jay W. Crofoot. Susie Burdick was in the United States visiting her father who was seriously ill, and Dr. Rosa Palmborg was in the home country recovering her health. All four missionaries in China assisted with the boys' and girls' boarding schools and the four day schools, and the two men additionally were responsible for the spiritual life of the mission.

In addition to the mission work, Mr. Davis' Christian service included lending long hours and expertise gained from years in China to the Shanghai Bible Translation Committee, contributing an English and Chinese Shanghai vocabulary and a Chinese and English pocket dictionary as well as many Scripture translations.

With Dr. Palmborg's return to China in 1902, the medical work was moved to Lieu-oo, and with that completed D.H. Davis was able to travel to the United States for a last visit to his aged mother. Having returned to China later that same year, Davis supervised the disassembly of the Shanghai dispensary and the construction of a new home for the Crofoots in its place in anticipation of Susie Burdick's return. Mr. Crofoot's activities also extended beyond the mission, as he participated in the preparation of a Testament in the Shanghai dialect using the Roman alphabet rather than Chinese characters.

In 1903 Mrs. Davis was forced to return to America with her son because of his ill health. In her absence Dr. Palmborg assumed the administration of the girls' boarding school and day schools. Having settled her late father's business affairs, Susie Burdick returned to China in 1904 to resume her responsibilities with the girls' school and relieve Dr. Palmborg for the medical work.

In each of these first years of the new century, three or more boys or girls from the boarding schools were among those who came into the Shanghai church through baptism. This pattern was to continue throughout the mission's life, validating the use of schools in mission work not only as a Christian service, but also in reaching out with the gospel message.

In 1905 ill health forced Mrs. Crofoot to return to the United States and her husband joined her there on furlough the following year. Meanwhile, changes in attitude were evident among the Chinese associated with the mission. For the first time, the missionaries were successful in influencing the church members to take weekly collections at Sabbath services. And comparing circumstances before and after her four-year absence, Susie Burdick noted that there was an increased interest in education for girls in China, and a greater willingness on the part of the parents to pay for it. Finally, girls as well as boys received instruction in the English language.

Two years later the mission not only was back to full strength, with the return in 1906 of Mrs. Davis and in 1907 of the Crofoots, but also it had been reinforced with the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. H. Eugene Davis, scheduled to assist Dr. Palmborg with church and school work in Lieu-oo. While the young Davises worked to learn the language, the elder Mr. Davis contributed his expertise as the new director of Chinese studies for the Shanghai Municipal council, teaching Chinese to some 200 Westerners on staff there. Both boarding schools were operating at capacity, and continued yearly to contribute candidates for baptism.

There were two special signs of growth in 1908: the first Chinese Seventh Day Baptists to offer themselves for the ministry began studies at the Union Baptist Theological Seminary in Shanghai, and the second

(continued on page 30)



Church and Entrance to Mission Grounds in Shanghai



Thy Word is a light...

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION—Mrs. Mary Clare

## THE MAGIC OF LOVE

*By this shall all men know ye are my disciples, if ye have love one for another.*

—John 13:35

The culmination of the "Year of the Child" comes at the season which is often dedicated to children. It is the season which celebrates the coming of the Christ child—the personification of love. Children carry the seeds of love when they come into this world. They need only caring adults to bring these seeds to the beauty of maturity.

The members of the Coordinating Leadership Team experienced the magic of such a moment in Mexico City. They were on a semi-deserted street corner waiting for members of the Church of Christ, Seventh Day, to come to a sharing service. Ernesto and his twelve-year-old son, Danniell, who had come to interpret for us, stood beside the open door of our van talking with us.

Soon one of the local youths stopped by to see what was happening. Another, then another joined the conversation. In time, the group became so large it seemed wise to move out of the range of traffic. As those outside walked behind the vehicle those in the car also moved out-of-doors. Occasionally, a child would dart away to come back with a sibling or friend to talk with the "Americanoes."

Conversation flowed freely as the children learned to say, "What is your name?" With shy smiles individuals or groups approached each member of the team with the question; older youth could ask where we lived. To see the excited expressions and hear the joyous laughter as we shared the wonderment of mutual inquisitiveness was an experience neither child nor adult will soon forget. The beauty of simplicity and mutual desire to know one another in a corner of the world foreign to the usual meeting place, provided the magic.

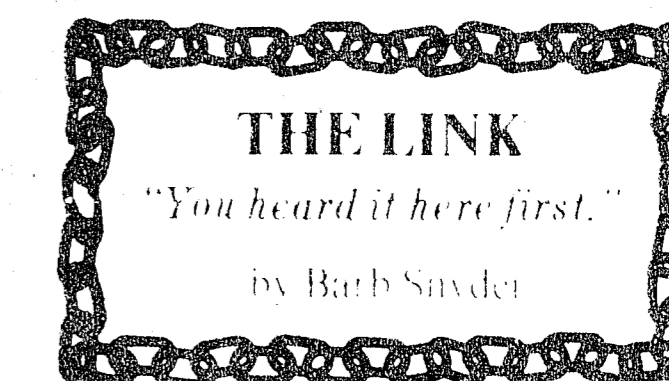
One highlight of the occasion was the hearing of the cassette recording of children from India and Africa singing. After a brief practice, the Mexican children were recorded singing, "Jesus Loves Me." Gales of laughter accompanied the playback.

Talk soon changed to our currency and the relation of pennies to dollars. Grubby hands reached for the copper coins which were distributed. One more affluent Miss learned to say, "I give to you" and handed Shireen Hurley a small Mexican coin.

This precious "Happening" exemplifies the love brought to us by the Christ child. It serves to remind us that love is all around us—a gift to be shared with each one we meet, every day of the year. □



Give yourself a Christmas gift—  
Learn Luke 2:1-20.  
Practice glorifying God by living  
according to His commandments.



by Barb Saxder

### IS ANYBODY OUT THERE PRAYING?

Some think it's boring, others too much like work, others too humbling, but I think it's POWERFUL! Prayer can change lives, heal bodies, and mend broken relationships. It can even double denominations. *Praying: How To Start and Keep Going* is an eight-lesson study guide for both youth and adults, by Bobb Biehl and James W. Hageanz. It was used for a weekend retreat by our fellow SDB's in Michigan. They recommend it for your Christian growth, and I bet the publisher, G/I. Publication in Glendale, CA does, too. It can be purchased at most Christian bookstores. Prayer is the answer.

### Have you stopped growing as Christians?

Our Washington, D.C., Youth Fellowship found *Ten Basic Steps Toward Christian Maturity* a helpful tool by studying these ten steps of Sabbath afternoons. It's put out by Campus Life and can be obtained through your local Christian bookstore or from Campus Life, P.O. Box 419, Wheaton, IL 60187. I'd be willing to bet if we're growing Christians, we'll have growing churches.

## MORE PASTORS ORDAINED TO THE GOSPEL MINISTRY

by Rev. Herbert E. Saunders

Paul, in his second letter to the young pastor Timothy, writes: "I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus: preach the word, be urgent in season and out of season, convince, rebuke, and exhort,...always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfil your ministry." His challenge to the young pastor was highlighted over and over again in these fall months as Seventh Day Baptist local churches examined for ordination four young men called to enter the gospel ministry. It is a rare privilege to report twice in one year the setting apart of ministers for the ministry of Seventh Day Baptists. The October *Sabbath Recorder* gave the highlights of the services of ordination for Robert W. Babcock of Houston, Texas; Thomas J. Sostar of Alfred, New York; and Larry G. Graffius of White Cloud, Michigan. This *Recorder* continues that wonderful tradition as it is privileged to rejoice with Seventh Day Baptists everywhere in reporting about the setting apart of four additional Seventh Day Baptist pastors through the act of examination and ordination. Where there is new life there is hope for the future—and the recognition of seven pastors as having the gifts of leadership and spiritual understanding equipping them for the special ministry of pastor is indeed heartening to our people and encouragement for our future.

On September 15, as a part of the Yearly Meeting of the New Jersey and Eastern New York churches, Pastor Kenneth Burdick was examined and ordained to the gospel ministry. The North Jersey Seventh Day Baptist Church called a council together to deliberate on the qualifications of their pastor. Rev. Charles Bond was elected chairman of the council and after the satisfactory examination, brought the charge to the church. Rev. Earl Cruzan, Pastor Burdick's home church pastor from Milton, Wisconsin, brought the charge to the candidate. Brother-in-law Rev. Gordon Lawton welcomed the new pastor into the fellowship of the ministry. Earlier in the day the worship service, centering on the theme "The Work of Ministry," was conducted by Dean Herbert E. Saunders, with Rev. Socrates Thompson bringing the message "The Ministry of the Pastor."



Rev. Gordon P. Lawton welcomes Rev. Kenneth B. Burdick to the ministry of Seventh Day Baptists.



Dean Herbert E. Saunders welcomes Rev. John A. Rau and his wife Marjory to the ministry of Seventh Day Baptists.

One week later, Pastor Burdick's fellow classmate at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Pastor John Rau was ordained into the ministry after the call of an examination council by the two churches he serves, Brookfield and Leonardsville, New York. Dean Herbert E. Saunders focused attention on the meaning of ordination in services held in the Leonardsville church on Sabbath morning, September 22nd. The examination and the service of ordination were then conducted in the Brookfield church in the afternoon. Pastor Stephan Saunders of the Adams Center, New York, church served as chairman of the Council, and following satisfactory examination the candidate was welcomed into the ministry by Dean Saunders. Rev. Thomas Goldthwaite, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Brookfield (which shares the building with the Seventh Day Baptist Church) gave the charge to the candidate and Dr. K. Duane Hurley, Executive Secretary, charged the church. Rev. Kenneth Burdick led in the laying on of hands and the ordination prayer. Other pastors of the association, Rev. Helen Green and Rev. Russell Johnson, participated in the service of worship before and after the council sessions.



Rev. Ernest K. Bee, Jr., moderator of the Central Church in Upper Marlboro, MD, congratulates Kenneth D. Chroniger on the successful completion of his examination.

On Sabbath Day, September 29, the council called by the Central Seventh Day Baptist Church to examine their pastor, Kenneth D. Chroniger, was brought together. Dean Saunders again called attention to the meaning of ordination and the responsibility of the council in morning services. The afternoon session was conducted by K. Duane Hurley and after deliberations of the council the examination was found satisfactory. The service of ordination has been scheduled for December 1, 1979.

On Friday and Sabbath, October 26-27, the Adams Center, New York, Seventh Day Baptist Church called a council together to consider the qualifications of their pastor, Stephan F. Saunders for ministry. Friday evening there was a concert of sacred music. The examination council met on Sabbath morning with representatives from the association and other churches. After satisfactory examination the service of ordination was held in the afternoon. For the second time, Rev. Francis D. Saunders, father of the candidate, had the privilege of preaching the ordination sermon for one of his sons, entitled "The High Calling of God." Rev. Neal D. Mills brought the charge to the candidate and Deacon Ira E. Bond, father-in-law of the candidate, the charge to the church. Rev. John A. Rau led in the prayer of consecration and laying on of hands and Dean Herbert Saunders, the candidate's brother, welcomed him into the ministry. Rev. James McEathron of the First Baptist church brought greetings from the Adams Center community. Others participated in the service, including representatives from the Honeyville Baptist Church, which Pastor Saunders also serves. A highlight of the service was the singing of "God So Loved the World" by the pastors and spouses of the association churches—three out of the four having been ordained in the last two years.



Rev. Stephan F. Saunders answers questions from the council.

In the past two years we have been privileged to ordain to the ministry twelve pastors. Of those twelve, five are currently serving in new churches organized in the past four years. The future of Seventh Day Baptists depends upon the continuing growth of leadership in our established churches, but also on the establishment of new churches throughout the country. We are awakening to the fact that living churches produce children—new churches and new fellowships—that carry on the vital work for the Lord. Let us continue to pray that God will raise up new churches and the leadership to meet the demands of those new ventures of faith.

It is important to note that one of the real thrills of participation in the seven ordinations concluded in 1979 has been the open, honest, and meaningful Statements of Faith shared by each of the candidates. Each one exhibited a keen awareness of his own commitment to the work of ministry and his strong faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. We have the new leadership that we have sought for so long and God is blessing us with new vision and purpose. May we draw upon the faith and energy of these new pastors and together, as Seventh Day Baptist Christians and churches reach out into this new decade with joy and anticipation. □



## FROM THE KIDS IN THE PEW

It was promotion Sabbath in our church. Wondering how much my primary class understood about this concept, I asked, "Who can tell me what special day this is?"

Without hesitation one bright-eyed youngster said, "I know! It's COMMOTION SABBATH."

—We invite contributions from our readers as we seek to share humor and wisdom from our children in the pew. □

### Points To Ponder

## A Potter Molds Clay; Jesus Molds Hearts

by Rev. Thomas J. Sostar

Last week I spent a day at a county fair in the heart of the "Dutch Country" of Pennsylvania. While it rained all day it did not seem to dampen the spirit of the thousands of visitors who had come to take part in, look at and enjoy the many festivities and exhibits that were on hand.

We watched many craftsmen plying their talents at the various booths. Quilting, woodworking, silver-smithing and yes, even casket making. I was watching the potter spinning his wheel and molding the clay in his hands when my mind recalled a wonderful hymn.

"Have Thine own way, Lord; Have Thine own way! Thou art the Potter: I am the clay. Mold me and make me after Thy will, while I am waiting, yielded and still."

What a wonderful thought. We are God's workmanship. "But now, O Lord, thou art our Father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand" (Isaiah 64:8). God our Father will mold us and make us after His will if we allow Him to do so.

He is waiting today to take each of us in His hands and shape our lives. Many have come, and know the joy of allowing Him to make us as He desires. Others at one time had that joy but for many and various reasons their lives are now marred. And still others have never allowed themselves to become the clay in the Potter's hand.

What holds us back? A loving God is waiting and willing to mold us new, repair or remake as the case may be. Just submit. "While I am waiting, yielded and still!" If we just yield. Just meet Jesus and become clay and let Him work in our lives. He is waiting today for you. "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him..." (Rev. 3:20).

The potter is one who makes earthenware vessels by shaping clay by revolving wheel and molding by hand. Jesus is the one who prepares us to become heavenly vessels by shaping and molding our hearts. Do you hear Him knocking today? □



# the CHURCH in ACTION

## NEWS FROM SUNSHINE MOUNTAIN

CHATAWA, MS—Loretta (Lorrie) Deal has become a member of the Sunshine Mountain S.D.B. Church on her testimony of faith, previous baptism, and vote of the church.

Recently Jack and Ralph Hays were interviewed for a thirty minute radio program "Personal Opinion and Public Affairs" aired locally on WAPF-WCCA FM from McComb, Miss. They were able to tell about Seventh Day Baptist history in general and the development of the ministry here in particular, as well as the building of Sunshine Mountain Home for Special Children. The Lord continues to open doors through which the message can get out to inform the public about these "different" Baptists who keep the Sabbath, and why.

Building number five is well under way; it is a four-bedroom house which will provide additional sleeping rooms and living quarters which are much needed. Since the carpenter is no longer in our employ, the actual construction is being done largely by Ralph Hays, Sr., with help from Jack and Ralph, Jr. Exterior walls are cement block as was used in the Beebe house.

The Southwest Association formed a committee this past summer to do some detailed study into the possibility of building a camp on Sunshine Mountain property. It would be nice to give Camp Miles a permanent home and to have camp facilities which would be available for use nearly year-round.

Plans are on the drawing board also for converting the tin building into a workshop for handicapped persons. The potential of that project goes just about as far as one's imagination can take it. There are endless handicraft items that can be made; rummage sales to be organized; bake sales. It could go just as far

## NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE ON BIBLE

WESTERLY, RI—Dr. Harold Lindsell and Pastor Robert Strain were the featured speakers at the New England Conference on the Bible, co-sponsored by the New England Yearly Meeting and the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church in Westerly, R.I. The Conference convened the weekend of September 28-30 at the Pawcatuck Church. It met with keen interest on the part of many Seventh Day Baptists and a considerable number of visitors from the larger Christian community, many driving some distance to attend.

Dr. Lindsell, known in Christian circles for his service as editor of *Christianity Today* for a number of years and as one of the leading Biblical scholars holding to the inerrancy of the Bible, spoke on the general theme of "The Trustworthiness of the Scriptures." His individual topics included: "The Bible: the Foundation for the Christian Faith," "The Threefold Witness to the Bible's Truthfulness," "The Witness of Fulfilled Prophecy to Biblical Inerrancy," and "Baptists and Biblical Inerrancy."

Dr. Lindsell received a Bachelor of Science degree from Wheaton College with highest honors, a Master of Arts degree from the University of California at Berkeley, and the Doctor of Philosophy degree from New York University. He has also received the honorary degree Doctor of Divinity from Fuller Theological Seminary, where he served in the early years of the seminary (1947-64) as professor of Missions, dean of the faculty, and vice-president.

He is a prolific writer, having authored some sixteen books, including the editing of the much respected *Harper Study Bible*. He has recently completed the manuscript for another study edition of the Bible based on the text of the *Living Bible*. His writing in the area of the current topic being widely debated in his own Southern Baptist denomination and in many other centers of Christian thought, the infallibility or inerrancy of the Bible, includes such books as *God's Incomparable Word*, *The Battle for the Bible*, and,

as we are willing to take it. Consider the contrast between positive activity and apathetic withering away in front of a television set.

We would like to remind readers of the *Sabbath Recorder* that they



Dr. Harold Lindsell

published within the year, *The Bible in the Balance*. The last two books mentioned are something in the way of exposes of the current situation in various denominations and seminaries which tend to illustrate Dr. Lindsell's theory that when an institution relaxes its stand on inerrancy it will inevitably continue on a course away from the cardinal doctrines of the Christian faith unless a drastic occurrence alters the pattern.

Those who attended the Conference found Dr. Lindsell an extremely personable man, quite down-to-earth, and deeply concerned for the current trends in Christ's church.

Pastor Robert Strain, minister of Faith Reformed Baptist Church, Media, Pa., presented a series of messages based on "The Grand Themes of Ephesians," with sub-topics including, "God's Ultimate Purpose," "God's Way of Reconciliation," "Life in the Spirit," and "The Christian Warfare."

Pastor Strain is a graduate of the Reformed Episcopal Seminary in Philadelphia, and he currently serves in his eighth year as pastor of the church in which he came to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. He is a gifted preacher, able to apply the truths of God's Word in a most effective manner.

Special music for the Conference was provided by Linda Lawton, Paul and Emma Johnson and their children, the choir of the Pawcatuck Church, Joseph Guthrie, and the choir of Pleasant Street Baptist Church in Westerly, which presented a fine concert of sacred music on the night following the Sabbath. Organists included Kathy Miller, Althea Rood, and Elizabeth (Crandall) Markolf. Pastoral leadership for the Conference was provided by Pastors Russell Havens, Dale Rood, Gordon Lawton, and Robert Harris. □

can receive copies of the monthly newsletter from Sunshine Mountain by sending us their names, addresses and zip codes and asking to be added to the mailing list. □

-Linda Hays

## RIVERSIDE PUBLISHES HISTORY

RIVERSIDE, CA—The Riverside, CA, Seventh Day Baptist Church is pleased to announce the publication of the *History of the Riverside Seventh Day Baptist Church*.

This well-bound duplicated book has over 300 pages and covers the years 1893-1979 giving interesting historical facts about people as well as the work and witness of the church since its beginning. Orders for the book may be sent to: Mr. Ted Hambleton, 4415 Lemon Street, Riverside, CA 92501. The price is \$11.00 which includes \$1.50 for postage and handling.

## ATLANTA ORGANIZES FELLOWSHIP

A new Seventh Day Baptist Fellowship has been organized in Atlanta, Georgia. The new group meets on the second and fourth Sabbath afternoons of each month at the Mableton Assembly of God Church. The fellowship, under sponsorship of the Paint Rock Seventh Day Baptist Church in Alabama, is led in worship and Bible study by several members of the group. David C. Pearson and Mynor G. Soper have also assisted with leadership. Pray for this new group as they try to make Seventh Day Baptists known in Georgia. □

## DENOMINATIONAL DATELINE

**JANUARY 13, 1980**  
Memorial Fund Trustees  
Plainfield, N.J.

**JANUARY 20, 1980**  
American Sabbath Tract Society  
Shiloh, N.J.

Board of Christian Education  
Alfred, N.Y.

**JANUARY 27, 1980**  
Missionary Society  
Westerly, R.I.

## PORTLAND HAS NEW MEETING PLACE

PORTLAND, OR—What does it take to start a church? First of all, Christ Himself relayed to us, "Where two or three come together in my name, there I am with them" (Matthew 18:20). When Pastor Justin and Sue Camenga and children came to the Portland area several years ago, Justin, then an active seminary student, inserted in the yellow pages of the phone directory our Seventh Day Baptist name, address, phone number, etc. We found this to be quite an effective way to witness to others that we are here in Portland, Oregon.

There have been many phone calls from those who were curious or those who like to argue their "interpretation of Scripture" or those who asked for the address and actually came to see us. Many seem to be seeking their idea of the Utopian Church. Aside from this we have our regular four families feeding on God's Word, and each Sabbath morning at 10:15, we are together sharing the Scriptures in the lesson of that week. At 11:15 we come together for worship service. We sing together some of our favorite hymns a capella until that time the Lord provides us with a pianist, and we will add a music department.

All of this takes place now at the Holy Sacraments Lutheran Church, 4710 S.E. Oak, Portland, Oregon. For the past four months we have been meeting there regularly, but as we meet together, the Lord is giving

us an addition to our regular program by that way, as we study through the Word to give of ourselves in every way to tell others of the Good News. Jesus Himself did not mince words when he related in Matthew 28:18-20, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always to the very end of the age."

Coming back to the first question, for a church just beginning: what does it take to start a church? It takes a Statement of Beliefs; we have one as comprehensive as any church. It takes a covenant or reason why we convene together. For a serious group it takes bylaws and constitution; it takes incorporation proceedings, in the state in which you reside. Does it take all this for the Body of Christ? Of course, the answer is positive. However, it doesn't stop here; we are infants and we must be nurtured in Christ. No body is complete without all needed gifts, so where do we go from here? Eph. 4:2-16 makes an excellent study here. Eph. 4:4-6 makes it clear about "one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called—one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all." Paul goes on in verse 7, "But to each one of us grace has

been given as Christ apportioned it." This grace or gift is freely given as Paul relates so that, "some are to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers (vs. 12), to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the Body of Christ may be built up (vs. 13), until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, *attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ*."

There is more. (vs. 14) "Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. (vs.15) Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into Him who is the Head, that is, Christ. (vs. 16) From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work." Quoted from New International Version.

With Paul's tender regards to the Ephesian Church, we can also benefit; we cannot focus our eyes on previously plowed ground, but rather that we focus our eyes on Christ's eyes and keep them there in obedience. After all, He is our only Way; He is our only Truth; and He is our only Life. No one can go to the Father except through Him, as John 14:6 relates to us. □

-Richard L. Steele

## HENRYS PRESENT MINI-CONCERT

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The church was happy to host missionaries to the Philippines, Rod and Camille Henry, as they presented a mini-concert to our church in September. The Central SDB Church was invited to participate in this special service which was followed by a reception for the Henry family. The time of fellowship and refreshment was held with Mrs. Alma Brissey and Mrs. Ruth Hazen presiding.

The church is continuing the radio broadcast "Word of Truth" over WFAZ at 1220 on the AM dial. We are pleased with the response to this new outreach. We are happy to continue to have several visitors at our services; they are always welcome.

On Sunday, September 23, the yearly Sabbath School picnic was held at Oxon Hill Children's Farm in Maryland. Those attending wish to thank the planning committee and those who contributed food as well as those who served to make the picnic a very enjoyable time.

Pastor Leland Davis and Mr. Douglas Rausch attended the Evangelism Explosion Clinic at Del City, Oklahoma, in late October. Work on repairing the church building is progressing with many hours of volunteer labor being donated by dedicated church members.

Our Sabbath School officers for 1979-80 are: Superintendent - Mrs. Gertrude Davis; Assistant - William Melby; Secretary-Treasurer - Mrs. Brenda Harris; Song leader - Cornelius Montague and Purchasing Agent - Mrs. Ruth Hazen.

The Washington church wished to express its congratulations to Rev. Duane Davis in his term of office as president of the SDB General Conference. We look forward to the sessions to be held in Denver next August. □

-Mrs. Alma Brissey



Christ SDB Church in Little Rock, AR, held a service of ordination for three of their members into the Diaconate on August 25. The new members of the Diaconate are: Hubert Phillips, Agnes Phillips and Inez Mitchell. Rejoicing with the church in this special service were representatives from the Texarkana, Fouke, Houston, and Little Rock SDB Churches.

## MARLBORO NEWS

MARLBORO, NJ—The annual Sabbath School picnic was held in the Marlboro SDB Church yard on Sunday, Sept. 9, under the direction of Randy and Jeanne Dickinson. The picnic began with games for the children with the help of Doneta Richards and badminton for the adults. Everyone attending enjoyed a cookout with several different dishes furnished by the young adult class. It was definitely an enjoyable evening for all.

After the summer break the choir heartily began practice again in September. We are glad to welcome Donna Harris back as director. During the summer weeks we enjoyed a variety of very special music.

Pastor John DuBois was guest speaker on September 15 in the absence of Pastor Richards, who was attending Yearly Meeting. Pastor DuBois is the pastor of the Mantua United Methodist Church of Mantua, N.J., and grew up in the Marlboro community where his parents still reside. □

-Diane Cruzan

## FIRE DAMAGES PARSONAGE—GARAGE

ALFRED STATION, NY—An early morning fire destroyed the garage and damaged the parsonage of the Alfred Station SDB Church. Pastor and Mrs. Rex Zwiebel were awakened by neighbors to see their garage ablaze.

Firefighters were able to contain

the fire but not before it had completely destroyed the garage, including the Zwiebel's three-month old automobile and extensive damage to the study.

The denominational Christian Social Action Committee has sent some assistance. We give praise to God that Rex and Jaunita were not personally injured and hope that they will soon be able to repair the damage to their home. □

## ANNUAL ASSEMBLY SDB STATE COUNCIL (NYS)

The annual Assembly of the Seventh Day Baptist Council (NYS) was held in the Church Center in Syracuse, NY, September 23, 1979.

Resolutions of opposition to gambling of any form in our state were formed. They will be sent to all state legislators and religious judicatories.

Reports were heard from our representatives to the NY State Council of Churches. The reports showed action in many areas where the church has opinions regarding state social action.

Officers for the coming year include Mary Clare, Alfred, president; Donald Pierce, Alfred Station, vice-president; the Rev. Helen Green, DeRuyter, secretary; Kenneth W. Davis, Verona, treasurer; Representative to the NY State Council of Churches, David Clarke, Alfred (alternates, Rex Zwiebel, Alfred Station; Neal Mills, DeRuyter); Representative to the Executive Committee of the State Council, Mary Clare; Delegate to the NYSCC Legislative Committee, Roberta Ellis, Berlin; Delegate to Church Women United, Frances Clarke, Alfred; and the Delegate to the IMPACT Committee, Warren Brannon, DeRuyter.

A budget of \$1,112.00 was adopted. Fees are asked of the cooperating churches of \$0.85 per member.

Churches who are members of the SDB State Council (NYS), include Alfred, Alfred Station, First Genesee, Verona, First Brookfield, Second Brookfield, Adams Center, DeRuyter, and Berlin. □

## OBITUARIES

GREEN.—Leland S., son of Ralph and Pansy Green was born in Farina, Ill., August 12, 1933 and died at the Richland Center Hospital, Richland Center, Wis., on Oct. 8, 1979 following a long illness. He was married to Dorothea Bond on August 21, 1956. To this union were born three children: Janet and David at home, and Lois of LaCrosse, Wis. He is survived by his wife and three children. He was a member of the Milton S.D.B. Church. His field of work took him away from the Milton community. He became active in community and church affairs wherever he lived, and since moving to Richland Center in 1976 he had joined the Ash Creek United Methodist Church. A service was held on Tuesday evening, Oct. 9, from the Pratt Memorial Chapel at Richland Center by the Rev. David Petersen and funeral services were from the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Milton on Oct. 10 with the Rev. Earl Cruzan officiating. Burial was in the Milton Junction Cemetery.

-E.C.

HURLEY.—Cora was born Dec. 23, 1886 in Garwin, Iowa, and died in Memphis, Tenn., on Oct. 10, 1979 following a short illness. The former Cora Van Horn married Frank A. Hurley on Feb. 2, 1909. They moved to Milton in 1927. Since his death on April 23, 1974 Mrs. Hurley has resided with her daughter, Mrs. Eilene Beers of Memphis, Tenn. Funeral services were from the Albrecht Funeral Home, Milton on Oct. 12, 1979 by her pastor, Earl Cruzan with burial in Milton Cemetery. She is survived by two sons; Ernest Dale of Rockton, Ill., and Wilton of Bellflower, Calif.; one daughter Eilene Beers of Memphis, Tenn., also four grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and two brothers: Orell Van Horn of Toledo, Iowa, and Alvin Van Horn of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

-E.C.

THOMPSON.—Jack D., son of Roy D. and Ann Feshanko Thompson, was born November 27, 1946 in Coudersport, Pennsylvania, and died on October 2, 1979 at Charles Cole Memorial Hospital, Coudersport, following a lengthy illness. Jack was a lifelong resident of Crandall Hill, Potter County. At the age of eight, he was baptized and joined the Hebron Seventh Day Baptist Church. In just the last few months before his death, he came to a renewed commitment of his life to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Jack served his country in the United States Army from 1965 to 1967, serving in Vietnam for one and a half years. While in Vietnam, he was wounded twice and received the Purple Heart medal. He was a member of the Potter Post 192 American Legion.

Surviving are his son, Jack D. Thompson II, Stowe, Pa.; his parents; a brother, Roy A. Thompson, Coudersport; several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Memorial services were conducted on October 4, 1979 at the Fickinger Funeral Home, Coudersport, by Pastor Steven Crouch, and burial was in Hebron Cemetery, where military rites were conducted by members of Potter Post 192 American Legion.

-S.C.

## ACCESSIONS

BAY AREA, CA  
Jay Zarembo, Pastor

By Testimony:  
George Rundquist

COLUMBUS, OHIO  
Dale D. Thorngate, Pastor

By Letter:  
Perry Cain  
Christina (Mrs. Perry) Cain  
Roger Chenoweth

By Testimony:  
Mrs. Veola Cox  
Martin L. Stout  
Burnell (Mrs. John) Grooms  
Penny Grooms

DODGE CENTER, MN

By Baptism:  
Richard Neher  
Frank Stebbins

SUNSHINE MOUNTAIN, MS  
Ralph Hays, Pastor

By Testimony:  
Loretta Deal

VERONA, NEW YORK  
Russell G. Johnson, Pastor

By Baptism:  
Carolyn Davis  
Katie Davis

By Letter:  
Rev. Russell G. Johnson  
Jennifer (Mrs. Russell) Johnson

By Testimony:  
Mabel Stamp  
Mae Prest

## BIRTHS

BLACKWOOD.—Dana Inez, daughter born to Scott and Janis (Mitchell) Blackwood, September, 3, 1979 in Little Rock, AR.

BLAND.—A son, Gary Shannon, was born to Gary and Fredette (Zinn) Bland of Salem, W.Va., on August 11, 1979.

FOSTER.—A son, Jeffrey William to William and Susan Babcock Foster of Saginaw, Mich. on September 3, 1979.

MARTIN.—A daughter, Jennifer Marie, was born to Gary and Rebecca (Hurley) Martin on September 4, 1979. Jennifer has two brothers, Gary and Duane, and the family lives in Salem, W.Va.

TODD.—A son, Gary Allen on September 5, 1979 to Jim and Susan Todd of Fossmoor, Ill.

ZINN.—A daughter, Martina Marie, was born to Martin and Midge (Holyfield) Zinn of Salem, W.Va., on September 19, 1979.

## MARRIAGES

BUTLER-DAVIS.—Kevin Butler of Verona, N.Y., and Janet Davis of Verona, N.Y., were united in marriage on September 1, 1979 at the Verona Seventh Day Baptist Church with the Rev. Russell G. Johnson and the Rev. Bittner of the Vernon Methodist Church officiating.

FATATO-BROWN.—Paul D. Fatato, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hoebeke and the late Rev. Eugene Fatato of Battle Creek, Michigan, and Patricia Brown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Brown of Bellevue, Michigan, were married at the home of the bride's parents by Rev. S. Kenneth Davis on September 22, 1979.

HARDISH-FATATO.—James Eric Hardish, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hardish of Battle Creek, Michigan, and Mary Ellen Fatato, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hoebeke and the late Rev. Eugene Fatato, of Battle Creek were married at the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Battle Creek by Rev. S. Kenneth Davis on August 25, 1979.

PEARSON-MARSH.—Kirk Pearson of Rome, N.Y., and Brenda Marsh of Rome, N.Y., were united in marriage on July 14, 1979 at the First Wesleyan Church in Rome.

PLOETZ-SANFORD.—Douglas R. Ploetz, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Ploetz of Cattaraugus, New York, and Teresa D. Sanford, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Sanford of Little Genesee, New York, were united in marriage, June 9, 1979 in the Little Genesee S.D.B. Church, with the Rev. Herbert E. Saunders of Plainfield, N.J., officiating. They are residing at Allegany, New York.

WARNER-FLORIDA.—Kevin Warner of Oneida, N.Y., and Julie Matson Florida were united in marriage on August 18, 1979 at the Peter's Creek Baptist Church in Library, Pa. The Rev. Glen Warner officiated.

WHEELER-SWEREDIUK.—Dennis Wheeler of Ashtabula, OH, and Doris Swerediuk of Verona, N.Y., were united in marriage on July 28, 1979, at the Verona Seventh Day Baptist Church. The Rev. Russell G. Johnson officiated.

## IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

To sign up for the Musical Tour of the Holy Land. See the August issue of the Sabbath Recorder for details, or write:

Rev. Herbert E. Saunders  
Box 868, Plainfield, NJ 07061

Rev. J. Paul Green, Jr.  
171 E. Main St., Salem, WV 26426

Rev. Alton L. Wheeler  
4415 Lemon St., Riverside, CA 92501

About 30 persons have already signed up to go. HOW ABOUT YOU!!!

## HENRYS PRESENT MINI-CONCERT

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The church was happy to host missionaries to the Philippines, Rod and Camille Henry, as they presented a mini-concert to our church in September. The Central SDB Church was invited to participate in this special service which was followed by a reception for the Henry family. The time of fellowship and refreshment was held with Mrs. Alma Brissey and Mrs. Ruth Hazen presiding.

The church is continuing the radio broadcast "Word of Truth" over WFAZ at 1220 on the AM dial. We are pleased with the response to this new outreach. We are happy to continue to have several visitors at our services; they are always welcome.

On Sunday, September 23, the yearly Sabbath School picnic was held at Oxon Hill Children's Farm in Maryland. Those attending wish to thank the planning committee and those who contributed food as well as those who served to make the picnic a very enjoyable time.

Pastor Leland Davis and Mr. Douglas Rausch attended the Evangelism Explosion Clinic at Del City, Oklahoma, in late October. Work on repairing the church building is progressing with many hours of volunteer labor being donated by dedicated church members.

Our Sabbath School officers for 1979-80 are: Superintendent - Mrs. Gertrude Davis; Assistant - William Melby; Secretary-Treasurer - Mrs. Brenda Harris; Song leader - Cornelius Montague and Purchasing Agent - Mrs. Ruth Hazen.

The Washington church wished to express its congratulations to Rev. Duane Davis in his term of office as president of the SDB General Conference. We look forward to the sessions to be held in Denver next August. □

-Mrs. Alma Brissey



Christ SDB Church in Little Rock, AR, held a service of ordination for three of their members into the Diaconate on August 25. The new members of the Diaconate are: Hubert Phillips, Agnes Phillips and Inez Mitchell. Rejoicing with the church in this special service were representatives from the Texarkana, Fouke, Houston, and Little Rock SDB Churches.

## MARLBORO NEWS

MARLBORO, NJ—The annual Sabbath School picnic was held in the Marlboro SDB Church yard on Sunday, Sept. 9, under the direction of Randy and Jeanne Dickinson. The picnic began with games for the children with the help of Doneta Richards and badminton for the adults. Everyone attending enjoyed a cookout with several different dishes furnished by the young adult class. It was definitely an enjoyable evening for all.

After the summer break the choir heartily began practice again in September. We are glad to welcome Donna Harris back as director. During the summer weeks we enjoyed a variety of very special music.

Pastor John DuBois was guest speaker on September 15 in the absence of Pastor Richards, who was attending Yearly Meeting. Pastor DuBois is the pastor of the Mantua United Methodist Church of Mantua, N.J., and grew up in the Marlboro community where his parents still reside. □

-Diane Cruzan

## FIRE DAMAGES PARSONAGE—GARAGE

ALFRED STATION, NY—An early morning fire destroyed the garage and damaged the parsonage of the Alfred Station SDB Church. Pastor and Mrs. Rex Zwiebel were awakened by neighbors to see their garage ablaze.

Firefighters were able to contain

the fire but not before it had completely destroyed the garage, including the Zwiebel's three-month old automobile and extensive damage to the study.

The denominational Christian Social Action Committee has sent some assistance. We give praise to God that Rex and Jaunita were not personally injured and hope that they will soon be able to repair the damage to their home. □

## ANNUAL ASSEMBLY SDB STATE COUNCIL (NYS)

The annual Assembly of the Seventh Day Baptist Council (NYS) was held in the Church Center in Syracuse, NY, September 23, 1979.

Resolutions of opposition to gambling of any form in our state were formed. They will be sent to all state legislators and religious judiciaries.

Reports were heard from our representatives to the NY State Council of Churches. The reports showed action in many areas where the church has opinions regarding state social action.

Officers for the coming year include Mary Clare, Alfred, president; Donald Pierce, Alfred Station, vice-president; the Rev. Helen Green, DeRuyter, secretary; Kenneth W. Davis, Verona, treasurer; Representative to the NY State Council of Churches, David Clarke, Alfred (alternates, Rex Zwiebel, Alfred Station; Neal Mills, DeRuyter); Representative to the Executive Committee of the State Council, Mary Clare; Delegate to the NYSCC Legislative Committee, Roberta Ellis, Berlin; Delegate to Church Women United, Frances Clarke, Alfred; and the Delegate to the IMPACT Committee, Warren Brannon, DeRuyter.

A budget of \$1,112.00 was adopted. Fees are asked of the cooperating churches of \$0.85 per member.

Churches who are members of the SDB State Council (NYS), include Alfred, Alfred Station, First Genesee, Verona, First Brookfield, Second Brookfield, Adams Center, DeRuyter, and Berlin. □

## OBITUARIES

**GREEN**—Leland S., son of Ralph and Pansy Green was born in Latta, IL August 12, 1933 and died at the Richland Center Hospital, Richland Center, Wis. on Oct. 8, 1979 following a long illness. He was married to Dorothy Bond on August 21, 1956. To this union were born three children: Janet and David at home and Lois of LaCrosse, Wis. He was married by his wife and three children. He was a member of the Mt. Zion SDB Church. His field of work was in the area of the Matton community. He was an active in community work, wherever he lived, and was a member of the Richland Center Community Center, the Ash Creek United Methodist Church. A service was held at the Richland Center, Wis. on Oct. 10, 1979. Burial was in the Mt. Zion SDB Church cemetery. Pastor and Mrs. Robert G. Johnson officiated. Burial was by Rev. S. Kenneth Davis, Little Rock, AR. Interment was in the Mt. Zion SDB Church cemetery.

**HURLEY**—Gordon, son of David and Ina Carter, was born in New York, Tenn. on Oct. 10, 1920. He died on Oct. 10, 1979 following a long illness. He was married to Frank A. Hurley on Oct. 10, 1943. They moved to Memphis, Tenn. in 1945. His death on Oct. 10, 1979 was a sudden one. He had been in poor health for some time. He was a member of the Mt. Zion SDB Church in Memphis, Tenn. A service was held at the Mt. Zion SDB Church in Memphis, Tenn. on Oct. 12, 1979. Burial was in the Mt. Zion SDB Church cemetery. Pastor and Mrs. Robert G. Johnson officiated. Burial was by Rev. S. Kenneth Davis, Little Rock, AR. Interment was in the Mt. Zion SDB Church cemetery.

**THOMPSON**—Jack, son of William and Arlene Thompson, was born on November 27, 1925 in Coudersport, Pa. He died on October 4, 1979 at Coudersport, Pa. He was a member of the Potter Post 192 American Legion. Jack was a lifelong resident of Coudersport, Pa. He was baptized and joined the First Day Baptist Church in Coudersport, Pa. months before his death. He was a member of his life of the First Day Baptist Church and the First Day Baptist Church of Ford and Savior. Jack served his country in the United States Army from 1965 to 1967, serving in Vietnam for one and a half years. While in Vietnam he was wounded twice and received the Purple Heart medal. He was a member of the Potter Post 192 American Legion. Surviving are his son, Jack D. Thompson of Stowe, Pa.; his parents; a brother, Roy A. Thompson, Coudersport; several aunts, nieces, nephews, and cousins. Memorial services were conducted on October 4, 1979 at the Fickinger Funeral Home, Coudersport, by Pastor Steven Cronch, and burial was in Hebron Cemetery, where military rites were conducted by members of Potter Post 192 American Legion. □

## ACCESSIONS

**BAY AREA, CA**  
Jay Zarnba, Pastor  
Rev. Robert G. Johnson

**COLUMBUS, OHIO**  
Dale D. Thomeate, Pastor  
Rev. Robert G. Johnson

**INDIANAPOLIS, IN**  
Rev. Robert G. Johnson

**MOBILE, ALABAMA**  
Rev. Robert G. Johnson

**NEW YORK**  
Rev. Robert G. Johnson

**VERONA, N.J.**  
Rev. Robert G. Johnson

## BIRTHS

**WHEELER**—Dana Frez, daughter born to Gary and Trudette (Zinn) Bland of Salem, W.Va., on August 11, 1979.

**SHANNON**—Gary Shannon, was born to Gary and Trudette (Zinn) Bland of Salem, W.Va., on August 11, 1979.

**WILLIAM**—Lefrey William to William and Susan Babcock Foster of Sabetha, Mo., on September 3, 1979.

**MARTIN**—A daughter, Jennifer Marie, was born to Gary and Rebecca (Hurley) Martin on September 4, 1979. Jennifer has two brothers, Gary and Dwayne, and the family lives in Salem, W.Va.

**TODD**—A son, Gary Allen on September 5, 1979 to Jim and Susan Todd of Fossmoor, Ill.

**ZINN**—A daughter, Martina Marie, was born to Martin and Midge (Holfield) Zinn of Salem, W.Va., on September 19, 1979.

## MARRIAGES

**BULLER DAVIS**—Kevin Buller of Verona, N.Y., and Janet Davis of Verona, N.Y., were united in marriage on September 1, 1979 at the Verona Seventh Day Baptist Church with the Rev. Russell G. Johnson and the Rev. Bittner of the Vernon Methodist Church officiating.

**FATATO-BROWN**—Paul D. Fatato, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hoebeck and the late Rev. Eugene Fatato of Battle Creek, Michigan, and Patricia Brown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Brown of Bellevue, Michigan, were married at the home of the bride's parents by Rev. S. Kenneth Davis on September 22, 1979.

**HARDISH-FATATO**—James Eric Hardish, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hardish of Battle Creek, Michigan, and Mary Ellen Fatato, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hoebeck and the late Rev. Eugene Fatato, of Battle Creek were married at the Seventh Day Baptist church in Battle Creek by Rev. S. Kenneth Davis on August 25, 1979.

**PEARSON-MARSH**—Kirk Pearson of Rome, N.Y., and Brenda Marsh of Rome, N.Y., were united in marriage on July 14, 1979 at the First Wesleyan Church in Rome.

**PLEOETZ-SANFORD**—Douglas R. Pleoetz, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Pleoetz of Cantonius, New York, and Teresa D. Sanford, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Sanford of Little Genesee, New York, were united in marriage, July 9, 1979 in the Little Genesee SDB Church, with the Rev. Herbert E. Saunders of Plainfield, N.J. officiating. They are residing in Allegheny, New York.

**WARNER-FLORIDA**—Kevin Warner of Onondaga, N.Y., and Jody Marson Florida were united in marriage on August 18, 1979 at the Potter's Creek Baptist Church in Liberty, Pa. The Rev. Glen Warner officiated.

**WHEELER-SWEREDNIK**—Denise Wheeler of Ashabula, OH, and Doris Swerednik of Verona, N.Y., were united in marriage on July 28, 1979, at the Verona Seventh Day Baptist Church. The Rev. Russell G. Johnson officiated.

## IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

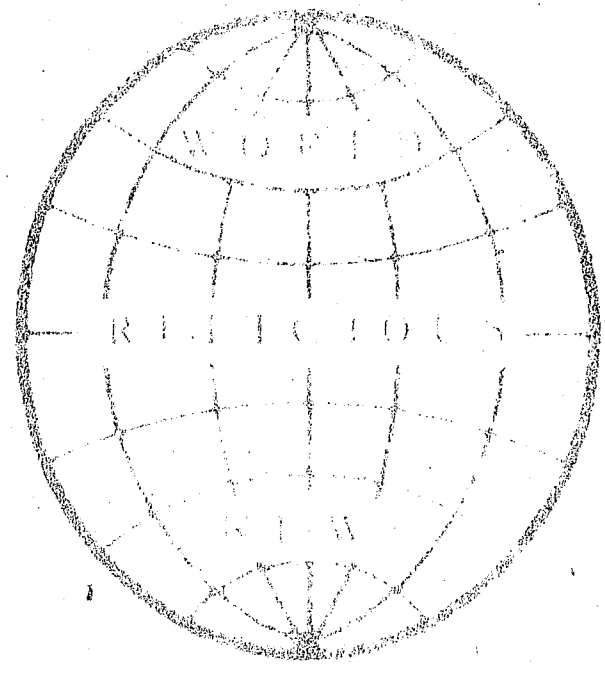
To sign up for the Musical Tour of the Holy Land. See the August issue of the *Sabbath Recorder* for details, or write:

Rev. Herbert E. Saunders  
Box 868, Plainfield, NJ 07061

Rev. J. Paul Green, Jr.  
171 E. Main St., Salem, WV 26426

Rev. Alton L. Wheeler  
4415 Lemon St., Riverside, CA 92501

About 30 persons have already signed up to go. HOW ABOUT YOU!!!



## BAPTIST AGENCY HONORED WITH JEWISH 'ISAIAH' AWARD

by Stan L. Haste



## RIGHTS OF SABBATARIANS

In a pair of actions involving the rights of Sabbath-observers, the justices upheld a California Seventh-day Adventist's refusal to join or pay dues to a union and declined to review a lower court ruling that an Adventist worker may keep his railroad job despite his refusal to pay union dues.

On the other hand, the court rejected the appeals of two Orthodox Jews who claimed their free exercise rights were abridged. In one case a Tennessee woman argued unsuccessfully that the state should be forced to administer employment tests on Saturday, while in the other an Alabama prison inmate failed to convince the justices that prison regulations requiring him to shave and cut his hair unconstitutionally violated his right to the free exercise of religion. □

-Stan Haste  
Baptist Press

## AID RUSHED TO HURRICANE VICTIMS

The Baptist World Alliance has appealed to its member bodies and to individual contributors for a minimum of \$75,000 to pay for emergency assistance to victims of Hurricane David on the islands of Dominica and the Dominican Republic.

The hurricane, one of the worst in history, swept through the Caribbean Sea the last week of August and early September, leaving hundreds of people dead and tens of thousands homeless.

C. Ronald Goulding, relief coordinator for BWA, said that the Alliance sent \$10,000 to relief workers in Dominica and \$10,000 to the Dominican Republic as soon as communications channels were established.

Reports indicated that the island

**BAPTIST AGENCY HONORED BY JEWISH GROUP**—Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs executive director James E. Wood, Jr., accepts the Isaiah Award for Pursuit of Justice from Rabbi Matthew Simon of the Washington chapter of the American Jewish Committee. The presentation was made at a luncheon sponsored by the two groups as part of the 40th anniversary celebration of the Washington, D.C.-based Baptist agency. (BP) Photo by Norman Jameson.

of Dominica, with a population of 76,103, lost at least 90 percent of its housing and agriculture. Medical facilities were wiped out.

The Dominican Republic, population 500,000, reported 1200 persons dead, 265,000 persons homeless, and tremendous property damage. Officials said the death toll could reach 3000.

Dr. Goulding stated that funds received by the BWA will be forwarded to Baptist agencies in the two islands as quickly as they are received. Primary needs are for food, shelter, and medical assistance. □

—The Baptist World

## WEST BERLIN CONTINUES FORGIVENESS PROGRAMME

**BERLIN, Germany**—More than 600 Jews visited here recently as guests of the West Berlin Senate, extending a program begun ten years ago of inviting Jews with painful memories from the Nazi era to visit the city so Germans could ask their forgiveness. More than 200 of this group were over 75 years of age; many of them had been rescued from concentration camps, and others had been hidden in Berlin by friends until the end of the war. So far, 10,000 former Berlin Jewish citizens have responded to this programme.

Monica Blumberg was one of the visitors. She was born in Berlin in 1942, and her family was hidden by Germans for more than two years. She told a reporter: "I know that not all Germans can be blamed for our suffering. We who survived depended on someone to help us. I admire their courage; I don't know if I could have done the same under those circumstances. Although I had no desire to return to Germany

because of bad memories, I could not be unjust to the present nation because of the past. We are happy over the change of mind toward Jews. "At the same time we ask God that all people throughout the world who force others into exile shall realize the consequences of persecuting innocent people." □

-European Baptist Press Service

## CARTER—JOHN PAUL MEETING A CHURCH-STATE WATERSHED

by Stan L. Haste

### Baptist Public Affairs

**WASHINGTON**—Just twenty years ago the scene would have been politically unthinkable—the President of the United States welcoming the head of the Roman Catholic Church to the White House.

In 1960, when he was running for President, Roman Catholic candidate John F. Kennedy found the resistance to his candidacy on account of his religion so strong, particularly among the Baptists in the South, that he felt compelled to defuse the church-state issue at the eleventh hour by pledging to Baptist ministers in Houston that if elected, he would bend over backwards to avoid even the appearance of impropriety in relationship with his church.

To his credit, John Kennedy kept his promises in the church-state field and presumably destroyed forever the myth that a Catholic president couldn't be his own person.

Another major factor which permitted Southern Baptist deacon, Sunday School teacher, and even missionary Jimmy Carter to invite Pope John Paul II for their dramatic meeting at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue began to develop shortly after Kennedy's assassination.

John XXIII, another expansive pope, had convened the Second Vatican Council in 1962. When it concluded three years later after four sessions, among its products was a Declaration on Religious Freedom, which for the first time put the Roman Catholic Church on record in support of a principle held dear by Baptists throughout their history.

In spite of the importance of the contributions of John XXIII and John Kennedy, however, a compelling argument can be made that it took Jimmy Carter to bring the pope to the White House.

Some commentators will no doubt argue that the president's primary motivation was political, that at a time when his own popularity was at an all-time low he invited the popular pontiff in order to bask in his presence.

But while the obvious political advantage to Carter, particularly among America's million Catholics, cannot be ignored, the fact remains that the president believed that neither would inviting the pope hurt him politically.

The occasion itself was impressive. While the first family and Vice-President and Mrs. Walter F. Mondale waited under the north portico of the stately mansion, the pope's limousine turned off Pennsylvania Avenue with the roar of the street-side crowd in the background to make the short drive around the north White House grounds. On seeing his hosts, he waved to them and with his now characteristic, hands-uplifted gesture. The greetings included a kiss for Amy.

On the north lawn, with nearly 1,500 dignitaries which included members of the Cabinet and Congress and justices of the Supreme Court, the president greeted the pope in Polish, "May God be praised!"

"You have moved us as a champion of dignity and decency for every human being," the president declared, "and as a pilgrim for peace among nations."

In his response, the pope quickly made what was obviously for him and the president a key point. "It is indeed a great honor for me to meet with the President of the United States," he said in his precise, grammatically-perfect English, "during a visit of which the aims are spiritual and religious in nature."

At no point during his week-long visit which culminated in Washington did John Paul speak in his role as head of the Vatican state. Had he done so, the church-state implications could not have been healthy.

In a second ceremony, this one on the south lawn after a 45-minute meeting of the two men in the Oval

Office, the spiritual nature of the pontiff's visit was dramatically underscored, first by the incomparable Metropolitan Opera's Leontyne Price's rendition of "The Lord's Prayer."

As he had done in his earlier remarks, Carter alluded to America's implementation of the principle of separation of church and state. Yet, he declared, "Our nation was not founded to deny human beings a life of the spirit, but to welcome the spiritual into our lives—and I join all Americans in welcoming Pope John Paul with open hearts into the lives of a free nation. You are welcome with us, Your Holiness."

The president went on, "Our America was founded to give a home to all who sought religious freedom. For us today, freedom of religion is not just a valued relic of a bygone age, or of national pride. It is a practical necessity for our nation's forward course."

He spoke of the pope's mission in America as primarily "pastoral," and to underscore the point, turned to John Paul to ask if he agreed. The pontiff replied simply, "You are right."

For his part, the pope chose to address most of his remarks to the issues of disarmament and human rights. By urging the consummation of arms control agreements among nations, he all but endorsed the SALT II treaty now threatened with death in the U.S. Senate. That was the closest he came to inserting himself into internal U.S. political debates.

But the most dramatic moment and the one which best capsulized the care with which both men treated the sensitive church-state implications of the visit was saved for last when, after finishing his remarks and stepping aside to acknowledge the prolonged ovation of the 6,000 invited guests, pope and president whispered to each other.

Suddenly, unexpectedly, John Paul approached the podium again. "With the permission of the president of the United States," he said, "I will offer a blessing."

And then, on a stunningly beautiful October afternoon in Washington, standing behind the seal of the presidency, he did just that. □

## See You In Church

(continued from page 17)

a sentimental company, ruled by a tyranny of the emotions.

What the church is theologically is what she really is; the things unseen are eternal, and the true nature of the church is one of these eternal, unseen things, granted all her earthly expressions are flecked and marred, stained and tarred. There is no pure church this side of glory.

The church is the company of those who are built like living stones on a sure foundation.

It is the company of those who have made that terrifying choice to build on Jesus Christ rather than to cast Him aside as a rejected stone.

It is the company of those who have looked at Jesus Christ and declared precious Him whom some highly trained, deeply feeling, keenly skilled people have rejected.

It is the company of those who have in common only this faith, and only this choice.

We look at the church and say, "The people are uptight, hypocritical, narrow, boring." And we select a little group from within the church about whom we feel very good and seek to sustain our spiritual lives in fellowship with them. As a means of fellowship and strength, groups are beautiful, one of the great things happening in our generation. But in no way do they take the place of the gathered congregation.

We have to move beyond the judgmental attitude that ranks Christians by whether they are open or not, whether we feel good about them or not. This is really a failure of forgiveness. It indicates that we have not fully received forgiveness because we have a hard time granting it. One of the heresies of the new fundamentalism is that we can accept almost everyone except Christians who are tied to the tradition.

As I said, this is where I came in, but there is no way for me to go out. God has chosen me to be part of His church. I am part of the church not by my choice but of His. I continue in the church, *not at my discretion but at His insistence.*

There is no other place to go. These are God's people and mine. This is what God is doing in history. This is the secret, the mystery, of the universe. This was the purpose for which everything was created: the people to serve and praise and glorify God.

The outcome of the church is already settled. The church will survive the new fundamentalism as it survived the old. It will be enriched by the new fundamentalism as it was enriched by the old. The outcome of the church is already settled; its perfection is assured; its ultimate destiny is fully determined.

The final chapters of the Bible picture it as it will be. And there you see an undifferentiated people—no groups, no categories, no cliques—an undifferentiated people before a throne, not gazing at their navels, not asking themselves how they feel about each other, but lifting their voices in adoration of almighty God and singing, "To him who sits upon the throne and the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might for ever and ever!" (Rev. 5:13).

What the church is doing in heaven is what the church should be doing on earth. Her ultimate style should be her interim mood.

It is God who is the center of the universe. It is God who is the focal point of our living. It is God who is the recipient of all worship and glory. And it is God upon whom our eyes should be fixed as we go to church week by week where we are.

See you in church.

I hope I've made myself clear. My deepest concern is not your non-participation will destroy the church. My concern is for you, and it is more than a trivial one. I'm not merely echoing the notes of advice you have been given through the years by everyone from your early Sunday School teachers to the late J. Edgar Hoover. My point is not that going to church will enhance civic morality and reduce crime rate, or that it will stabilize your marriage and promote your prosperity in your chosen vocation. It may well do all those. But if it didn't, you would have to go anyway.

Your regular participation in worship with your local congregation is

the best indication that you have grasped the heart of the Christian message. Going to church does not make you a Christian. But Christian commitment is close to meaningless if you do not go. Worship with fellow worshipers comes nearer to describing what it means to be human than anything else you do. To shy away from this duty, to deprive yourselves of this privilege, is to fly the flag of human life at half-mast, no matter how bright its colors may appear.

See you in church. □

—Used with permission of the author, David Allan Hubbard, from *Church—Who Needs It?*, Regal Books, Glendale, CA - 1974.

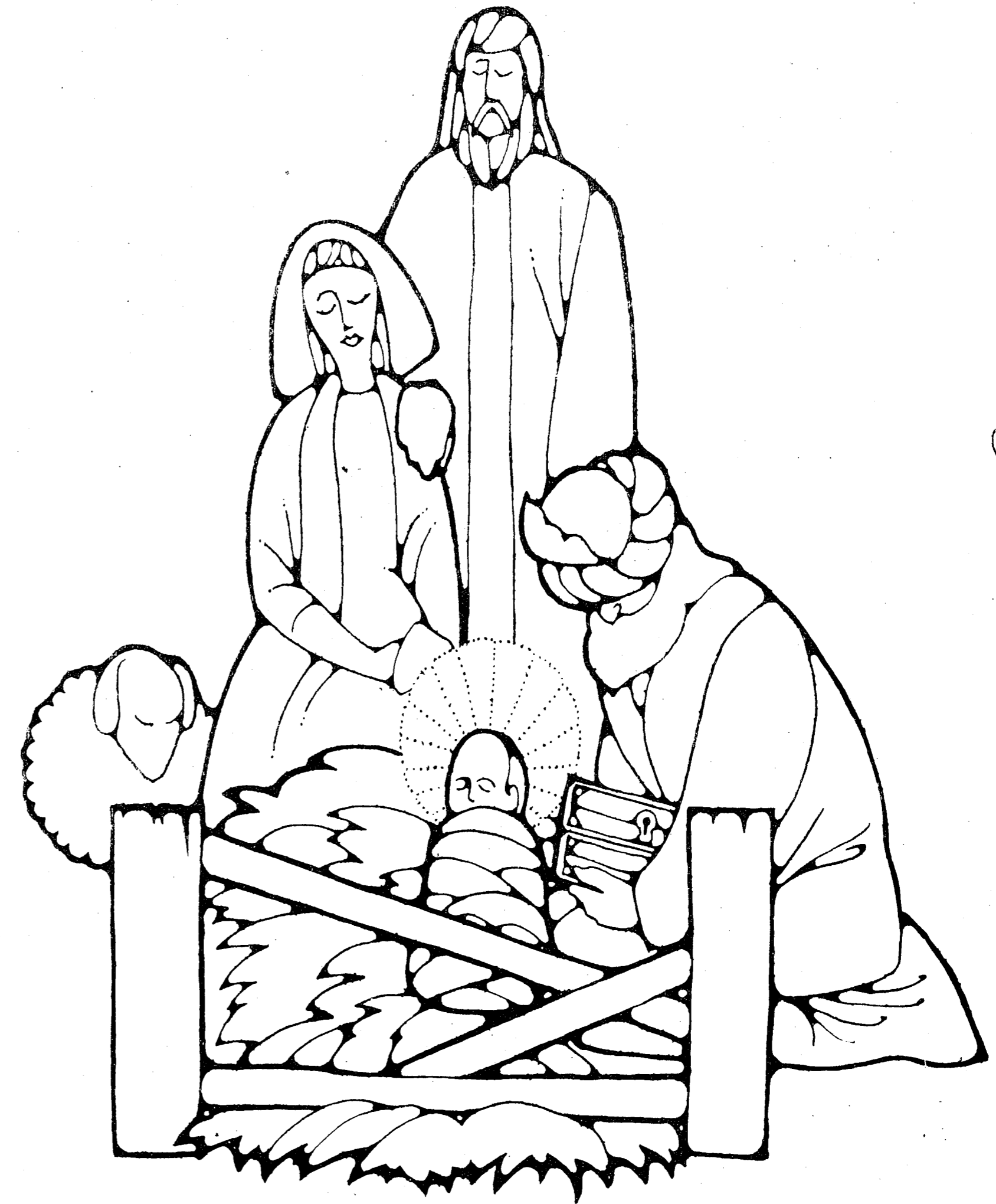


**Religious art is needed for the Sabbath Recorder, tracts, and other publications. If you would like to submit your illustrations for our file, please send to: Mrs. Patricia Cruzan, Art Director, Seventh Day Baptist Publishing House, Box 868, Plainfield, NJ 07061. Please indicate if you want your work returned to you.**

● Thirty youngsters from the Alfred Station, NY, area participated in the annual vacation church school which was sponsored by the SDB church, August 27-September 1. Rev. Rex Zwiebel was the director.

● On Sabbath, October 5, a joint Communion service was held with our two congregations in Connecticut—the Pine Street Chapel of Middletown and the Waterford church. Pastor Robert Harris of Middletown brought the message.

a picture for you to color



**"The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born tonight in Bethlehem!**

**How will you recognize him?**

**You will find a baby wrapped in a blanket, lying in a manger!"**

**Luke 2:11-12(LB)**

## May I Introduce You to My Friend

(continued from page 11)

and to handle the knotty problems of life and they are willing to accept only a little help from their friend, Jesus. But there are those Christians who have realized their helplessness. They have come to know that to be a light to the world there must be a constant source of power, or there will be no light. These people know that the source of power is God's Holy Spirit, and so their lives bring results in this world.

What joy and confidence I experience when I know that I need do nothing on my own. That God is my source from within. I have personally enjoyed all the many ways this Helper has come to my aid. I have had my eyes opened to many places in my life where I need to change, and I have experienced the excitement of wanting to change, and then having the Holy Spirit do this changing from within. I have rejoiced at the great outpouring of His generosity, and the increase in my faith, joy and vitality. I know now what it is to be loved and to love, and what it is to have real peace, even in the midst of terrible turmoil, and I know what it is to be healed inwardly and outwardly. This friend I have come to know so dearly wants to be your friend and companion too. In fact, He will come and live with you forever. He is just waiting for you to invite Him to take up residency in your life. But not only does He want to be my friend and your friend, but He wants to heal and help all of God's children, through out lives. He is the most generous kind of friend, because He wants these things to be available to everyone. And He wants each person who has shared in this special kind of friendship, to offer it to others.

He wants us to be His body on this earth. He wants Jesus Christ to have the most important place in our church, far far above every other emphasis. He wants us to help fill the offices of the church, such as teacher, preacher, pastors, prophets, healers, miracle workers, helpers and administrators, so we may become a living body of the priesthood of all believers. He wants guests in our church to experience real love and joy and genuine worship when they are in our midst.

He wants us to care deeply for one another, and to share all our resources with each other, so that none of us

is needy. He does want our sick to be healed. He wants to see each one of us steadily being redeemed and restored for Him. Broken homes made new, parents and children reconciled to one another, mentally and physically damaged people becoming whole, lost people finding His way. He wants us to see the sin of unbelief in our lives, so that we can be healed of doubts and fears. He wants each of us to experience His love and peace and wholeness and power.

How I praise God for His wonderful love, and His glorious plan. Only a loving God would have such a plan. How I thank God for this wonderful gift of His Son, in the person of the Holy Spirit, that has come to live in my life. How thankful I am that He is big enough to go around for each person who desires His friendship. How I hope that my sharing what He means to me, will reinforce you, or give you a desire to have this friendship too. May He be your constant friend and companion, as He is mine. □

## Know someone who deserves a journalism scholarship?

The Evangelical Press Association, a non-profit corporation composed of some 250 Christian periodicals, is vitally interested in the future of religious journalism.

The Association annually provides at least two \$500 scholarships to deserving college students committed to a career in Christian communications. Applicants must have completed their first year of college.

Further details and application forms are available. (Forms must be completed and returned by March 1.)

Write now to:

Executive Secretary  
Evangelical Press Association  
P.O. Box 4550  
Overland Park, Kansas 66204



## Mission to China

(continued from page 18)

Seventh Day Baptist church was organized in Lieu-oo on Nov. 14. Two years later yet another milestone was passed as a chapel was completed for the Shanghai church, which for a number of years had been meeting in the girls' boarding school.

The mission suffered temporary setbacks in the departures of Dr. Palmborg in 1910 and the Eugene Davises in 1911 because of ill health, however only days after the Davises' departure, Dr. Grace Crandall arrived in China to assist in the medical work, and when Dr. Palmborg returned in October of 1911, she was accompanied by Anna M. West, who was to join Miss Burdick in the girls' school. With the experienced Crofoots, Miss Burdick and Dr. Palmborg, and the youthful Misses Crandall and West all on board, the D.H. Davises took a much deserved rest in the United States in 1911.

As the world entered the second dozen years of the 20th century, China had, instead of an emperor, a Christian president by the name of Sun Yat Sen and our Seventh Day Baptist mission had a new congregation, a new chapel, a new medical work, schools filled to capacity and twice as many missionaries. Truly, these were the beginning of "the great years." (NEXT MONTH—

"The Great Years, Part 2")

## Editorial

### CAPITAL PUNISHMENT: ABOLISHMENT OR RETENTION?

There is a line in the Gilbert and Sullivan operetta, *The Mikado*, that goes: "Let the punishment fit the crime." Singing these lines is the ruler of Japan who is puzzled by the same problem that has bothered people for generations. How do you punish a criminal? And in considering punishment what is fair and what is extreme?

Perhaps one of the more controversial issues facing contemporary Americans is that of capital punishment. The question poses special problems for Christians especially those of us who stress commandment observance. The controversy centers around the means necessary to keep order in our society. Several denominations are currently studying this oft-debated issue.

There are two main groups involved in this debate: those who wish to retain capital punishment (retentionists) and those who would abolish it (abolitionists). Both sides present strong arguments to support their point of view. The abolitionists state that the death penalty: has been applied in an arbitrary and discriminatory manner in the past; has not been shown to have any unique deterrent effect; does not address the issue of crime prevention before the crime; goes against our sense of morality; and is a revengeful use of violence to counter violence.

Whereas the retentionists counter that the death penalty: can be a deterrent in some cases; is a cheaper means than the cost of maintaining criminals for life in prison; is needed to stem the rising crime rate; is just retribution given the heinous nature of many of the crimes committed; and is not itself to fault for arbitrary and discriminatory sentencing.

Capital punishment is no invention of modern man. We can go back at least some four thousand years to Hammurabi king of Babylon, who is best remembered for his law code. The law of the land was *lex talionis*—or retaliation in kind. According to this law if you put out a person's eye your eye would be put out also—in retaliation. Many crimes, such as murder, robbery, adultery were capital offenses. Many still consider Hammurabi as the father of modern justice.

The Mosaic Law of the Hebrews had a similar list of punishments for certain crimes including death by stoning for several offenses. The Israelites reasoned that death by stoning served as a warning and an example. Unlike our system today, the death penalty seems to have been enforced equally among all classes and there is evidence that it was quite effective.

The executions of Gary Gilmore in January 1977, John Spenklink in May 1979, and most recently Jesse Bishop in October, have thrust public attention on this issue again. Gilmore's execution was the first in this country since 1967 and many people felt that state executions were a thing of the past. But what is the solution to our ever-growing crime rate?

After his death in the Nevada State Prison gas chamber it was revealed that Jesse Bishop had confessed to eighteen murders. He reportedly stated: "I lived by the gun... there's some people that know'd me that said I got my own private graveyard." Bishop had spent about half of his 46 years behind bars and spurned all efforts to save him from the gas chamber. He felt the appeals would only prolong the inevitable. What does the state do with a habitual criminal—one who has killed so many—what is the "right" solution?

The Bible does not provide us with a clear answer to the question. Both abolitionists and retentionists cite Scripture to back up their positions. Thus it can be easily seen that many people of social conscience, including committed Christians, disagree on the death penalty and the entire question of how to maintain order in society.

The abolitionists argue that life and forgiveness are keys to understanding the Biblical perspective on capital punishment. They believe that only God can act as judge of the acts of man. The retentionists cite Exodus 21:23-36 as arguing for the sanctity of life and stress that society should submit to the government to carry out this function. They feel that crimes, such as murder, deserve a strong punishment as the only way to protect the sacredness of life.

The debate continues and we cannot propose a solution. We do certainly believe that life is good and that it is a gift of God worth perpetuating. The entire issue of crime, punishment for criminals and order for our society will continue to be debated. The church needs to carefully consider its role in this issue, be willing to study and listen to both sides and offer constructive advice to leadership as we seek to make our society a better place in which to live. □

## Seventh Day Baptist Week of Prayer January 6-12, 1980

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

## Three Gifts for Christmas

I wish for you the gift of Love  
This Christmas Eve.

May the comfort of love surround you  
Like the warmth of the hearthside  
When the fire burns low  
On a wintry night.

May the love of God enfold you,  
May family love caress you,  
May the love of friends embrace your heart  
With tenderness.

I would give you Love  
This Christmas Eve.

I wish for you the gift of Joy  
This Christmas Day.

May the song of joy thrill you  
Like the voice of Christmas bells  
When the glorious news echoes  
On the frosty air.

May the smile of joy lift you,  
May the music of joy fill you,  
May the light of joy encircle your soul  
With completeness.

I would give you Joy  
This Christmas Day.

I wish for you the gift of Peace  
This Christmas Night.

May the solace of peace kiss you  
Like the silvery light  
Upon the new-fallen snow  
When the moon shines full.

May the whisper of peace soothe you,  
May the touch of peace console you,  
May pure, deep peace enshrine your thoughts  
With sweet content.

I would give you Peace  
This Christmas Night.

-Marjorie Darrow

1279  
MILTON COLLEGE LIBRARY  
MILTON WI 53563